

Sister Sharon King, C.PP.S.

Born: October 14, 1940

Professed: August 10, 1961

Entered into Life: May 7, 2020

Verse on her memorial card:

“See, I hold you in the palm of my hand.” Isaiah 49:16



May 8, 2020

Dear Sisters,

Shortly after 11 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2020, our Sister Sharon King joined the heavenly choir. Given her great love of the rosary, how appropriate that she was called home to Jesus and His mother in the month of May. With the help of the pastoral care department at St. Joseph Hospital, our nurse, Linda Cento, made sure Sr. Sharon had a rosary in her hands as she was dying.

Born on October 14, 1940, Sister Sharon was the oldest of the six children of Milfred and Verneda (Seyer) King. She was baptized at St. Augustine Parish in St. Louis, on November 3, 1940. As the oldest she developed leadership skills at a young age, including serving as president of her senior class at St. Mark's High School.

Sister Sharon (Michelle Marie) entered our novitiate from our Lady of Fatima Parish in Florissant on July 25, 1959 and professed first vows on August 10, 1961. She earned a bachelor's degree in Social Science from Maryville College, an associate's degree in Music from St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, and a master's degree in Spirituality at Holy Names College in Oakland, CA.

Sister Sharon had an ardent love for teaching and was an elementary teacher for twenty-two years. She served in Missouri at St. Stephen Protomartyr, St. Nicholas and St. John the Baptist in St. Louis; St. Paul, St. Paul; St. Ann, Carthage; St. Sabina and St. Thomas the Apostle, Florissant; St. Lawrence, Bridgeton; and Assumption, O'Fallon. In Minnesota she served at St. Peter School, Mendota. She was the Religious Education/CCD Director for six years at St. Sabina in Florissant and St. Cecilia Parish in St. Louis. In addition, she ministered as a residential counselor at Girls' Hope in St. Louis, and she ministered to the poor at St. Agatha Center and St. Anthony Food Pantry. In 2010 she retired from full time ministry and volunteered in various capacities.

Sister Sharon had a pitch-perfect singing voice, and music always brought her characteristically beautiful smile to her face. She loved leading her students in participation at the St. Louis Archdiocesan Elementary School Song Festival, and for several years, she served

as an evaluator for this program. Even as her memory began to fail her, she could always join with the words of any song.

Her love and care for the poor and vulnerable was especially evident during Sharon's years of service at St. Anthony and St. Agatha. Under her leadership, St. Anthony Food Pantry received two awards, one for serving the greatest number of persons and one for doing the most to respond to the human needs of the people in the area. This same concern for the marginalized was evident in her service at Girls' Hope. In her role as residential counselor and houseparent, she functioned as tutor, health care provider, cook, secretary, chauffeur, and coordinator of house and car maintenance. No task was too large nor too small.

Sister Sharon was preceded in death by her parents and by her sister and brother-in-law, June and Lawrence Nordmeyer. She is survived by her sisters and brothers-in-law, Gloria and Lawrence Caudera; Susan and Michael Meyer; Dianne and Lawrence G'Sell; and by her brother and sister-in-law, Steven and Ada King. She also is survived by one aunt, Loretta Chapman, and by nieces, nephews and cousins of several generations.

Sister Sharon leaves behind many friends. She also leaves three profession classmates, our Sisters Loretto Maes, Esther Hogan and Teresa Joseph Ganley. Sisters Sharon and Teresa Joseph were friends for many years, and they shared community life together for nearly twenty years. During that time, they enjoyed caring for one another and for shelter "kitties." Sister Teresa Joseph describes Sister Sharon as "a patient and very prayerful person with a most forgiving spirit, grateful, gracious and kind to everyone."

Let us remember in prayer all of those who will miss Sister Sharon's warm smile and caring heart. Let us also trust in the words that she chose for her memorial card, "See, I hold you in the palm of my hand."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sr. Janice Bader".

Sr. Janice Bader