

Vita
Sister Marcille Liebrecht



On Saturday, April 25, 1936 a baby girl was born to Clara Mary (Kahle) and Sylvester Liebrecht in Continental, Ohio. When she was baptized in St. Isidore Parish, she was given the name Marcille Mary Catherine Liebrecht.

Loving her teachers, especially her eighth grade teacher Sister Beatrice Herman, Marcille was attracted to religious life as a young girl. She attended St. Francis Convent High School and joined the Sisters of St. Francis as a postulant in 1953. On August 12, 1954, Marcille was received as a novice and given the name Sister Mary Gaspar. She professed her first vows in 1956 and her perpetual vows in 1959.

Sister Mary Gaspar began college classes at Mary Manse College, Toledo, Ohio and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from St. Francis College in Joliet, Ill. She received a Master's Degree from the University of Toledo.

Sister M. Gaspar taught elementary students at schools in Carey, Custar, Marywood, Fort Jennings, Bucyrus, and New Cleveland.

In 1968 she ventured into high school, teaching at St. Mary High School in Bismarck, North Dakota. It was at this time that she returned to the use of her baptismal name as Sister Marcille.

For eleven years (1976-1987) she served the pilgrims coming to pray at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation at St. Anthony Pilgrim House in Carey, Ohio as Executive Housekeeper and then as Administrator.

In 1988 Sister Marcille entered a new field of ministry and for nineteen years she cared for the elderly at Calvary Manor in Glandorf, Ohio, first, as a Nurse's Aide. She said, "I think of myself as working with the poor. I don't mean necessarily that our people are financially poor. I just mean that they are at our mercy to help them do the things they can't do for themselves anymore." She became the Assistant and then the Director of Activities where she graciously shared her creativity.

Always a committed environmentalist, Sister Marcille made routine visits around the nursing home gathering milk jugs and detergent bottles for recycling, saying: "I want to keep these things out of the landfill." Her co-workers were soon assisting her. She wrote a letter to the editor of the *Putnam County Sentinel* challenging the readers to conserve resources and preserve the environment. She reminded the readers to preserve "a sense of the sacred." She enjoyed making a garden each spring and sharing or preserving the

resulting produce. Sister Marcille was also a life-long blood donor, giving well over 22 gallons of blood. She credits a blood transfusion with saving her mother's life. Her mother then became a blood donor. Sister Marcille said, "I thought if mom can do it, then I can do it, too. That's how I got started."

Following her ministry at Calvary Manor, Sister Marcille provided Respite Care for the elderly in the area of Continental, Ohio for eight years.

In 2004, when Sister Marcille celebrated her Golden Jubilee as a Sister of St. Francis, she recalled: "Before I entered St. Francis, a Sister asked me what I wanted to do as a Sister, I replied that I would do whatever they asked me to do, whether teaching, nursing, housekeeping, working with the elderly. All this has been true in my life; I have experienced all of these. God was always faithful."

In 2015 Sister Marcille returned to the Motherhouse in Tiffin and served as a volunteer at St. Francis Home and as a praying member. She moved into St. Francis Home in 2017 and continued her love for the elderly, and praying and visiting other residents as long as she was able.

Sister Marcille is preceded in death by her parents, Clara Mary (Kahle) and Sylvester Liebrecht, Sr. and by her brother Eugene Liebrecht. Surviving are: her sister, Mary Jane (and Paul) Miller; brothers, Norman (and Ann), and Sylvester, Jr. (and Norma Jean) Liebrecht; and sister-in-law, Linda Liebrecht.

Having completed her journey here, Sister Marcille answered God's call to come home on August 20, 2020. With St. Francis she can now say to us, "I have done what is mine to do, may Christ now teach you yours."

Prepared by:
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