

IN MEMORIAM



Sr. Catherine Nader

(Sister Ruth Ann)

BORN: June 1926

ENTERED CONGREGATION: February 2, 1955

DIED: November 25, 2016

After becoming a successful teacher and having traveled extensively through Europe and the Middle East, Catherine Margaret Nader decided something was missing in her life. "I wanted," she exclaimed, "to establish a closer relationship to God and to serve him by becoming a Sister of the Precious Blood."

Today, Catherine, we rejoice with you in your close relationship to your God, being welcomed so lovingly by Him and having concluded your heartfelt journey with us as a Sister of the Precious Blood.

In June 1926, a healthy baby girl was born at home in Farrell, Pennsylvania to faith-filled Lebanese Immigrants, Thomas and Thecla Nader. She was the youngest of ten children; three boys (Anise, Anthony and John) and four girls (Anisa, Mary, Tafla, Raja Budder, Genevieve and Catherine).

When she was five months old she was stricken with polio, which paralyzed both her legs from the waist down. Though she was unable to walk, she managed to get around by crawling and pulling herself along the floor. At two-and-a half years she began walking on her toes. This she said was "a result of a miracle on Good Friday." Her ability to walk continued to improve until she was walking normally, although was left with a pronounced limp. Always heeding her mother's encouraging challenge, "Don't tell me you can't do something until you've tried it, then we can go from there," Catherine would participate in almost all activities.

In 1944 she left the small town of Far-

rell to attend Our Lady of Cincinnati College (Edgecliff) in Cincinnati, majoring in sociology with an emphasis on child study. She also attended business school but realized that she preferred to teach and work with children and so began her teaching career. She was the first lay teacher at St. Gertrude School in Cincinnati teaching second grade while taking education courses at The Athenaeum of Ohio and the University of Cincinnati. Later she taught 4 ½ years as a first grade remedial teacher in the inner-city public school of Peaslee Elementary School in Cincinnati. While teaching at Peaslee she took Saturday and summer classes to earn her Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Xavier University of Cincinnati.

Following her call to be close to God as a Sister of the Precious Blood, Catherine resigned from Peaslee School and entered religious life as a postulant in February of 1955 at the age of 28.

As Sister Ruth Ann Nader, a Sister of the Precious Blood, she delighted in once again teaching. From 1957-1966 she taught students in grades 5-12 in Dayton and Wapakoneta, Ohio. In 1967 she, like so many of her CPPS Sisters, returned to using her baptismal name. Sister Catherine Nader for the next eight years ministered as Guidance Counselor at Central Catholic School in Lafayette, Ind.

Her Sisters then called her to serve them in congregational administration, as Director of the Northern Region. In 1980 she returned to what she loved so dearly, teaching, and did so in Ottoville and Wapakoneta, Ohio.

In 1997 Catherine retired and moved

to Salem Heights in Dayton, Ohio. Believing "one never retires, just gets 'recycled,'" Sister started an elementary math tutoring program for students in Precious Blood School right across the street, and later began tutoring adults in the Brunner Literacy Center. She volunteered in a number of other activities and found time to use her computer in justice related activities.

In 2012 Catherine was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis of multiple joints. Though these conditions placed her permanently in a wheelchair, Catherine was grateful for the various aids the Community provided for her to help keep her active and mobile. She came to realize however that, "The Lord has slowed me down in some activities, but has invited me to live a more contemplative life."

In November 2015, realizing she needed skilled nursing care she moved to the Maria-Joseph Center in Dayton. Grateful that God and her Sisters helped her along her journey in life, she looked to the future, remembering God's promise: "Fear not, for I am with you: Be not dismayed, for I am your God."

Sister Catherine told us, "I've been blessed with caring, loving parents and siblings, a Congregation which nurtures me, friends who help me grow and opportunities to share God's word in my varied ministries. For this and more, I thank you and praise you, O God!"

We too, thank you Loving God for our Sister Catherine and rejoice in her coming home to you.

— Sister Nancy Kinross