

October 3, 2019

Sister M. Claudette Hudalla, SSND
Secondary Educator; ESL Teacher

Mankato, Minnesota – Sister Claudette Hudalla, SSND, 93, died on Thursday, October 3, 2019, in Notre Dame Health Care, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mankato, Minnesota. In her SSND ministry, she served as an elementary teacher, a high school teacher of English and business courses, along with coaching debate, speech teams and directing drama presentations. She also was an ESL instructor.

Sister Claudette was born on March 24, 1926, in St. Paul, Minnesota, to Leo and Dorothy (Cavegn) Hudalla. She was baptized Dolores Margaret at St. Casimir Church. Following graduation in 1943, she worked for three years. She entered the SSND candidature in 1946.

Dolores was received into the novitiate in 1948 and given the name Sister Claudette. Following first profession of vows in 1949, she became an intermediate and junior high teacher, first at St. Andrew, St. Paul (1949-50), then at SS. Cyril & Methodius, Minneapolis, Minnesota (1950-52); Immaculate Conception, Gilbertville, Iowa (1952-56); and finally, at St. Peter, Hokah, Minnesota (1956-57). In 1957, she became a high school teacher at Good Counsel Academy, Mankato, Minnesota; Trinity, Dickinson, North Dakota (1962-70); Loyola High School Mankato, Minnesota (1970-76 and 1978-81); St. Mary, New England, North Dakota (1976-78 and 1983-84); Cretin, St. Paul (1981-82); Totino-Grace, Fridley (1985-87); and Holy Trinity, Winsted (1996-98), all of Minnesota. She earned a BA in secretarial science from Mount Mary in 1958, and an MA in speech and drama from Marquette University in 1968.

In 1987, she became an instructor of English as a Second Language at the Society of the Divine Word College for International Seminarians in Epworth, Iowa. Sister Claudette left to teach English to high school students at Patrona Hungariae Gimnázium, an SSND school in Budapest, Hungary. In 1995, Sister Claudette moved back to Minnesota to teach at Good Counsel Learning Center in Mankato, followed by two years at Holy Trinity in Winsted. In 1998, she became a fully certified ESL teacher. She worked in the Roseville Community Center, the Jewish Community Center in Roseville, and at Jewish Family Services in St. Paul. She volunteered at the East Side Learning Center in St. Paul from 2006, until she came to Our Lady of Good Counsel in 2013.

The funeral liturgy, with Father Eugene Stenzel as presider, was held October 8, in Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel, preceded by a prayer service of remembrance. Burial of her remains followed in the Good Counsel Cemetery. She is survived by one sister, Marlene Yarusso, nieces and nephews, and her sisters in community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame and associates. She was preceded in death by her parents, Leo and Dorothy (Cavegn) Hudalla, her sisters, Sister LaVerne, OSB, and Dorothy Barrett, and her brothers, Leo, Robert and Gene. 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>.

