



Sister Pauline Therese Daries, CSJ
October 18, 1934--January 28, 2023

This necrology was written by Sister Barbara Dugan CSJ

Roma Franklin Daries, a Baptist from Goodson, Missouri and Anabelle Lovell, a devout Catholic from Cape Breton Island, Sydney, Nova Scotia met on a train traveling to California in 1922. When they arrived in Los Angeles, Roma proposed, but Anabelle said, "No" because she realized his family would oppose their marriage. Roma was persistent. Anabelle's "Yes" was given at their marriage in 1923. They settled in Torrance, CA, where Roma worked in the oil fields, until he found a lasting job at UnoCal. Anabelle was a feisty woman who always "held her ground." It was her strong faith that led to Roma's decision to become a Catholic, even though his family disowned him.

A son, Joseph, arrived February 11, 1930. Their daughter, Pauline Therese was born at Queen of Angels Hospital, Los Angeles, CA, October 18, 1934. Both were baptized in Nativity Church. As children they were influenced by

their mother's parents, who lived with them. Their grandfather had run away to sea when he was twelve and traveled around the world. He settled in Sydney to work in the shipyards. He and their grandmother married and raised nine children. There were always stories and songs.

Since Nativity Parish did not have a school, Joseph and Pauline enrolled at St. James School, Redondo Beach, staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph. Pauline was especially fond of her teacher, Sister Alphonsus Cocciolo, who first taught her never to be afraid to try new things. The first "new thing" was singing and dancing with the Meglan Kiddies' at the Wilshire Ebell Theater. She also sang on the radio. She said she was "uninhibited in those days."

When the family moved to Gardena, CA, Joseph and Pauline were enrolled in St. Anthony's parish school. For high school Pauline enrolled at St. Mary's Academy and became reacquainted with the Sisters of St. Joseph. She loved everything about St. Mary's. Although as a first grader, she told her parents she wanted to be a sister like Sister Alphonsus, she hadn't thought about it seriously until she observed the interactions of the St. Mary's sisters on the campus with each other and with the students.

In her Senior year Sister Josephine Feeley, the Principal, asked her if she was thinking of entering in September. She said "No" and added she had a job at Buffums in Long Beach.

Pauline graduated from St. Mary's in June 1952. In July she rode the bus to Long Beach for her job at Buffums. She liked having her own money and even more spending it. She often enjoyed just sitting and listening to music on the radio. One day the music from the movie "The Song of Bernadette" started playing. She was startled when she realized she had not been answering "What are you going to do with your life?" She said she just gave in and told her mother she wanted to enter the Sisters of St. Joseph. When her father arrived home, Pauline heard her mother say, "Go in there. She has something to tell you." Her parents had said "yes" to her brother's leaving for the Claretians; they also gave their blessing to their only daughter.

On September 15, 1953, she entered the Postulate at St. Mary's Academy. The following March 19, 1954, she received the habit and became Sister Pauline Therese. The novitiate was a time of observing many rules, but also a time for prayer and study. The seed for her desire for further study of Scripture was planted during a class taught...in her words...by "marvelous Msgr. McNicholas" who lectured from his notes written in Greek. He also never left the novitiate room without adding stories on the realities of living religious life. He kept the novices laughing.

On March 19, 1956, Pauline pronounced first vows in the Chapel of Mount St. Mary's College. The following September she was missioned to Ascension School, Los Angeles, where she taught in the primary grades under extraordinary circumstances. She said, "Many families had been sponsored by Americans after they fled from European countries during World War II. Children were of all races with many dialects: white, black, Latino, Asian, bi-racial. Some did not speak English. It was a challenging four years." Having earned her BA degree at Mount St. Mary's College and with a CA elementary credential, she continued teaching in parish schools in California and Pasco, WA. During the same years she studied at Fort Wright College, Gonzaga University and Mount St. Mary's earning an MA degree in the Teaching of English. Later she earned an MA in Applied Spiritual Theology.

In 1981 she joined other CSJs to teach at Los Angeles Junior Seminary in San Fernando, CA. In 1990 her focus changed to Adult Education when she accepted the position of Director of Religious Education and Liturgy Coordinator at Cathedral Chapel Parish in Los Angeles. For the rest of her years in active ministry she held similar positions in parishes or schools in the Los Angeles Archdiocese.

Pauline expressed gratitude for the educational and spiritual opportunities she had as a Sister of St. Joseph with special praise for her teachers at St. Mary's and the Mount. She was grateful that she and other sisters were able to pursue graduate studies at various Universities; attend conventions and Religious Education Congresses which broadened their horizons. Always

ready for casual discussions, Pauline remembered well one with well-known theologian Fr. Bernard Haring after a lecture at Gonzaga. In all of her studies she continued to delve into the writings of contemporary Catholic writers; her favorites being Ronald Rolheiser, OMI and Bishop Robert Barron.

One experience for her during the “the 60s” was teaching English in the program Sister St. George Skurla was overseeing at the Doheny Campus for Cubans, many of them very educated, doctors/lawyers, who had fled their countries during the crisis.

Comments from sisters who lived with her during the novitiate or later while teaching in various schools always focused their impressions of the person she was...one of many gifts: her intellectual ability, a beautiful singing voice, a very giving nature. They cited situations within community to others in need. Many mentioned her concern for her brother; not only in ordinary times, but also during his serious illness.

When the CSJ community had to move out of the convent of Daniel Murphy High School due to the sale of the property, Pauline and Sister St. George moved into the condo triplex owned by the Scottino family. Both Sisters Teresa Scottino and Antoinette Czuleger, who were in the other two units, were not the only recipients of their thoughtfulness and generosity. They were always aware of those in need, especially in St. Jerome’s Parish. The senior sisters at Carondelet Center were never forgotten. They would arrive, sometimes even in costumes with gifts for all to celebrate feast days and holidays.

Later years were filled with some sorrows. Sister St. George died in 2014, her brother in 2016. With some concerns for her own health she moved first to live in community at Villa Carondelet and then to Carondelet Center. When her condition required skilled nursing in 2021, she moved with the first group of sisters to St. John of God Health Center. She joined in all the activities. She was generous with her time, not only when asked; but also when she noticed she could be of help to a sister or contribute to the success of any project. One sister mentioned, “She was always singing. I don’t think she ever had a bad day.”

During January 2023, there was evidence of a change. She was not up and about and there was no singing. In the morning of January 28, 2023, no doubt she joined a chorus of angels singing her way into the realms of heaven to hear God's welcome, "Come my faithful servant. Enjoy the place I have prepared for you."

Pauline, rest in the heavenly peace and joy that will never end.