

Letters about Sister Mary Rosa Franz

795: *To Archbishop Carl August von Reisach*
Munich

Munich
August 24, 1849

J! M!

Your Excellency! Most Reverend Archbishop!¹

Profession of Vows by Novices of the Poor School Sisters

The following novices in the motherhouse of the Poor School Sisters in Munich: (1) M. Calasactia Amann, (2) M. Aquinata Baier, (3) M. Apollonia Brönner, (4) M. Bernarda Burger, (5) M. Helena Deisenrieder, (6) M. Rosa Franz, (7) M. Coletta Hermannseder, (8) M. Ambrosia Nadler, (9) M. Rudolpha Reitmeier, (10) M. Valentina Schlecht, (11) M. Veronica Blattner, (12) M. Agatha Bramberger, (13) M. Eligia Frankenberger, (14) M. Sebalda Gattermann, and (15) M. Melania Schlicht have completed their novitiate and have requested to profess their holy vows.

These novices were not only instructed in holiness and the difficulties of their freely chosen vocation, but also given opportunities to experience them. Nevertheless, they persevered in their desire to profess their vows and, during their time in the novitiate, proved themselves to be capable religious with regard to their moral character and their future service in religious life.

Therefore, the respectfully undersigned submits her petition that you would kindly send an archiepiscopal representative here for the prescribed canonical examination so that, in accordance with the results, the sisters named above will be able to reach their desired goal by means of the profession of simple, perpetual vows.²

Respectfully yours,

M. Theresa of Jesus
Superior of the Poor School Sisters

948: *To Dr. Joseph Mast*
Rottenburg on the Neckar River

December 4, 1850

J! M!

Very Reverend Regent!

Upon my return to the motherhouse, I found your letters of November 18 and December 4.

First of all, I hasten to sincerely ask pardon for what, in her confusion, the good Sister M. R. did to cause offense, despite her emphatic assurance not to make this serious mistake again. Since she does not know herself very well, she possesses little interior mortification. Above all, please help the poor blind one to see what she certainly does not believe needs to be seen. . . .³

With prayer, I remain respectfully yours,

The Poor School Sister,
M. Th. of Jesus

1006: *To Dr. Joseph Mast*
Rottenburg on the Neckar River

Our Motherhouse in Munich
May 21, 1851

J! M!

Very Reverend and Learned Regent!

You kindly told me that the sisters will move into the new institute building soon. You also stated that if the institute is not to suffer harm at the beginning, and if Sister Rosa [Franz], whose hands are trembling violently because of the constant strain, is not to succumb, the sending of additional teaching personnel must coincide with this move into the new building. . . .

Do not be disturbed about the trembling in Sister Rosa's hands. Even without the stress and strain of school, she already suffered that here. It is the result of her strong temperament and irritable nervous system that are constantly aggravated by her easily upset disposition and lack of self-knowledge and humility. Since opposition will never be

lacking, now or in the future, I appeal once again to your continued kindness and help. . . .

United in prayer,

The most grateful,
No Signature

Letters of Mary Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, translation and notes by Mary Ann Kuttner, SSND, vol. 3, *Jolted and Joggled, 1849-1852* (Elm Grove, Wisconsin, 2009), 7-8, 40-41, 57-59,

1. Carl August von Reisach (1800-69) studied in Rome where he was ordained in 1828. In 1830, he was appointed director of the College of the *Propaganda Fide* in Rome, where he also taught Canon Law. In 1836, Reisach was appointed bishop of Eichstätt and, in 1841, coadjutor with the right of succession to the archbishop of Munich and Freising. He was the archbishop of Munich and Freising from 1846 until 1856, when he was called to Rome and made a cardinal of the Roman Curia. Cardinal Reisach was the councilor for German affairs and a member of various curia congregations until he died on December 22, 1869, shortly after the opening of the First Vatican Council.

2. Beginning in 1848, novices professed simple, perpetual vows. This practice continued until 1859, when the newly approved rule prescribed that novices profess temporary vows for seven years. Sister M. Rosa Franz professed her vows on September 9, 1849.

3. These remarks refer to Sister M. Rosa Franz.