

November 25, 2019

Sister Mary Carine Dirkers
Teacher, principal, community service

St. Louis, Missouri – Mary Carine Dirkers, 94, passed away in the morning of November 19, 2019, at Anna House, The Sarah Community, Bridgeton, Missouri. In her SSND ministry, she served as a Teacher, principal, and in community service.

A wake service was held at The Sarah Community and Theresa Center on November 25, 2019. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with Rev. Robert Ruhnke, CSsR, a former student from San Antonio, presiding. Burial was in the Sancta Maria in Ripa cemetery.

Rose Marie entered the candidature at Sancta Maria in Ripa on August 25, 1943. As a second-year candidate, she was sent to teach fifth grade at St. Andrew School in Lemay, Missouri. She was received into the novitiate on July 30, 1945, and given the name Mary Carine. During her novitiate year, her father died very suddenly. She pronounced first vows on July 31, 1946, and final vows on July 31, 1952.

She received a bachelor's degree in English from Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, Texas, in 1956, and a master's degree in English from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana in 1964.

Sister Carine spent 53 years in Catholic education. She taught elementary children at Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Louis, Missouri; St. Gerard Majella, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; St. Peter Cathedral, Belleville, Illinois; St. Gerard Majella, San Antonio, Texas; Sacred Heart, DuQuoin, Illinois; St. Mary, Alton, Illinois; St. Peter, Jefferson City, Missouri.

She was principal at Sacred Heart, DuQuoin; St. Mary, Alton; St. William, St. Louis; St. Francis Borgia, Washington, Missouri; and St. Gabriel, St. Louis, Missouri. Her last 14 years in the classroom were spent at Notre Dame High School, St. Louis, Missouri.

From 1968 to 1971, she was assistant directress of Junior Sisters. Sister Carine was a staff member in the finance office at the former St. Louis motherhouse for six years and did community service for 11 years prior to her transfer to The Sarah Community's Veronica House in Bridgeton, Missouri, in 2011. She was missioned to Anna House in August 2018. She passed away peacefully at Anna House on the morning of November 19, 2019.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 320 East Ripa Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63125, or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.

