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**Sister M. Carmelita Ogulin, O.S.F.**



**Born:** March 10, 1913  
**Parents:** Joseph and Ursula (Obstetar) Ogulin  
**Entered from:** St. Joseph, Joliet, IL  
**Postulancy:** September 8, 1934  
**Novitiate:** August 12, 1935  
**Profession:** August 12, 1937  
**Died:** Sunday, March 16, 1997 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home at 3:00 p.m.

**Ministry:**

- 1936 - 1937 Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL, High School Teacher, English, Latin, Geometry, Modern European History, Shorthand, Typing
- 1937 - 1938 Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH, High School Teacher, English, French, Typing, Bookkeeping
- 1938 - 1939 St. Mary High School, Columbus, OH, Religion, English, French, Geometry
- 1939 - 1945 Sts. Peter and Paul High School, Chicago, IL, Religion, English, Journalism, Spanish, Religion, Shorthand, Typing
- 1945 - 1950 Central Catholic High School, Toledo, OH, Religion, Spanish, French
- 1950 - 1952 Marybrook Academy, Maumee, OH, English, Spanish, Ancient History, Secretarial Practice
- 1952 - 1953 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, Instructor, Spanish
- 1953 - 1956 St. Mary High School, Columbus, OH, English, Spanish, Shorthand, Typing
- 1956 - 1958 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL, French, Spanish, Typing
- 1958 - 1962 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Infirmary Patient, Telephone Operator
- 1962 - 1976 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Infirmary Patient, Tutoring in Spanish when able
- 1976 - 1997 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Infirmary Patient, Retired

**Wake:** Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Tuesday, March 18, 1997  
 2-7:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

**Mass of Christian Burial:** Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Tuesday, March 18, 1997 at 7 p.m.  
**Burial:** Wednesday, March 19, 1997 leaving Our Lady of Angels 9:30 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, S8-L339-G3

**Survived by:** her sisters Helen Ogulin, Dorothy Govini, and Bernice and Dolores Ogulin, all of Joliet

*For those who have been faithful, O Lord,  
life is not ended, but merely changed.*

Sister Carmelita Ogulin was born in Moffitt, North Dakota on March 10, 1913 to Joseph and Ursula Ogulin. At her Baptism in St. Joseph Church in Dickinson, North Dakota, she was named Mary Anna. The Ogulin family later moved to Joliet, where they were active members of St. Joseph's Church. One of eight children, Sister Carmelita has five sisters: Helen, Bernice, Dolores, Dorothy Govoni, and Louise who is deceased. Her brothers Bernard and Joseph are deceased. After her graduation from St. Francis Academy in Joliet, Mary Anna attended the College of St. Francis in Joliet.

Even as a young girl, Mary Anna felt called to become a Franciscan Sister. When she was 21, Mary Anna became a postulant at St. Francis Convent in Joliet, leaving her family home which was just a few blocks away. The following August 12, Mary Anna was received into the novitiate and given the name Sister Carmelita, a name in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Sister Carmelita had a lifelong devotion to Our Lady, and could often be found praying the rosary or talking about her love of Mary. On August 12, 1937 Sister Carmelita professed her first vows, together with her 18 other classmates. On June 21 of this year, this group will celebrate 60 years of professed religious life, joined in spirit by Sister Carmelita and the other sisters in the class who have already gone to God.

Sister Carmelita began her teaching ministry at Guardian Angel Home in Joliet and taught in a number of other high schools in Ohio and Illinois following those years. While she was teaching, Sister Carmelita continued her college courses at the College of St. Francis, earning a bachelor's degree in 1935. Having an aptitude for foreign language, Sister Carmelita also earned a master's degree at Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio in 1949. She continued to teach Spanish, French, English and business in high school until 1958.

When Sister Carmelita was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, she continued to teach and to tutor as her health and energy permitted. For over 40 years Sister Carmelita endured the limitations of her sickness. She was one of the first residents at Our Lady of Angels where she received the patient and loving care from the nursing staff and others. Sister Carmelita's family were frequent and faithful visitors and she looked forward to their coming.

As recent as Sister Carmelita's birthday on March 10 of this year, her family came with cakes for all, yielding over 100 pieces to share, and many joined Sister Carmelita in celebrating her birthday. As Sister Carmelita's strength failed even more in her final days, the sisters and her family members were there with her, gathered in prayer. About 3:00 Sunday afternoon, March 16, 1997, Sister Carmelita quietly and peacefully went to God. Shortly after her death, her friend Father James Lennon stopped by to see her. Hearing that she had already gone to God, he joined her sisters in prayer, commending to God his long-time friend.

Sister Carmelita, we thank you for your faithful response to God's call, for your dedication as teacher and your inspiration through your many years of suffering. We ask you now to intercede for us with God, and with Mary our Mother, as you are reunited in heaven with all your family, your friends and your Franciscan Sisters. Continue to pray that we may be faithful to our call to respond generously to all God asks of us. May you live forever in the beauty of God's love. Amen. Alleluia.

