

WAKE / VIGIL SERVICE

Greeting: May Jesus be the way you walk, the truth you follow, the life you lead. (MT. #714) **All: Amen**

Opening Hymn _____

My sisters and brothers, as School Sisters of Notre Dame we strive throughout our lives to “Do whatever God tells us.” This basic thrust of our lives reaches its climax in death, the moment for which life prepares us. (#47, *You Are Sent*, SSND Constitution)

Let us pray for Sister _____.
She has completed her journey and is one with the Communion of Saints.

Opening Prayer Let us pray.

Life-Giving God, the death of Sister _____ reminds us of her desire to surrender totally to you. In death she has said her ultimate ‘yes’ to you as her Creator. Accepting death was her last act of worship.

Trusting in Your power to bring us to fullness of life, we see death, as did Sister _____ as the ultimate act of worship. In dying we proclaim You our God, and ourselves your creatures.

We the living, continue to wait with joyful hope for the moment of our own last act of worship.
In Jesus name we pray. **All: Amen**

Reading (Scripture, *You Are Sent*, Call to Transformation)

Response _____

If Sister was a contributor to the Nun Study an explanation of her gift might be shared at this time.
Although in grief, the community gathered here gratefully affirms the life and death of Sister _____. We see her death as her final proclamation of the good news.
(pause)

To understand her unique way of proclaiming the good news we'll now listen to her obituary followed by your own memories.

- Collect As we have listened to memories of the life of Sister _____, we praise God for sharing her with us. We thank her family and friends who have nurtured her faith and supported her journey. May she join her Notre Dame family, especially our Mothers, Theresa and Caroline, as she unites with all departed School Sisters of Notre Dame who 'sing the Magnificat with the dear mother of God.' (MT. #5328)
- Intercessions (Funeral Book p.42 or composed for the occasion.)
- Response "In the heart of Jesus - In the wounds of Jesus - We are bound together in love, always." (M. Caroline, Feb. 1882)
- Conclusion In our Holy Rule of 1865, we School Sisters of Notre Dame were encouraged to bless our students at the end of each school day. Knowing that for Sister _____ life has been changed, not taken away; let us offer her our blessing one last time. Would my sisters please join me by standing and offering this final Notre Dame blessing?
(Extend right hands in blessing)
- My dear Sister _____ we commend you to the Holy Spirit through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and entrust you forever to her blessed hands. All: Amen
- Closing Hymn Receive me as you have promised that I may live. Disappoint me not in my hope. (Sung 3 times)