

SISTER M. KATHLEEN FLEIGE O.S.F. (Elizabeth) 697

Born: May 16, 1901 in Gelsenkirchen, Germany
Parents: John and Johanna (Emmerich) Fleige
Postulancy: September 9, 1926
Novitiate: August 12, 1927
First Profession: August 12, 1929
Final Profession: August 12, 1932
Died: Wednesday, February 19, 1992 at
Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet



Ministry:

1929 - 1942 St. Raymond, Joliet, IL, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
1942 - 1943 Sacred Heart - Englewood, Chicago, IL, Grade 7
1943 - 1947 Marybrook Academy, Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8
1947 - 1948 Sacred Heart, Hubbard Woods, IL, Grade 7
1948 - 1950 St. Francis de Sales, Toledo, OH, Grade 7, 8 & Principal
1950 - 1951 Corpus Christi, Columbus, OH, Grade 7
1951 - 1953 Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL, Grades 7 & 8
1953 - 1955 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grades 5 & 6
1955 - 1959 St. Michael, Sigel, IL, Grades 7, 8, Superior and Principal
1959 - 1960 St. John the Baptist, Payne, OH, Grades 7, 8, Superior and
Principal
1960 - 1963 Annunciation, Aurora, IL, Grades 7, 8, Superior and Principal
1963 - 1966 St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus, OH, Grade 8
1966 - 1968 St. Joseph, Freeport, IL, Grade 7
1968 - 1982 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grades 4, 6, Librarian, Office Work,
Ministry to Family
1982 - 1985 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Retired
1985 - 1992 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Retired

Wake: Monday, February 24, 1992 from 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Service at 4:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels, Joliet

Mass of Christian Burial: Monday, February 24, 1992 at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Tuesday, February 25, at 9:00 a.m. at Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by her sister, Elfrieda Arnett, nephews, and nieces including
Sister M. Daniel Griesenbrock OSF

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

On Wednesday afternoon, February 19, 1992 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, our Sister M. Kathleen Fleige was born to life eternal. She welcomed Sister Death with open arms. (She spoke of being God's Valentine, and was disappointed when February 14th came and past, "and I'm still here.")

Elizabeth was the second youngest of ten children born to Johanna and John Fleige. As a child, she was brought by her parents from her native Gelsenkirchen, Germany to live in Columbus, Ohio. She is survived by one sister, Elfrieda, who lives in Ohio. She is a cherished aunt to our own Sister M. Daniel Griesenbrock, and many other nieces and nephews.

As a child, Sister M. Kathleen met our Sisters when she was a student at St. Mary's School in the German Village of Columbus, Ohio. At the age of twenty-five she became a postulant, and in 1989 she rejoiced in the celebration of her Diamond Jubilee of sixty years.

Sister Kathleen spent over fifty-three years as an educator. She served as teacher and teacher-principal in many elementary schools in Ohio and Illinois. She taught at special schools; Marybrook Academy in Maumee, Ohio, and Guardian Angel Home in Joliet, Illinois. She was selected as a teacher for the Archdiocese of Chicago Reading Center. She well deserved her reputation of being an exceptional teacher.

She spent the first thirteen years of her teaching career at St. Raymond School in Joliet, IL. From 1929 to 1942 she taught grades two, three, four, five and six. She loved to claim as her students many Joliet friends of the Congregation, especially Bishop Roger Kaffer. In 1968 she returned to her home town, Columbus, Ohio, and spent the last sixteen years of her active ministry at St. Mary's Parish. There she taught, tutored, helped in the school office, and wherever she found a parish need.

At age eighty-four, in 1985, she gracefully retired to Our Lady of Angels. She remained very involved in everything until the last few months of her life. At Our Lady of Angels she visited the sick sisters, doing errands for those who were bedridden. She also worked on the stamp project for the Brazilian missions. She chose a special ministry of praying with our dying sisters, and attending their burial services whenever possible.



How do you capture the spirit of our Sister in words? She was a gentle woman, a kind woman who accepted differences in people and never spoke harshly of others. She was ladylike and gracious to all. She was interested in each person, always ready for a good conversation, or an opportunity to accompany someone on an outing. She was deeply spiritual, devoted to Our Lady (always insisting that the initial M. be used in her name). She loved music and enjoyed singing, especially at all the liturgical ceremonies.

Sister M. Kathleen loved her community, and in 1971 she said, "No one of us could ever accomplish alone what all of us have been able to accomplish together for the Church and God's people."

Sister M. Kathleen, we thank you for your sixty-three years as our Sister. You have touched our lives by the examples of your dedication and graciousness. We rejoice with you as you now celebrate the fullness of life for all eternity. Amen! Alleluia!

How do you capture the spirit of our Sister in words? She was a gentle woman, a kind woman who accepted differences in people and never spoke harshly of others. She was ladylike and gracious to all. She was interested in each person, always ready for a good conversation, or an opportunity to accompany someone on an outing. She was deeply spiritual, devoted to Our Lady (always insisting that the initial M. be used in her name). She loved music and enjoyed singing, especially at all the liturgical ceremonies.

Sister M. Kathleen loved her community, and in 1971 she said, "No one of us could ever accomplish alone what all of us have been able to accomplish together for the Church and God's people."

Sister M. Kathleen, we thank you for your sixty-three years as our Sister. You have touched our lives by the examples of your dedication and graciousness. We rejoice with you as you now celebrate the fullness of life for all eternity. Amen! Alleluia!