



Hospital Sisters of St. Francis

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From: Brian C. Blasco

Director of Communications and Archivist - Assistant Coordinator of Community Life

Date: July 18, 2024

RE: Sister Rolendis Chadalla, OSF

Birth	April 15, 1847, in Bogutschuetz, Silesia, and named Agatha
Parents	Frann and Rosalia (Pichatzek) Chadalla
Entered HSOSF	December 14, 1872
Profession of First Vows	April 24, 1875
Missionary to the USA	October 1875 at age 28

Assignments

East St. Louis, IL	St. Mary's Hospital	November 11, 1875
Springfield, IL	St. John's Hospital	December 1875

Entered Eternal Life (age 33)

April 27, 1880, and buried in Calvary Cemetery (Springfield, Illinois)

East St. Louis, December 2, 1875

P.b.J.Chr.

Dear Reverend Mother!

Today we already celebrate the second spiritual fellowship (?) in America. The first one was the day we left the ship, that also was the day which for three weeks we yearned for. The day was full of joy you can imagine, Reverend Mother. Three weeks ago today we arrived in East St. Louis where we found nothing but poverty. As far as our trip is concerned, you already have been informed, dear Reverend Mother. I cannot tell you much about it, I was very sick. When you left us on Saturday, we were very sad, but we cheered each other up. Sunday afternoon I became seasick and then stayed two weeks in bed. The whole time I vomited and did not eat anything. Herring and potatoes with vinegar was the first food I ate. I was not able to drink coffee or tea and I had terrible headaches. Five days I could not pray at all, and the rest of the days a little but badly. I was glad you were not with us, dear Reverend Mother, because when we, who otherwise were well, became that sick, then you certainly could not have endured it.

I now am quite well. Nothing is missing but work. How I would like to watch over patients at night, if we only had any. We are now that poor but it would not be so bad - even if I had nothing to eat - if I could only work.

The first days I was quite discouraged, but when we received books and we started to study, the time passed a little faster. Our only consolation is our dear Savior in church.

Dear Reverend Mother, during this sad life we now experience I have to accuse myself for having failed that often. I was often indifferent and careless and failed obedience. Frequently I did not observe silentium with much unnecessary talk. I have judged others and talked about them. Several times I was very sensitive, impatient, and dissatisfied. I also cried. During prayers and soul searching I was confused and careless. During meditation I frequently was sleepy. I was often unruly and talked out of turn which I had as special youth exercise and practiced

East St. Louis, December 2, 1875
page two

little. During the spiritual fellowship we are not to be concerned with unnecessary thoughts, but I always was. I am very sorry that through much grace which we have now, so many communions which we recently received and still do, I have been unfaithful and careless. I ask, dear Reverend Mother, for forgiveness and penance. I promise improvement.

I will pray for you every day, dear Reverend Mother, that the Heavenly Father may reward you for your kindness, what I cannot do and especially ask that we could meet again, if not here in heaven.

Sometimes I am sorry that I have been so few times in the Motherhouse. Now I can never see it.

Dear Reverend Mother, I wish you a Merry Christmas and ask for an Ave, so that we in our poverty can be glad too during this holiday.

With kind regards, dear Reverend Mother, I remain your spiritual daughter

Sister Rolendis

Hospital Sister of St. Francis

[illegible]

SR. ROLENDIS

"I desire to be dissolved and to be with Christ, being by much the better." Phile. I, 2-3.

A member of the first twenty trail blazers of '75, good Sr. Rolendis' enfeebled constitution was unable to cope with the manifold hardships and sacrifices they all were forced to face. Her health soon collapsed under the constant strain, she became an invalid gradually growing from bad to worse, and finally bedridden which lingering condition endured for several years till death came to her a merciful deliverer. Sr. Rolendis (Agatha Chadalla) was a native of Silesia, born on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1847 at Bogenschuetz, became a Postulant Dec. 14, 1872, a Novice April 16, 1874, made Profession of Vows April 24, 1875, and renewal of same Oct. 15, 1875, and May 25, 1877. She fell asleep in the Lord April 27, 1880. Hers was the first death from among the pioneer twenty. R. I. P.

