Sixty-one Precious Blood Sisters died during the month of November from 1846 to 2013.

Four sisters died in Steinerberg, among them, Sr. Ursula Behringer who visited Steinerberg on pilgrimage and thought it the ideal place for founding a convent.

Four of the five sisters who died in November during the Ottmarsheim years are buried in the convent cemetery.

Sr. Roberta Huber, 1848: Fr Rolfus anointed her before she died.
Sr. Anastasia Kaltenborn, 1849
Sr. Beatrix Flam, 1849
Sr. Philomena Drescher, 1849, died in Rümersheim [a village five miles north of Ottmarsheim] and is buried there.
Sr. Alexia Yehle, 1861

No sisters died in Gurtweil in November.
Sixteen sisters died in O'Fallon in the 60 years from 1876 to 1936; this was before our oldest living sisters—Sr. Bonaventure and Mary Brendan—made profession in 1939.

Six of these sisters came to O'Fallon from Gurtweil: Sr. Scholastica Stier and Sr. Rosalia Schleiniger among the sisters were among the third group of pioneers, and Sr. Elizabeth Weber, Sr. Philomena Troendle, Sr. Gertrude Mueller, and Sr. Ferdinanda Wuerth among the fourth group.

The others were Sr. Vincentia Bohl, Sr. Cheladonia Classe, Sr. Ignatia Ganahl, Sr. Monica Kiefer, Sr. Zitta Mack, Sr. Boniface Maus, Sr. Antonilla Schnyder, Sr. Beatrice Schlosser, Sr. Mary Charles Schuler, and Sr. Barbara Koechle who was a Postulant.

All are buried in our cemetery.

In the rest of the twentieth century, 1941 to 1994, twenty one sisters died in November

As space permits, here are a few words about the sisters that perhaps we don’t recall so readily:

Sr. Proba Beck, 1941 “For many years Sister Proba served the Community. Nothing was too much for her.” Memorial letter written by Mother Ancilla

Sr. Helen Mueller, 1944 “Sr. Helen endeared herself to the Community by her charity, docility, and gentleness.” Memorial letter written by Mother Borgia

Sr. Benigna Seitz, 1945 Sister gave many years of service to the Community as a faithful teacher in our aspirancy and novitiate, and as general secretary.” Mother Borgia

Sr. Cecilia Schaller, 1950 “…gave the best she had to the service of God and the work of the Congregation as teacher, counselor, and dean of the junior college.” Mother Borgia

Sr. Albina Mages, 1951 “For almost twenty-five years Sr. Albina taught sewing to the girls at St. Elizabeth Academy. When Sr. Wilhelmine was elected Mother General, Sr. Albina was given charge of sewing habits and distributing clothing …. She received her first electric motor” and “a scissors that could cut 7-fold” from her sister. Written by Sr. Serapia Platte, her niece.

Sr. Blanche Koehler, 1951 “…always showed herself a loyal and devoted member of the Community.” Mother Borgia

Sr. Anastasia Doerr, 1952 letter is missing

Sr. Candida Huber, 1957 In the infirmary, “…dear little Sister Candida” had a visit from Mother Lorenza; as Mother reached the door opposite, she heard Sr. Candida fall. Father Martin anointed her and “before he was finished, she had gone to God with both little hands heavily laden with the myriads of ‘crowns’ she had made for our loved community these past years.” Mother Lorenza
Sr. Columba Hofmann, 1972 Sister Columba taught for 58 years and spent the last 10 years of her life at the motherhouse. “Sister has endeared herself to us through her beautiful spirit of prayer, of faith, of gratitude, and of resignation.” Sister Verona

Sr. Alacoque Fochtmann, 1973 Although deaf in her later years, Sr. Alacoque still “maintained the ability to communicate, in her usual spontaneous way, just a bit of the joy, wit, and humor which she shared so generously with the community during the more active of her sixty years...” Sister Verona

Sr. Adrienne Laule, 1975 Sister was a teacher during her years of active ministry. She spent the last 18 years of her life in O’Fallon where she “showed her love and shared her talents in a special way as she participated in the events planned by the house group to which she belonged. She delighted in having the table prepared for a meal together, or in helping make preparations for a community party. She was also active in doing neat handwork to be used as gifts at Christmas time.” Sister Miriam Joseph

Ten deaths occurred in November between 1980 and 1994:
In this new century, God has called fifteen of our sisters home during the month of November.

The editor hopes that these photos will prompt memories—and perhaps sharing of memories—of these sisters who, although gone from our sight, remain forever in our hearts.