



PRECIOUS
& BLESSED

*is the death of the
faithful
before
GOD.*



School Sisters of Notre Dame
of St. Louis

320 East Ripa Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63125

www.ssnd-sl.org



Sister Mary Jane Cady, SSND

Born

May 30, 1930

Professed

August 2, 1951

Ministry

*elementary educator, refectorian,
community service ~
Illinois, Missouri*

Died

August 16, 2008

Sister Mary Jane (Mary Clare) Cady, SSND



The first child of Stella [Tihen] and James Cady was born on May 30, 1930, in St. Louis, MO. She was born on the same day as her father who always said that she was his birthday gift. On June 22, she was baptized at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Wellston and named Mary Jane. When she was 6 months old, the family moved into Holy Ghost parish. Her only sister, Patricia, was born six years later. As a child, Mary Jane loved to sit at the front window of her home and wave to those who passed by – an indication of her outgoing personality and love for people which characterized her entire life.



Mary Jane attended Holy Ghost School staffed by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. During her elementary years, she assisted the sisters in the sacristy and developed a great relationship with them. She entered Rosati-Kain High School where her love for SSND deepened. In May of her first year at R-K, her father died of an accident, causing much grief and hardship for the family.

She hesitated to ask her mother to enter SSND but finally had the courage to do so. Mary Jane became a candidate on September 1, 1948. After a year of college, she was sent to teach 52 first grade girls at St. Liborius. She was received into the novitiate on August 1, 1950, and given the name Mary Clare. She professed first vows on August 2, 1951, and final vows on August 2, 1957.

Sister Mary Jane was a teacher of primary children for 46 years. In many of these classes, she prepared the children for their first recep-

tion of the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist. She was missioned to: St. Liborius and St. Andrew, St. Louis, MO; St. Peter Grade School, Jefferson City, MO; St. Martin de Porres, Hazelwood, MO; St. Anthony, Sullivan, MO; St. Joseph, East St. Louis, IL; Sacred Heart, Effingham, IL; and St. Dominic, Breese, IL.

Following her retirement from formal teaching in the classroom, she was refectorian in the motherhouse and also provided assistance to the motherhouse chaplain. However, one could find Sister Mary Jane offering service wherever it was needed, often baking cookies and cake for visitors, community functions and various meetings.

At the end of May 2008, Sister Mary Jane was admitted to St. Anthony's Medical Center for treatment. There were two more hospital visits and finally on August 7, tests confirmed the diagnosis of an advanced stage of liver cancer. She was brought back to the motherhouse infirmary and placed on hospice. She died peacefully at 6:50 a.m. on August 16, 2008, while members of the infirmary staff attended to her.

A wake was held at the motherhouse on August 19. Bishop Robert Hermann, former pastor at St. Andrew, and chaplain Rev. Charles Deister concelebrated the Mass of Christian Burial the following morning. Relatives, sisters and friends were present for the funeral services. Burial was in the motherhouse cemetery. She is survived by her sister, Patricia Flavin of Florissant, MO.

Sister Mary Jane was an excellent primary teacher who endeared herself to the children and their parents. Considerate, kind and thoughtful, she volunteered whenever there was a need. She valued her prayer life, SSND community and her friends. She was a woman of hospitality who did not know a stranger. Her common sense, Irish wit and humor lightened many difficult situations. She loved to see new places, go shopping and eat at Steak 'n Shake. May Sister Mary Jane now delight in the blessings of eternal life given to her by the God she served so faithfully!



Precious and blessed is the death of the faithful before God.