

Name: Sister Daniel Wolf
Date of Birth: June 18, 1923
Place of Birth: Oshkosh, Wisconsin
Parents: Emil Karl and Sabina (Benderling) Wolf
Religious Profession: August 15, 1942
Date of Death: October 26, 2020
Age: 97
Years Professed: 78



Reflection by Sister Natalie Binversie, Community Director

Marion Anna Wolf was born on June 18, 1923 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin to Emil Karl and Sabina (Benderling) Wolf. She was baptized at Sacred Heart Church on June 24, 1923 by Father M. J. Schmitz. Marion took the name Rose when she was confirmed at St. Joseph Church in Manitowoc on June 11, 1941 by Bishop Rhode.

Marion grew up in a simple, close-knit, God-loving, small family. She and her older sister, Dolores, were raised during the depression era. As a baby, Marion's mother took her to the Blessed Mother's altar in Church and offered her to the Blessed Mother. Marion was often dressed in blue in honor of the Blessed Mother. Her mother attended daily Mass and as soon as Marion was able to walk, she went to Church with her. Marion liked Jesus' house. This is where she met the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, whom she thought, lived in Jesus' house, too. It was a daily practice for her dad to call Marion and Dolores in from playing, to settle down and to pray the rosary together.

Marion attended Sacred Heart Catholic School, where she was taught by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity. The Sisters would often walk to the Wolf home and stop to visit. The Sisters would also come to the picnics in the Cemetery Park. Marion was especially fond of Sister Cecil Melchoirs and wanted to be a Sister like her.

Father Michael J. Schmitz, Marion's Pastor, was another great influence in her life. Marion's grandfather had cancer, so Father Schmitz was a frequent visitor at the Wolf home. He told great stories and always shared a prayer and a blessing before he left. He often prayed his Breviary walking around the Church grounds. He knew every child by name and he knew who the parents were and where they all lived. When he met a child he always asked, "Are you thinking about being a Sister/Priest?"

When Marion was in the third grade, one of her classmates died of a blood disorder. Her death touched the whole parish. Less than twelve months later Marion got sick and was diagnosed with juvenile leukemia. Dr. Wagner came to see Marion with a new medicine, which she took for two weeks. After months in bed and her mother's prayers to Mary, Marion recovered. During her time of illness, Marion wondered if she would die, like her classmate did. After she recovered, she knew that God saved her so that she could be a Sister.

After graduating from Sacred Heart School, Marion attended her freshman year at Oshkosh High School. Marion had not forgotten to pursue her desire to become a Sister. She wrote the following letter dated March 27, 1939:

Dear Ven. Mother M. Generose,

Sister M. Dionysia had already written you about me, but she has only known me for such a short time and had asked me to write to you and tell you more about myself. I am a strong, healthy girl and will be sixteen in June. I graduated from Sacred Heart School last year and was a "B" student. I am now putting in one year at Oshkosh High School. I have a "C" average in English, Science, Business Training and Library Instruction and a "B" in Civics.

I had the desire to enter the Convent when I was a small child and the desire has only increased over the years. If you accept my application, please send me the list of necessary articles. If possible, I would like to enter the Convent in June, for I never took Latin and I was told that it was necessary. I will be waiting anxiously for your answer.

*Respectfully yours,
Marion Wolf*

On May 3, 1939, Marion wrote the following letter:

Dear Mother M. Generose,

Your most welcome letter was received. I am glad my application blank and my doctor's certificates were satisfactory. I can be ready by June. School will close June 16th. My parents will bring me up there June 18th, if that is satisfactory with you. Sister, would you please send me a list of the things I would need? Thank you.

*Respectfully yours,
Marion Wolf*

Marion did enter Holy Family Convent on June 18, 1939, her 16th birthday! On her Reception Day, June 13, 1940, Marion received the name Sister Daniel, after the prophet Daniel. Sister Daniel completed her High School in Holy Family Academy and received her Diploma in 1942. She continued her education at Holy Family College, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree, July 22, 1956, in Elementary Teaching, with a Major in History and a Minor in French. Sister Daniel took additional course work at Mount St. Mary College in Los Angeles, California and at Arizona State College in Tempe, Arizona.

Sister Daniel taught for 41 years and served the elderly for ten years. At the time of her Jubilee, Sister Daniel reflected on the rewarding experience she had of caring for the boys at Guardian Angel Boarding School in Oneida, Wisconsin. A family of three boys, the Jadin brothers, kept in close contact with Sister Daniel over the years, to express their deep gratitude for the loving maternal care she gave them. Sister Daniel wrote about her fond memory of being at St. John's Indian School in Komatke, Arizona. "I taught there about seven years and became Dean of girls for the next nine years. Being a Dean at a Boarding School means you are substitute teacher, mother, counselor, police-woman, coach, chaperon, driver, nurse-aid, cheer-leader, instructor, etc.! To be honest, the list sounds worse than the actual job. You sometimes feel like you are a 'jack of all trades and master of none,' because you were responsible for

the job getting done! Boarding School life at St. John's was more like a family. The Junior and Senior girls were the Big Sisters for the younger girls."

Sister Daniel was very appreciative of the support she received from her parents, her sister, Dolores, her niece and nephews. Coming from a small family, Sister Daniel appreciated the big family she inherited when she came to the Convent and became a Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity.

Father Schmidt's words of encouragement to Sister Daniel helped her live out her commitment in living her life for God. Father Schmidt would tell her, "Remember, He is the Lord your God and He gave up everything for us. So, you owe Him a lot. His Father gave Him to us, now you give yourself to Him." When Our Lord came to Sister Daniel on Monday, October 26, she gave up herself completely and handed herself over to Our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you, Sister Daniel for your commitment to your life of Consecrated love. May you rest in peace.

Amen.