

“May Christ bring us all together to everlasting life.”

Rule of St. Benedict, Chapter 72



**Sister Carol Rennie,
OSB**

Born: June 27, 1936

Professed: July 11, 1956

Died: May 26, 2023

Sister Carol Rennie, OSB entered peacefully into eternal life, fulfilling her baptismal call on May 26, 2023. She was 86 years old, having lived her monastic profession for 66 years. She was born at midnight on June 27, 1936, in St. Joseph, MN. She was the second child born of Alfred and Bernadette (Kosel) Rennie. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Church in St. Joseph, MN. She graduated from Cathedral High School in St. Cloud, MN in 1954. She entered the novitiate at St. Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, MN, on June 15, 1955, and received the name Sister Damian. She made her First Vows on July 11, 1956, and Final Vows on July 11, 1959. Sister Carol later transferred to St. Paul's Monastery.

Sister Carol graduated from St. Benedict's College in St. Joseph, MN in 1965 and received a master's in religious education from the University of Notre Dame in 1970. She loved teaching and was passionate about teacher and student formation. She taught at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary from 1974-1978. She taught religion for the National Teachers Education Project from 1978-1987, and then served for many years as Associate Dean of Students of the School of Divinity at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN from 1987-2004 and also at St. John's University and School of Theology for about ten years, beginning in 1996. She deeply valued the call of the laity and affirming others in their gifts.

She was the Director of the Benedictine Center of St. Paul's Monastery. She considered the Benedictine Center ministry as a sacred threshold between the Monastery and the wider world. Sister Carol was a beloved spiritual director and mentor. She journeyed with many people by sharing her wisdom and helping them seek the sacred in their lives.

Sister Carol served as Oblate Director at St. Paul's Monastery. She provided many ongoing enrichment and formation opportunities for candidates and oblates.

In 2004, she was elected Prioress of St. Paul's Monastery and served the Community in that role until 2009. Sister Carol was a true visionary and was instrumental in the transition to the current Monastery at 2675 Benet Road and the sale of the former Monastery to Tubman for housing and services for women and children. Sister Carol also helped arrange for the transfer of land to CommonBond to be used for affordable housing for families and seniors.

Sister Carol received all guests as Christ. This was her true mission: she welcomed everyone with a loving and generous heart. The Community will always remember Sister Carol's beautiful soul, great intellect and sense of humor. May Sister Carol be graciously welcomed into God's loving embrace.

Sister Carol was preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Bernadette, her siblings Richard, John, Kathryn (Hemberger), Mary Jane (Menzhuber). She is survived by her brother David, nieces and nephews, her Benedictine Sisters, Oblates and Associates.

Visitation will be held from 4:00-6:30 p.m. June 2, 2023, at St. Paul's Monastery, 2675 Benet Road, Maplewood, MN. Mass of Christian Burial June 3, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Monastery. Mass of Christian Burial will be livestreamed on Facebook and linked on St. Paul's Monastery website. Interment is at the Monastery Cemetery. Memorials preferred to St. Paul's Monastery.



***Sister Catherine Nehotte, OSB, Prioress
Community of St. Paul's Monastery
Sisters, Oblates and Benedictine Associates
St. Paul, Minnesota
Monastic Congregation of St. Benedict***

Wisdom

I, Wisdom, am with you.

I am a light that will never grow dim.

Love me and you will see me.

Look for me and you will find me.

At the slightest indication

of your desire for me,

I will make myself known to you.

Watch for me at the very start

of what you are about,

and you will have no trouble.

You will find me, ever present,

sitting at your table.

Even thinking about my

presence will help you.

Be aware of my presence, my concern,
my willingness to inspire and to instruct you.

As you meet with each other,

I will meet with each and all of you.

(Adapted from *Wisdom 6:12-16*)