

# Biographical Sketch of Nurse Marie Fiechtner

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## Sister/Nurse Marie Feichtner

Sister Marie Fiechtner was born on 30 September, 1865 in Kamenka, Podolia Governement. She spent her childhood years in the Hoffnungsfeld community where her father was a teacher. Still quite young, in fact at the age of 16, Marie Fiechtner enrolled as a student at the “Alexander Asylum” in Sarata on 12 September, 1881. After two years of practical and theoretical training, she became a probationary nurse in March of 1883, worked for a short time in sick-nursing and in the deaconess house at Großliebental and then, for a short time, went to care for her mother at her home in the Fall of 1883. Returning again to the Mother House, she was consecrated as a deaconess on 05 May, 1885. Since a typhus epidemic soon broke out in Hoffnungstal, Sister Marie was sent there to provide care



After this assignment, she was again able to be busy for a year in the Mother House, and then worked a period of three years (1887-1890) in an out-station in Kiev. From there, Sister Marie was called to the Orphans Home in Odessa. Then she worked for a longer time in the hospital in Sarata and with a medical specialist for eye sickness in Mansir. A new private assignment awaited her the following year. She was sent to Kronau to care for the mother-in-law of Pastor Törne, then back to Odessa to care for the wife of Propst Behning, and then she had to take over the care for the then rector of our institution, Pastor Alfons Meyer. 1895-1903 brought Sister Marie back to Odessa again. In 1905, she was sent to the Institute of Mercy in Saratov on the Volga. She worked there until 1918. In 1910, Sister Marie made a trip to Germany, visited the Deaconess House in Kaiserswerth and participated in the General Conference of Deaconess Houses of the Kaiserswerth Assembly.

Due to the war on the Volga in 1918, a need entered and Sister Marie, with 200 orphans from the Volga, was sent to the German villages of the south. The trip lasted 3 weeks. Sister Marie made a stop in Hoffnungstal from where the children were distributed. Many children got sick with typhus. Even Sister Marie got sick from the evil sickness and this was already the third time in her life. However, she survived it. Now she developed a yearning to return to the Mother House. Unfortunately, the border was already cut off. She returned to the home of her parents and lived there with her 2 sisters under conceivable difficult conditions in the last years of her life. Sister Marie was aware up to the end of her life her strong connection with our and her Mother House "Alexander Asylum". Even in her last letter of 29 August, 1935, she regretted that she was not permitted to spend the last days of her life in the "*Abendfrieden*" retirement home. God's will was different. She entered her eternal rest on 30 August, 1935. Certainly, her diverse work was not in vain.

Rector of "Alexander Asylum"

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