

Sister Rose Marie Haunert C.PP.S.

Born: November 11, 1915 - January 17, 2011

Professed: August 10, 1934

Entered into Life: January 17, 2011

Verse on her memorial card: ***“You are precious, You are mine, says the Lord.”*** Isaiah 43:4, 1



January 17, 2011,

Dear Sisters,

Sister Rose Marie Haunert was born Helen Teresa on November 11, 1915 in River Mines, Missouri, the oldest of five children. Of her parents and siblings, Joseph, Bernard, and Anna Clare, the only one living is our Sister Gaudentia, a member of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood. Sr. Rose Marie has many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews that are devoted to her and to Sr. Gaudentia. She joined her deceased family members in the early morning hours of January 17, 2011.

Sr. Rose Marie writes about her childhood: *“My father, from the time of my birth until we moved to Michigan, was a hard working railroad agent. We moved to Michigan when I was about four and Dad worked at Ford Motor Company. He was a kind, honest, hard-working father. Our Mother worked to feed and clothe us and kept a neat, beautiful home in River Rouge, Michigan.”*

Sr. Rose Marie entered the community from River Rouge, Michigan August 25, 1931. She says of her decision to enter the Precious Blood community: *“I was taught by Immaculate Heart Sisters in Michigan. I loved them and thought I would become one of them until I met my aunt, Sister Gerarda, CPPS. I entered the aspirancy after 8th grade.”* Sister Rose Marie made her First Vows in the community in 1934 and has been a Sister for 77 years.

After graduating from Fontbonne College in 1951 with a B.A. in art, Sr. Rose Marie taught mechanical drawing for 18 years at Bishop DuBourg High School in St. Louis. Sister taught at Holy Family and St. John the Baptist Schools as well as All Saints School in St. Peters, Missouri. She completed a master's degree in art at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and graduated in 1960. During her university courses Sr. Rose Marie made several pieces of art that added to the beauty of the Motherhouse. The Paschal Candle stand in the sanctuary of St. Joseph Chapel, so beautifully crafted, is a constant reminder to us of her artistic ability.

Responding to the need for someone to care for her aging parents, Sr. Rose Marie returned to Michigan for ten years to nurse them. This experience with elder care inspired Sister to minister with the sick and home bound for twenty years in Holy Family and St. John the Baptist Parishes and as administrative assistant at the Blumeyer Apartments in St. Louis. In 2001, Sr. Rose Marie was recognized by the Archdiocese of St. Louis for her work with the

sick and shut-ins. The Catholic Women Awards was a celebration of women and their gifts shared with the Church. Sr. Rose Marie received the award as a *Comforter/Nurturer* who gave her time and energy in the nurturing of others, a companion to the lonely, the sorrowful, the grieving.

This ministry continued as Sr. Rose Marie returned to St. Anne's Retirement Center in O'Fallon as a volunteer with our elder sisters. In her words: *...I was privileged to work among the home bound for 20 years in Holy Family and St. John the Baptist parishes. In 2002, I moved back to O'Fallon to be at home with our retired sisters—happy to be at home.*"

Sister Rose Marie is now at home with God and living the reality of her Baptismal promise: *"You are precious, You are mine, says the Lord."*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sr. Fran".

Sr. Fran Raia