



**In death,
we say our ultimate yes
to our Creator.
Trusting in God's power
to bring us to fulfillment of life,
we see death as an act of worship:
in dying, we proclaim God, God;
and ourselves, creatures.**

**Although in grief,
the community gratefully affirms this,
our final earthly proclamation
of the good news...
In hope and peace,
we enter into the joy of the Lord!**

You Are Sent #47



**School Sisters of Notre Dame
of St. Louis**



Sister Clare Marie Immler

**Born
July 24, 1910**

**Professed
August 4, 1932**

**Ministry
educator/tutor; secretary; historian
District of Columbia; Maryland,
Missouri, New York**

**Died
November 8, 2006**

The first-born of two children was delivered to Minnie (Purkey) and Amor Leo Immler on July 24, 1910 in Baltimore, Maryland. She was baptized two weeks later at St. Joseph Passionist Monastery Church and named Clare Marie. She and her younger brother, Amor Leo, Jr. grew up living a few doors down from their grandparents. During her childhood, a penchant for traveling developed even if it was a short trip – a visit to her grandmother’s home to play with the baby chicks, a 10-minute street car ride or a stroll around the neighborhood.

Clare Marie began her elementary education at St. Joseph Monastery School staffed by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Before she would start third grade in 1918, schools announced late openings due to World War I and the influenza epidemic. Clare Marie returned to school for several months, but missed the remainder of the semester due to illness. The physician advised a completely different environment. She completed her elementary and secondary education at the Institute of Notre Dame at the SSND Motherhouse in Baltimore, graduating in 1928. Over the years, Clare Marie had always considered giving her life to God as a religious. She decided to enter religious life inspired by her grandmother and the love of the sisters who taught her. On August 15, 1928, she entered the candidature. Nearly 10 days later, she was missioned to St. Joseph in Washington, D.C. to teach second grade. She was received into the Novitiate on August 5, 1930 and was given the name, Mary Clarissa. She professed first vows on August 4, 1932 and final vows on July 24, 1938.

As an elementary and secondary educator, Sister Clare Marie taught at St. Joseph and Most Holy Redeemer, New York, New York; St. Mary, Annapolis, Maryland; St. Augustine, Elkridge, Maryland; St. John, Westminster, Maryland; Our Lady of Good



Counsel, Institute of Notre Dame and Seton-Keough High School, Baltimore. She mainly taught history and social studies. In order to gain a solid background in American Studies, she received fellowships in the north and west U.S. at various colleges and universities. Sister Clare Marie also made three trips to Europe, one of which included the Holy Land in Israel. After 40 years in the classroom, she desired to try something new, so she took and passed the Civil Service exam and began working for the U.S. Government in Washington, D.C. Sister Clare Marie performed secretarial work for the Internal Revenue Service and the United States Customs Office for nine years. She ministered as a researcher at the Institute of Notre Dame for four years. While studying SSND heritage, Sister Clare Marie had the opportunity to visit St. Louis and expressed a desire to stay. In 1986, she started ministering as a tutor for Notre Dame Tutorial Center where she remained until 1995 and officially joined the St. Louis Province on January 1, 1992.

In 1995, Sister Clare Marie retired to the motherhouse. She was missioned to Veronica House in 1999 and Anna House in 2004. She died peacefully at Anna House on November 8, 2006, at 12:05 p.m. with sisters and nurses at her bedside.



A wake/vigil was held at Anna House and the motherhouse on November 13, 2005. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with interment in the motherhouse cemetery.

Sister Clare Marie dedicated her ministry life to education. In her autobiography, she stated, “Education is our social charism to which I have devoted my life. Even while working with the U.S. Government, there were many times when my teaching career helped others in various situations.” She was grateful for the opportunity to travel and witness the beauty of God’s world.