

**Karen Wadsworth, CSJ**  
December 25, 1922 ~ June 19, 2016

On December 25, 1922 I was born on a farm near Franklin, Minnesota, the ninth child of twelve, to Katherine Marks and Charles Wadsworth. I was baptized Margaret Mary on January 29, 1923 in the little church in Birch Coulee, MN. This little church was a mission of St. John's parish in Morton, MN.

My father died in 1930 and my mother remarried in 1933. My stepfather, Matt Majerus took on six of us, nurtured and cared for us and loved us every day of his life. Three vocations came from our blended family and several additional loving and caring children. After my mother died in 1959, our stepfather needed us. He taught us well. Matt Majerus died in 1966. All ten Majerus siblings are deceased. Only four Wadsworths remained living.

When I was ten years old sister Helen Delores Sweeney prepared me for my solemn reception of the Eucharist. From that day on I have been aware of and devoted to the importance of the Eucharist in my daily life.

After graduating from St. Mary's High School in Bird Island in 1940, I entered St. Joseph's Novitiate, received the habit in 1941, made temporary vows in 1943 and final vows in 1948.

For thirty years I taught and worked as principal in the elementary schools of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Bird Island, Minnesota. From 1976-1982 I was the Personnel Director for the St. Paul Province of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Following that I served as coordinator of the Provincial House Community, Pastoral Minister in the Cathedral Parish, and finally as Field Supervisor for our Sisters' Care Program.

Time for rest and retirement brought me to Bethany in December 2000. On March 19, 2001 I celebrated my 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph.

During those 60 years, in addition to working in various areas, I also was most fortunate to have traveled to many states in the mainland, to England and Ireland, and to far away Alaska, Hawaii, and Chile.

When I wasn't working or traveling I always made time to knit, crochet, play cards, and above all, read. My life has been full, a good and happy one.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Katherine Marks and Charles Wadsworth, and all in a large blended family. She is survived by nieces Mary Narveson (Jon), Janet Nelson and Laurie Long; nephews, Dan Majerus and William Wadsworth; cousin Valerie Husting; the Sisters of St. Joseph and Consociates, and caregivers at Carondelet Village and Johanna Shores.

Mass of Christian Burial was offered June 24, 2016 in Our Lady of the Presentation Chapel, 1880 Randolph Avenue. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery, Mendota Heights.

May Karen rest in peace

*Written and edited by Karen Wadsworth, 2000*