

# Alleluia!

*Sister Eleanor A. Fallert, OSF*

Sister Eleanor Fallert was born on March 3, 1915 in Sigel, Illinois to Joseph and Dorothy Kaufman Fallert. She was baptized Eleanor Anne at St. Michael's in Sigel. She was the only girl of four children. Her brothers Ralph and Albert preceded her in death. She is survived by her younger brother Leonard and his wife Geraldine who live in Effingham, Illinois, as well as many nieces and nephews. Our Sisters Marie Therese Kaufman and Rosita Renschen are her cousins.

After graduating from St. Michael's School in Sigel, Eleanor attended St. Francis Preparatory for one year. At the age of 15, on September 8, 1930, she began her postulancy. On August 12, 1931, Eleanor was received into the novitiate and received the name Sister Mary Elmo. After the Second Vatican Council she returned to her baptismal name of Eleanor.

On August 12, 1933, Sister Eleanor made her first profession of vows. She then began her 68 years as an educator at St. John the Baptist School in Joliet. Sister Eleanor served various schools in Illinois, Ohio and Missouri, including five years at Immaculate Conception, Kankakee; six years at St. Jude's, Joliet; and a total of 30 years at her home parish of St. Michael's, Sigel. Because Sister Eleanor was a music major, along with her other duties she often taught music and was organist for the parish church. From 1959 until 1987, except for one year of study, she was also principal at the schools she served.

In 1987 she wrote that after more than 25 years in administration, she "would like to go back



into the area of just teaching." And thus began her 14 years in ministry with her dear friend, Patricia Kirk, at three different parishes in the St. Louis, Missouri area. On the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee in 1993, Sister Eleanor wrote that 60 years of dealing with youth kept her spirits young. She especially liked preparing her students for the sacraments and wrote, "Bringing the Lord into the hearts of the children is my specialty."

Just a few months ago, Sister Eleanor was diagnosed with cancer. Though not always feeling well, as late as eleven days ago, she continued her part-time teaching and tutoring ministry at St. Joseph's. After slipping into a coma the day before, Sister Eleanor quietly ended her earthly journey in the early morning hours of March 8, 2001.

Sister Eleanor, we thank you for your 70 years of service as principal, teacher, musician and friend. As you begin your eternity with the God you served so faithfully and joyfully, continue to remember us, your family, your friends, your Franciscan sisters. Amen! Alleluia!

**Sister Eleanor A. Fallert, OSF**  
**3 March 1915 - 8 March 2001**

*Born:* March 3, 1915, Sigel, Illinois  
*Parents:* Joseph and Dorothy (Kaufman) Fallert  
*Entered From:* St. Michael, Sigel, Illinois  
*Postulancy:* September 8, 1930  
*Novitiate:* August 12, 1931  
*Profession:* August 12, 1933  
*Entered New Life:* Thursday, March 8, 2001, at home in Arnold, Missouri at 3:00 a.m.

**Ministry History**

1933 - 1936 Teacher, Grade 1; St. John the Baptist, Joliet, IL  
1936 - 1938 Teacher, Primary grades and organist; St. Dionysius, Benton, MO  
1938 - 1942 Teacher, Grades 1-4 and organist, Immaculate Conception, Kankakee, IL  
1942 - 1943 Teacher, Music and organist; St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus, OH  
1943 - 1945 Music teacher; Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH  
1945 - 1955 Teacher, Grades 1-6, music and organist; St. Michael, Sigel, IL  
1955 - 1956 Teacher, Grades 5,6, music/ organist; Immaculate Conception, Mt. Vernon, IL  
1956 - 1959 Teacher, Grades 5,6, organist; St. Michael, Sigel, IL  
1959 - 1960 Superior/Principal/Teacher/Organist, Gr. 5-8; Immaculate Conception, Kankakee, IL  
1960 - 1966 Superior/Principal/Organist; St. Jude, Joliet, IL  
1966 - 1967 Superior and Principal; St. Stephen, Streator, IL  
1967 - 1969 Superior and Principal; St. Rita, Aurora, IL  
1969 - 1970 Student of music; Assumption, Chicago, IL  
1970 - 1987 Principal / Teacher, Grade 8; St. Michael, Sigel, IL  
1987 - 1992 Teacher; St. Joseph, Bonne Terre, MO  
1992 - 1995 Teacher; Mary, Queen of the Universe, St. Louis, MO  
1995 - 2001 Teacher; St. Joseph, Kimmswick, MO

*Wake:* Sunday, March 11, 2001, 2 - 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL  
*Wake Service:* Sunday, March 11, 2001, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL  
*Mass of Christian Burial:* Sunday, March 11, 2001, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL  
*Burial:* Monday, March 12, 2001; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL  
*Interment* S8 - L335 - G7

*Survived by:* A brother and sister-in-law, Leonard (Geraldine) Fallert, nieces, nephews and cousins; including Sister Marie Therese Kaufman and Sister Rosita Renschen.

**Rest in Peace, Sister Eleanor**