

SISTER LEOLA ANN DOERFLER, CDP



Sister Leola Ann Doerfler, CDP, formerly known as Sister Adeline Clare, entered eternal life on December 4, 2015 at the age of 88. She was one of ten children born to Frank and Clara (Gruber) Doerfler. Sister Leola was born September 4, 1927 in Chickasha, Oklahoma. She answered God's call to become a Sister of Divine Providence on June 21, 1945 and professed first vows on June 22, 1947. Sister Leola was called to various ministries after serving as an elementary teacher 1947-1951.

Her natural talents and her educational accomplishments, B.S., Our Lady of the Lake College, M.A., Texas Women's University, M.R.E., St. Thomas University and M.S., Incarnate Word College served her well throughout her diverse ministries.

Sister Leola spent 23 years of her educational ministry in the H.S. Home Economics departments of Our Lady of the Lake Academy, Bishop Kelley, Providence and Bishop Forest in San Antonio, Texas, Tulsa, Oklahoma and Schulenburg, Texas and as Director of the schools' cafeterias. She became a Registered Dietician and served as Dietary Consultant in various hospitals.

Sister Leola led the way to the expansion and cultivation of 30+ youth programs in the deaneries of Las Cruces and West Texas. She believed in organizing and training youth to minister to youth. The same noticeable increase in youth involvement and participation caught the attention of various bishops who requested she do the same for their religious education programs. Sister Leola wholeheartedly accepted the challenge and sowed the seed of growth in the dioceses of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Sealy, Houston and Corpus Christi, Texas. Her "main concern" was always the youth. She believed firmly in outreach to the parents as well. She took a 12-week intense Spanish course in Cuernavaca, México to enable her to communicate with the Spanish-speaking parents she served. Her many solutions were born from her intensely servant heart.

She is survived by her brothers Francis, Anthony and Walter Doerfler, and all her other Sisters of Divine Providence. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, and their families. She was preceded in death by her parents Frank and Clara (Gruber) Doerfler, brothers: Wilbert, Robert, Harley and Msgr. Marvin Doerfler and sisters: Adeline Doerfler and Junell Doerfler Havel.

The Rosary is Sunday, December 6, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. and the Wake is at 6:30 p.m. A Mass of Resurrection will be Monday, December 7, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. All services will be in Annunciation Chapel at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center.

In lieu of flowers, you may wish to make a memorial contribution to the Sisters of Divine Providence, 515 S.W. 24th Street, San Antonio, TX 78207-4619.