

Alleluia!

Sister M. Helene Lamping, O.S.F.



Sister Mary Helene Lamping was born on March 6, 1922, in Wilton Township, Illinois, to George and Gladys Page Lamping. Baptized Agnes Eileen, she was the third of eight children. She was preceded in death by her brother George and sisters Mary, Rita, Dorothy and Lois. She is survived by her brother Daniel and her sister Kathleen.

Agnes graduated from St. Raymond Elementary School and St. Francis Academy, Joliet. On February 11, 1939, at the age of 16, she entered the postulancy. Upon reception into the novitiate on August 12, 1939, Agnes received the name Sister Mary Helene.

After profession of vows on August 12, 1941, Helene spent the next two years completing her college education. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a major in Latin, from the College of St. Francis in June of 1943.

Helene began her over 50 years in education by teaching Latin and Spanish at St. Clement High School, Chicago for four years. The rest of her teaching career was spent teaching grades 3 through 8 at various schools in Illinois and Ohio.

For 24 years, though not consecutively, Helene ministered at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Chicago. She loved teaching there because of "a superb administration, excellent teachers and lovable children." She had an affinity for working with the Mexican American children and other minority students. And her students loved her. Her Class of '83 stated that Helene was the "best teacher a kid could ever ask for." They went on to write: "We feel that you are fair in your grading and every aspect of our education. We also feel that we can discuss any topic with you. You make our school day worth coming to school and wanting to learn."

At Guadalupe Helene taught any grade where she was needed and especially liked teaching math. She was also at various times moderator of Student Council, the Safety Patrol Program and dean of students. In 1992 she was included in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, because of being nominated by one of her students.

Helen considered herself a "strict classroom teacher, but one who is kind." And her students attested to that as they succeeded in life. Many kept in touch with her long after she left their school. Because of her tenure at Guadalupe, she taught entire families of children. Some of them eventually returned and became her colleagues on Guadalupe's faculty. It was from Guadalupe that Helene retired from fulltime classroom teaching in 1994.

Throughout her teaching career, Helene spent the vast majority of her summers tutoring or teaching summer school. She continued to tutor and do substitute teaching in Chicago and then at the Motherhouse for the next two years. From 1995-2000, she also coordinated the collection of canceled stamps for the benefit of our Brazilian mission.

In her spare time, Helene liked to visit senior citizens, write letters and cards to home-bound people, work puzzles, celebrate with her Franciscan Sisters and her family, and watch her beloved Cubs play baseball.

In 1998 Helene moved to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. As she became more frail, physically and mentally, she could no longer be cared for at OLA. In July of 2001, she moved to Deerbrook Nursing Home, Joliet. It was from there that she was taken to Provena St. Joseph Medical Center on the morning of October 25. After a short stay in the hospital, Helene returned home to Our Lady of Angels, where early Wednesday morning, November 5, 2003, she peacefully went home to her God.

Sister Helene, we thank you for the 64 years you shared with us as sister, teacher, lover of excellence and friend. As you begin your eternity with the God you served lovingly and faithfully, remember us, your family, your friends, your Franciscan Sisters. Amen! Alleluia!

Sister M. Selene Lamping, O.S.F.
6 March 1922 - 5 November 2003

Born: March 6, 1922; Wilton Township, Illinois 833
Parents: George and Gladys (Page) Lamping
Entered From: St. Raymond Nonnatus, Joliet, IL
Postulancy: February 11, 1939
Novitiate: August 12, 1939
Profession: August 12, 1941
Entered New Life: Wednesday, November 5, 2003; Our Lady of Angels at 4:35 a.m.

Ministry History

1941 - 1943 Student; College of St. Francis, Joliet IL
 1943 - 1947 Latin/Spanish Teacher; St. Clement H.S., Chicago, IL
 1947 - 1953 Teacher, Grades 3 & 4; Most Pure Heart of Mary, Shelby, OH
 1953 Sem II Teacher, Grades 3 & 4; St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
 1953 - 1955 Teacher, Grades 4-6; St. Joseph, Elgin, IL
 1955 - 1958 Teacher, Grade 6; St. Boniface, Chicago, IL
 1958 - 1961 Teacher, Grade 6; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago, IL
 1961 - 1963 Teacher, Grade 7; St. Francis of Assisi, Chicago, IL
 1963 - 1966 Teacher, Grade 7; Corpus Christi, Columbus, OH
 1966 Sem I Teacher, Grade 7; St. Peter Elementary, Mansfield, OH
 1967 - 1969 Teacher, Grades 7 & 8; St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
 1969 - 1978 Teacher 6, 7 & 8; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago, IL
 1978 - 1979 Teacher, Jr. High; St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
 1979 - 1982 Teacher, Jr. High; Sacred Heart School, Chicago, IL
 1982 - 1994 Teacher, Jr. High; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago, IL
 1994 - 1995 Substitute & Tutoring; Archdiocesan Schools, Chicago, IL
 1995 - 1998 Tutoring and assisting in Development Office; St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL
 1998 - 2001 Retired; Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL
 2001 - 2003 Retired; Deerbrook Nursing Home, Joliet, IL
 2003 Retired; Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Wake: Sunday, November 9, 2003, 2 - 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Wake Service: Sunday, November 9, 2003, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Mass of Christian Burial: Sunday, November 9, 2003, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Burial: Monday, November 10, 2003; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m.
 to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL

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Survived by: Her sister, Kathleen (Richard) Pullman, and brother, Daniel (Marjorie) Lamping and nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace, Sister Selene