

## Sister M. William Filicky, O.S.F.



Born: October 16, 1903  
 Parents: John and Anna (Kriszko) Filicky  
 Entered from: St. Francis Church, Johnstown, PA  
 Postulancy: January 8, 1927  
 Novitiate: August 12, 1927  
 Profession: August 12, 1929

Died: Thursday, March 25, 1999 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home,  
 Joliet, IL at 6:45 p.m.

## Ministry:

1929 - 1941 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Domestic Work  
 1941 - 1943 St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus, OH, Domestic Work  
 1943 - 1947 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Domestic Work  
 1947 - 1949 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, Food Service  
 1949 - 1962 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Infirmary, Practical Nurse  
 1962 - 1984 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Practical Nurse  
 for the sisters  
 1984 - 1999 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Retired

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Monday, March 29, 1999  
 2-7 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL  
 Monday, March 29, 1999 at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Tuesday, March 30, 1999 leaving Our Lady of Angels  
 at 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL  
 S8-L354-G2

Survived by: her nieces and nephews

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

Sister Mary William Filicky was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania on October 16, 1903 to John and Anna Kriszko Filicky. On October 25, 1903 she was taken to St. Stephen Church in Johnstown where she was baptized Anastasia, but they called her Anna. Together with her sisters Emma and Mary, her brothers John, Stephen and Ed, Anna spent happy years with her family and attended St. Stephen Parish School.

Her sister Mary came to Joliet to become a sister, and was called Sister Verona. Following the death of her father, when Anna was 23 years old, she too came to Joliet and became a postulant on January 8, 1927. The following August, she received the Franciscan habit and was given the name of Sister Mary William.

Following her first profession of vows on August 12, 1929, Sister William went to St. Mary's in Columbus where she worked in the convent doing various domestic duties to lighten the burden of the sisters who were teaching there. For twenty years Sister William provided help and the gift of loving presence to the Sisters in Columbus, at St. Mary's, Immaculate Conception and St. Mary Magdalene Convents. Those who knew her describe her as "prayerful, kind, patient, respectful charitable, and industrious."

In 1949 Sister William was asked to help out in the infirmary at the Motherhouse. Sister William learned the skills of serving as a practical nurse. Although Sister William never earned a formal degree, she was so compassionate and adept at caring for the sick and the dying that she taught others, who were far more educated than she was, how to be with those in need. Sister William worked at the Motherhouse infirmary for twelve years, before Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home was built and our elderly and infirm sisters were moved there. Sister William also moved to OLA and continued to minister in caring for the sick until she retired twenty-two years later in 1984.

Sister William loved to pray. She spent many hours in chapel praying and was seldom seen without her rosary. She kept in contact with her family members and was always pleased that her niece Berni was able to visit her often, from her home in Skokie, Illinois. Several times over the past few years Sister William was close to death, but always rallied. Again the Sisters gathered and prayed as Sister William grew weaker over these last few days. It is fitting that on March 25, 1999, the day she died, among those who gathered for prayer were two nurses with whom she had worked at the Motherhouse and at OLA, Sister Peter and Sister Miriam Edward (now Sister Loretta Wagner).

Sister William, we thank you for your caring and compassionate presence over these these many years. We ask you to pray for us that we too may live for others with care and compassion. May you live now in God's love forever. Amen. Alleluia.

