

Alleluia!

Sister Frances Xavier Dal Porto, OSF



Sister Frances Xavier Dal Porto was born in Chicago, Illinois on August 3, 1921 to Frank and Elvira Biancalana Dal Porto and received the name Irene Mary. She was baptized at Assumption Church in Chicago. After attending school at Louisa May Alcott Grade School and Waller High School, both in Chicago, Irene worked for some years as an accountant and secretary before entering the Postulancy of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate on September 4, 1945. On August 12, 1946, Irene entered the novitiate and received the name Sister Frances Xavier. She professed her temporary vows in 1948 and her final vows in 1951.

Sister Frances Xavier was one of five children. Two of her three brothers, Albert and Richard, and her sister-in-law, Joan, are still living. Her brother Leo, her sister Norma and her sisters-in-law, Patricia and Angela, and her brother-in-law Rudy preceded her in death. Sister Frances Xavier is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Sister Frances Xavier's educational experience is varied and interesting. She received a BA degree in History, an MA degree in Religious Education/Seraphic Institute from the College of St. Francis and an MA in Elementary Education from De Paul University. She loved learning and was always attuned to opportunities from which she could learn from books and from others with whom she worked and lived. Sister Frances Xavier involved herself in other opportunities also by being involved in the Parish Women's Choral Group in several parishes where she ministered, as well as being a member of the National Federation of Business and Profession Women's Clubs.

Sister Frances Xavier taught in the primary and middle grades at schools in Illinois and Ohio. Her longest stint was at Divine Savior School in Norridge for 23 years. In addition to classroom teaching, Sister Frances Xavier taught religious education classes in parishes where she ministered, was involved in church work and the training of

servers and was a child care worker at Guardian Angel Home. In the late 70's she also ministered to her father in the years immediately before his death. During some of this time, she worked at St. Odilo Parish in Berwyn helping in the library and teaching religious education. For a few months after her father's death before Sister Frances Xavier went to Divine Savior, she helped Sister Joan Clare with various tasks around the Motherhouse. Her summers were often filled with many volunteer hours at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home.

Sister Frances Xavier was sincere, humble, cooperative, willing and grateful in all she did. Some of us know of her wry humor and the joy she added to many conversations. She was a joy to live with as stated by many of our sisters. She was helpful and caring in so many ways. Sister Frances Xavier herself said, "Religious women should be more responsible for the church's activities, especially in parishes. They should be ready to work with the laity and bring them to a strong example of Christian integrity and Christian hope." Those of us who knew her know she lived these words. In whatever she was doing, she was an example of integrity and hope but also an example of love and gentleness.

Sister Frances Xavier, we thank you for all the love and care you gave to each of us, your family, your friends, your parishioners and your sisters. May you know that we will miss you but we do pray that you may celebrate and enjoy heaven with all its beauty and joy. May you rest forever with your family and friends that have gone before you and sing with us. Amen. Alleluia!

Sister Frances Xavier Dal Porto, OSF
3 August 1921 - 18 February 2005

Born: August 3, 1921; Chicago, IL
Parents: Frank A. and Elvira (Biancalana) Dal Porto
Entered From: St. Callistus
Postulancy: September 4, 1945
Novitiate: August 12, 1946
Profession: August 12, 1951
Entered New Life: February 18, 2005

Ministry History

1948-1951 Teacher; St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL
1951-1954 Teacher; St. Joseph, Freeport, IL
1954-1955 Teacher; St. Mary, Columbus, OH
1955-1956 Teacher; St. Joseph, Elgin, IL
1956-1957 Prefect; Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL/ Teacher St. Francis de Sales,
Chicago, IL

1957-1959 Teacher; St. Ludmilla, Chicago, IL
1959-1961 Teacher; St. Joseph, Freeport, IL
1961-1963 Teacher; St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL
1963-1975 Teacher; Most Pure Heart of Mary, Shelby, OH
1975-1976 Librarian; St. Odilo, Berwyn IL
1976-1978 Family Ministry / CCD Teacher; Berwyn, IL
1978-2001 Teacher; Divine Savior, Norridge, IL
2001-2005 Retired; Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Wake: Sunday, February 20, 2005, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Wake Service: Sunday, February 20, 2005, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Mass of Christian Burial: Sunday, February 20, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Burial: Monday, February 21, 2005; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 8:30 a.m. to
Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL
Interment: S8-L4-G2, Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL

Survived by: Brothers Albert (Angela, deceased) and Richard (Patricia, deceased),
nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace, Sister Frances Xavier