



CONGREGATION OF BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION
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News Release

Nov. 21, 2007

Benedictine Sister Mary Monica Sanders Passes

CLYDE, Mo. - Sister Mary Monica Sanders, OSB, 84, died Monday, Nov. 19, 2007, at Our Lady of Rickenbach Healthcare in Clyde, Mo. She was a member of the Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration.

She was born Ruth Margaret Sanders on July 31, 1923, in West DePere, Wisc. She was the youngest of six children born to Louis and Teresa Golueke Sanders.



After she graduated from high school, Sister Monica moved from her small Wisconsin town to Milwaukee to work. After she began attending mass each morning at a nearby cathedral, the then 30-year-old realized her love of the Blessed Sacrament was something special.

Her priest asked if she had thought about religious life and sent her to visit a couple of local orders, neither of which appealed to her. Then, recalling a group he'd heard about during his university days, he wrote to them on Sister Monica's behalf.

"They sent me a book about the exposition," she said. "It was the beginning of the rest of my life." That community was the Benedictine Sisters, which she entered before visiting it beforehand. She made her first monastic profession on Oct. 5, 1957, and just recently celebrated her Golden Jubilee.

During her years as a Benedictine Sister, she worked in the vestry, laundry, kitchen, maintenance and altar bread departments. She was also one of the founding sisters of the congregation's Benedictine Ashram, Osage+Monastery, in Sand Springs, Okla., which is devoted to dialogue between Eastern and Western religions.

Survivors include two brothers, Bernard Sanders, DePere, and Mark Sanders, West Allis, Wisc.; a sister, Anna Reinhard, Green Bay, Wisc.; and her monastic family.

A Mass of Christian Burial took place Wednesday, Nov. 21, in the Adoration Chapel, Clyde, followed by burial in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Clyde.

Memorials can be sent in care of Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, 31970 State Highway P, Clyde, Mo. 64432-8100.

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