

Sister M. Annella Jambor, O.S.F.

1574

Born: January 26, 1910
Parents: Stephen and Julia (Thomas) Jambor
Entered from: St. Stephen, Johnstown, PA
Postulancy: January 6, 1929
Novitiate: August 12, 1929
First Profession: August 12, 1931



Died: Friday, August 1, 1997 at approximately 10:30 p.m. at
Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Ministry:

1931 - 1952 St. Stephen, Streator, IL, Grades 1, 2
1952 - 1960 Sacred Heart Huron Street, Chicago, IL, Grades 1,2
1960 - 1961 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 1
1961 - 1966 Sacred Heart Huron Street, Chicago, IL, Grades 1, 2
1966 - 1981 St. Denis, Benton, MO, Grades 1, 2
1981 - 1985 Holy Family, Joliet, IL, Grade 2
1985 - 1995 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, St. Francis Reading Center, Tutor
1995 - 1997 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Special Ministry

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL Tuesday, August 5, 1997
2-7 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Tuesday, August 5, 1997 at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Wednesday, August 6, 1997 leaving Our Lady of Angels at
9:30 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, S8-L339-G10

Survived by: her sisters Bertha (Joseph) Zolkos of Johnstown, PA and
Pauline (Harry) Russell of Stuart, FL; and her brothers
Francis (Marian) Yambor of Upper Darby, PA and
Joseph (Leona) Yambor of Johnstown, PA

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

Sister Annella Jambor was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania to Stephen and Julia Jambor on January 26, 1910. Baptized at St. Stephen Church in Johnstown she was given the name Helen. Together with her three brothers, Stephen, Joseph and Francis, and her seven sisters, Mary, Margaret, Anna, Catherine, Julia, Pauline, and Bertha, she attended the parish school and took part in many parish activities.

When Helen was eighteen years old, she came to Joliet to become a postulant with the Joliet Franciscan Sisters. Helen received the habit as a novice on August 12, 1929, and she was given the name Sister Annella. Following First Profession of vows on August 12, 1931, Sister Annella began teaching at another St. Stephen Parish, in Streator, Illinois, where she taught first and second grade for 21 years. Sister Annella continued her ministry of teaching little children at Sacred Heart, Huron Street in Chicago, St. Joseph Parish in Joliet and St. Denis Parish in Benton, Missouri, where she remained for 15 years, before returning to Joliet to teach at Holy Family Parish until 1985.

Sister Annella found great joy and satisfaction in teaching the little ones in the classroom. She was creative, compassionate, prayerful and competent. Following a visit to her classroom in Benton, Monsignor Edward Eftinck, then Diocesan School Superintendent, wrote, "It is quite obvious that Sister Annella loves teaching and loves working with these 'little ones'. During the time I was in the room the students demonstrated two little plays that they developed from the Religion Class: The Story of the Good Samaritan and The Story of Creation...It is readily apparent that these students enjoy being at school..."

Sister Annella's friends and co-workers describe her as "reliable, simple, upright, humble, humorous, thoughtful, patient and sincere." Sister Annella enjoyed simple things in life. She enjoyed an educational tour in a city and a ride in the country. She enjoyed church services and was often found in church long before the morning Mass began. She liked to crochet, and took delight in presenting small gifts of her handiwork to those she knew. In 1985, Sister Annella moved to the Motherhouse where she was active in the tutoring program. Her gentle presence was appreciated by those around her. In 1995, having been diagnosed with cancer, Sister Annella moved to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, where she enjoyed the companionship of the other sisters and spent much time in prayer.

About two weeks ago, Sister Annella suffered a stroke. Though unable to communicate directly with people, her presence spoke a quiet reassurance to the nursing staff and to all who came to visit. Sister Annella's condition grew gradually weaker, and on August 1, 1997, surrounded by the nursing staff and several sisters, Sister Annella very simply and peacefully returned to her God as she took her last breath.

Sister Annella, we thank you for the gift of your gentle presence. May you, who spent your life teaching the little ones, shine as a star for all eternity. May you continue to pray for each of us, that we may bring peace and tranquility to our world. May you know the peace and love of Jesus forever. Amen. Alleluia.

