

Sister Clara Therese Ziegler, C.P.P.S.

Born: May 28, 1932

Professed: August 10, 1952

Entered into Life: August 31, 2022

Verse on her memorial card:

“In my father’s house, there are many mansions. There is one for me.” John 14:1-4



September 1, 2022

Dear Sisters, Family Members, and Friends,

At approximately 5:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, our Sister Clara Therese Ziegler was welcomed to the heavenly banquet. Having welcomed so many people to the tables she prepared, we can imagine that she was greeted with the loving hospitality that she extended throughout her life.

Rita Agnes Ziegler was born in Kimmswick, MO, on May 28, 1932, the twelfth of thirteen children of Joseph and Theresa (Sheman) Ziegler. She was baptized on June 2, at Immaculate Conception Parish in Arnold, MO.

The Zieglers were a farm family. At an early age, Rita learned the value of hard work, helping with farm chores before and after school. She enjoyed accompanying her father and siblings to sell produce at Soulard Market.

Taught by the Ursuline Sisters, Rita was introduced to our Precious Blood community by Father Walter Fuchs. She came to O’Fallon on August 22, 1949, and her mother died on September 14 of that year. She was consoled that some of her other sisters still were living at home and could help her dad. On July 25, 1950, she began her novitiate as Sister Clara Therese. She professed vows on August 10, 1952, and marked her 70th anniversary of profession this year.

Sister Clara Therese spent many years as a homemaker, and she took well-deserved pride in providing healthy, tasty meals and exquisite baked goods. She served at St. Charles, Stratton, CO; St. Joseph, Omaha, NE; and St. Peter’s, Quincy, IL. In Missouri, she ministered at our Motherhouse, O’Fallon; St. Brendan, Mexico; Most Sacred Heart, Florissant; All Saints, St. Peters; St. Monica and St. Agatha, Holy Family, and the Archbishop’s Residence, all in St. Louis. In 1986, she began service as

a driver, taking sisters to appointments and making twice weekly trips to St. Louis to carry mail and packages to and from the Motherhouse and the St. Louis missions.

Sister Clara Therese enjoyed cooking, delighted in trying new recipes, and in experimenting. Featured in a 1982 Quincy *Herald-Whig* article, she told of her special roast beef; in her characteristic one-line humor, she said that on special occasions she substituted beer for the recipe's recommended water. Until she moved to Abbey Senior Health, she continued to bake and share cookies and special treats.

From childhood, Sister Clara Therese was an avid baseball fan. She and her siblings formed their own team and played in a league. She was devoted to the St. Louis Cardinals. In her brief autobiography she recounted that she and Sister Arilda used to make breakfast for the baseball Cardinals at the old cathedral. Once, the two Cardinal fans "had the privilege of making breakfast for the Dodgers" and were thrilled to have their picture taken with Tommy Lasorda.

Sister Clara Therese was preceded in death by her parents and by her siblings, Richard, Leonard, Edward, Theodore, Rosalia, Oswald, Joseph, Mary Ann, Daniel, Raymond, and Theresa. She is survived by her sister, Clara, by her sister-in-law, Marilyn, and by many nieces and nephews of several generations. Please keep her family in prayer; they thoroughly enjoyed being together, and they will miss her earthly presence.

There will be a wake at Baue Funeral Home in O'Fallon from 5-8 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2022. We will welcome Sister Clara Therese's body to St. Joseph Chapel at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, where her wake will continue until the Mass of Christian Burial at 2:30 p.m. that day. Sister Clara Therese will be buried in our convent cemetery.

For her memorial card, Sister Clara Therese chose an adaptation of John 14:2, "In my Father's house there are many mansions. There is one for me." She prepared homes for so many, and she was confident that God would have a home ready for her. Sister Clara Therese, may you enjoy your mansion and your reunion with our sisters, your family members, and your many friends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sr. Janice Bader". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Sr. Janice Bader