



In Loving Memory

Sister Mary Regina Meyer

Sister Regina was born on December 1, 1920, in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. She was the eighth of the nine children of Frank and Stella Du Charme Meyer. She was baptized at St. Gabriel's Church and received the name Regina.

Regina had a happy childhood and thought the happiness would end when she entered the first grade. However, in a short time, she found school experiences interesting. A highlight of grade school was the reception of her First Holy Communion. Regina always liked the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who were her teachers, and wanted to become one of them at an early age. Four of her older brothers had left home to enter a Religious Order, which strengthened her desire to become a Religious.

Sister Regina entered the convent September 2, 1934, right after eighth grade and spent three years in the Juniorate. She completed her high school in the first year of the candidature in 1938. She was sent to St. Anne's in Milwaukee to teach third and fourth graders. After one year of teaching, she was received into the Novitiate and received the name Sister Mary Nivard (which she later changed to Sister Mary Regina.) She was professed on July 27, 1940.

Sister Regina began her teaching career in 1940 – serving eight years in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, followed by a decade at St. Anne's in Milwaukee. During these years, she completed her college education. She was sent to Stevens Point, Wisconsin, as an eighth grade teacher and principal. She was shocked when she arrived. The construction of the school building was not complete. The night before school opened, there were generous men from the parish who came and unpacked boxes and assembled the desks. The opening day went on as if all was normal. Sister Regina completed her 42 years of teaching serving in Milwaukee, Appleton, Menasha and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

At the end of her teaching career, Sister served as pastoral minister and tutor. She loved giving Holy Communion to the homebound. On April 18, 1991, she retired at Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin, and enjoyed retirement there for 16 years. One of her greatest joys was the opportunity for daily Mass with the Capuchins. Sister kept busy with a few jobs; answering the telephone and doorbell as well as bringing the newspaper to the community room each morning. She enjoyed reading and working jigsaw puzzles. She especially loved football and never missed a Packer game. She liked to go shopping with Sister Roger Marie, which included stopping for pizza. Sister loved ice cream and made her way to the kitchen each afternoon and scooped out a nice large serving of ice cream for herself. Her excuse was – she needed the calcium and didn't like milk.

Sister loved nature and was happy when the Earth Spirituality program within the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was started. She said, "God is pleased with our efforts to appreciate His creation and I thank God every day for His blessings."

Birth
December 1, 1920

Baptism
December 5, 1920

Profession
July 27, 1940

Death
February 7, 2020

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

continued

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In 2012, Sister Regina came to Notre Dame Elm Grove in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. She read the newspaper each day and enjoyed working puzzles. Sisters Rosalyce and Regina became best friends putting puzzles together.

Sister celebrated her 99th birthday in December. She has been a faithful School Sister of Notre Dame for 80 years and will celebrate her Jubilee in Heaven.

Sister Mary Regina passed away February 7, 2020, at Notre Dame Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. A Prayer Service and Funeral Mass was celebrated February 14, 2020, at Notre Dame of Elm Grove.

By Sister Marie Rose Van Deurzen, SSND