

## Sister M. DeLourdes Mueller, O.S.F.



- Born:** June 9, 1902  
**Parents:** Aloysius and Maria (Titus) Mueller  
**Entered from:** Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL  
**Postulancy:** November 1, 1917  
**Novitiate:** August 12, 1918  
**Profession:** August 12, 1920
- Died:** Tuesday, March 2, 1999 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home at 6:20 p.m.
- Ministry:**
- |             |                                                               |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1920 - 1923 | St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grades 1-4                            |
| 1923 - 1924 | St. Stephen, Johnstown, PA, Music Teacher, Organist           |
| 1924 - 1925 | St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL, Music Teacher                |
| 1925 - 1928 | St. Stephen, Johnstown, PA, Music Teacher, Organist           |
| 1928 - 1929 | St. Joseph, Freeport, IL, Music Teacher, Organist             |
| 1929 - 1933 | SS Peter and Paul, Leonore, IL, Grades 1, 2, 3, Organist      |
| 1933 - 1947 | Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL, Grades 1, 2                  |
| 1947 - 1949 | Sacred Heart, Chicago, IL, Grades 1, 2                        |
| 1949 - 1952 | Annunciation, Aurora, IL, Grades 1, 2, Organist               |
| 1952 - 1953 | Sacred Heart, Chicago, IL, Grade 1                            |
| 1953 - 1957 | St. Mary, Fairfield, AL, Kindergarten, Grade 2, Organist      |
| 1957 - 1959 | Annunciation B.V.M., Aurora, IL, Organist                     |
| 1959 - 1964 | Guardian Angel Home, Grades 1, 2                              |
| 1964 - 1969 | Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Domestic Work |
| 1969 - 1982 | St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Retired                      |
| 1982 - 1999 | Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Retired                   |
- Wake:** Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL Friday, March 5, 1999  
 2-7 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.
- Mass of Christian Burial:** Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL  
 Friday, March 5, 1999 at 7:00 p.m.
- Burial:** Saturday, March 6, 1999 leaving Our Lady of Angels at  
 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL,  
 S8-L337-G10
- Survived by:** many nieces and nephews

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

Sister DeLourdes Mueller was born in Englewood, Illinois on June 9, 1902 to Aloysius and Maria Titus Mueller. Baptized at Sacred Heart Church, Englewood, she was given the name Mary Barbara. She was one of five children. As a child she helped in the family grocery store across the street from the church.

When she was fifteen years old, Mary Barbara came to Joliet to join the Sisters of St. Francis. In a letter of recommendation from her pastor, he states "I vouch for the good character and morals of Mary. I know she will be of credit to your Order, the same as she has been to her parents, teachers and priests." Upon reception into the Novitiate on August 12, 1918 she was given the name of Sister DeLourdes.

Following first profession of vows on August 12, 1920, Sister DeLourdes began her ministry of serving as a kindergarten and primary teacher. Her ministry took her to four states and several schools during those years. In many of those places of ministry, Sister DeLourdes also served as organist.

Sister DeLourdes attributes her great liking for music to Sister Geraldine Dames, her grammar school teacher, and to Sister Teresine Haban, her teacher during her more advanced years of study at the College of St. Francis. Besides giving piano lessons she also gave violin lessons to some of the novices. When asked where she would like to be placed on mission, Sister DeLourdes replied, "anyplace where there is a chapel." After retiring Sister DeLourdes assisted in general domestic work at Our Lady of Angels and at the Motherhouse. She lived a quiet life doing little acts of kindnesses.

In 1982 Sister DeLourdes retired to Our Lady of Angels in Joliet. There, the slower years provided time to develop her prayer life in a more intense way. Her anxieties and fears gradually lessened, and trust and peace came to her. On March 2, after eating a little supper, and while the nurse was preparing her for the night's rest, Sister DeLourdes quietly and quickly went to her eternal rest.

Sister DeLourdes, we thank you for the life you shared with us, your Franciscan Sisters. We ask you to continue to pray for us, your relatives, friends and Franciscan Sisters that we may come to know the healing power of music and the strength of an ever-present God. May you now experience the depth and the beauty of God's unconditional love for you. Amen . Alleluia.

