



Birth
Feb. 20, 1931

Baptism
March 15, 1931

Profession
July 13, 1954

Death
Nov. 13, 2016

Burial
Notre Dame of
Elm Grove Cemetery
Elm Grove, Wisconsin

*Precious and blessed is
the death of the faithful
before God... for
they die in union with
their dear Jesus, in the
grace of God, in peace.*

Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger
Foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame
Letter 11, September 10, 1831

In Loving Memory

Sister Mary Ancele Gloudeman, SSND

Born Feb. 20, 1931 in West Allis, Wisconsin, to Peter Martin and Anna Marie (Kiewig) Gloudeman, she was baptized Harriet Mae at Holy Assumption Church, West Allis. Harriet was the seventh of 10 children in the family. She recalled her upbringing, “I was raised as a poor little rich girl. What we lacked in material things was more than compensated for by the deep spiritual heritage afforded us by our parents, as well as lots of love.”

Harriet’s family was musical and her musical talent was evident early. Family members recall her as a one-and-a-half year old singing “Du, du liegst mir im Herzen” in flawless German! She remembers her first piano teacher: “Ruth Wagner used to play my new song for me, and I would promptly go home and play it without really knowing how to read notes.” Her next piano lessons were not so fortunate: “I started taking lessons from a Notre Dame Sister who insisted that I decipher those funny little lines and circles. My memory of this experience is “a ruler and a tear.”

By the middle grades Harriet was accompanying her class; organ lessons and voice lessons came next. She just picked up accordion on her own. And she’d accompany her parents’ singing: “Often Mom would sing to Dad “Love’s Old Sweet Song;” and then Dad would sing to Mom “Darling, I Am Growing Old.” But Dad kept losing the pitch—that’s how I learned to transpose.”

During her elementary days at Holy Assumption, there was a high standard for Gloudeman conduct in school: “Once in fourth grade I was talking when Sister left the room and had to stay after with all the other renegades. When I arrived home, Mom was sick in bed and couldn’t even spank me, but she didn’t have to. My brothers and sisters stood around and scolded me for being the first to get a demerit.”

Her interest in drama and musicals had an early start with neighborhood plays. As a high school student at St. John Cathedral, Milwaukee she had the role of the organ-playing nun in “Murder in the Cathedral.” “Do you think it was prophetic?” Ancele teased. Following high school graduation, she worked at an optical company for a couple of years before entering the SSND candidature in 1951 at the former Milwaukee motherhouse. Received as a novice in 1953, she was given the religious name, Mary Ancele. She professed first vows July 13, 1954. She received a bachelor’s in music at Mount Mary College, Milwaukee in 1961 and earned a master’s degree in music at DePaul University, Chicago in 1969.

Sister Ancele’s ministry of music and teaching spanned 53 years. In the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, she taught music and served as church organist at these Milwaukee locations: St. Joseph, St. Elizabeth and SS. Peter and Paul. In 1965, she was called to teach at Mount Mary College (now Mount Mary University), Milwaukee. Except for a year as a visiting professor at Notre Dame of Maryland, Sister Ancele put her musical gifts at the service of Mount Mary for more than 40 years, until her retirement in 2007.

At Mount Mary, she taught music theory, functional piano, history of music, music appreciation, handbell choir, The American Musical, and the

continued

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Sister Ancele Gloudeman



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THROUGH EDUCATION

popular team-taught Living Arts course which draws parallels between art, music, and drama and gets students into local theaters and concert halls for live performances that enhance their classroom work. Ancele was never a “ruler and tears” kind of teacher; she loved her subject matter; she helped her students to learn and to love it, too.

Courses are only part of the teacher’s responsibility: there’s student advising, committee work for the college and the department, advising the Music Club, serving as a hostess for alumnae reunions, presenting courses for the Evans Center (adult continuing education), and playing for all kinds of musical events, including liturgies and graduation ceremonies.

Sister Ancele described some cherished involvements: “Many students request that I play for their weddings or their parent’s funeral, and I have done this for many years. One alum, Shari Power, asked that I accompany her second graders for their programs. Each Christmas and spring I am privileged to accompany these young students as they bring joy and beauty to all who attend. Eventually, the senior citizens from St. John’s Tower on Prospect Avenue joined the second graders in a Forever Friends program which has been very successful. The seniors are enriched by the youth and vitality of the children, and the children learn from the wisdom and love of the seniors. Students continue to return to see their partners.”

Her faculty updates listed some special thrills for a musician: As part of a Medieval Music Workshop in Cambridge, England “I played the huge organ in King’s College Church in Cambridge during the closing concert” and on a European trip which was a gift from her family “it was my privilege to play the piano in the Schonbrunn Palace in Austria.”

Sister Ancele spent her last years at Our Lady of the Angels. At first she was the reigning Scrabble champion, and she played for liturgies and sing-alongs. To the very end, she responded with joy and welcome when familiar people came to visit. But gradually she lost interest in Scrabble, and the music left those talented hands; she became increasingly quiet.

Sister Mary Ancele Gloudeman died Nov. 13, 2016 at Our Lady of the Angels, Greenfield, Wisconsin. She was 85. She is survived by her dear sisters Ann Zeller, Ceil Hennen, Aileen Bauer, Bernadette (Archie) Mohan, her brother Fr. Bob Gloudeman and sister-in-law Jan Gloudeman, loving extended family of nieces and nephew, dear friends and the SSND Community. Preceded in death her parents Martin and Anna Marie, brothers Joseph and Fr. Martin Gloudeman and sisters Grace Persick and Margaret Gloudeman.

Sister Ancele wrote in her SSND autobiography, “Music was always my refreshment, my means of solitude, my joy.” Now that music is restored to her in the joy and harmony of heaven. Ancele is enjoying family reunions, class reunions, alumnae reunions, and union with the One she served so joyfully.

Sister Ancele’s last advice to us would be the wish she expressed to her confreres in the Mount Mary Music Department: “May God bless us all as we attempt to build his kingdom in our own small way.”

We thank you, Ancele, for all the beauty and joy you have given us.

*This remembrance is compiled from SSND archival information
and the eulogy presented by Sister Joan Cook, SSND*