



Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

On Wednesday morning, March 14, 2018, the words of the Gospel of the day, which long weighed heavy on the heart of our sister, Anne, came to pass: "Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here." (John 5:25) Reminiscent of the story of the two women grinding grain at the mill (Luke 17:35), our sister Anne was taken in the blink of an eye, while her sister, Sr. Loretta, and her dear friend, Sr. Clarita, along with all of us – Sisters, family members and friends – remain.

Never one to take anything for granted, our sister Anne treasured every day, knowing that it might be her last. But it was not only the days that she treasured, but the loved ones and the strangers, the wonders of God's creation, and the mystery of God's grace that was revealed in each and every encounter, no matter how great or small.

Born on the Northwest side of Chicago on June 29, 1927, and raised in St. Pascal Parish, Anne was the beloved daughter of her parents, Celia (Zientarski) and Edward Wayrowski, and cherished sister of her brother Edward, her elder sister, Sister Loretta, and her deceased sister, Delphine (Rankin). Throughout her childhood and adolescence, Anne was influenced by the many Franciscan Sisters who were her teachers and mentors. As a student at Alvernia High School, Anne experienced the School Sisters of St. Francis building upon the firm foundation of educational excellence and Franciscan spirit laid by the Joliet Franciscans at St. Pascal. As the story goes, more than a few of the Milwaukee Franciscans hoped to claim Anne as their own. Fortunately however, for the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, when it came to choosing her vocational path as a Franciscan sister, Anne discerned that Joliet had a definite advantage over Milwaukee. And so began her 71 years of history in our midst.

On January 29, 1947, Anne along with Pat Kossman (Sr. Timothy) and Therese Tusek, joined the 16 women who had already experienced 4 months as postulants. She then began her undergraduate studies at the College of St. Francis. Later that year on August 12, she was received into the novitiate and given her religious name, Sister M. Anne. As she moved through the processes of religious formation and the profession of vows, she embraced her ministerial vocation as an educator with enthusiasm. In the fall of 1949, she received her first teaching assignment at St. Raymond Elementary School. For the next 67 years, her passion for teaching, her skillfulness as a principal and expertise as a member of several school boards made a significant difference in the lives of countless students, teachers and administrators in the states of Ohio, Florida, Michigan and Illinois (Chicago, Norridge, Aurora, Joliet).

Alleluia!



Sister M. Anne Wayrowski, OSF

As a graduate of the College of St. Francis and DePaul University, Sr. Anne was an engaged learner who devoted herself to sharing the gifts she received with generosity and joy. Perceptive, creative and innovative, she was attentive to the needs of others, especially those who were often overlooked and on the margins - everyone ranging from children with disabilities wanting to receive their First Communion, to incarcerated women and men longing to complete their GED, to persons in recovery learning life lessons of how to take one day at a time. Following her father's advice to her as a young girl, Sr. Anne did not hide the Christ light that glowed within her, but rather, she shared it without reservation so that others might shine as well. Committed to the advancement of community in every sphere of her life, Sister Anne was an advocate for inclusion, solidarity and reconciliation. Encouraging others to pray more and to play more, she readily witnessed to the God of Life and Love in the many circumstances in which she found herself. No stranger to the challenges and struggles of life, Anne looked to the Beatitudes for inspiration, affirmation and direction in following Jesus as a disciple, as a sister and as a companion on the journey.

Franciscan to the very core of her being, Anne valued the opportunities she had to deepen her knowledge of the Franciscan Tradition and the spiritualities of Francis and Clare. This was especially true during her time of study at the Seraphic Institute and her ongoing participation in numerous Franciscan ventures. But even more importantly, as a Franciscan, she valued the opportunity to live out the virtues expressed in the Peace Prayer and the praises expressed in the Canticle of Brother Sun. As an instrument of peace and a steward of creation, Anne was ever attentive to the vestiges of God right up until the morning of her journey from this life into eternal life.

Known for her correspondence, Sr. Anne's letters and "cards for every occasion" always concluded simply yet profoundly with the words: "May God bless you with inner peace and strength." Today, let us receive these words as Sr. Anne's parting message to each of us and as her final blessing to each one of us. And, with loving gratitude to our God for the gift of Sr. Anne let us say: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Sister M. Anne Wayrowski, OSF

June 29, 1927 — March 14, 2018

<i>Born:</i>	June 29, 1927
<i>Parents:</i>	Edward A. Wayrowski and Celia (Zientarski) Wayrowski
<i>Postulancy:</i>	January 25, 1947
<i>Novitiate:</i>	August 12, 1947
<i>First Profession:</i>	August 12, 1949
<i>Perpetual Final Vows:</i>	August 12, 1952
<i>Entered New Life:</i>	March 14, 2018

Ministry History

1949-1952	Teacher: Grades 2, 3, St. Raymond, Joliet, Illinois
1952-1955	Teacher: Grades 1, 4, Sacred Heart, Englewood, Chicago, Illinois
1955-1958	Teacher: Grade 1, St. Pascal, Chicago
1958-1961	Teacher: Grades 1, 2, Divine Savior, Chicago, Illinois
1961-1963	Teacher: Grade 1, St. Cecilia, Columbus, Ohio
1963-1964	Teacher: Grade 7, St. Matthew, Champaign, Illinois
1964-1967	Superintendent/Principal/Teacher: Grade 8, St. Coleman, Pompano Beach, Florida
1967-1970	Superintendent/Principal: Immaculate Conception, Columbus, Ohio
1970-1975	Principal: Immaculate Conception, Columbus, Ohio
1975-1977	Teacher: Grades 7, 8, St. Michael, Brunswick, Michigan
1977-1981	Teacher: Grades 7, 8, St. Michael, Fremont, Michigan
1981-1982	Teacher: Our Lady of Good Council, Aurora, Illinois
1982-1991	Teacher: Annunciation, Aurora
1991-1993	Teacher: St. Patrick, Joliet
1993-2006	Educator: Center for Correctional Concerns, Joliet
2006-2009	Administrative Assistant: Center for Correctional Concerns, Joliet
2009-2015	Clerical Staff: Center for Corrections Concerns, Joliet
2015-2018	Community Volunteer: Joliet

<i>Wake:</i>	Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Prayer Service:</i>	Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Mass of Christian Burial:</i>	Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Interment:</i>	Wednesday, March 21, Section 8, Lot 344, Grave 6, Resurrection Cemetery
<i>Predeceased by:</i>	By her parents, Edward A. Wayrowski and Celia (Zientarski) Wayrowski and her sister Delphine Rankin
<i>Survived by:</i>	Her brother, Edward Wagner, and her sister, Sister Loretta Wagner

Rest in Peace, Sister Anne!