

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

November 16, 1986

Dear Sisters and Associates,

Sister James Balousek had been in failing health for several weeks, but she struggled for life until the Lord called her to Himself at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, November 13 at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Joliet.

It was a surprise to many of the staff and residents at Our Lady of Angels when her weakening condition required her hospitalization some weeks ago, because Sister James was always the caretaker, the one who scurried about helping others less mobile than she, especially her long-time friend, Sister Basilissa.

Born on August 3, 1897 to John and Mary Balousek, Rose was baptized a week later at St. Boniface Parish in Chicago where she attended school. On December 8, 1914 she began her long life as a Sister of St. Francis, making her first profession on August 12, 1917.

Sister devoted the greater part of her life as a woman religious to the ministry of education, spending 57 years in Congregation schools, mainly in Illinois and Ohio. She was a capable teacher and, when asked what ministry was most rewarding for her, responded, "Teaching all my years in grade and high school. My greatest joy was helping children develop and grow in knowledge and in character."

Following the most recent Focus meeting at Our Lady of Angels this past September, several Governing Board members commented that Sister James was really our most enthusiastic senior booster; since she would, in these recent years, take a front row seat in order to "pick up the voices" and enthusiastically follow any of the paperwork tasks with her special magnifying lens. Her applause and her thanks were oft-repeated, and she left each of us feeling very well supported and appreciated indeed.

This graciousness and sense of gratitude continued thru her weeks in the hospital and endeared Sister to the hospital staff, who found her a "delightful patient," grateful for every word and act of kindness.

We express our sympathy to Sister James' nieces, nephews and friends, especially her Joliet Franciscan niece, Sister Ann Kaderabek and her dear friend, Sister Basilissa King.

Sister was a good and faithful servant. The Lord has called her to Himself after 89 years. May she rest in the peace and joy of His Presence.

Sincerely,

The Governing Board



SISTER M. JAMES BALOUSEK (ROSE)



Born: August 3, 1897
 Parents: John and Mary (Valla) Balousek
 Postulancy: December 8, 1914
 Novitiate: August 12, 1915
 First Profession: August 12, 1917
 Final Profession: August 12, 1920
 Died: Thursday, November 13, 1986 at 4:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Medical Center, Joliet

Ministry:

1916 - 1920 St John the Baptist, Joliet, IL, Grades 1,2,4
 1920 - 1928 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grades 5,6,7,8
 1928 - 1930 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 8
 1930 - 1932 Central Catholic High School, Toledo, OH, English, Religion, Algebra, Geometry
 1932 - 1934 Central Catholic High School, Johnstown, PA, History, Religion
 1934 - 1937 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, History, English, Stenography
 1937 - 1938 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL, Religion, English, Latin, History
 1938 - 1939 St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL, English, History, Religion
 1939 - 1940 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, English, Latin
 1940 - 1951 Corpus Christi, Columbus, OH, Religion, English, Latin, History
 1951 - 1952 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Latin, Religion
 1952 - 1957 SS. Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL, Latin, English
 1957 - 1958 St. Joseph, Freeport, IL, Grade 7
 1958 - 1961 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, Portress
 1961 - 1964 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Latin, Librarian
 1964 - 1968 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Latin, Assistant Librarian
 1968 - 1973 St. Procopius, Chicago, IL, Librarian
 1973 - 1979 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Retired
 1979 - 1986 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, Il, Retired

Wake: Sunday, November 16, 1986 from 2 - 7 p.m. with Prayer Service at 4:15 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Sunday, November 16, 1986 at 7 p.m.

Burial: Monday, November 17, 1986 from OLA at 9 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by nieces and nephews including Sister Ann Kaderabek, O.S.F.