



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 9, 2017

Sister Mary Fidelis Sudo, SSND
Teacher, Seamstress

Elm Grove, Wis. – Sister Mary Fidelis Sudo, 89, died January 26, 2017. She was born on June 9, 1927 in the village of Yona, Guam to Gregorio Sanshiro Sudo and Ana Cruz Baza. Baptized Felicitia Baza Sudo, she was the sixth of twelve children. Her father was originally from Japan, and arrived in Guam via fishing boat.

Sister Fidelis attended public school in Yona for primary school. On December 8th, 1941, when she was in sixth grade America entered World War II. Guam was subsequently occupied by the Japanese and she worked in forced labor. In 1945, Americans retook Guam and Sister Fidelis's family was placed in an internment camp due to her father's Japanese heritage. Her father was killed during the struggle for Guam by American soldiers.

Sister Fidelis then entered George Washington High School. She first met School Sisters of Notre Dame when they came to Guam in 1949 at her home parish in Yona. She had great interactions with the sisters and finished her high school education at the convent.

In December 1951, Sister Fidelis and two other young women from Guam left for Milwaukee to study at Mount Mary University. They were the first group to enter SSND from Guam. Sister Fidelis professed first vows on January 12, 1954. She earned her bachelor's degree in education from the University of Guam.

Sister Fidelis ministered in education for 29 years in primary, intermediate and junior high. She taught in Guam at St. Francis, Yona; Mount Carmel, Agat; and San Vicente, Barrigada; and in Japan at Notre Dame Elementary, Kyoto. Additionally, she served for four years on the staff of the SSND Generalate in Rome.

An excellent seamstress, known for her professionalism and attention to detail, Sister Fidelis served for several years by sewing school uniforms for students, making altar linens and vestments. Sewing was a ministry she continued for seven years in her retirement at Elm Grove. She fully retired in 2008 and served through prayer and presence. In 2014, on her 60th Jubilee, reflected that, "I have learned the importance of loving both the children and their parents as well as being patient. As I still meet them even now, I receive their kindness in return."

Sister Fidelis died January 26, 2017. She was 89. She is survived by her sisters Carmen and Elizabeth, nieces, nephews, dear friends and the SSND Community. Preceded in death her parents, her brothers Jose, Manuel, Sabron, and Siro, her sisters Dolores, Maria, Rosa, Margarita and Irene.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Retirement Fund, c/o Resource Development, 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122 or online at www.ssndcentralpacific.org/Partner/Donation.



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