



Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

On Tuesday, November 26, 2013, early in the afternoon, our sister, June Marshall, made the final stitch on the embroidery of her life, an intricate piece of needlework which took 79 years to complete. Trusting in God's will and steadfast in her desire to make of her life a reflection of God's handiwork, she endeavored to follow a unique and sometimes complicated pattern of divine design. Mindful of the underside of all needlework, especially the embroidery of life, June was no stranger to the shadows that accentuate the knots and twists, and the seemingly mismatched threads of being human. Yet, she also was familiar with those experiences of grace and inner peace that come when the light of Christ shines bright as the morning sun, revealing the preciousness and significance of each embroidery of life, *topside up*.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, on August 21, 1934, June Rose Marshall was the eldest of five children born to Eleanore (Schroeder) and Joseph Marshall. Attentive to her parents and to her siblings, Donald, Gary, Michael and Barbara, June was a devoted daughter and older sister. She began her elementary education at Sacred Heart School in Toledo. In second grade, she transferred to Immaculate Conception School in Darby and after graduation from eighth grade, she attended Central Catholic High School for two years. Inspired by the Sisters whom she knew as teachers, June experienced a call to religious life, and in September of 1949 she became an aspirant with the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate and completed her secondary school education at St. Francis Academy in Joliet, Illinois.

On September 4, 1951, June entered the postulancy of the Joliet Franciscans and on August 12, 1952, she was received into the novitiate and given the religious name, Sr. Donald Marie. She made her first profession on August 12, 1954, and began teaching in the primary grades. She made her final profession on August 13, 1957, and continued teaching until 1960. In the Spring of that year, she experienced doubt and uncertainty about her vocation to religious life. She requested to leave the Congregation of her own accord and on July 29, 1960, she was granted a dispensation from her vows from the Holy See. She returned to Toledo and served as a lay teacher with the Ursuline Sisters at St. John School in Point Place for two years. The Ursulines encouraged June to continue to discern the will of God in her life. As a consequence, she remained open to "God's holy manner of working" and eventually returned to the Joliet Franciscans in September of 1962, where she was re-admitted to the novitiate as Sr. Donald Marie.

Committed to the ministry of elementary school education, Sr. Donald Marie taught in a number of parish schools in Illinois and Ohio from 1963 through 1974. However, having received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the College of St. Francis in July of 1965, she remained alert to the changes that were occurring in the Church and in the world. In the wake of Vatican II and the renewal of religious life, Sr. June recognized that the "Sister of the future" was being called to consider new opportunities for ministry which led her to pursue a three year experience in the social service department at Mercy Hospital in Toledo, Ohio.



Alleluia!

*Sister June
Marshall, OSF*

During the Summer of 1974, immediately following the profession of her final vows on June 9, Sr. June completed a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at the Toledo Hospital where she trained as hospital chaplain intern. This experience prepared her to work as pastoral minister of St. Peter Parish in Mansfield, Ohio, where for a period of eleven years, she provided care to the sick and elderly as well as to new parents preparing for the baptism of their children. In 1985, Sr. June moved to Swanton, Ohio, to care for her aging parents. Within a year, she was hired as a hospital chaplain on the oncology unit of Mercy Hospital in Toledo, where she was highly regarded for her concern and compassionate care. Later in 1990, after a time of personal renewal and reflection in Tucson, Arizona, Sr. June returned to the Joliet area and reinvented herself yet again, this time as secretary for the Center for Correctional Concerns, a position she held for close to ten years. In 2000, due to a series of health concerns, she moved from the Motherhouse and became a resident at Our Lady of Angels, where she devoted herself to volunteer ministry and community service. In 2011, Sr. June moved to Resurrection Life Care Center in Chicago, Illinois, where, despite her own declining medical condition, she was valued by staff, residents and families for her generous spirit and pastoral presence, especially among those with dementia and those close to death.

Reflecting back on her life with an eye to what was yet to come, Sr. June observed: "I want to be everything in the future that I wasn't in the past. I am going to try to repay (although to some extent it is impossible to do so) our Almighty God for what I consider the greatest gift He could possibly have offered me, namely, a second chance." Striving over the course of her life to follow through on the promises she made, "to be all things to all people," and most of all, to recognize the sacred in every place and in every moment, Sr. June often reflected upon how difficult it was for an independent person like herself to have to ask for help. Indeed, it was often easier to give than to receive. However, as she considered the ups and downs of her own life, she noted that "God has strange ways of accomplishing an end and is willing to use all means necessary to do so God works when and where God wills and life comes forth amidst trials, uncertainties." In the midst of personal need, vulnerability and brokenness, God invites us to discover the importance of gratitude, trust and forgiveness. In the search for inner peace, God invites us to discover the true meaning of hope, fidelity and love.

Among the life lessons that our Sr. June imparts to us - as only an artisan of fine needle work can do - is that the embroidery of life - underside and topside - is one, a joint effort that is divine and human, where the patterns and designs of God wait to be filled in with the colors and textures of our threads. May light and peace of God be yours, Sr. June, now and forever. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Sister June Marshall, OSF
August 21, 1934 — November 26, 2013

<i>Born:</i>	August 21, 1934
<i>Parents:</i>	Joseph Marshall and Eleanore (Schroeder) Marshall
<i>Postulancy:</i>	September 4, 1951
<i>Novitiate:</i>	August 12, 1952
<i>First Profession:</i>	August 12, 1954
<i>Final Profession:</i>	August 13, 1957
<i>Entered New Life:</i>	November 26, 2013

Ministry History

1954-1956	Teacher: Grade 3, St. John, Joliet, Illinois
1956-1957	Teacher: Grade 3, St. Boniface, Chicago, Illinois
1957-1959	Teacher: Grade 2, St. John, Joliet, Illinois
1963-1964	Teacher: St. Andrew, Romeoville, Illinois
1964-1965	Teacher: St. Raymond Cathedral, Joliet
1965-1966	Teacher: Grade 7, SS. Peter and Paul, Chicago
1966-1967	Teacher: Grade 7, Sacred Heart Englewood, Chicago
1967-1968	Teacher: Grade 8, Corpus Christi, Columbus, Ohio
1968-1970	Teacher: Grade 8, SS. Peter and Paul, Chicago
1970-1973	Social Service: Mercy Hospital, Toledo, Ohio
1973-1974	Teacher: St. Ludmilla, Chicago
1974-1985	Parish Ministry: St. Peter, Mansfield, Ohio
1985-1987	Parent's Residence, Swanton, Ohio
1987-1990	Pastoral Care: Mercy Hospital, Toledo
1990-1999	Secretary: Center for correctional Concerns, Joliet
1999-2011	Community Service: Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet
2011-2013	Community Service: Resurrection Life Center

<i>Wake:</i>	Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Prayer Service:</i>	Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Mass of Christian Burial:</i>	Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Burial:</i>	Wednesday, December 4, 2013, leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, Illinois
<i>Interment:</i>	Section 8, Lot 362, Grave 6, Resurrection Cemetery
<i>Predeceased by:</i>	Her parents, Joseph Marshall and Eleanore (Schroeder) Marshall, her brother, Gary
<i>Survived by:</i>	Her brothers, Dr. Donald Marshall (Sue) and Mikal Marshall (Vikki), and her sister, Barbara Smith (Dusty)

Rest in Peace, Sister June