

Sister M. Carita Schuy, O.S.F.

763



Born: June 6, 1899
Parents: Jacob and Anna (Young) Schuy
Entered from: St. Francis of Assisi, Chicago, IL
Postulancy: January 11, 1918
Novitiate: August 12, 1918
Profession: August 12, 1920

Died: Monday, March 16, 1998 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home
at 12:10 p.m.

Ministry:

1920 - 1924	St. Stephen, Johnstown, PA, Grades 2,3,& 4
1924 - 1925	St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grade 4
1925 - 1928	St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grades 3 & 4
1928 - 1932	St. Paschal, Chicago, IL, Grades 3 & 4
1932 - 1933	Sacred Heart, Hubbard Woods, Chicago, IL, Grade 4
1933 - 1942	Immaculate Conception, Toledo, OH, Grade 6
1942 - 1943	St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grade 6
1943 - 1944	St. Mary, DesPlaines, IL, Grade 6
1944 - 1947	St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus, OH, Grade 6
1947 - 1948	St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 6
1948 - 1958	St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL, Grade 6
1958 - 1968	St. Ann, Lansing, IL, Grade 6
1968 - 1969	St. Jude, Joliet, IL, Grades 3 & 4
1969 - 1970	Annunciation, Aurora, IL, Grades 3 & 4
1970 - 1971	St. Paul, Joliet, IL, Grades 3 & 4
1971 - 1975	St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL, General Assistant
1975 - 1998	Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL Wednesday, March 18, 1998
2-7 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Wednesday, March 18, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Thursday, March 19, 1998 leaving Our Lady of Angels at
9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL,
S8-L338-G11

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

Sister Carita Schuy was born in Chicago, Illinois on June 6, 1899, to Jacob and Anna Young Schuy. She was baptized Alice Josephine at St. Francis Assisi Church on June 29, 1899. She had two brothers Joseph and John and four sisters Anna, Mary, Theresa and Kathryn. The children in the family were taught by the Joliet Franciscan Sisters at St. Francis Assisi Grammar School.

On January 11, 1918, Alice was received as a postulant with the Joliet Franciscan Sisters. On August 12, as a novice, she was given the new name of Sister Mary Carita. Those who knew her described Sister Carita as "respectful, charitable, industrious and very orderly." She always sought out advice in difficult circumstances. Sister Carita studied hard in her own education, and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the College of St. Francis.

After First Vows on August 12, 1920, Sister Carita began her ministry as an elementary educator at St. Stephen School in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. From there she moved on to Columbus, Mansfield, and Toledo, Ohio, and to several schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago, with ten of those years at St. Ann's School in Lansing, Illinois. Sister Edna Hans often called upon Sister Carita to give demonstration lessons teaching reading and phonics. Sister Carita was precise and exacting in her classroom. The children she taught learned well. It was in Lansing that the friendship with Sister Fides deepened as they shared good times together, often over a Dairy Queen treat.

In 1975, Sister Carita moved to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet. Although she was officially retired, she enjoyed reading and spent time praying for those who called her their prayer sister. Sister Carita never wanted to give up anyone she had taken on as a special prayer person, so when a new person was assigned she continued her prayer for the others. Daily she prayed for Sisters Mary Lou Marchetti, Loretta Wagner, Patricia Britt, Lillian Zenz and her volunteer, Ann Schuster O'Brien. When she was asked what she needed or wanted, her standard reply was, "I really like glazed doughnuts."

In 1985, Sister Carita became legally blind. She liked to have people with her, keeping her company, reading her mail to her, answering what mail they could, praying the rosary with her. Sister Carita was comforted whenever the chaplain or the retreat director was able to take some personal time with her. Sister Carita lived through the deaths of so many of her Sisters, and eventually became the oldest living member of the Congregation. She longed and prayed for God to come and get her, and would often remark "Why doesn't God take me?"

On Sunday, March 15, the nursing staff noticed a change in Sister Carita's ability to respond. The Sisters gathered at her bedside for prayer as Father Patrick Gleeson administered the Sacrament of the Sick. On March 16, 1998, shortly after noon, God answered the prayer of Sister Carita and called her forth from the darkness of her vision into the glory of perpetual light.

Sister Carita, we thank you for your very long life in God's service. We ask you to continue to pray for us, your Sisters and friends, your former pupils, as you who led others from darkness to light as an educator, now enjoy the the light of God's goodness forever. Amen. Alleluia.

