

Alleluia!

Sister Daniel Griesenbrock, O.S.F.

Sister Daniel Griesenbrock was born in Columbus, Ohio on March 25, 1909 to Herman and Johanna Fleige Griesenbrock. Baptized Matilda Mary at St. Mary's Church, she was the second of three daughters, her sisters being Joanne, now deceased, and Dorothea who lives in Venice, Florida. Her aunt was our own Sister Kathleen Fleige.

Matilda attended St. Mary's Grade and High Schools in Columbus. She credits a Jesuit priest, one of her high school teachers, with helping her to realize that "God was beckoning her to religious life." She said her parents were surprised by her decision as she had not "spoken previously of her intentions."

On January 28, 1928 Matilda came to Joliet to begin her postulancy. That August she was received into the novitiate and given the name Sister Mary Daniel. After her first profession of vows on August 12, 1930, Sister Daniel began her sixty-eight years of ministry in music at St. Francis Preparatory in Joliet.

Sister Daniel, affectionately called Danny, was an accomplished musician. She played the piano, violin and organ; taught music education; was an orchestra leader and glee club and choir director as she ministered in various schools and parishes in Ohio and Illinois. After 16 years at St. Francis Academy, Joliet, Sister Daniel went to Venice Florida to become the Assistant Director at the Church of the Epiphany, later to become the Cathedral of the Epiphany.

According to the pastor, Fr. Soy, this was a position created just for her. Here she wanted to continue using her talents, but in a less pressured setting than a classroom. During her thirteen



years at the cathedral parish, Sister Daniel was Assistant Director of Music, Sacristan and taught CCD classes. She also served as Spiritual Assistant to the Secular Franciscan Fraternity of Father Solanus Casey. Danny was also liaison for Liturgy at the Parish Council meetings and a life-time member of the Solanus Guild and the Epiphany Women's Guild. Her good friend Sister Lorraine Russell once said, the word "retire" had a different meaning for Sister Daniel.

In 1994 Sister Daniel did retire from active ministry, but remained with family and friends in Venice, or her beloved Venezia, as she used to call it. At her retirement party one guest said that Sister "had fun as she got God's work done." After suffering a mild stroke which affected her eyesight, Danny moved to OLA in 1998. Here she brought her fun loving ways to share with all the residents. After suffering another stroke, Danny became more frail and early in the morning on August 11, the Feast of St. Clare, in the presence of her sisters, Danny died peacefully.

Sister Daniel, we thank you for sharing your love and laughter, your music and dancing with us. As you play and dance before the Lord, may you continue to remember us, your family, your friends, your Franciscan sisters. Amen. Alleluia!

Sister Mary Daniel Griesenbrock, O.S.F.
25 March 1909 - 11 August 2000

Born: March 25, 1909, Columbus, Ohio
Parents: Herman and Johanna (Fleige) Griesenbrock
Entered From: St. Mary, Columbus, Ohio
Postulancy: January 28, 1928
Novitiate: August 12, 1928
Profession: August 12, 1930
Entered New Life: Friday, August 11, 2000, at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home at 4:48 a.m.

Ministry History

- 1930 - 1932 Musician, St. Francis Preparatory, Joliet, IL
- 1932 - 1938 Music and Organist, Most Pure Heart of Mary, Shelby, OH
- 1938 - 1940 Organist and Music Teacher, St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
- 1940 - 1942 Organist and Music Teacher, Sacred Heart-Englewood, Chicago, IL
- 1942 - 1948 Organist and Music Teacher, St. Raymond Cathedral, Joliet, IL
- 1948 - 1951 Organist and Music Teacher, SS Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL
- 1951 - 1952 Organist and Music Teacher, Most Pure Heart of Mary, Shelby, OH
- 1952 - 1954 Organist and Music Teacher, Sacred Heart-Englewood, Chicago, IL
- 1954 - 1955 Organist and Music Teacher, Immaculate Conception, Toledo, OH
- 1955 - 1961 Music Teacher, St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL
- 1961 - 1963 Music Teacher, St. Peter High School, Mansfield, OH
- 1963 - 1964 Organist and Music Teacher, St. Clement, Chicago, IL
- 1964 - 1966 Organist and Music Teacher, St. Raymond Cathedral, Joliet, IL
- 1966 - 1967 Organist and Music Teacher, St. Pascal, Chicago, IL
- 1967 - 1971 Organist and Music Teacher, St. Pius X, Lombard, IL
- 1971 - 1981 Music Teacher, St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL
- 1981 - 1994 Organist and Sacristan, Church of the Epiphany, Venice, Florida
- 1994 - 1998 Retired, Cathedral of the Epiphany, Venice, FL
- 1998 - 2000 Retired, Our Lady of Angels Retirement home, Joliet, IL

Wake: Sunday, August 13, 2000, 2 - 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Wake Service: Sunday, August 13, 2000, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels
Mass of Christian Burial: Sunday, August 13, 2000, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels
Burial: Monday, August 14, 2000; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m.
to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL

Interment S8-L335-G5, Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by: Dorothea Smeck, sister, and nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace, Sister Daniel