Important Dates in August

1 1891 Early pioneer sisters from Germany profess their final vows in America.
2 1846 A school was opened in Steinerberg so that the sisters could help support themselves as directed by Rev. Leonard Loser, pastor of the parish.
3 1967 Sister Angelita Myerscough presides over the opening of the first provincial assembly in Ruma.
4 1900 The Adorers open their first hospital, St. Clement, in Red Bud, Illinois.
5 1906 Mother Paulina Schneeberger and sisters arrive in New York City.
7 1967 Sister Mechtildis (Teresa) Palsmeier presides over the opening of the first provincial assembly in Wichita, Kansas.
8 1982 Sisters from Ruma, Illinois, open the Adorers' first mission in New Mexico.
9 1906 Mother Paulina Schneeberger and sisters arrive in Taylorville, Illinois, to operate St. Vincent's Hospital.
10 1847 John Merlini signs decree incorporating the Adorers of Steinerberg.
11 1909 The Alton Vicariate is established.
12 1815 The Missionaries of the Most Precious Blood are founded.
13 1848 The Alsatian government disbands by civil decree the Sisters in Ottmarsheim.
14 1875 Theresia Branner enters at Rankwell, the first postulant after the suppression at Gurtweil.
15 1866 Maria De Mattias dies in Rome.
16 1929 The Adorers establish a novitiate in Wichita, Kansas.
17 1965 Mother Marciana Heimermann is elected the first American Mother General.
18 1905 Mother Clementine Zerr opens the Adorers’ first house in Carlsbad, New Mexico.
20 1924 The Adorers purchase Quay farm in Columbia, Pennsylvania, for a motherhouse, working farm and ministry to the elderly.
21 1933 Five sisters depart from Ruma to begin a mission in China.
22 1945 Sisters in Columbia, Pennsylvania, open the first ASC school in the South at Kinston, North Carolina.
23 1873 Mother Clementine Zerr and 45 other sisters or novices travel by ship to America.
24 1848 Mother Teresa Weber, the first superior of the Adorers of Steinerberg, dies at Sattel en route to Ottmarsheim.
25 1968 Special General Chapter for the revision of the Constitution adjourns.
26 1924 Adorers gain permission to transfer the vicariate from Alton, Illinois, to Columbia, Pennsylvania.
1846 August 3 The community established at Steinerberg lived a contemplative life. However, the Rev. Leonard Loser wanted the Sisters to teach the young girls in his parish, believing his parishioners in Steinerberg would prefer that. He also figured that teaching would provide the sisters a means to support themselves. Therefore, a school for girls was opened on this day with Sister Aloysia Allgauer in charge.

1847 August 17 This date was on the Latin diploma of affiliation with Maria De Mattias’ congregation in Rome that was sent to sisters beyond the Alps. The sisters were already in Alsace before the rector of the Jesuit college in Alsace could translate the diploma into French and the Rev. Felix Behe could translate it into German so that each sister could read it for herself.

1848 August 6 There were many vocations to the Steinerberg community from Baden, Germany. This is demonstrated by the fact that 27 Sisters died in the first three and a half years of the congregation’s existence, and yet the quarters were over-crowded by the time they moved to Ottmarsheim in mid-August. Women desiring to enter the community could not be accepted for lack of space.

1848 August 16 After the Rev. Karl Rolfus was unjustly maligned, convicted, incarcerated and later acquitted, he had to pay a 100-francs fine for failing to report to the prefecture the establishment of the community at Ottmarsheim. The Alsatian Government declared the Sisters disbanded and they went to live in private homes until November 1, when the government relented and allowed them to reassemble in their convent.

1848 August 28 Although Mother Theresa Weber was too ill to travel, she set out to join her sisters at Ottmarsheim after the community had been expelled from Steinerberg. When she and her group arrived at Sattel only a short distance from Steinerberg, Mother Theresa was unable to go any farther. The pastor of Sattel allowed the sisters to bring Mother Theresa to his home where she died a few days later. She had designated Sister Celestine Maier as her successor. Mother Theresa Weber is buried at Steinerberg.

1873 August 26 Mother Clementine Zerr and 20 novices were among the sisters who set out for America in the fourth group from Germany. They arrived September 14 in St. Louis, and after a brief stay, the novices and their director continued on to Belle Prairie, Illinois.

1809 August 13 Mother Paulina Schneeberger had purchased St. Joseph’s Home for the Aged, a two-story frame house in Alton, Illinois, that also served as a motherhouse for the sisters. In the spring of 1908, the sisters bought a new site in Alton, which they dedicated in December as Nazareth Home. The next year, on this day, the Adorers established the Alton Vicariate there.

1909 August 26 Five sisters from the Ruma Province set sail on the steamer, President Lincoln, from San Francisco with three Franciscan priests destined for the same mission district in Shantung, China. During World War II, the Japanese detained the sisters in concentration camps. The missionaries were finally forced to withdraw from China in two groups in 1945 and 1946.