

Sister Veronica Adams, O.S.F. (Damian)



Born: May 29, 1926
 Parents: John and Mary (Creamean) Adams
 Entered from: Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Joliet, IL
 Postulancy: February 1, 1942
 Novitiate: August 12, 1942
 Profession: August 12, 1944

Died: Tuesday January 27, 1998 at 10:20 p.m.
 at Provena St. Joseph Medical Center, Joliet, IL

Ministry:

1944 - 1945	St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Student at CSF
1945 - 1946	Immaculate Conception, Columbus, OH, Grade 3
1946 - 1952	St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 2
1952 - 1954	St. Stephen, Streator, IL, Grade 2
1954 - 1955	Assumption, Chicago, IL, Grades 1,2
1955 - 1957	St. Jude, Joliet, IL, Grades 1,2
1957 - 1960	Assumption, Chicago, IL, Grades 1, 2
1960 - 1963	St. Stephen, Streator, IL, Grades 1,2
1963 - 1965	St. Joseph, Elgin, IL, Grade 1
1965 - 1967	St. Boniface, Chicago, IL, Grades 1,2
1967 - 1985	Assumption, Chicago, IL, Grades 1, 2
1985 - 1990	St. Ludmilla, Chicago, IL, Primary Grades Teacher
1990 - 1991	St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Substitute teacher Joliet Catholic schools
1991 - 1992	St. Stephen, Streator, IL, Primary Grades Teacher
1992 - 1997	St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 1
1997 - 1998	St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, St. Francis Reading Center, Tutor

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL Friday, January 30, 1998
 2-7 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
 Friday, January 30, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Saturday, January 31, 1998 leaving Our Lady of Angels at
 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, S8-L338-G2

Survived by: her sisters, Sister Marcelyn Adams (Sisters of St. Francis, Joliet, IL),
 Sister Miriam Adams (Sisters of the Holy Spirit, Techny, IL),
 Margaret Ferro of Joliet, IL, Loretta (Jack) Thomas of Lockport, IL,
 sister-in-law Rose Adams of Joliet, IL and many nieces and nephews

*For those who have been faithful, O Lord,
life is not ended, but merely changed.*

Sister Veronica Adams was born in Joliet, Illinois on May 29, 1926 to John and Mary (Creamean) Adams. On June 6 of that same year she was taken to the family parish church of Sts. Cyril and Methodius for Baptism and named Veronica. The deep faith of her parents was nurtured in this new daughter, as well as in her brother, John, and her sisters, Margaret, Lucille, Mary Ann and Loretta, and Evelyn who died as an infant.

She saw her older sister Lucille join the Sisters of the Holy Spirit in Techy, Illinois, receiving the name Sister Miriam. A few years later, on February 1, 1942, having spent her early high school years at St. Francis Preparatory as an aspirant, Veronica was admitted as a postulant to the Franciscan Sisters in Joliet. Upon reception into the novitiate on August 12, 1942, Veronica received the name, Sister Mary Damian. Her sister Mary Ann also joined the Sisters of St. Francis, entering the novitiate on August 12, 1950, and receiving the name of Sister Marcelyn. Her brother John and her sisters Marge and Lorri chose married life as their vocation. Strong family ties and a spirit of faith were evident at the many family gatherings.

Following first profession of vows, Sister Damian continued her studies at the College of St. Francis before beginning her first year as a primary teacher at Immaculate Conception in Columbus, Ohio. Ministry as a primary teacher continued for over 50 years, touching the lives of students in Illinois and Ohio. She served many years at St. Clement, Assumption Parish, St. Ludmilla in Chicago, St. Stephen in Streator, Illinois and St. Joseph School in Joliet, as well as several other schools in Illinois. Sister Veronica considered it a great privilege to prepare children for First Communion and for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. She also prepared them for school liturgies and various plays and performances. The sisters at the Motherhouse would look forward to the Christmas program of Sister Veronica's class when she taught at St. Joseph School in Joliet. When Sister Veronica completed 52 years of teaching, she made the decision, after prayer and consultation, to bring this full-time ministry to a close and to offer her services as a tutor. Her family and friends gathered at St. Joe's Park to celebrate this milestone.

In January, her doctor advised medical testing and Sister Veronica was admitted to Provena St. Joseph Medical Center for an angiogram, which indicated need for by-pass surgery. Following the surgery, Sister Veronica suffered a stroke and never regained consciousness. Her family and the Sisters kept vigil at her bedside, as they prayed and offered their support to her and to each other. On Tuesday night, January 27, 1998, shortly after the family members and most of the Sisters had gone home, as Sister Rosemary Huzl sat by her bedside, Sister Veronica peacefully took her last breath and went back to God. Family members, members of the Central Administration and the pastoral staff gathered to pray once again and to commit her soul to the God to whom she had dedicated her whole life.

Sister Veronica, we thank you for the love and devotion that you showed to all of us: your students, your family, your Franciscan Sisters and all you met. May you continue to pray for each of us and ask God to show us abundant mercy and love. May you know the blessing of God's love forever. Amen. Alleluia.

