

# Sister Theresa Mary Linz, SSND – 70 Year Jubilee!



*"By 5th grade,  
I decided I wanted to be a Sister."*

The last of a "Lucky Dozen," I made my debut on September 27, 1935, 13 months following the birth of my sister, Tess. We became "Good Buddies." Being the last has its good points, with also some not so good points, but I wouldn't change it for the world. I was so blessed to belong to such a loving family.



When the time came for me to start kindergarten, I was enrolled at Sacred Heart School, Baltimore, Maryland. Sister Panphilia was our beloved kindergarten teacher. She had a parrot named Polly. All the children loved Polly; we gave her a lot of our attention.



**Sr. Theresa Mary &  
Nephew Jim Linz**

Kindergarten was mostly uneventful, except for the day my sisters did not come to pick me up at school, which they usually did. I lived just 2 blocks from school, but had not yet learned the way. When Sister Panphilia instructed, "Those who go by Foster Avenue, line up here; those who go by Highland Avenue, line up here." I had a BIG PROBLEM! I didn't live on either of those streets. I lived on Conkling Street - I got in the Highland Avenue line - wrong choice!

I started walking, I walked and walked and walked. Finally, I saw a store painted red. It looked almost like the one a block away from my home, it was only when I got to it, I saw it wasn't the store I knew. I was LOST! I stood against the building and cried. I am not sure how long I stood there, it seemed like forever. *Cont'd...*

## Sister Theresa Mary Linz, SSND – Cont'd



Finally, I heard *Ooga – Ooga – Ooga!* I recognized the sound of the horn of my Dad's truck. Sure enough, there was my Dad - my hero in the big truck!

Soon after, I must have learned the right route, and got in the RIGHT LINE, because I never got lost again coming home from school.

By 5th grade, I decided I wanted to be a Sister. When I asked my Mom about the possibility of going into the SSND Juniorate, she said "Absolutely NOT." It would be years before I mentioned it again.

Then, in my senior year, I got up the courage. We were all sitting in the living room and it was Wednesday evening, my Dad's day off from the store. Quietly, I mentioned to Mom about becoming a Sister. My Mom said, "Ask your Father." I was a little nervous, but somehow I turned to my Dad and asked if I could become a Sister, like Sis. My Dad said, "You have my blessing." I felt so happy and blessed!



**L-R: Sisters Theresa Mary, Mary Xavier, their Mother and Sister Tess**

I graduated from Sacred Heart in 1953, which was a special year for my family. We had four graduations in that year: Marge – IND, Claire – Nursing, Hen – Loyola, Me – Sacred Heart!

As the school year ended, Tess felt the call also. Joan, who had entered earlier but came back home, decided she would try again. So, on August 28, 1953, Joan, Tess, and I dressed in the Candidates' habit and began our lives in the SSND Candidature and Novitiate.

Two weeks before Profession, we were allowed to go home to visit my Dad, who was dying. When I told him the date of Profession, he said, "I am not going to be able to come, Darlin." He was so right.

Our Dad never lived to see us professed, for the Lord called him to heaven on July 11. We Professed on August 1, 1955 – our Dad had the front row seat in heaven! So, our Profession Day was bittersweet. *Cont'd...*



## Sister Theresa Mary Linz, SSND – Cont'd



I was in the first group of Junior Sisters to stay in the Mother-house to study. We received our obediences for mission at the end of that year.

I was sent to St. Mary's School in Annapolis and spent 14 wonderful years there. I had 75 children in my first grade class with me – a greenhorn! The Holy Spirit had a full-time job helping me, and the Holy Spirit did very well!

*Pictured to the Left: Sr. M. Margaret Johanning (General Superior), Sisters Mary Xavier and Theresa with Sisters' Mother.*

The class was darling and they had very good singing voices. For 10 to 15 minutes each day, I taught them songs I had learned in Sister Teresina's music class over the summer. One day I sent about eight of them to sing for Sister Arthur, our Principal. She was so surprised! She thought they should sing for the parents on Parent-Teacher Night!

So, we practiced going on and off the BIG STAGE, standing in straight lines and singing. When the night came, I was really nervous. But they were a BIG HIT. So much so, Sister Rosita asked if they could perform for the High School Parent-Teacher Evening! How about that for a six year old!!



**L-R: Bonnie Craze, Sr. Theresa and Fr. Joe Simmons**



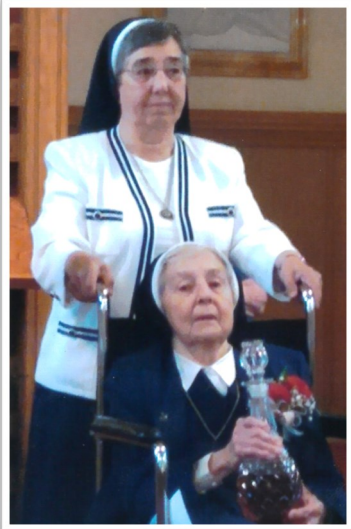
**L-R: Sisters Hilda "Hildie" Sutherland and Theresa Mary**

I told them if they ever got into show business, to remember where they got their start – first grade, St. Mary School, Annapolis. I wonder if they even remember it.

On November 1, 1987, I went home to care for my Mother until the Lord called her home to heaven.

*Cont'd...*

## Sister Theresa Mary Linz, SSND – Cont'd



Sisters Theresa Mary  
& Mary Xavier

I enjoyed a Sabbatical for personal renewal at the Dominican Retreat Center from July 1, 1991, to June 1, 1992. Then I was missioned to St. Pius X to teach full time from July 1, 1992 to June 1, 2006.

I continued as a volunteer at St. Pius X until being missioned to Villa Assumpta, where I currently reside, for Prayer and Presence. I love it! We are so blessed with so many opportunities to grow so close to our Lord and Lady. **Deo Gratias!**

### Profession Class of 1955 Photo:

**1st Row:** Mark Tippet, Kate Birch, Theresa Mary, M. Frances Mensik, Barbara Slaney and Marie Mack

**2nd Row:** Tess, Eleanor Nixon, Betty Kaletcher, Margaret Gadsby, Margarita Sauble, Agnes Plavcon, Anne Ganley and Jane Liebeck

**3rd Row:** Ursula Kelly, Lorrain Pianka, Joan Connelly, Pat Huesman, Betty Bartlett, JoAnn Villademoros, Jannine Cadicamo and Vicky Kessler

**4th Row:** Janice Nadeau

**5th Row:** Mary Irving, Margaret Alacoque, Joan Linz, Leoni Sheehan and Adele Shae

