



Marian Disch SL
(formerly known as Sister Mary Rosetta)
January 25, 1917 - August 6, 2011

Born in St. Louis, Marian attended St. Theresa of Avila in for grade school where she was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph. Marian then received a scholarship to St. Alphonsus High School, where she was taught by the Notre Dame Sisters

In her senior year, Marian began to consider "what next?" She wanted to go to college but in her own words: "I hadn't studied very much so was unable to win any scholarship, academic or work." While at Webster for the scholarship examinations, Marian talked to Mother Edwarda Ashe about her hopes of attending college and Edwarda had a plan. A blind student needed a reader and the stipend would pay for tuition and books; Marian accepted the offer.

Marian entered the October 1936 Novitiate class. As Sister Rosetta, she pronounced her first vows in April 25, 1939 and her final vows on August 15, 1942.

Rosetta's, first mission was Immaculate Conception in New Madrid, Missouri in 1939; however, after two years, she contracted malaria, and was sent to Colorado Springs with the hope her health would improve, which it did.

In 1945 Marian was transferred to St. John's in Denver. By February she was very ill with rheumatic fever and was sent to El Paso. There her health improved and she spent a total of seven years teaching: at St. Patrick, Guardian Angels, and St. Joseph schools. She really loved being in El Paso and noted that at an early age she developed a love for all things Hispanic, and hoped one day to be a "Spanish dancer".

After a few more assignments in various Loretto schools, when the Department of Special Education was developed in the St. Louis Archdiocese, Marian began studying for an MA in Special Education in 1957. She worked at St. Rose as a special education teacher for 17 years. In 1975 when the Loretto Center for Learning in St. Louis needed tutors for special needs students, Marian worked there. At this time while living at Loretto Center she did an amazing amount of volunteer work both within and outside the Community.

In 1989 Marian moved to the Motherhouse where she completed extensive research into land use and land trusts for the Community.

Ever a scholar, Marian began her studies with English and philosophy, moved on to special education and psychology. She continued to integrate and develop these areas throughout her life, applying them to ministry wherever she found herself. Her extensive reading and study made her an engaging conversationalist and a valued resource as a researcher for the Community. She described her ministry in later years as "being, doing."

Marian's autobiography begins: "Who I am is a quest that has led me into some genealogical research. As a being on earth, an entity in creation, continuity with the past really means that the atoms and molecules which are my material part are a recombination of the matter of the original creation. I have been tracing what is known of past persons from whom I am now here." And that is Marian, through and through. God bless you, Marian!