



## *In Loving Memory*

### Sister Pauline (Clement Marie) Zweber

Sister Pauline (Clement Marie) Zweber, 86, died on November 14, 2022, at Benedictine Living Community – St. Gertrude’s, Shakopee, Minnesota. In the days before her death, friends and family kept vigil with her.

The seventh of ten children, Sister Pauline, was born on the family farm, east of New Market, Minnesota, on April 19, 1936. She was baptized Marie Pauline Susanna, at St. Nicholas Church, New Market, Minnesota, one week later. As soon as they were able, the Zweber children helped with the farm work. Pauline remembered, “I loved being in the fields with my dad and riding on tractors with him.” For Pauline, cows and horses were her childhood pets. In addition to working together on the farm, evening prayer time was important to the family.

**Birth**  
April 19, 1936

**Baptism**  
April 26, 1936

**Profession**  
July 17, 1956

**Death**  
November 14, 2022

**Burial**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Cemetery

Pauline entered first grade at St. Nicholas School, New Market, in 1942. Her teachers were School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND). When she was 13, her oldest brother, Clement, was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of St. Paul, Minnesota. Pauline wrote, “The happiest day, I can remember, is the day after his ordination, when he celebrated his first private Mass, which only our family attended, and at which, the twins, Helen and John, who were seven at the time, received their First Holy Communion from him.”

After completing eighth grade in 1950, Pauline followed the footsteps of her three older sisters, and attended Good Counsel Academy in Mankato, Minnesota, as an aspirant to religious life. At that time, two of her sisters, Magdalen and Mary, were already School Sisters of Notre Dame, (Madonna and Medard were their religious names). Pauline graduated from Good Counsel Academy in 1954, and entered the SSND candidature, that same year. She was received into the novitiate, on July 16, 1955, and given the name, Sister Clement Marie. She later returned to her baptismal name.

Following profession of first vows in July 1956, Pauline, and other members of her class, remained on Good Counsel Hill, continuing their college education. In the summer of 1957, she received her first teaching assignment: first and second grade, at Assumption School, St. Paul, Minnesota. For the next fifty plus years, her ministry was focused on young children. She taught primary grade children at St. Albert, Albertville, Minnesota (1961-64); St. Bernard, Cologne, Minnesota (1964-65); St. Francis, Buffalo, Minnesota (1965-67); St. Joseph, Spokane, Washington (1967-69); St. Bartholomew, Wayzata, Minnesota (1969-1991); and St. Thomas More (formerly Immaculate Heart of Mary - St. Luke), St. Paul (1991-2008). Sister Pauline completed her bachelor’s degree in 1969, through the Mankato Campus of Mount Mary College (now University).

As teacher of young children, Sister Pauline had a tremendous influence on the lives of her students, as evidenced by two separate events. In 2004, she was honored during a St. Paul high school basketball game between Cretin-Derham Hall and Highland Park, St. Paul, Minnesota. Rashade Coleman, then a sophomore at Highland Park, arranged to have Sister Pauline, his first-grade teacher at Immaculate Heart-St. Luke’s, step forward before the game. He gave

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*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.*

# In Loving Memory



*Sister Pauline (Clement  
Marie) Zweber*



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her a dozen roses and dedicated the game to her, saying, “You made a difference in my life.” In 2006, Sister Pauline was selected to appear in “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.” She did not know who nominated her but learned later, it was a former student, who had just completed a Ph.D. in Education. Sister Pauline reflected on her days as a teacher, “A memory that jumps out at me, is of my 50 years of teaching God’s little ones in first and second grades, was those who found reading very difficult. My own struggles, with a lifetime of dyslexia, made me very understanding of their challenges, and very proud of their victories. Of course, I loved leading them in their growing belief in, and love for, their Heavenly Father.” After retiring from full-time teaching in 2009, Sister Pauline, served as volunteer tutor at the East Side Learning Center in St. Paul, Minnesota.

A great sorrow for Sister Pauline, and the Zweber family, was the death of her brother, Medard, who drowned, while serving in the Armed Forces, in Korea, on August 8, 1956. A great joy, for Pauline and her family, was the ordination of her brother, Ben, as a Maryknoll priest, in 1959. Pauline was able to attend the ordination in New York, for which, she was very grateful.

Sister Pauline fully retired in 2014, and as dementia gradually set in, she was lovingly cared for, by her community member, Sister Judy Frucci. Sister Pauline remained at her St. Paul, Minnesota, home until 2017, when she moved to Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mankato, Minnesota, where her care was continued by the nursing, pastoral care and activities staff. She enjoyed working jigsaw puzzles and connecting with friends and family.

In a thank you message, on the occasion of her 50th anniversary as a School Sister of Notre Dame, she wrote in 2006, “I appreciate so deeply that you have come today to help celebrate God’s wondrous fidelity to me during my 50 years as a School Sister of Notre Dame. Always, I have felt God’s love and continual blessings, throughout this life to which He called me so long ago.”

The Funeral Mass for Sister Pauline was held Monday, November 28, in the Windermere chapel, Shakopee, Minnesota, with Father Joe Fogal, as president. Visitation and sharing of memories preceded the liturgy. Burial of her cremains was in the Our Lady of Good Counsel cemetery in Mankato, Minnesota. She is survived by her sisters, Helen Nunez and Bernadette Dicks; her brother, Dominic; nieces and nephews; and her sisters in community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame and SSND associates. She was preceded in death by her parents, Medard and Evelyn (Lieven) Zweber; her brothers, Medard, Father Clement, Father Benedict, M.M. and John; and her sisters, Mary Brown and Magdalen Zweber.

*By Mary Kay Ash, SSND*