

**SISTER M. PASCAL MICHAEL, O.S.F.** 727



**Born:** April 13, 1900  
**Parents:** Frederic and Teresa (Hoehne) Michael  
**Postulancy:** September 17, 1918  
**Novitiate:** August 12, 1919  
**First Profession:** August 12, 1921  
**Final Profession:** August 12, 1924  
**Died:** Wednesday December 28, 1994 at 4:40 p.m. at St. Joseph Medical Center  
Joliet, IL

**Ministry:**

1920 - 21 St. John the Baptist, Joliet, IL, Grade 3  
1921 - 23 St. Dionysius, Cicero, IL, Grades 1, 2, 3, Organist  
1923 - 30 St. Michael, Sigel, IL, Grades 4, 5, 6, Organist  
1930 - 31 Sacred Heart, Sigel, IL, Grades 7, 8, Organist  
1931 - 33 St. Michael, Sigel, IL, Grades 7, 8, Organist  
1933 - 36 St. Joseph, Elgin, IL, Grades 5, 6, Organist  
1936 - 42 St. John the Baptist, Payne, OH, Superior, Principal, Grades 7, 8, Organist  
1942 - 43 Immaculate Conception, Toledo, OH, Grade 7  
1943 - 49 St. John the Baptist, Payne, OH, Superior, Principal, Grades 7, 8, Organist  
1949 - 50 St. Francis de Sales, Toledo, OH, Grade 6  
1950 - 51 St. Dennis (to Oct. 31), Benton, MO, St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL (to January, 1951) convalescence, St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grade 7  
1951 - 58 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grades 6, 7, 8  
1958 - 59 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 6  
1959 - 60 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grade 8  
1960 - 63 Sacred Heart (Englewood), Chicago, IL, Grade 8  
1963 - 64 Cathedral of St. Raymond, Joliet, IL, Grade 5  
1964 - 67 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grade 5  
1967 - 68 St. Mary, Green Creek, IL, Grades 5-6  
1968 - 69 St. Ann, Lansing, IL, Grade 6  
1969 - 70 Assumption, Chicago, IL, General Work  
1970 - 73 St. Michael, Sigel, IL, General Assistant  
1973 - 76 St. Joseph, Elgin, IL, Food Service  
1976 - 87 (October, 1976) St. Francis Convent, Retired  
1987 - 94 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Retired

**Wake:** Friday December 30, 1994 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home 2-7 p.m. with a Prayer Service at 4:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial at 7:00 p.m.

**Private interment of cremains will take place at Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL in S8-L365-G9 where Sister Annette Michael is buried.**

**Survived by:** her brother Herman Michael of Peoria Heights, IL and many devoted nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

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

Sister Pascal Michael was born in Metamora, Illinois to Frederic and Teresa Hoehne Michael on April 13, 1900. When she was baptized at the Franciscan parish of St. Mary, she was given the name of Mary Philomena. She remained at home taking part in the many parish activities with her parents and her nine brothers and sisters. Father Christian Studiner, O.F.M. wrote to recommend Philomena for entrance into the Joliet Franciscan Congregation saying, "As regards Philomena's family, they are one of the best Catholic families in Metamora, very regular at Church and the Sacraments and always ready to work for the Church. Philomena herself was a member of the church choir and played the church organ. I must give her credit for her diligence, she was always there and tried her best. She always showed a love towards her church and prayer..."

Philomena was admitted as a postulant with the Franciscan Sisters in Joliet on September 17, 1918. Her younger sister, Lidwina, was also received as a postulant on January 3, 1919 and together they entered the novitiate the following August. Lidwina was given the name of Sister Mary Annette and Philomena was given the name of Sister Pascaline (later changed to Pascal).

Following her first Profession of vows on August 12, 1921, Sister Pascal began a teaching ministry which was to last for one half a century. As a creative and energetic teacher, Sister Pascal influenced the lives of hundreds of children in Illinois and Ohio. With drills and races, she encouraged them to retain basic facts of math and history. Through projects she inspired them to come to a deeper understanding of history and geography. Her expertise and love for music continued to be a vital part of her ministry with children. In the spirit of her foundress, Mother Alfred Moes, Sister Pascal directed musical productions challenging her students to perfection. In all she did Sister Pascal had a spirit of challenge and spunk that expressed the uniqueness of her own person. Her persistence and dedication were also part of her relationship with her God. She spent many hours in prayer, and expressed her sentiments with a lovingness and directness that only one who truly understands what it means to be a child of God can do. As late as 1985, she wrote the words to a Christmas poem "Holy Babe of Bethlehem," which was set to music by Sister Teresine Haban.

Sister Pascal loved an intellectual challenge. She delighted in debating political views and in discussing world affairs. She was an avid fan of the Chicago Cubs and found relaxation in watching sports on TV, but always with an afghan or some piece of crocheting to keep her hands busy. In her early retirement years she was a creative cook and worked in arts and crafts. In 1975, she returned to the Motherhouse. Eight years later Sister Pascal came to Our Lady of Angels. Though both her health and eyesight were failing, she continued to crochet and to watch her ballgames on TV. Often you would find her sitting in the foyer at OLA eager to visit with whoever would take the time and to engage them in a stimulating debate.

During the Christmas holidays she experienced difficulty in breathing, and was taken to St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, where she peacefully breathed her last on December 28, 1994. We can easily picture her now rounding up all her former students and the choir from Metamora, and leading them in the joyful strains of Christmas music, joining their voices with the music of the heavenly choirs.

Sister Pascal, we thank you for your gift of being true to yourself in the ways you responded to God's call. Continue to watch over us your family, your Franciscan Sisters and all your students as you continue to praise God forever. May the gift of song continue to lighten our hearts and lead us all closer to God. Amen. Alleluia.

