



## **OBITUARY**

**of our**

**Sister Maria Martina Reichl**

**\*25. 10. 1937 † 04. 09. 2023**

Sr. Maria Martina was born on 25 October 1937 in Linz/Upper Austria and died on 04 September 2023 in the Villach Regional Hospital.

You were given the name Anna on the day of your birth in the chapel of the Landesfrauenklinik. Your parents Leopold and Maria Reichl ran a small farm in Lungitz near St. Georgen an der Gusen where you spent a happy childhood with your siblings. After three brothers, you were the first of three girls. You and your siblings were very active in the Catholic Youth. After finishing school in Ried in Riedmark you worked on your parents' farm. On 31.01.1958, you entered the convent in Wernberg. You spent your religious training there, the postulancy and novitiate and made your First Profession on 3 May 1960. The aim of your life was the proclamation of the faith in Africa - inspired by magazines you had at home.

You had an eventful life, always ready to accept the mission sending wherever you were needed, but the call never took you to Africa!

Immediately after your Profession, you were needed in Heilig Blut, where you also made your Final Profession on 15.08.1963. Then you were called to Spain to the Seminary of the Mariannahill Missionaries in Palencia. You knew all the household chores from home and they were in demand. However, you were longing for an education. This became possible for you in 1973 in the teaching hospital of the Sisters of Mercy in Schwarzach-St.Veit / Austria. Afterwards you were able to deepen your knowledge in the hospital of the Elisabethinen in Linz. Then came the call to Palencia again, now as a nurse. After two years, the Josef Hospital in Paderborn was waiting for you, which meant a new start.

Later you were employed in many ways: as a parish nurse, in the old people's home in Roden/Saar and in Altenbeken. In 1987, you came to the Annaheim, an old people home in Neuenbeken as a night nurse. You did this service until 2001 with a temporary helping in Heilig Blut in between.

After you had health problems due to a tinnitus illness, you asked to be transferred to Wernberg. Sr. Vianney was already there and you had worked well together with her. You were a valuable help here in the infirmary, you also helped in the kitchen and with the laundry, until you suffered a stroke in the bathroom in June 2019. Therefore, you, who always cared for others, found yourself in the position of having to accept help.

During the last few years, we see you sitting in the dining room, wearing one of your colorful T-shirts. You ask: When is the HI. Mass today? You give good answers to questions, but never of your own accord. You eat too hastily and choke, even though the food was pureed. That's how it was on Tuesday 22.08. The emergency doctor had to come, you needed oxygen and were taken to the hospital in Villach. Sister Steffi and brother-in-law Fritz came to visit you immediately after a call in concern and drove home again reassured. You were happy about the visits, but wanted to have your peace. Last Friday Sr. Maria Luise was told that you could probably go home on Monday, 4 September. Nobody thought that it would be to your eternal home.

Sr. Martina, we thank you for your life in our community in all the places where you cared for the sick, for your light-heartedness in all helplessness, for all goodness, your cheerfulness and for many small, faithful services.

Sr. Pallotti and Fellow Sisters