



Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

Sr. Luke Livingston was born to John and Genevieve (Sell) Livingston on February 24, 1916, the twin sister of Sr. Mark Livingston. She had two brothers, Clarence who died as a teenager and Eugene, who died as an infant. She was baptized Catherine at St. Francis de Sale Church in Chicago, Illinois. She attended St. Francis de Sales Grade School and Commercial School as well as St. Francis Academy. On September 8, 1932, at the age of sixteen, she became a postulant with the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate in Joliet, Illinois.

Sr. Luke's kindness and generosity of spirit were the hallmarks of her character as a young sister, and indeed throughout her life. For Sr. Luke, every day was a new day, a chance to begin again, a chance to grow in patience, in love, in forgiveness, in self-understanding, and in gratitude. In her letters and correspondence, these are the themes that continually reappear.

Open to doing anything that was asked of her, she repeatedly reflected on the joy that was hers as she served others. Creating a space where every sister would feel 'at home' and cared for according to her needs was seemingly Sr. Luke's goal in the communities where she lived and ministered. She gave new meaning to the word 'home-maker'. Whether she was cooking, cleaning, washing, ironing, sewing, typing, or simply listening to others with understanding, she never exhausted the million and one ways of being sister. The special bond of love and friendship that existed between Sr. Luke and her twin sister, Sr. Mark, spilled over into the community. Through their affection for each other they modeled for one another and for others the true meaning of being sister. At Our Lady of Mercy in Granville, Immaculate Conception in Columbus, St. Francis de Sales' Convent in Chicago, Guardian Angel Home in Joliet, Holy Trinity Convent in Westmont, St. John's Convent in Joliet, and Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Sr. Luke served selflessly and joyfully.

Alleluia!



Sister M. Luke Livingston, OSF

Throughout her life, Sr. Luke observed that she was always *"striving to have a deeper appreciation for the dignity and sacredness of her particular apostolate."* All that she did, she did in order to make it possible for others to teach, to nurse, to lead, and, most importantly, to receive with open hands the gifts that God bestowed upon each. *"I tried to be a good sister," she said, "and I worked hard."* In 1974, as she reflected on of her own spiritual growth and development as a Franciscan sister, Sr. Luke turned to the Scriptures, and citing each one of the 'feeding narratives' she identified important insights for herself and her ministry using the example of Jesus – 'salt of the earth', 'lunch with Mary and Martha', the 'Bread of Life', the 'Last Supper', and 'breakfast at the seashore' to name but a few. She noted that she drew from her musings and reflections, inspiration for the Present and hope for the Future.

On October 5, 2008, in the 73rd year of her profession, Sr. Luke went home to God. As she took her leave, she did so having fulfilled her vocation and mission in life: to *"serve God in others faithfully so that I may come with them to the Eternal Banquet of Love in Heaven."* Surely, her place was prepared and her loved ones, especially Sr. Mark, were awaiting her arrival.

Thank you, Sr. Luke, for loving us with your all your heart. May you now enjoy the Feast that the Lord and Love of your life has prepared for YOU! Alleluia. Alleluia.

Sister M. Luke Livingston, OSF

February 24, 1916 — October 5, 2008

Born: February 24, 1916
Parents: John and Genevive (Sell) Livingston
Postulancy: September 8, 1932
Novitiate: August 12, 1933
First Profession: August 12, 1935
Final Profession: August 12, 1938
Entered New Life: October 5, 2008

Ministry History

1935-1937 Domestic Service: Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH
1937-1939 Domestic Service: St. Joseph, Manhattan, IL
1939-1943 Domestic Service: Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH
1943-1952 Domestic Service: Immaculate Conception, Columbus, OH
1952-1964 Domestic Service: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
1964-1965 Domestic Service: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago, IL
1965-1966 Domestic Service: Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL
1966- 1976 Food Service: St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL
1976-1980 Food Service: Holy Trinity, Westmont, IL
1980-1997 Food Service: St. John the Baptist, Joliet, IL
1997- 2008 Retired: Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Wake: Wednesday, October 8, 2008, 2:00-6:45 p.m., A1 Auditorium, Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Prayer Service: Wednesday, October 8, 2008, 3:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Mass of Christian Burial: Wednesday, October 8, 2008, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Burial: Thursday, October 9, 2008 leaving Our Lady of Angels at 1:30 p.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL
Interment: S8-L6-G3 Resurrection Cemetery
Predeceased by: Her parents, John and Genevive (Sell) Livingston; and her twin sister, Sr. Mark Livingston; and brothers, Clarence and Eugene
Survived by: Cousins, Elaine (Jerry) Crozier and family

Rest in Peace, Sister Luke