

In Loving Memory

Sister Mary Gilda Sturino

Sister Mary Gilda Sturino, 99, died peacefully Friday, November 17, 2023, at Trinity Woods, Milwaukee. She patiently awaited full union with God.

In Kenosha, Wisconsin, August 20, 1924, Pasquale and Michelina Sturino welcomed their sixth child, Mary Gilda. She was baptized August 22, 1924, at Holy Rosary Parish, Kenosha, Wisconsin. Five children were born in Italy and two more children were born in Kenosha after Mary Gilda. The younger children were often called “Little America.”

Mary Gilda attended St. George school, Kenosha, Wisconsin, where she received her entire grade school education. She was taught by School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND). Mary Gilda completed her high school education at Bradford High School in Kenosha.

Mary Gilda entered the candidature September 7, 1942 and February 2, 1944, entered the postulancy in Milwaukee. She spent two weeks practicing teaching second graders at St. George School, Kenosha, Wisconsin. On August 8, 1944, Mary Gilda received the name, Sister Mary Gilda under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception and began her year of novitiate. August 9, 1945, Sister Mary Gilda pronounced her first vows and her final vows August 9, 1951.

Mary Gilda earned a bachelor’s degree in history and sociology from Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee, in 1952.

In 1945, Mary Gilda’s ministry experiences began as a fourth grade teacher at St. Michael School in Milwaukee. In 1953, she was sent to Holy Angels, in West Bend, Wisconsin, to teach primary grades. After four years, Mary Gilda was sent to Our Lady of Lourdes in Dobie, Wisconsin. In 1962, Mary Gilda was both principal and intermediate teacher at St. John the Baptist School in Bloomer, Wisconsin. In 1969, she served on the leadership team at Notre Dame on the Lake, in Mequon, Wisconsin. In 1970, she was called to Rome to serve as portress at the SSND Generalate. Sister Mary Gilda returned to the classroom in 1964, teaching intermediate grades at St. Malachy, Horicon, Wisconsin and in 1976 taught elementary grades at Holy Childhood, Harbor Springs, Michigan. Sister Mary Gilda returned to Wisconsin in 1979 and spent time doing service at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Calvary, Wisconsin. Sister Mary Gilda began her ministry as pastoral minister and a teacher of religious education at St. Joseph’s parish in Wautoma, Wisconsin in 1981. In 1985, she resumed teaching at St. George, Kenosha, Wisconsin and in 1986-1989 at St. Stanislaus, Berlin, Wisconsin. Sister Mary Gilda served in outreach to the poor in Sallisaw, Oklahoma, for two years, then returned to the Milwaukee motherhouse as staff through 1997, when she joined the Notre Dame of Elm Grove community in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. She served as a religion teacher to special needs students while doing many tasks in the community with the sisters. In December, she moved to Trinity Woods, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Birth
August 20, 1924

Baptism
August 22, 1924

Profession
August 9, 1945

Death
November 17, 2023

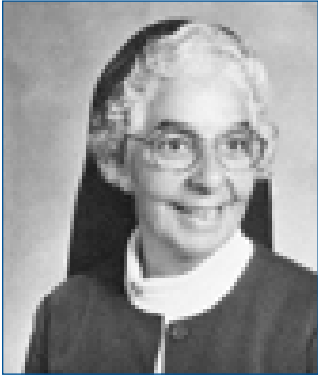
Burial
Notre Dame of Elm Grove
Cemetery

*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.*

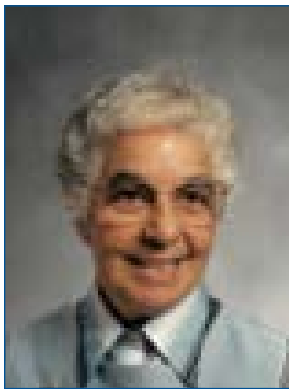
Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger
Foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame
Letter 11, September 10, 1831

continued

In Loving Memory



*Sister Mary Gilda
Sturino*



Sister Mary Gilda was enriched by sharing life with sisters in the community as well as with all whom she served. Sister Mary Gilda loved to dance with God. She did everything with her kind fun-loving heart. She was faithful in listening with both ears to do the loving thing.

The funeral was on Friday, November 25, 2023, at the Mother Caroline Chapel at Trinity Woods, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with Father Leonard Barbian as president. A prayer of remembrance preceded the funeral. Burial followed in the Elm Grove cemetery, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. She is survived by her sister, Elizabeth Cicchini and the SSND community. She was preceded in death by her parents, Michelin and Pasquale Sturino; her brothers, Peter, Sam and Serafino Sturino; and her sisters, Carmella Michelina, Divina LeRose and Rosaria Sciarra.

By Marie Rose Van Deurzen, SSND

To make a memorial gift,
please visit our secure
online donation page
www.ssndcentralpacific.org/donate



**School Sisters
of Notre Dame**
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world
through education