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December 28, 2018

Sister M. Lucia Aschenbrener, SSND Teacher, tutor, artist

Mankato, Minnesota – Sister M. Lucia Aschenbrener, SSND, 90, died on Friday, December 28, 2018, at Notre Dame Health Care, Mankato, Minnesota. In her SSND ministry she served as a teacher, tutor and an accomplished artist.

The funeral Mass was celebrated on January 4 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel. Burial was in Our Lady of Good Counsel Cemetery.

The middle child of seven, Sister Lucia was born November 23, 1928, in Spokane, Washington, and baptized Lenore Jean. Lenore was given the name Sister Mary Lucia at her reception into the novitiate in July 1949. She professed



first vows on July 21, 1950, and began her teaching ministry in August. She taught primary or intermediate grades at Catholic schools in three states: St. Mary, Bellechester, Minnesota (1950-1954); Holy Family, Clarkston, Washington (1954-62); St. Mary, Chewelah, Washington (1962-65); SS. Peter & Paul, Springbrook, Iowa (1965-70); St. Martin, Rogers, Minnesota (1970-71); and SS. Peter & Paul, Mankato, Minnesota (1971-76). She earned a BA degree in Education from Holy Names College, Spokane, Washington, in 1960.

Following some time for personal renewal, Sister Lucia resumed her teaching ministry at St. Mary's Cathedral School in St. Cloud, Minnesota, where she taught primary grades from 1978 through 1990. In 1990, she shifted her classroom emphasis and began working with the Title I program as a tutor. From 1991 through 2010, she worked part-time as a tutor and in several other capacities in St. Cloud, including visiting the elderly, doing clerical work, and being part of the foster grandparent program. Among her artistic abilities, Sister Lucia had a special gift of being able to turn photographs into very realistic pencil sketches. In 2003, she created a large image of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton with two children, which now hangs in the school hallway in St. Cloud. Sister Lucia also designed the logo for the Diocese of St. Cloud in 1998. Sister Lucia fully retired in 2010 and moved to Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mankato, Minnesota, where she continued her ministry of pencil sketches and other artistic work.

She is survived by 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 Casper and Leona (Werner) Aschenbrener, four sisters and two brothers.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato, MN 56001 or online at https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give.