

R.I.P.



After a long and fulfilling life, the Lord has called our dear

Sr. M. Humilitas Presbitero OSB

Benedictine nun of the Eucharistic King, Abbey Mary of Peace, Kirchschletten

* 11. Nov.1933 am Donnerstag, den 19. Dez. 2024 im 92. Lebensjahr zu sich

home to his eternal kingdom.

Sr. M. Humilitas OSB, baptized Lourdes, was born as the oldest daughter of Rufino and Consolacion Presbitero in San Narciso, Zambales in the Philippines. Her father died young and her widowed mother remarried. Her stepfather, who was a policeman, brought four girls into the marriage. Two more sisters and two brothers were born in this second marriage. Lourdes now had the task of helping her mother raise and care for her siblings, so she was unable to continue her schooling.

A beloved relative, Anianda, impressed Lourdes with her deep piety and thus paved the way for her vocation to a spiritual life. Against the fierce resistance of her mother, who did everything in her power to keep her eldest daughter from following the path God had marked out for her, Lourdes repeatedly went to church services in the nearby church. She got to know the young community of our foundress, M. Edeltraud Danner OSB, and decided to join it. Friends in the parish encouraged her and provided the funds necessary for her vestment. In Easter week 1958, she went to Mass and never returned home. On April 12, 1959, at the age of 26, she was invested and received the name Sr. M. Humilitas OSB.

Already during the years of her temporary profession, she was asked whether she would be willing to help build up the new foundation in Germany in Kirchschletten. Without a doubt, without knowing the language, the culture and the climate, Sr. Humilitas OSB followed the call. She is one of the brave and courageous pioneers of our community who contributed to the flourishing of the monastery through tireless hard work. Working in the fields in wind and weather, under difficult working conditions, with few agricultural machines, caring for the cows, pigs and chickens, milking and currying the cows - these were her tasks for many years, which she carried out with great love and dedication.

On February 2, 1969, Sr. M. Humilitas took her perpetual profession. After the sudden death of our founder, Abbess Edeltraud Danner, in 1973, Sr. M. Humilitas OSB said "yes" to our community in Kirchschletten with great trust in God and transferred her vows to Stabilitas. In the same year, our convent was elevated to the status of an abbey.

At the age of 50, her rheumatic disease began to limit her considerably. Very soon she was confined to a wheelchair. After many hospital stays in specialized clinics in Bad Abbach and Würzburg and continuous medical treatment on site, her physical condition improved again. She now worked with great joy and dedication, mainly in our kitchen processing fruit and vegetables.

Over the years, her physical limitations increased again, so that she also had to give up these services. She now did small jobs in the sewing room and became a very reliable and friendly porter who sold our candles.

Eventually this was no longer possible for her and so we often found her praying quietly in our church. One of our oblates made it possible for her to follow the choir prayers by attaching a stand to the choir stalls, despite her weak wrists, which could no longer hold a book.

During her numerous stays in hospital, she made many friends who visited her again and again. All of them were edified by her friendly and understanding nature. She was very often asked to pray for them. Yes, she was a great prayer warrior. The rosary was her favorite prayer. She also drew strength from her love and devotion to the Mother of God. "Mother of God, we cry out to you!" she sang aloud shortly before her death.

After 40 years, Sr. M. Humilitas OSB was allowed to go on her first home leave and it was to the USA, because her relatives who were still alive were there. She returned home delighted and reported that she was treated with as much respect there as a queen.

On May 13, 2023, the birthday of our foundress, she celebrated her 60th anniversary of profession, and on Nov. 11, 2023 her 90th birthday. Our then Auxiliary Bishop and Diocesan Administrator Herwig Gössl came both times. She invited him and then also asked him to hold her funeral. He promised to do so and will now fulfill this promise as our new archbishop.

On Oct. 5, 24, she fell in her cell and was taken to hospital, but was discharged a week later. Now she was lovingly cared for by us sisters, oblates and volunteers with the support of the Manus social service from Zapfendorf. Sometimes she was still able to attend choir prayers and main meals. She loved the community.

Her longing for the Heavenly Father was great: "I like to die!" This longing was fulfilled for her on Thursday, December 19, 2024 shortly before midday. She fell asleep peacefully.

Abbess and convent
Abbey Mary of Peace in Kirchschletten