

Alleluia!

Sister Mary Josine Minarik, OSF



Sister Mary Josine Minarik was born in Chicago, Illinois on January 4, 1914 to Adam and Catherine Gozmar Minarik. She was baptized Mary Geraldine at Assumption Church in Chicago. Mary had two brothers, Joseph and Francis, and one sister, Iryne, who preceded her in death. She is survived by her sister, Anne.

Mary graduated from Assumption Elementary School and then came to Joliet to attend St. Francis Preparatory. After entering the postulancy on September 2, 1929, Mary graduated from St. Francis Academy. On August 12, 1930, Mary became a novice and received the name Sister Mary Josine.

After profession of vows on August 12, 1932, Josine began her 50 years of ministry in the field of education. She taught on both the elementary and high school level and was an elementary school Principal. This included seven years at St. Pius X in Lombard, Illinois; six years as Principal at St. Pascal in Chicago, Illinois and 14 years at St. Stephen in Streator, Illinois, which was her first assignment and as she stated in 1984, her most rewarding place of ministry. She wrote, "I loved the children and their parents who, I thought, were the kindest, most generous people I ever met."

Sister Mary Josine received her Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a major in English from the College of St. Francis and a Master of Arts Degree in Education from De Paul University, Chicago. She also did post graduate studies and workshops throughout her life at various colleges and universities, including Dayton, Loyola and Marquette Universities. Josine loved teaching and was always willing to prepare herself for new curriculum areas and current trends in education. But her main reason for loving to teach was her interest in and love for the children.

In 1959, while ministering at Corpus Christi in Columbus, Ohio, Josine won the most favorite teacher contest sponsored by *The Columbus Citizen* newspaper. She was quite surprised, but pleased and told the reporter, "My job in life is to give these students the best I have. I hope through religion and education to equip them to strike out independently in life." And one of her students, 14-year old Maureen Hasbrook, said

that, "Sister Josine has been the cause of many students considering college as a goal...she is interested in each individual; she knows us all very well and just how hard we'll work. She can explain things more clearly than any book can."

In 1982 Josine retired from teaching. She returned to Joliet and for the next several years she ministered as librarian at the Motherhouse, health service companion at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, receptionist, clerk and RSVP recorder for Catholic Charities of Joliet, tutor in St. Francis Education Center and Development Office volunteer.

Above all, Sister Josine loved being a Sister of St. Francis. Community living was important to her. She once wrote about life in community in this way. "Each sister is a unique individual dedicated to a life of service. Love, appreciation, understanding will come through give and take."

In 1999 Josine retired to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. She loved to walk and could often be seen walking the halls, or in good weather she would be outside. Though her memory often failed her, she was always happy, gracious and grateful for anything that was done for her. When she retired for the night last Sunday, she seemed to be in relatively good health and a 4:00 a.m. check found her peacefully sleeping. However, on Monday, May 27, 2002, when the staff returned just before 6:00 a.m. to wake her, they found that Josine had quietly returned home to her God.

Sister Mary Josine, we thank you for the 72 years you spent with us as teacher, principal, sister and friend. As you begin your eternity with the God you served so faithfully and graciously throughout the years, remember us your family, your friends, your Franciscan Sisters. Amen. Alleluia!

Sister Mary Josine Minarik, O.S.F.
4 January 1914 - 27 May 2002

Born: January 14, 1914; Chicago, Illinois 820
Parents: Adam and Catherine (Goznar) Minarik
Entered From: Assumption Parish, Chicago, Illinois
Postulancy: September 2, 1929
Novitiate: August 12, 1930
Profession: August 12, 1932
Entered New Life: Monday, May 27, 2002, at Our Lady of Angels at 5:55 a.m.

Ministry History

1932 - 1946 Teacher; Grades 5,6,7 & 8; St. Stephen, Streator, IL
 1946 - 1948 Teacher; English, Math & W. History; Marybrook Academy, Maumee, OH
 1948 - 1951 Teacher; Religion & English; SS. Peter & Paul, Chicago, IL
 1951 - 1953 Teacher; English & Algebra; St. Mary, Columbus, OH
 1953 - 1957 Teacher; English, History & Algebra; St. Peter H.S., Mansfield, OH
 1957 - 1960 Principal & Teacher; Grade 8; Corpus Christi, Columbus, OH
 1960 - 1962 Principal; Sacred Heart, Hubbard Woods, IL
 1962 - 1968 Principal; St. Pascal, Chicago, IL
 1968 - 1969 Principal; SS. Peter & Paul, Chicago, IL
 1969 - 1972 Teacher; Grade 8; St. Ludmilla, Chicago, IL
 1972 - 1975 Teacher; Grade 6; St. Joseph, Elgin, IL
 1975 - 1982 Teacher; Grade 4; St. Pius X, Lombard, IL
 1982 - 1983 Librarian; St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL
 1983 - 1986 Health Service Companion; Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL
 1986 - 1988 Receptionist & Clerk; Catholic Charities, Romeoville, IL
 1988 - 1993 RSVP Recorder; Catholic Charities, Romeoville, IL
 1993 - 1996 Tutor/Volunteer; St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL
 1996 - 1999 Volunteer Development Office; St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL
 1999 - 2002 Retired; Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Wake: Friday, May 31, 2002, 2 - 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Wake Service: Friday, May 31, 2002, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Mass of Christian Burial: Friday, May 31, 2002, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Burial: Saturday, June 1, 2002; leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m.
 to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL

Interment S8 - L334 - G11

Survived by: A sister, Anne Bruska and nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace, Sister Mary Josine