

August 7, 2018

**Sister M. Antonice Backes, SSND
Teacher, principal, tutor, volunteer**

St. Louis – Sister M. Antonice Backes, died peacefully at Anna House, The Sarah Community, Bridgeton, Missouri, on Sunday, July 8, 2018. She was 100, and a former educator, principal and volunteer.

The funeral Mass was celebrated July 11 at Theresa Center in St. Louis. Burial was in the Sancta Maria in Ripa Cemetery.

Sister Antonice was born in Loose Creek, Missouri. She entered the congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1941 and professed first vows in 1948.

In 1954, she earned a bachelor's degree in education from Webster College, St. Louis, and a master's degree in elementary education from St. Louis University, St. Louis, in 1973.

Sister Antonice taught elementary students for 51 years. The majority of those years were in Missouri at St. Charles Borromeo and St. Peter, St. Charles; St. Boniface, Koeltztown; Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Louis; and St. George, Hermann. She taught at St. Mary, Fort Madison and St. Anthony, Knoxville, Iowa, where she was also the principal. In Illinois, she taught at St. Augustine, Breese and St. Stephen, Caseyville. She did secretarial work at Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Louis, for five years. Sister Antonice tutored at the Notre Dame Tutorial/Learning Center and volunteered at the Notre Dame Preschool for a total of seven years. She also volunteered on Saturdays at St. Augustine Wellston Center in Wellston, Missouri.

After 67 years in education, she retired to Veronica House in September 2009. During her years at The Sarah Community, she started many plants for sale at the craft fair. She was a member of the choir when she lived at Theresa Center. Her love for the poor was shown in the effort she made to crochet over 20 mats from plastic bags for the homeless.

Sister Antonice is survived by a sister, Ann Williams of Bonnots Mill, Missouri, and a brother, Raymond Backes of Altadena, California. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 320 E. Ripa, St. Louis, MO 63125 or online at

<https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.

