



PRECIOUS  
& BLESSED

*is the death of the*

*faithful*  
*before*  
GOD.



*Sister Rose Mary Linhoff, SSND*

*Born*

*July 16, 1933*

*Professed*

*August 2, 1954*

*Ministry*

*Music educator, liturgist, tutor ~  
Illinois, Missouri*

*Died*

*October 28, 2008*



School Sisters of Notre Dame  
of St. Louis

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Saint Louis, MO 63125

[www.ssnd-sl.org](http://www.ssnd-sl.org)

# Sister Rose Mary (Mary Ann) Linhoff, SSND



The second born of twin girls was placed in her mother's arms on July 16, 1933. She and her twin sister were born to Frances [Reiling] and Robert Linhoff in St. Charles, Mo. Two days later, she was baptized at St. Peter's Church and given the name Rose Mary. Her twin sister was named Mary Ann. This happy family would number seven children: four boys and three girls.



Rose Mary attended St. Peter Grade and High School and was taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. In high school, she found great delight in music and took all the courses available to her. During her high school years, she and her sister worked at St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Charles, which was staffed by the Sisters of St. Mary.

The prayer life of her parents, Rose Mary's love of music and the influence of her SSND teachers fostered her vocation. She entered the candidature on August 30, 1951, just one month after her twin had entered the Sisters of St. Mary [now known as the Franciscan Sisters of Mary]. Rose Mary was received into the novitiate on August 1, 1953, and given the name of her twin, Mary Ann. Meanwhile, her twin had become a novice on February 11, 1952, and received her name, Rose Mary. The interchange of these names has caused a bit of confusion over the years, especially when both returned to their baptismal names. Profession of first vows was on August 2, 1954, and final vows on August 2, 1960.



Sister Rose Mary was a music teacher for 27 years. She taught at St. Mary and the Academy of Notre Dame, Belleville, Ill.; St. Paul High School, Highland, Ill.; and Our Lady of Sorrows, Immaculate Heart of Mary and Notre Dame High School in St. Louis. She ministered as liturgist for 15 years at Immaculate Conception, Mattoon, Ill.; Villa Gesu and the motherhouse. In 1998, she volunteered for several months on the Yankton Sioux Reservation in Marty, S.D.

During her retirement years at the motherhouse, she gave private music lessons, tutored at St. Andrew and Queen of All Saints in St. Louis and volunteered at the county library. In March 2008, Sister Rose Mary was missioned to Anna House. She died unexpectedly at 2:55 p.m. on October 28, 2008, at De Paul Health Center from complications following heart surgery, which she had the previous day. Sisters and family members were with her as she peacefully gave her life to God.

The wake/vigil was held at Anna House and the motherhouse on October 31, 2008. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on November 1 with burial in the motherhouse cemetery. She is survived by her twin sister, Sister Mary Ann, F.S.M., and sister, Dorothy Garvels and brothers, Paul and Charles. Many relatives, friends, former students and colleagues, and SSNDs attended the funeral services.

An extremely gifted person, Sister Rose Mary particularly enjoyed band and choral work. She loved her family and brought much joy to them and all those she met with her humor and appreciation of persons and nature. During these past years, she desired to live in her own truth as she tried to live one day at a time. In her updated autobiography, she wrote that she wished to be remembered as a woman of compassion, joy and one who was in touch with her humanness. May she now join the choirs of angels in their praise of a loving and compassionate God!

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