

9/07.06 Saint Theodore Guérin**Vigo County****Site: Grotto Lane, St. Mary of the Wood's College, Terre Haute****Researcher: John Taylor****RESEARCH SUMMARY**

According to Indiana historian Richard G. Boone, the State of Indiana made a “fairly satisfactory, though by no means adequate provision” for the education of girls during the 1800s. Theoretically, Indiana county seminaries allowed both sexes to attend classes, but the vast majority of students were boys. Boone noted that the state held “a prejudice against the education of girls with their brothers,” but “an impulse was early manifested” to establish schools for young women. By 1850, approximately fourteen schools for girls existed within the state. Females also found it to be more difficult to obtain access to higher education during the early and middle 1800s.¹ Most universities only allowed men to attend classes; Indiana University did not admit its first female student until 1867.² During the this time, however, there were dedicated individuals who worked to change the status quo. During her lifetime, Saint Theodore Guérin, recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church in 2006, provided educational opportunities to Indiana’s girls and young women through the establishment of schools, most notably Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.

Saint Theodore Guérin³ was born and baptized at Etàbles in Brittany, France on October 2, 1798.⁴ Her parents, Isabelle le Fèvre and Laurent Guérin, named her Anne-Thérèse Guérin.⁵ During the first twenty-five years of Guérin’s life she faced numerous hardships. Before she reached the age of thirteen, she allegedly lost two brothers.⁶ When she was fifteen years old, thieves robbed and murdered Guérin’s father, a French naval officer who served under Napoleon near Avignon, France. He was on furlough and heading home.⁷ After the loss of a husband and two sons, Guérin’s mother came down with a “severe illness,” leaving Anne-Thérèse Guérin to care for her mother and nine year old sister Marie.⁸

Guérin was a devout Catholic from a young age. She took her first communion at the age of ten.⁹ After ten years of caring for her mother, Anne-Thérèse Guérin left home and committed herself to becoming a nun. At the age of 25, she became a postulant at the Sisters of Providence in Ruillé, France on August 18, 1823, and received the religious

name Sister Saint Theodore Guérin.¹⁰ Immediately following her entrance into the convent, Sister Saint Theodore suffered from a severe illness that impaired her health for the rest of her life. She could never eat solid foods again.¹¹ After her recovery, the Sisters of Providence assigned Sister Saint Theodore Guérin to missionary work in Pruilly-sur-Claise, France.¹²

After a short period of time as a postulant, Sister Saint Theodore recited her first vows on September 8, 1825.¹³ She professed her perpetual vows on September 5, 1831.¹⁴ Around the same time she declared her first vows, Sister Saint Theodore received the appointment of Superior to the Sisters of Providence educational establishment in Rennes, France.¹⁵ For ten years, Sister Saint Theodore assisted the convent in establishing numerous schools and orphanages in Rennes,¹⁶ but a dispute with the Superior General of the Sisters of Providence resulted in a transfer of Sister Saint Theodore.¹⁷ Her new assignment relocated her to Soulaines, France, a small country mission where her talents “would find a much narrower scope.”¹⁸

After only a year in Soulaines, France, Sister Saint Theodore Guérin was “voted medallion decorations” by the French Academy Board of Education in 1836.¹⁹ One year earlier, in 1835, the Reverend Simon Bruté, the first Bishop of Vincennes, Indiana, visited Rennes, France.²⁰ He and the Reverend Célestine de la Hailandière, soon to be Vicar-General of the Vincennes Diocese, became acquainted with the various charitable works of the Sisters of Providence.²¹ Four years later, in 1839, Bishop Bruté sent his Vicar-General on a recruiting mission to France from Indiana. The Reverend Hailandière searched for sisters of the Catholic faith willing to move to the United States and create schools and orphanages for the Vincennes Diocese.²²

When the Reverend Hailandière reached France, he received news that Bishop Bruté had died on June 26, 1839. He also obtained confirmation of his own appointment as the new Bishop of Vincennes.²³ While in France, Bishop Hailandière convinced six members of the Sisters of Providence to come to the United States and start a school in his Diocese.²⁴ Hesitant because of her frail health, Sister Saint Theodore Guérin initially did not accept Bishop Hailandière’s invitation, but, after careful consideration and prayer, she finally took a leadership position in the operation.²⁵ On July 12, 1840, Sister Saint

Theodore and the other sisters began their journey, departing from Ruillé, France.²⁶ Fourteen days later on July 26, 1840, they left for Vincennes on the ship, *Cincinnati*.²⁷

On September 4, 1840, the *Cincinnati* dropped anchor in New York.²⁸ After traveling from New York by train, stagecoach, and steamboat the sisters rested in Madison, Indiana. On October 1, 1840, Bishop Hailandière and three other men told the sisters they would not be starting a school in Vincennes. The Vincennes Diocese decided Terre Haute, Indiana needed their services more.²⁹ Twenty-one days later, after various difficulties, Sister Saint Theodore and the other nuns arrived in the middle of a thick villageless forest four miles outside of Terre Haute on October 22, 1840. Eventually, this became the site of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.³⁰

The sisters lived with a farmer, Joseph Thralls, and his family while construction of their motherhouse and school in Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, took place. Workers also cleared land for farming and chopped wood for winter.³¹ During the school's construction, Bishop Hailandière visited the sisters on November 12, 1840, and awarded Sister Saint Theodore the title of "Mother."³² Soon after she received the title of "Mother," the Sisters of Providence began accepting new women ready to join the convent.³³ The first postulant arrived on May 1, 1841. Five months later, the *Wabash Courier* (published in Terre Haute) advertised the "Convent and Academy" headed by "Sister Theodora Guerin" on October 9, 1841.³⁴ After the establishment of their first school at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, the sisters' educational influence spread quickly throughout the state. On March 21, 1842, the Sisters of Providence opened a Girls' Boarding School in Jasper, Indiana (the county seat of Dubois County).³⁵ Between the years 1842-1856, the convent opened nineteen schools and orphanages spanning across Indiana from Evansville to Vincennes to Fort Wayne despite terrible hardships.³⁶

Perhaps the most significant difficulty faced by the sisters was a fire that destroyed their barns and granaries on October 2, 1842, burning various provisions needed for the upcoming winter.³⁷ Impoverished by fire, Mother Theodore Guérin, Sister Mary Cecilia and other unnamed sisters left Terre Haute for France on April 26, 1843 in search of financial.³⁸ One month later Mother Theodore and her traveling companions arrived in France upon the *Silvia*.³⁹ During their stay Mother Theodore Guérin and Sister Mary Cecilia met with Queen Marie Amelie of France, and secured money for the

voyage back to the United States. The Queen also began taking donations that later helped fund new schools.⁴⁰

On November 28, 1843, Mother Theodore and the sisters left France on the *Nashville*.⁴¹ The boat headed to the Gulf of Mexico and docked in New Orleans. The passengers and crew faced numerous hardships on the voyage back to the United States. The *Nashville* nearly sank during a hurricane, and Mother Theodore became “seized with fever” while in New Orleans.⁴² The sisters then traveled up the Mississippi River back to Terre Haute.⁴³ Mother Theodore Guérin and the other sisters finally returned to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on April 1, 1844.⁴⁴

Mother Theodore Guérin continued to advance women’s educational opportunities after she returned from France. Mother Theodore Guérin and the Sisters of Providence established a seminary of higher education for women at St. Mary-of-the-Woods. On January 14, 1846, nearly six years after arriving in Terre Haute, Governor James Whitcomb approved the Articles of Incorporation for the Female Seminary of St. Mary’s of the Woods (Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College).⁴⁵

After twelve more years of continuous educational service with the Sisters of Providence, Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin died on May 14, 1856.⁴⁶ She was buried on the grounds of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.⁴⁷ Fifty-one years after her death, on December 3, 1907, Mother Theodore’s remains were moved from the burial plot to a crypt. During the re-burial process workers discovered what is considered the first sign of Mother Theodore’s holiness: her brain was still intact.⁴⁸ Almost a year later, on October 30, 1908, the first miracle attributed to Mother Theodore Guérin occurred. Sister Mary Theodosia, who was suffering from cancer, stopped at Mother Theodore’s tomb to pray for another ill sister, Sister Joseph Therese O’Connell. The next day Sister Theodosia’s ongoing pain vanished. A medical examination later could not find the cancerous tumor.⁴⁹

This unexplained occurrence piqued the interest of the Indianapolis Diocese. Two months after Sister Mary Theodosia prayed at Mother Theodore’s tomb, Bishop Joseph Chartrand of the Indianapolis Diocese wrote to the Sister’s of Providence Superior General, Mother Mary Cleophas Foley, to indicate that initial “proceedings regarding” Mother Theodore’s canonization would be discussed on December 6, 1908.⁵⁰ Many

members of the Diocese began to diligently gather the needed information about Mother Theodore Guérin, including interviewing people such as Mother Anastasie Brown who worked with the foundress.⁵¹ In January 1914, the Reverend Alphonus Smith and the Reverend John T. O'Hare officially initiated the rigorous process of canonization for Mother Theodore Guérin when they left for Rome with about 500 sealed typewritten pages of evidence.⁵² Years passed as different Catholic committees performed the needed tasks to complete Mother Theodore's canonization.

In June, 1975 members of the Indiana Academy elected the late Mother Theodore Guérin into their organization. The academy was created by the "Associated Colleges of Indiana to honor Hoosiers who have enriched the cultural and civic life of the state."⁵³

During the 1990s the canonization of Mother Theodore gained momentum. In November 1996, Vatican medical consultants approved the healing of Sister Mary Theodosia as a miracle.⁵⁴ Four months later, in March 1997, the Sister Theodosia miracle was approved by Vatican theologians, and acknowledged by the Cardinals in June that same year.⁵⁵ On October 25, 1998, Pope John Paul II beatified Mother Theodore Guérin in St. Peter's Square in Rome.⁵⁶ The church gave her the title, Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin.⁵⁷

In 2001, doctors diagnosed Phillip McCord, an employee at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, with a swollen cornea. Physicians told McCord that he needed a risky surgical procedure to transplant a new cornea. Although not a Catholic, McCord prayed to Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin for help. Slowly his condition improved over a matter of weeks, and doctors were amazed at his recovery without surgery. According to a 2006 article in the *Criterion*, McCord had "better than 20/20 vision in both eyes."⁵⁸ With the approval of this final miracle, Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin was canonized and officially determined to be a Saint on October 15, 2006.⁵⁹ The Vatican gave the new Saint the religious name Saint Theodora Guérin, but the Sisters of Providence refer to her as Saint Mother Theodore Guérin.⁶⁰

In addition to her sainthood, Guérin's ongoing legacy features her efforts to spread learning throughout Indiana. As of 2008, her most prominent endeavor, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, continues the mission it began under Saint Theodore Guérin, to provide women with educational opportunities. Saint Mary-or-the-Woods

College enrolls 1,700 students and offers campus-based undergraduate degree programs for women and distance undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs to both men and women.

¹ Richard G. Boone, *History of Education in Indiana* (Indianapolis, 1941), 82-86 (B071250).

² Boone, 231 (B071250).

Special Note, the following secondary source publications do not cite any sources:

Sister Mary Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin: Foundress of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana* (Terre Haute, n.d.), 3-6 (B070001).

Rev. Joseph B. Code, *Great American Foundresses* (Freeport Ny, 1929), 292 (B070029).

Katherine Burton, *Faith is the Substance: The Life of Mother Theodore Guérin* (St. Louis, 1959), 13 (B070022).

Sister Mary Borromeo Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 2 Vols. (New York, 1949), Vol. 1, 22 (B070024).

Penny Blaker Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin: A Woman for Our Time* (Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, 1998), 12 (B070026).

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin: Foundress of the Sisters of Providence at St.-Mary-of-the-Woods, Vigo County, Indiana* (New York, 1904), 27 (B070021).

³ McCammon, Connie, *Mother Theodore Material*, electronic mail from the Sisters of Providence (received October 25, 2007) (B070251). Saint Theodore Guérin was given the name Anne-Therese Guérin at birth. When she entered into the Sisters of Providence she received the name, Sister Saint Theodore. After she became the Superior General of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, she became known as Mother Theodore Guérin. For her beatification in 1998, the Sisters of Providence congregation referred to her as Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin. Since the canonization, the Sisters of Providence call her Saint Mother Theodore Guérin, but the Vatican refers to her as Saint Theodora Guérin.

⁴ Sisters of Providence, Photograph of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin's Gravestone, Received September 28, 2007 (B070077).

Sister Mary Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin: Foundress of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana* (Terre Haute, n.d.), 3-6 (B070001). Sister Theodosia stated Anne-Thérèse Guérin was born in Etables in Brittany and baptized on the same day.

U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Seventh Census* (1850), Schedule 1, Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana, p. 214,
http://content.ancestrylibrary.com/Browse/print_u.aspx?dbid=8054&iid-INM432_177-

0437 (accessed September 17, 2007) (B070020). The census lists “St. Theodore” as born in France around 1800.

Sisters of Providence, *Extract of the Register of Profession of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence of Ruillé*, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, March 1, 1912 (B070224).

⁵ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 3-6 (B070001).

Sisters of Providence, *Extract of the Register of Profession of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence of Ruillé* (B070224). Most other sources refer to Saint Mother Theodore Guérin’s mother as Isabelle, but this register names her Elizabeth.

⁶ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 4-6 (B070001). Sister Theodosia claims one brother was burned to death at age seven, and the other brother died in infancy.

Rev. Joseph B. Code, *Great American Foundresses* (Freeport Ny, 1929), 292 (B070029). Rev. Code never gives any details of Anne-Thérèse Guérin’s brothers’ deaths. He only states they died at a young age.

Katherine Burton, *Faith is the Substance: The Life of Mother Theodore Guérin* (St. Louis, 1959), 13 (B070022). Burton mentions the two brothers died at a young age.

Sister Mary Borromeo Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 2 Vols. (New York, 1949), Vol. 1, 22 (B070024). Brown mentions the burning death of one brother, but another male sibling is not noted.

Penny Blaker Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin: A Woman for Our Time* (Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, 1998), 12 (B070026). All accounts of Anne-Thérèse Guérin’s life claim she was the oldest child except for Mitchell’s book. She notes that Guérin had one brother who was one year older. He died at the age of three. The other brother supposedly died at the age of four. No cause of death is ever mentioned.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin: Foundress of the Sisters of Providence at St.-Mary-of-the-Woods, Vigo County, Indiana* (New York, 1904), 27 (B070021). This publication mentions the burning death of one child, but the death of another brother is not noted.

⁷ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 8 (B070001); Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 292 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 15 (B070022); Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 22 (B070024); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 13 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 26 (B070021).

⁸ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 8 (B070001). Sister Theodosia only mentions Anne-Thérèse Guérin’s invalid [*sic*] mother.

Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 292 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 15 (B070022).

Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 22 (B070024). Brown notes Anne-Thérèse Guérin took over the household duties and cared for her ill mother. Brown never mentions a sister.

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 13 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 27 (B070021).

⁹ Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 292 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 15 (B070022); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 13 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 24-25 (B070021).

¹⁰ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 8-10 (B070001); Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 293 (B070029).

Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 15 (B070022). Burton is one of two secondary sources that provides a specific date for Sister Saint Theodore's entrance into the Sisters of Providence, but no source is cited to substantiate the claim.

Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 22 (B070024).

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 14 (B070026). Mitchell is the other secondary source that provides a specific date for Sister Saint Theodore's entrance into the Sisters of Providence, but no source is cited to substantiate the claim.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 72 (B070021); Sisters of Providence, *Extract of the Register of Profession of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence of Ruillé* (B070224).

¹¹ Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 19 (B070022).

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 17 (B070026). Mitchell suspects Sister Saint Theodore contracted smallpox, but offers no evidence for her reasoning. The medicinal treatment of smallpox during the nineteenth-century usually left lasting ill effects on the gastrointestinal system.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 74-75 (B070021).

¹² Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 19 (B070022). Burton never specifically gives a date when Sister Saint Theodore went to PrUILly-sur-Claise, France.

Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 22 (B070024). Brown notes that Sister Saint Theodore left for PrUILly-sur-Claise, France six months after she entered the Sisters of Providence and was named local superior. This would make the possible date she began working in PrUILly-sur-Claise circa 1824.

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 17 (B070026). Mitchell states Sister Saint Theodore went to PrUILly-sur-Claise in January, 1825.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 75 (B070021). Like Brown, the Member of the Congregation also notes Sister Saint Theodore began working in PrUILly-sur-Claise six months after her entrance into the Sisters of Providence. This would make the date circa 1824.

¹³ Sisters of Providence, *Extract of the Register of Profession of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence of Ruillé* (B070224).

¹⁴ *Ibid.* (B070224)

¹⁵ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 10 (B070001). Sister Theodosia mentions Sister Saint Theodore became the superior of the establishment of Rennes on the same day she took her vows.

Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 293-94 (B070029). Rev. Code mentions Sister Saint Theodore became the superior of the establishment of Rennes on the same day she took her vows.

Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 19-20 (B070022). Burton is the only secondary source to provide specific dates. She claims Sister Saint Theodore received “the habit canonically” on September 6, 1825 and recited her vows on September 8, 1825. Burton also notes months after she recited her vows, Sister Saint Theodore became the superior at Rennes.

Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 22 (B070024). Brown only states Sister Saint Theodore became a fully professed nun and superior of Rennes in September, but never gives a year.

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 14 (B070026). Mitchell notes Sister Saint Theodore recited her vows in September, 1825, and states Sister Saint Theodore was named superior in Rennes in 1826.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 72 (B070021). The Member of the Congregation states Sister Saint Theodore took her vows and was appointed superior in Rennes in September. No year is given.

Sisters of Providence, *Extract of the Register of Profession of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence of Ruillé* (B070224).

¹⁶ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 10 (B070001). Sister Theodosia mentions Sister Saint Theodore worked in Rennes, but never gives a definite time-span.

Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 294-96 (B070029). Rev. Code notes Sister Saint Theodore worked in Rennes until 1834.

Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 23 (B070022). Burton states Sister Saint Theodore worked in Rennes for eight years, but gives no specific dates.

Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 23 (B070024). Brown claims Sister Saint Theodore worked in Rennes for eight or nine years. No dates are given.

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 19 (B070026). Mitchell notes Sister Saint Theodore Guérin worked in Rennes until 1834.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 72 (B070021). The Member of the Congregation references a letter mentioning the end of Sister Saint Theodore’s tenure at Rennes in 1834.

¹⁷ Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 294-96 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 23-27 (B070022); Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 23-24 (B070024); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 18-21 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore*

Guérin, 84-93 (B070021). All of these publications, excluding *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, give few specific details of the incident. There was a congregation of brothers along with the Sisters of Providence, and both used a common financial fund. All the debts incurred by the brothers were in the name of the Sisters of Providence because the sisters were recognized as a corporation. The Superior Mother Mary in Rennes tried to separate the finances, and was successful, but later changed her mind and reverted back to having a common fund between the two congregations. Sister Saint Theodore stated this was a bad business deal, and soon members of the congregations believed Sister Saint Theodore was being disloyal to the congregation. All five publications, including *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, claim the situation was a misunderstanding and that Sister Saint Theodore did nothing wrong.

¹⁸ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 10 (B070001); Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 295 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 23, 28. (B070022); Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 24 (B070024); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 18 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 83-84 (B070021). The direct quotation used is from the Member of the Congregation.

¹⁹ Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 296 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 26-27 (B070022); Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 24 (B070024); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 20 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 94-95 (B070021).

²⁰ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 12 (B070001); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 22 (B070026).

²¹ Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 100 (B070021); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 22 (B070026).

²² Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 12-14 (B070001); Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 296 (B070029); Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 30 (B070022); Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 50-51 (B070024); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 22-23 (B070026); Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 99 (B070021).

²³ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 14 (B070001).
Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 34 (B070022). Burton states Hailandière received word of Bishop Bruté's death in July 1839.

Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 51-52 (B070024). Brown claims Hailandière received word of Bishop Bruté's death in July 1839 and was consecrated in Paris on August 18, 1839.

Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 22-23 (B070026). Mitchell notes Hailandière was consecrated as Bishop of Vincennes on August 18, 1839.

Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 99-100 (B070021).

²⁴ Theodosia, *Glimpses of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin*, 14-16 (B070001). Theodosia claims nine sisters embarked on the trip to Indiana.

Burton, *Faith is the Substance*, 34 (B070022); Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 51-53 (B070024); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 22-24 (B070026). Burton, Brown and Mitchell all note Sister Saint Theodore traveled with five other sisters. The sisters were: Sister Saint Vincent Ferrer (Victoire) Gagé, Sister Basilide (Josephine) Sénéchal, Sister Olympiade (Thereses) Boyer, Sister Mary Xavier (Frances Louise) Lerée, and Sister Liguori (Louise Frances) Tiercin.

²⁵ Code, *Great American Foundresses*, 296-97 (B070029); Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 23-24 (B070026).

²⁶ Sister Mary Theodosia Mug, ed., *Journals and Letters of Mother Theodore Guérin* (Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, 1937), 1 (B070023).

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 5-7 (B070023).

²⁸ *Ibid.*, 23 (B070023).

²⁹ *Ibid.*, 48-49 (B070023).

³⁰ *Ibid.*, 53-60 (B070023).

³¹ *Ibid.*, 60-66 (B070023). Joseph Thralls, the generous man that housed the nuns, and another man [Brassier], who Mother Theodore Guérin befriended while sailing across the Atlantic Ocean, are the only laborers specifically mentioned in Guérin's diary. They chopped wood, cleared land, and built the motherhouse, but Guérin does hint that more than two laborers did work on these projects. It can also be assumed the sisters did help with these tasks, but no primary evidence is available to substantiate their involvement.

³² Member of the Congregation, *Life and Life-Work of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 142-43 (B070021). The Member of the Congregation quotes a diary describing the episode of Bishop Hailandière giving Sister Saint Theodore the title of "Mother," but the author does not cite the source or explain who wrote the diary.

³³ Mug, *Journals and Letters of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 72-76 (B070023).

³⁴ Sisters of Providence, "Convent and Academy of the Sisters of Providence," *Wabash Courier*, October 9, 1841 (B070078).

³⁵ Brown, *The History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*, 183 (B070024). Brown quotes an advertisement in the *St. Joseph Parish* for the Girls'

Boarding School in Jasper, Indiana. The sisters heading toward Jasper, lead by Sister St. Vincent, had difficulties during their travels. The actual starting date was most likely two or three days after March 21, 1842.

³⁶ Sisters of Providence, *Establishments and (Arch)Dioceses, Sisters of Providence*, (List of Dioceses' provided by the Sisters of Providence, June 2006) (B070075); Sisters of Providence, *A Century of Service of the Sisters of Providence: Vincennes, Indiana*, (souvenir program of three day celebration, 1943) (B070016); Mug, *Journals and Letters of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 206-08 (B070023); St. Augustine Academy Fort Wayne, Indiana Deed, June 4, 1849, St. Mary-of-the-Woods (B070074). There is not enough evidence to state that all of the schools and orphanages created by the Sisters of Providence were for women, but the schools established in the major cities of Indiana (Evansville, Terre Haute, Vincennes, Fort Wayne, and Jasper) were girls boarding schools.

³⁷ Mug, *Journals and Letters of Mother Theodore Guérin*, 89-92 (B070023).

³⁸ *Ibid.*, 98-103 (B070023).

³⁹ *Ibid.*, 106 (B070023). The *Silvia* docked either May 28 or 29, 1843.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, 116-20 (B070023).

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, 146 (B070023).

⁴² *Ibid.*, 146-68 (B070023). During the hurricane the *Nashville* actually rolled over in the Atlantic Ocean.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, 146-80 (B070023).

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 169 (B070023).

⁴⁵ *Laws of Indiana*, 1846, 9 (B070072).

⁴⁶ Sisters of Providence, Photograph of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin's Gravestone (B070077); "Death of Mother Theodore," *Wabash Courier*, May 17, 1856. c. 3 (B070073).

⁴⁷ Sisters of Providence, Photograph of Mother Theodore Anne-Thérèse Guérin's Gravestone (B070077); "Sainthood Swells the Trickle of Pilgrims to Shrine," *Indianapolis Star*, October 15, 2007, <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071014/LOCAL/710140395> (B070263).

⁴⁸ Sister Mary Theodosia Mug, *History of the Process for the Beatification of M. Theodore Guérin*, Indianapolis Archdioceses Archives, n.d. (B070076); "School Founder May Be Sainted," *Indianapolis Star*, November 18, 1911, p.4, c.1 (B070039).

Catholic Encyclopedia, *Relics*, <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/12734a.htm> (accessed October 30, 2007) (B070240). A relic is "some object, notably part of the body or clothes, remaining as a memorial of a departed saint." The Catholic Encyclopedia notes that relics are not considered a miracle, but rather a sign of holiness.

⁴⁹ Mitchell, *Mother Theodore Guérin*, 166-68 (B070026). Mitchell quotes a letter written by Sister Mary Theodosia to Mother Mary Cleophas, but never cites the location of the letter.

⁵⁰ Chatard, Bishop Silas, *Personal Letter*, Sisters of Providence, November 15, 1908 (B070117).

⁵¹ Chartrand, Father Joseph, *Personal Letter*, Sisters of Providence, April 29, 1910 (B070121); Chartrand, Father Joseph, *Personal Letter*, Sisters of Providence, April 15, 1913 (B070119).

⁵² "Canonization of Indiana Nun Will Be Laid Before Vatican," *Indianapolis Star*, January 17, 1914, p.1, c.7 (B070038).

⁵³ "Negro, 2 Women, Chemist Elected to Indiana Academy," *Indianapolis Star*, June 12, 1975, p.23, c.4 (B070035).

⁵⁴ "Cause for Beatification was Initiated in 1909," *The Criterion*, October 20, 2006 <http://www.archindy.org/criterion/local/causes/Guérin-cause.htm> (accessed September 24, 2007) (B070043).

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ "Sisters Celebrate at Motherhouse as Mother Theodore Guérin is Beatified," *The Criterion*, October 30, 1998 <http://www.archindy.org/criterion/local/causes/Guérin1.htm> (accessed October 4, 2007) (B070095).

⁵⁷ McCammon, Connie, *Mother Theodore Material* (B070251).

⁵⁸ "Employee's Healing Leads to Possible Canonization," *The Criterion*, March 3, 2006 <http://www.archindy.org/criterion/local/causes/Guérin-healing.html> (accessed September 21, 2007) (B070045).

⁵⁹ The Vatican, "Saints: Table of the Canonizations during the Pontificate of His Holiness John Paul II," http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/index_saints_en.html (accessed September 18, 2007) (B070015).

⁶⁰ The Vatican, "Saints: Table of the Canonizations during the Pontificate of His Holiness John Paul II," http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/index_saints_en.html (accessed September 18, 2007) (B070015); The Vatican, "Theodore Guérin," http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20061015_Guérin_en.html (accessed September 18, 2007) (B070014); McCammon, Connie, *Mother Theodore Material* (B070251).