



Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux

August 14, 1933 - May 3, 2018

Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux, formerly known as Sr. Timothy, passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home in Opelousas, Louisiana. Sr. Nira was 84 years old. Visitation will be held at Martin and Castille Funeral Home in Lafayette on Sunday, May 6, 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., with a rosary at 6:30 p.m., and at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home chapel on Monday, May 7, beginning at 10:00 a.m. until time of services. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 2:00 p.m. on May 7 at Sacred Heart Chapel in Prairie Ronde, followed by burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Father Mark Ledoux, Sr. Nira's nephew, will serve as the main Celebrant.

Sr. Nira was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dewey (Alice) Ledoux, Sr. on August 14, 1933 in Prairie Ronde, Louisiana. She was the youngest girl in a family of seven children and was raised on the family's farm northwest of Opelousas. Her devotion to God and community began at an early age and was inspired by the example her parents and her extended family set. Her father was an entrepreneur. He managed the family's farm, created and maintained a broom and mop factory that provided job security between harvests for the men who worked his fields, and eventually opened his own tractor and farm equipment business. Sr. Nira said that he was an example of humility for she and her siblings. He helped improve their community by working on projects but never boasted about the impact his actions had. She said that her mother taught she and her siblings not to criticize people and to be charitable toward others. She said that her mother was convinced that behaving this way was the shortest and surest road to Heaven. Her immediate and extended families were pillars in their church community. Their service to the church deepened her faith.

After making a religious retreat in her junior year of high school, she felt attracted to religious life and on June 8, 1952, shortly after graduating high school from the Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Opelousas, Louisiana, she entered the religious order, Most Holy Sacrament, in Lafayette, Louisiana. She was 18 years old. She said she entered because she felt called to serve God and his children. She became a Novice on March 19, 1953, professed temporary vows on March 19, 1954, and professed perpetual vows on August 15, 1957. On November 26, 1997, Sr. Nira continued her service as a

religious sister by joining the Sisters for Christian Community. At the time of her death, Sr. Nira had been a religious sister for almost 66 years.

Sr. Nira had a long and fruitful career that was always in dedicated service to others. From 1954 until 1968 she taught school in Lafayette at Our Lady of Fatima School, in Pineville at Sacred Heart Elementary School, and in New Orleans at Annunciation Elementary School and St. Joseph Elementary School. Over the next ten years, she was principal at both Our Lady of Fatima School and St. Joseph Elementary School. While principal, she said she and the faculty worked hard on trying to live out their schools' philosophies and mission so that the schools could make a difference in the lives of those communities. In 1978 she shifted gears and began working in social ministry with the Social Apostolate of the Archdiocese of New Orleans at the Holy Ghost Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. She served as director of that center for five of the seven years she worked there. She said she found particularly rewarding, the work she did with the center's senior citizen group and its neighborhood organization. She was particularly proud of the work the organization did to empower the center's neighbors to lead better lives. In 1985 she was called and elected Major Superior of her religious community, Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament. She served in that capacity for four years. For the next 22 years she was a hospital chaplain at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Lafayette, Louisiana. In this role she offered support and comfort to patients and their families in their time of need.

Sr. Nira attended the University of Southwestern Louisiana and earned a Bachelor of Art's Degree in Education and a Master's of Education degree in Administration and Supervision. She also completed the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and received her certification as a chaplain.

She was preceded in death by her parents Mr. and Mrs. Dewey (Alice) Ledoux, Sr., a sister, Mrs. Joseph (Nell) Richard, a sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Giles (Florence) Deshotels, a brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan (Rita) Ledoux, Sr. and two brothers, Amos Ledoux and Dewey Ledoux, Jr.

She is survived by her eldest sister, Mrs. Albert (Irma) Speyrer, her brother-in-law, Joseph Richard, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Dewey (Madeline) Ledoux, Jr., a host of nieces and nephews of multiple generations and a cadre of loyal and devoted friends who she treated as family.

Sr. Nira brought joy to all who knew her. She was the matriarch of her extended family and took pride in passing down and maintaining traditions taught to her by her father and

mother. She encouraged everyone around her to love God and sing and dance, often. In fact, she taught most of her nieces and nephews how to Cajun dance in the same place she learned, in the kitchen of the family homestead. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

From the time of her mother's early death, Sr. Nira knew her time on earth was fleeting and made the most of it. She dedicated her life to God, serving with joy and love, while also focusing on her future eternal life with God. She looked forward to being with Jesus fully and to that of what St. Paul proclaimed, "Eyes have not seen, nor ears heard, what God has prepared for those who love him."

View the obituary and guestbook online at www.mourning.com

Martin & Castille - DOWNTOWN, 330 St. Landry Street, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70506. 337-234-2311

Cemetery

Sacred Heart Cemetery-Prairie Ronde

Prairie Ronde, LA,

Events

MAY Visitation 04:00PM - 09:00PM

6

Martin & Castille Funeral Home - Downtown
Location

330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA, US, 70506

MAY Rosary 06:30PM

6

Martin & Castille Funeral Home - Downtown
Location

330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA, US, 70506

MAY Visitation 10:00AM - 02:00PM

7

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home
Chapel

954 E Prudhomme Ln, Opelousas, LA, US,
70570

MAY Funeral Mass 02:00PM

7

SACRED HEART

3681 Hwy. 104, Prairie Ronde, LA, US, 70550

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - May 04, 2018 at 04:48 PM



“ Sister Timothy was an enthusiastic lady who loved everyone around her. We all loved her, too. I recall her athletic ability and love of sports. It amazed all of her students when we'd see her playing basketball, tennis, softball. Always fair, always kind, always giving, and a role model to many. Tell my mom hello and I miss her.

Michele Naquin

Michele Naquin - May 14, 2018 at 03:55 PM



“ To Sr. Nira's family, my sincerely sympathy to you all. I met her when she was Fatima's elementary school principal. I was new to the school, and to Catholic school; I was lost in this new environment. She befriended me and treated me with kindness and great humor. After losing touch, we reconnected many years later when she worked New Orleans. As a chaplain at Our Lady of Lourdes hospital, Sr. Nira provided enormous support and caring when my parents were patients there, at the end of their lives, and our family was grief-stricken. She truly lived her faith, which was heartfelt and humble, and was as fine a person as I'll ever know. God bless her soul and her memory.

Jeanne W. Amend - May 10, 2018 at 10:41 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux.



May 08, 2018 at 03:14 PM



“ In 1992, when my father was dying in OLOL in Lafayette, Sr. Nira was a huge support for my mother. God bless her soul!

Jane Killen - May 07, 2018 at 01:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux.



May 07, 2018 at 10:14 AM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Liz Richard Tarleton - May 06, 2018 at 04:44 PM



“ I remember Sr. Nira when she was principal of St. Joseph's Elementary School in Gretna, she was always so nice and kind to me. I still remember telling her I was going to miss her when the nuns left St. Joseph's. She was a kind person and she made me feel welcomed when I was new to the school. God bless Sr. Nira! I feel blessed to have known her for the short time I did. - Tiffany Cannon

Tiffany Cannon - May 06, 2018 at 04:10 PM



“ Paula Lafleur lit a candle in memory of Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux



Paula Lafleur - May 06, 2018 at 04:10 PM



“ Sr. Nira, oh how we will miss you. This joyful, energetic, KIND child of God was a shining beacon of God's Light, Love, and Grace throughout her entire life. She was a ball of fun and hospitality, wrapped in cheerfulness and amiability. Heaven is brighter now for her presence.

Paula Lafleur - May 06, 2018 at 04:09 PM



“ 19 files added to the album LifeTributes



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - May 06, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ Sr. Nira and I have traveled many miles and shared so much. It was always a joy to be with Nira. I remember the summers at MHS when we would sit outside; Nira playing the guitar and all of us singing. I have always heard that when we sing we bring joy to others and Nira loved to spread joy. Nira and I would ride together for our meetings at Our Lady of Sorrows in Shreveport. She had such a jovial spirit. My life has been blessed by her presence. She had such a caring gentle spirit. I loved to see that beautiful smile when I would walk in her room at Our Lady of Prompt Succor with snickers, her favorite candy. I think M/M came in as her second. RIP dear Sr. Nira. I will miss your loving presence. I am sure Sr. Jeanne was there to welcome you.
Sr. Ameline

Sr. Ameline Theriot - May 05, 2018 at 09:15 PM



“ Sr Timothy was a blessing in every way she served. Her presence just brought us joy ...she was a true model of Christ and His love in action..
I feel privileged to have been her student and friend.

Nancy Addington - May 07, 2018 at 05:47 PM



“ I was blessed to be educated and influenced by Sister Timothy and all of the other sisters of The Most Holy Sacrament while at Fatima. I always marveled at their dedication and discipline. I am so glad that the family included two pictures because I remembered Sister Nira as Sister Timothy. I have no doubt that she is sharing in a great heavenly reward that was so well-earned through years of devoted service to students and later in life, patients at Our Lady of Lourdes. Very much enjoyed reading of her life here. May God richly bless all of her family. Al Karre'

Al Karre' - May 05, 2018 at 03:34 PM



“ As a young child I remember my mom pulling up next to her and another sister and asking if they wanted to race. I was lucky to have her as a teacher in the 4th and 7th grades. A special lady

kathleen foreman price - May 05, 2018 at 03:27 PM



“ 71 files added to the album LifeTributes



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - May 05, 2018 at 03:11 PM



“ Nira was a gem of great price. She dedicated her life to education, teaching and helping patients close their eyes in death. Somehow, she was there when someone needed her.
Nira added so much to our Sisters For Christian Community regional meetings. It was obvious that she loved her family and cherished her "days off" to go back to the family home. May GOD hold you in the hollow of His hand, Nira.
Sister Clarice Carroll, sfcc

Sister Clarice Carroll,sfcc - May 05, 2018 at 01:57 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux.



May 05, 2018 at 12:57 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux.



May 05, 2018 at 12:42 PM



“ 2 files added to the album LifeTributes



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - May 05, 2018 at 11:19 AM



“ I miss that LOVELY & KIND smile of Sister Nira at Lourdes Hospital.....my prayers and Masses.....I wish I could be at the Funeral.....but, I have a Funeral at my own Parish at the same time.....Rest now, Sister Nira in the Father's House..
Fr.Mike Sucharski,SVD

Fr.Mike Sucharski - May 05, 2018 at 10:30 AM



“ I send my heartfelt condolences to Nira's family. As a Most Holy Sacrament sister myself, I spent many a weekend with Nira as she visited her dear friend Sr. Jeanne Guillot who was my roommate at the time. Nira was always such a delight to be around. She was one of the most joyful and positive people I have ever met. I remember her with much fondness and have no doubt she is now in a position to be

of much support to all of us who are still on this journey of life. Simone Dubois

Simone Dubois - May 05, 2018 at 09:01 AM



“ I knew her as Sr Timothy, she taught me in the fifth grade at Fatima. She was one of my favorite teachers. At that time my mother, Winnie Monteleone, was teaching third grade.
I saw her at Lourdes Hospital a number of years ago, had a nice visit, brought back great memories.

Rest in Peace,
Sonny Monteleone

Sonny Monteleone - May 05, 2018 at 12:44 AM



“ Always remember Sr. Nira playing the organ at Sacred Heart Chapel in Prairie Ronde. Eternal rest grant unto her. Sending prayers for her beloved family.

Sandy and Mark Reiners - May 04, 2018 at 06:49 PM



“ Sister Nira gave herself to God. In turn, God "loaned" her to us and we were blessed by her loving example. Now, rest in the arms of God, my SFCC Sister and friend. I extend sympathy to her family as you support each other at this time of loss of your matriarch.
May God bless you and give you peace.
Sincerely,
Sister Rosanne Plagens, SFCC

Sister Rosanne Plagens - May 04, 2018 at 04:49 PM



“ Sister Nira was a joy to work with, and always showed that beautiful smile! While I was Director of Pastoral Care at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital we share many a laugh with the whole team! I never knew anyone who had a negative thing to say about her. Even after I left OLOL, Nira called me on my birthday every year! It was clear that her family were very important to her, and I am sure she will be sorely missed whenever they get together in Prairie Ronde! God bless her memory!

Rev. Pat Wadsworth - May 04, 2018 at 04:38 PM



“ Nancy Hellyer, CEO- CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Sr. Nira Mae Ledoux.



Nancy Hellyer, CEO- CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini - May 04, 2018 at 04:03 PM



“ 76 files added to the album LifeTributes



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - May 04, 2018 at 03:47 PM