

Alleluia!

Sister M. Edward Clare Gietl, OSF



Sister Edward Clare Gietl was the second daughter, third child born to Clara Beringer and Edward Gietl in Lemont, Illinois on April 11, 1921. She was welcomed home by her older brother Edward and her older sister Mary Louise. She was followed by her brother William. Her only living sibling is Edward who resides in Colorado. She was christened at St. Alphonsus Church in Lemont and was given the name Catherine Rita. Catherine's early childhood took place in Chicago, attending St. Pascal Grade School in the early grades. Then she moved to Joliet, attended and graduated from St. John School in Joliet. Catherine's high school career began in Joliet at Joliet Central High School and continued at Waller High School in Chicago where she graduated.

It was from St. Vincent Parish in Chicago that Catherine entered our community as a postulant in 1940. Catherine became a novice in 1941 and received the name, Sister Mary Edward Clare, a name very special to her and which she kept throughout her life. Her profession of temporary vows followed in 1943 and her final vows in 1946. Sister Edward Clare received a B.A. degree from the College of St. Francis. Though she taught for many years in Grades 1, 2 or 3, she often volunteered her services in the summer in various camps and other educational ventures primarily serving the poor and those in need of extra help.

Sister Edward Clare began her teaching career in Columbus, Ohio but then continued this ministry in many parishes in various cities throughout Illinois. She expressed how she enjoyed learning from and sharing with many in community and was happy that she was given the opportunity to live in various sized community settings. When Sister Edward Clare retired from a full time classroom in 1975, she

began a new chapter in her life, sometimes serving as a driver or a religious education teacher or as a clerical assistant. She also found time to volunteer at Crisis Line, bringing joy to those with whom she conversed on the telephone. In one of her writings she spoke about our early founders, stating that they served the needs of their times and did whatever was necessary. Sister Edward Clare said that since we belong to a pilgrim church, we must do the same. As she said, "We can't be content to do routine duties, but must be active or just be there when we are needed." She certainly lived by her words and worked in many capacities until she retired to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in 1990. Even then, she did what she could to help as long as she could.

For the last couple weeks of her life she was not feeling well. Some days she was more alert than others. It was quietly in the morning of July 20, 2007, surrounded by some of our sisters, that she peacefully went home to the God whom she served so joyfully and so devotedly for so many years.

Sister Edward Clare, we sing with you as you meet God face to face. May you be reunited with your parents, your siblings, family members and our sisters who have preceded you in death. May you know true joy and peace all the days of your new life. We thank you for the ways you brought happiness to our hearts. Thank you for being our sister. Amen. Alleluia.

Sister M. Edward Clare Gietl, OSF

April 11, 1921 — July 20, 2007

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| <i>Born:</i> | April 11, 1921 |
| <i>Parents:</i> | Edward and Clara (Beringer) Gietl |
| <i>Postulancy:</i> | September 4, 1940 |
| <i>Novitiate:</i> | August 12, 1941 |
| <i>First Profession:</i> | August 12, 1943 |
| <i>Final Profession:</i> | August 12, 1946 |
| <i>Entered New Life:</i> | July 20, 2007 |

Ministry History

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| 1943—1945 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus, Ohio |
| 1945—1948 | Teacher, Grades 1, 2 and 3: St. Mary, Rock Island, Illinois |
| 1948—1949 | Teacher, Grades 1 and 2: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago |
| 1949—1950 | Teacher, Grade 1: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago |
| 1950—1952 | Teacher, Grades 2 and 3: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago |
| 1952—1953 | Teacher, Grades 2 and 3: St. John, Joliet |
| 1953—1954 | Teacher, Grades and 2: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago |
| 1954—1957 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Joseph, Elgin, Illinois |
| 1957—1958 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago |
| 1958—1959 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Francis Assisi, Chicago |
| 1959—1960 | Teacher, Grades 1 and 2: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago |
| 1960—1961 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Pascal, Chicago |
| 1961—1963 | Teacher, Grades 1 and 2: St. Francis Xavier, Chicago |
| 1963—1967 | Teacher, Grade 2: Assumption, Chicago |
| 1967—1969 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Mark, Wheaton, Illinois |
| 1969—1971 | Teacher, Grade 2: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago |
| 1971—1974 | Teacher, Grade 2: St. Mary, Des Plaines, Illinois |
| 1974—1975 | Driver: Motherhouse, Joliet |
| 1975—1976 | Religious Education/Parish Ministry: St. Mary, Rock Island, Illinois |
| 1976—1977 | Pastoral Ministry: Four Season Nursing Home, Westmont, Illinois |
| 1977—1978 | Clerical Worker: Crisis Line of Will County, Joliet |
| 1978—1979 | Receptionist: Guardian Angel Home, Joliet |
| 1979—1981 | Clerical Assistant/Substitute Teacher: St. Francis Academy, Joliet |
| 1981—1982 | Pastoral Ministry: Sacred Heart, Joliet |
| 1982—1990 | Driver: St. Francis Academy |
| 1990—1992 | Retired |
| 1992—1994 | Tutor: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet |
| 1994—1997 | Community Service: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet |
| 1997—2007 | Retired |

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| <i>Wake:</i> | Monday, July 23, 2007, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet |
| <i>Wake Service:</i> | Monday, July 23, 2007, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet |
| <i>Mass of Christian Burial:</i> | Monday, July 23, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet |
| <i>Burial:</i> | Tuesday, July 24, 2007, leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL |
| <i>Interment:</i> | S8-L6-G11 Resurrection Cemetery |
| <i>Predeceased by:</i> | Her parents Edward and Clara (Beringer) Gietl; her brother William; and her sister Mary Louise Weiler |
| <i>Survived by:</i> | Her brother Edward; nieces and nephews |

Rest in Peace, Sister Edward Clare