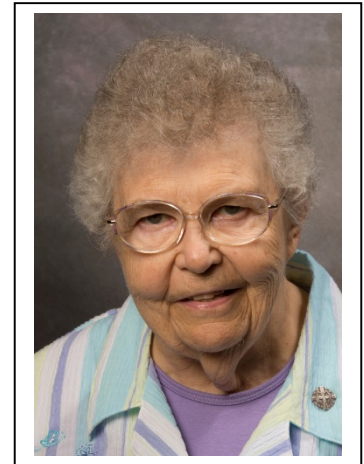


August 8, 2019

Sister Mary Alcuin Rottjakob, SSND
Teacher, pastoral minister, provincial councilor

St. Louis – In the midst of the cold December snow, the first child of Anna (Stallein) and Bernard Rottjakob was born at St. Anthony’s Hospital in St. Louis, on December 30, 1931. She was baptized on January 17, 1932 at St. Augustine, St. Louis, and given the name Virginia Anna. For four years, she received the love of her parents as an only child. Then, her joy was increased when her mother gave birth to twin boys, Joseph and Paul.

Virginia was educated by the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) at St. Engelbert’s Grade School. The family lived next to the school. During these years, she gradually came to experience the desire to become a sister. Virginia began high school at Rosati-Kain High School. In her sophomore year, she transferred to Laboure High School where she was taught by the Daughters of Charity.



Although Virginia desired to enter SSND, her parents asked her to wait a year. During this year, she was employed as a typist for an insurance company. When the year was over, Virginia again expressed her wish to enter religious life, her parents readily gave their consent. Virginia entered at Sancta Maria in Ripa on August 31, 1950. After a year of college studies, she was missioned to teach at St. Peter in St. Charles, Missouri. Virginia was received into the novitiate on July 29, 1952, and given the name Mary Alcuin, preferably Alcuin. Her profession of first vows was July 31, 1953 and final vows was July 31, 1959.

Sister Alcuin taught elementary children at St. Gabriel the Archangel, St. Louis, for 10 years; St. Lucy, St. Louis, for six years and St. Joseph, East St. Louis, Illinois, for one year. She was an elementary principal at St. Lucy, St. Louis; Hannibal Catholic School, Hannibal, Missouri; St. Francis Borgia, Washington, Missouri; and Our Lady School in Festus, Missouri.

In 1975, Sister Alcuin was elected a provincial councilor for the former St. Louis Province. After two terms in the provincial council, she served as treasurer for the former St. Louis Province for seven years. Following a sabbatical, she was a pastoral minister at St. George, Linn, Missouri, and then performed community service at Villa Gesu, St. Louis.

In 1995, Sister Alcuin became the administrative assistant for Notre Dame Travel for six years. She was employed as the bookkeeper for the LaSalette Fathers for 11 years and for the Immigrant and Refugee Women’s Program for one year. During this time, she also did community service for Theresa Center at Sancta Maria in Ripa, St. Louis.

Sister Alcuin died peacefully on July 23, 2019, at Anna House. She was an excellent educator and administrator. She shared her many gifts and talents with her sisters. Sister Alcuin recalled that her years at St. Gabriel School, “Were the strongest years of formation for me. I was surrounded with many models of teaching and living as a woman of the church.” May she now rejoice as she is reunited with her parents and begins her new life with her God!

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>.