

## **Sister Suzanne Kotel, CSA**

Sister Suzanne Kotel, CSA, baptized Mary, died peacefully on December 13, 2020, at Nazareth Center, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Mary, the daughter of Joseph and Helen Kotel, was born on January 29, 1927, in Marquette, Michigan. Mary had eight brothers and three sisters, all of whom preceded her in death. She began her high school education at Baraga High School and completed it at Holy Family Orphanage in Marquette where she and her siblings were cared for following her mother's death in childbirth.



Mary entered St. Agnes Convent in 1945 and made her first profession of vows in the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes as Sister Suzanne on August 15, 1948.

Sister Suzanne spent her life in service to her CSA sisters and to the poor and homeless. She ministered as a cook, laundress, and homemaker at St. Agnes Convent, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, St. Anthony Hospital in Hays, Kansas, St. Mary's Parish Convent in Lomira, Wisconsin, St. Mary's Springs Academy and St. Joseph Springs Farm, both in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. During her many years serving at St. Agnes Convent, Sister Suzanne would be seen driving her station wagon around Fond du Lac early in the morning to pick up day-old bread from local grocery stores to deliver to individuals in need and organizations serving the poor.

For over twenty years, Sister Suzanne volunteered once a week at the Salvatorian Mission Warehouse in New Holstein, Wisconsin, working side by side with the founder, Brother Regis Fust, SDS, Sister Dora Zapf, SDS, and other volunteers packing supplies of clothing, furniture, paper products, food and medical supplies for Catholic missionaries in 14 countries around the world, including the Sisters of St. Agnes serving in Latin America.

In December of 2016, due to frail health, Sister Suzanne joined the community of CSA sisters at Nazareth Court and Center in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. There she continued to find ways to help the poor until the time of her death.

Sister Suzanne was preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Helen Kotel; her brothers Raymond, John, Robert, Paul, James, Martin, William, and Eugene; her sisters Evelyn, Josephine, and Helen. She is survived by her sister-in-law Marilyn Kotel, her dear friend, Sandra Hannah, many recipients of her generosity, and the Sisters of St. Agnes, with whom she lived, prayed and ministered.

A graveside burial service was held for Sister Suzanne at St. Joseph Springs Cemetery, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on December 21, 2020. A private Memorial Mass will be held on January 12, 2021, in the Nazareth Center Chapel, 375 Gillett Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, with Father Kenneth Smits, Capuchin, presiding.

Memorials can be directed to the CSA Mission Advancement 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 Hospice Hope for their care of Sister Suzanne during her final years of life.

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