

Alleluia!

Sister Rosabel LeGrand, O.S.F.



Sister Rosabel LeGrand was born on November 25, 1914 to William and Mary (Diebold) LeGrand in Benton, Missouri. She was named Clara Louise. Her education started at St. Denis Grade School in Benton. Clara attended high school at St. Francis Academy in Joliet, Illinois.

At the age of 16 in 1930, Clara entered the postulancy of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate. In 1931, Clara became a novice and received the name of Sister Rosabel. Sister Rosabel professed her first vows on August 12, 1933 and her final vows in 1936. She was one of nine children. Her seven brothers, Denis, Paul, Alban, Francis, Charles, Harold and William and her younger sister, Sister Angelica LeGrand, all preceded her in death. She is survived by a sister-in-law and many nieces, nephews and cousins, one of whom is our former Sister Zita Diebold.

Sister Rosabel received a BA degree from the College of St. Francis. She also engaged herself in many other educational enrichment opportunities at the University of Notre Dame, the University of Dayton, in Hammond, Indiana, as well as numerous workshops she attended through the years. Sister Rosabel was a member of the National Guild of Piano Teachers.

Throughout her career, Sister Rosabel taught all grades in grammar schools in Illinois, Missouri and Ohio. She taught music and chorus in addition to teaching private piano lessons, moderating the Sodality and being the principal and superior at various missions at which she lived and ministered. Sister Rosabel was energetic, dedicated, and involved in many aspects of education. Wonderful notations were made in her teacher evaluation records. Sister Lorraine Young and Mary Coleman both credited Sister Rosabel as being a "Master Teacher," one who was a fine model to all other teachers in the school. They said that Sister Rosabel was creative, caring and dedicated to all students and helped them become the best that they could be.

When Sister Rosabel retired from teaching in 1985, she came to OLA to begin a position as a Dietary Supervisor. She held this position for six years and then became the Director of Volunteers. Sister Rosabel continued in this service for about five years. Even when Sister Rosabel retired at OLA, she continued to volunteer in so many ways, accumulating over 28,000 hours of volunteer service to OLA and many hours for the RSVP group in Joliet. Sister Rosabel was also very committed to praying for the needs of the congregation, as she stated on her "Traveler's Check" following the 1996 Chapter.

In these last remaining years, she prayed and rested quietly, enjoying music and the visits from people who stopped in to see her. Quietly, on the morning of February 22, 2005, Sister Rosabel went home to her God whom she loved and served so faithfully all these years. We remember her gentleness and her willingness to help in whatever way she was asked.

Sister Rosabel, we thank you for your many years of loving care that you gave to each of us who crossed your path. We thank you for all the hearts you touched and for all the prayers that you offered on behalf of our congregation. We will miss you, as will your family members, but we will continue to pray for and with you and for all those who have preceded you in death, that the face of God may be shining brightly before you and that you may have a peaceful home in eternity. With grateful hearts, we say Amen. Alleluia!

Sister Rosabel LeGrand, OSF
25 November 1914 - 22 February 2005

Born: November 25, 1914; Benton, MO
Parents: William and Mary (Diebold) LeGrand
Entered From: St. Denis
Postulancy: September 8, 1930
Novitiate: August 12, 1931
Profession: August 12, 1933

Ministry History

1933-1949 Teacher; St. Bernard, Joliet, IL
1949-1951 Teacher; St. Mary Magdalen, Columbus, OH
1951-1962 Teacher; St. Denis, Benton, MO
1962-1966 Teacher; St. Mary, Mt. Vernon, IL
1966-1975 Teacher; Divine Savior, Norridge, IL
1975-1985 Teacher; St. Rita, Aurora, IL
1985-1991 Dietary Supervisor; Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
1991-1995 Director of Vounteers; Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
1995-2000 Community Service; Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
2000-2005 Retired; Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL

Wake: Friday, February 25, 2005, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Wake Service: Friday, February 25, 2005, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Mass of Christian Burial: Friday, February 25, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Burial: Saturday, February 26, 2005; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to
Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL
Interment: S8-L335-G10, Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL

Survived by: Sister-in-law Lavanna LeGrand, nieces, nephews and cousins

Rest in Peace, Sister Rosabel