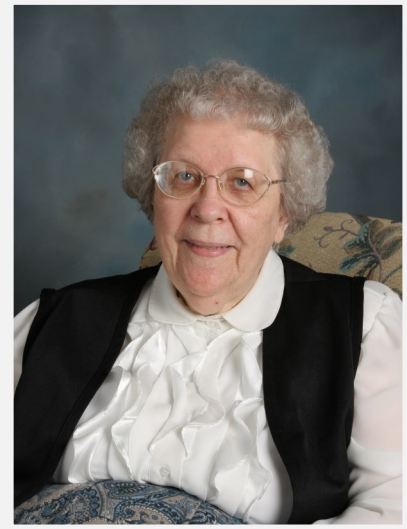
Sister Irene Lengerich, CSA



Sister Irene Lengerich, CSA, formerly known as Sister Mary Theodore, died peacefully on January 24, 2014, at St. Francis Home in Fond du Lac, WI.

Irene was born on June 30, 1917, in Decatur, IN, to Theodore Lengerich and Josephine Bentz Lengerich. Irene had three brothers and seven sisters, two of whom were also Sisters of St. Agnes. Sister Mary Theodore professed vows in the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes on August 15, 1936.

She received a B.S. in Music Education, an M.A. in Administration Supervision, and an Advanced Certificate in Religious Education. Sister Irene ministered in elementary education as a music teacher for 16 years, a middle grade teacher for five years, a principal for 21 years, and an organist in parishes for 53 years. She taught in Ohio, Indiana, and many schools in Wisconsin. After retiring from teaching Sister Irene did volunteer work at Cherry Court in Milwaukee as part of the Sisters Interacting with Seniors program.

Preceding her in death were: her father and her mother; her three brothers Herman Lengerich, Lawrence Lengerich, and Gerald Lengerich; her sisters Marcella Kelly, Frances Lloyd, Margaret Thayer, Sister Anthony Lengerich, CSA, Sister Octavia Lengerich, CSA, Annette Meyer, and Edith Conway.

She is survived by her nieces and nephews and the Sisters of St. Agnes, with whom she lived, prayed, and ministered.

Visitation for Sister Irene Lengerich will be at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 28, at Nazareth Court and Center, 375 Gillett Street. A Prayer Service will be held at Nazareth Court at 11:00 Tuesday morning.

A Mass of Christian Burial: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 2:00 p.m., in St. Francis Home Chapel, 33 Everett St. Fond du Lac, WI. The presider will be Father Ken Smits, OFM Cap. The burial will be at St. Joseph Springs Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the Sisters of St. Agnes Development Office, 320 County Road K, Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

The Sisters of St. Agnes are grateful to the nurses and staff of Nazareth Court and Center/St. Francis Home and, in her last year, to the staff of Hospice Hope for their care of Sister Irene.

Zacherl Funeral Home is serving the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Agnes.