



## Obituary

**Sr. M. Electa Schneider CPS**

**\* 1 June 1933**

**† 17 April 2020**

Sr. Electa Schneider - Hedwig Klara - was born on June 1, 1933 in Püttlingen, District of Saarbrücken in Saarland, as the daughter of Johann Schneider and Lucia Schmidt. After elementary school she attended the domestic science school in Püttlingen, which gave her a solid foundation for her later life as a CPS.

From childhood on, she wanted to become a Religious. The Saarland, and the area where she lived, produced many CPS vocations, and so she came into contact with our sisters at an early age. At the age of 20 she entered the mission school in Neuenbeken and in 1957 she passed the exams for the "Oxford General Certificate".

In October of the same year she entered our Congregation in Holy Blood, was clothed on August 14, 1958 and made her First Profession on February 2, 1960. She made her Perpetual Profession on February 2, 1963 in Riruta, the Provincial House in Nairobi.

Two months after her first profession, Sr. Electa received her mission assignment to the East African Province. Her first station was the island of Pemba, Tanzania, where she worked for four years as a teacher at the elementary school there. In January 1964 Sr. Electa came to Riruta and completed her training at the Highridge Teacher Training College in Nairobi. After graduating, she taught for several years in our primary school in Kalimoni, Kenya. Afterwards she taught for two years again in our school in Kifungilo, Tanzania. She loved the "Kiswahili" language and liked to use expressions of it until her old age.

Due to illness, Sr. Electa had to return to Germany in 1973. She used this time to attend a private commercial school in Mönchengladbach, where she learned shorthand, typing and English bookkeeping, among other things. In 1977 she returned to Turiani for a year as a secretary, and then from 1978 to 1985 she worked again in Kifungilo, not only as a secretary but also as a superior and provincial assistant. Her last station from 1985 to 2003 was then again the hospital in Turiani. Sr. Electa was gentle, thoughtful and compassionate. It must have been physically demanding on her to move from the cold Kifungilo, which is called the Switzerland of East Africa and which is over 2000 meters high, to the hot and humid tropical climate of Turiani.

In our St. Francis Hospital in Turiani, Tanzania, she worked for almost 20 years in the office where all new admissions and discharges of the hospital were documented. She handled all correspondence with Misereor during the construction of the new wing of the hospital. She was also the contact person for the doctors from the Netherlands, who were always sent to work for a few years by the organization "Cebemo", now "Cordaid". She lovingly cared for visitors and benefactors of the hospital. Sr. Electa loved her work, especially because the hospital cared for many poor people, such as the nomadic people, the Massai.

In October 2003 she returned to the Motherhouse for health reasons. Although she suffered from various ailments, she was never complaining. For many years she took over the role of

secretary of the House and the Dutch Region. She was also Regional Assistant. But she also helped where it was necessary, in the kitchen, in the refectory, doing the dishes, etc.

On Maundy Thursday Sr. Electa became ill. A good week later she was quietly taken home for the Eternal Easter. We don't know for sure what the cause of her death was, as the Corona testing was negative. "As lived, so died" also applies to Sr. Electa, for she was a woman of silence and prayer.

We remember Sr. Electa as a solid, diligent, reliable, understanding, kind person and always ready to help. She had a sense of humor and liked to laugh. Throughout her life she was connected with her former schoolmates. She also maintained lively contact and a loving relationship with her family. We will miss her very much.

**Sr. Electa, „Asante Sana“ - Thank you.**

**May God himself now be your eternal reward!**