

Alleluia!

Sister Jane Braun, OSF



Sister Jane Braun was born in Joliet, Illinois to Loretta (Kiep) and Julius Braun on August 9, 1924. Baptized Mary Jane at St. John the Baptist Parish in Joliet, Jane spent her childhood in this area attending St. John Grade School and St. Francis Academy before joining the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate. Though an only child, Jane spent a lot of time with her cousins and even until she was called home to heaven, visited and corresponded with her cousins through their monthly get-togethers. Two of these cousins also entered religious life – our own Sister Eileen Bannon and Father Erick Kahn, an OFM priest. Jane's heart was very big and she was warm and compassionate to all family, friends and sisters that she was with. She loved to talk with them and share stories of how God had touched their lives.

During many of her years on mission, Sister Jane was known as Sister Julian Marie. Many students remember fond stories of how Sister Julian Marie touched their lives by her example, her loving smile, and her discussions with them. Local people remember Sister Julian Marie as their teacher at St. Francis Academy; some of our sisters who were aspirants recall that Sister Julian Marie was their aspirant mistress. They talk of her kindness, her simplicity, and her deep spiritual closeness to God.

Whether Sister Jane was a student at the College of St. Francis, at the Seraphic Institute, or De Paul earning her degree in English, or whether she was studying for a Pastoral Ministry Certificate from St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, Colorado or at any other workshops, she loved to learn, soaked in all that she could and was joyful and grateful for all that became part of her knowledge and experience. Sister Jane took the many lessons of life and tried diligently to apply them to whatever ministry occupied her time and energy.

She is a mentor for us of adaptability in circumstances. Sister Jane was willing to change mini-

stries when necessary and move to another state as the opportunity presented itself. Jane was vibrantly involved in every work she undertook. As a classroom or GED teacher, as census taker, as pastoral associate in parishes and hospitals, as a member of the donor relations staff at Food for the Poor, or as library aide, Sister Jane gave all she could, shared all she had to share, and took time to talk with people. Her happiest times were spent in prayerful contemplation and in active situations being of service. All of us who knew her know how much she loved God and in all that she was, tried to do his will and please him with her words and actions. Sister Jane introduced many people to prayer groups and was faithful to these special times.

An untiring supporter of the poor and destitute, Sister Jane went out of her way to care for people in any way that she could. And that is just how she ministered to each of us around her bedside as she was preparing for her Jubilee in heaven. She smiled, she spoke softly, and asked us to pray with her and help her reach heaven peacefully. And so, on June 17, 2005, the day before the congregation celebration of Jubilee, Sister Jane went home to her lover, her God, at about 12:30 p.m. as her classmates were enjoying a Jubilee lunch. She died peacefully and began her celebration in heaven. We rejoice that her pain is now ended and that she can enjoy eternity with the one that she tried so hard to serve throughout her life.

Sister Jane, we thank you for all the love and care you gave to us, family, friends and sisters in community. We rejoice with you as you sing and pray and celebrate. Amen. Alleluia.

Sister Jane Braun, OSF
9 August 1924 — 17 June 2005

Born: August 9, 1924
Parents: Julius and Loretta (Kiep) Braun
Entered From: Church of St. John the Baptist, Joliet, IL
Postulancy: September 8, 1942
Novitiate: August 12, 1943
Profession: August 12, 1945
Entered New Life: June 17, 2005, at Our Lady of Angels at 12:30 p.m.

Ministry History

1945-1946 Full-time Student; College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL
 1946-1948 Teacher; Sacred Heart High School, Chicago, IL
 1948-1949 Teacher; St. Mary High School, Columbus, OH
 1949-1957 Teacher; St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL
 1957-1959 Teacher; St. Clement, Chicago, IL
 1959-1965 Teacher, Assistant Aspirant Mistress, Sophomore and Senior Aspirant; St. Francis Preparatory; Joliet, IL
 1965-1966 Teacher, Guidance Counselor; Sacred Heart, Englewood, Chicago, IL
 1966-1968 Teacher; SS. Peter and Paul High School, Chicago, IL
 1968-1969 Audio Visual Aide and Library Assistant; St. Francis Academy
 1969-1970 Will Co. Public Aid Advocate; Joliet, IL
 1970-1971 Community Action Agency; St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL
 1971-1973 Teacher-Adult Education; Joliet Junior College, Joliet, IL
 1973-1974 Nurse's Aide; Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
 1974-1975 Archivist's Assistant; Motherhouse, Joliet, IL
 1975-1977 Teacher-Adult Education; Chicago City College, Chicago, IL
 Pastoral Ministry, Teacher-Urban Skills; St. Mary of the Lake, Chicago, IL
 1977-1978 Pastoral Ministry; St. Leo and Sacred Heart, Englewood, Chicago, IL,
 Activity Aide; Our Lady of Angels
 1978-1979 Pastoral Assistant; St. Anthony Hospital, Denver, CO
 1979-1981 Pastoral Associate; Our Lady of Lourdes, Denver, CO
 1981-1982 Participant in Center for Personal Growth; Westmont, IL
 1982-1983 Society of Our Mother of Peace, High Ridge, MO
 1984-1989 Evangelization Ministry, Diocesan parishes, Joliet, IL
 1988-1989 Director of Evangelization; Holy Family, Joliet, IL
 1989-1999 Pastoral Minister; Pompano Beach, FL
 1999-2005 Library Aide; University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL
 2003-2005 Hospice Volunteer; Joliet Hospice, Joliet IL

Visitation: Friday, August 12, 2005, 3:30-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Prayer Service: Friday, August 12, 2005, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Memorial Mass Friday, August 12, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet

Survived by: Many cousins, including Sr. Eileen Bannon, OSF.

Rest in Peace, Sister Jane