

Alleluia!

Sister Marie Terese Kelly, OSF



Sister Marie Terese Kelly was born in Falls City, Nebraska, on July 10, 1915, to Francis and Anna (Reinke) Kelly. She was baptized at St. Mary Church and given the name Marie Terese, though as a child she was called Marie. She attended rural schools in Nebraska before coming to Joliet, Illinois, to attend the prep. She stated that she was really not thinking of becoming a sister when she came to Joliet, but she came to get a good education. Eventually she did enter the community by becoming a postulant on September 8, 1931. Marie entered the novitiate in 1932 and received the name Sister Mary Orestes. In 1934, she professed her first vows and pronounced her final vows in 1937.

Sister Marie Terese was a member of a large family. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother John and her sisters Sister Bernardine, Frances, and Rosamond. She is survived by her sisters, Sister Alcuin, Josephine, Rita, Jean and Margaret and her brothers, Bill and James, as well as in-laws, nieces and nephews. Sister Marie Terese stated that even with all the noise and activity at home, she often found a quiet place, as did her mother, to get lost in a book. This hobby of reading continued throughout her life. It provided relaxation and peace.

Sister Orestes began her teaching career in grade school and remained in this capacity for 18 years. She taught all the grades from 3-7. She then began a long 43 year career as a high school teacher. Thirty of these years were spent at St. Francis De Sales High School in Chicago. Even when Sister Marie Terese no longer taught history full time, she helped in various ways. Both of Sister Marie Terese's degrees, her B.A. from the College of St. Francis and her M.A. from De Paul University, were in the field of history. In addition, Sister Orestes earned many certificates and gained many hours of study in various history classes and fairs.

Sister Marie Terese had always been interested in historical facts and events. She also loved teaching and stated in an earlier congregation writing, "I feel the best kind of service I can give to the church is in the education field – secondary level." She was happy at St. Francis De Sales School and helped in the parish as a Eucharistic minister and in other capacities. When it came time for her to retire and return to Joliet in 1997 she lived at the Motherhouse, worked in the Development office, the congregation Reading Center and did community service for six years before moving to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. Sister Marie Terese remained as active as she could. She even continued with her Missio group until just a few short weeks ago.

It was quietly on the afternoon of May 5, 2006, that Sister Marie Terese returned home to the God she loved and served for so many years. Many sisters, including her own sister, Sister Alcuin, gathered around her bedside to pray for her after she died and shared stories of their memories of her. We remember Sister Marie Terese for her quiet composure and gentle spirit.

Marie Terese, we thank you for all the love and care you showed to each of us. We pray for all your family members and our sisters who mourn you, that they may be filled with peace. We pray that your celebration in heaven meeting your family members and classmates who have gone before you may be a joyous reunion. May you rest in peace for all eternity. Amen. Alleluia.

Sister Marie Terese Kelly, OSF

July 10, 1915 — May 5, 2006

Born: July 10, 1915, in Falls City, NB
Parents: Francis H. Kelly and Anna (Reinke) Kelly
Postulancy: September 8, 1931
Novitiate: August 12, 1932
First Profession: August 12, 1934
Final Profession: August 12, 1937
Entered New Life: May 5, 2006

Ministry History

1934-1943 Teacher; Grades 3, 5, 6: St. Mary, Columbus, OH
1943-1945 Teacher; Grade 7: St. Raymond, Joliet, IL
1945-1946 Teacher; Grade 6: St. Boniface, Chicago, IL
1946-1947 Teacher; Grade 5: Sacred Heart Englewood, Chicago, IL
1947-1949 Teacher; Grade 5: Immaculate Conception, Columbus, OH
1949-1952 Teacher; Grades 4, 5, 6: St. Bernard, Joliet, IL
1952-1957 Teacher; Various Classes: St. Peter High, Mansfield, OH
1957-1958 Teacher; English, History: St. Mary High, Columbus, OH
1958-1961 Teacher; Various Classes: St. Procopius High, Chicago, IL
1961-1962 Teacher; Various Classes: Marybrook Academy, Maumee, OH
1962-1963 Teacher; Various Classes: St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL
1963-1964 Teacher; Religion, History, English: Marybrook Academy, Maumee, OH
1964-1967 Teacher; Various Classes: Sacred Heart Englewood, Chicago, IL
1967-1995 Teacher; History, Social Studies: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
1995-1997 Educational Ministry: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
1969-1998 Development Office: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
1998-2003 Community Service: Motherhouse, Joliet, IL
2003-2006 Retired / Special Ministry

Wake: Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Wake Service: Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Mass of Christian Burial
Burial Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Wednesday, May 10, 2006, leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to
Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL
S8-L339-G8 Resurrection Cemetery
Interment:
Predeceased by: Her parents Francis H. Kelly and Anna (Reinke) Kelly; her sisters, Sr. Bernardine, OSF, Frances Schwalbach and Rosamond; and her brother John.
Survived by: Her sisters, Sr. Alcuin, OSF, Josephine (Ossie) Digani, Rita Johnson, Jean (Robert) Werner, and Margaret (Donald) Abel; her brothers, Bill (Rita) and James; numerous nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace, Sister Marie Terese