

**SISTER CHRISTINE FAHRENBACH, O.S.F. 702**



**Born:** January 10, 1902  
**Parents:** Carl and Maria (Schous) Fahrenbach  
**Postulancy:** January 24, 1920  
**Novitiate:** August 12, 1920  
**First Profession:** August 12, 1922  
**Final Profession:** August 12, 1925  
**Died:** Tuesday, July 28, 1992 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home

**Ministry:**

1922 - 1925 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 2  
1925 - 1930 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, High School Commercial  
1930 - 1940 Central Catholic High, Toledo, OH, French, Spanish, German  
1940 - 1946 Marybrook Academy, Maumee, OH, Superior, Principal  
1946 - 1953 Catholic Charities, Toledo, OH, Case Worker  
1953 - 1957 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, German, Social Science  
1957 - 1968 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL, Principal  
1968 - 1969 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, Education Department  
1969 - 1970 St. John, Joliet, IL, Assistant to Bishop Vonesh  
1970 - 1972 St. Francis de Sales, Toledo, OH, Director of Social Service at Regina Manor  
1972 - 1974 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Secretary to the General Superior  
1974 - 1975 St. Joseph, Elgin, IL, Parish Service  
1975 - 1977 Holy Trinity, Westmont, IL, Pastoral Ministry and Teaching GED students at DuPage College  
1977 - 1978 Westmont Health Center, Westmont, IL, Social Service Designee  
1978 - 1984 St. Jude/Area Nursing Homes/High Rises, Joliet, IL Parish ministry to the elderly  
1984 - 1992 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Retired

**Wake:** Friday, July 31, 1992 from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Prayer Service at 4:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels, Joliet

**Mass of Christian Burial:** Friday, July 31, 1992 at 7:00 p.m.  
**Burial:** Saturday, August 1, 1992 at 9:30 a.m. at Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by her sisters-in law Alice and Olga Fahrenbach, brother-in-law Alexander Huston, nieces and nephews

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

Sister Christine, born in Chicago Illinois, to Mary Schous Fahrenbach and Carl Fahrenbach, on January 10, 1902, was baptized Christine Teresa at St. Francis Xavier Church in Chicago on January 26, 1902. Christine spent the next 18 years of her life with her large family of five brothers and four sisters. The fact that Christine's father was not Catholic was a great concern for her, so much so that, at Confirmation, she asked for the name Monica, so that she could pray for her father to embrace the Catholic Faith, similar to the way Monica had prayed for Augustine. Her father was not eager for his 18 year old daughter to come to the convent, and he told her when she left to come back home "when she was all prayed out." Even after her father entered the Catholic Church, Christine did not come home. She still had more praying to do and more work to do. Entering the Novitiate August 12, 1920, Christine was given the name Sister Hortensia (later changed to Hortense), and later went back to her Baptismal name of Sister Christine. Sister Christine ministered as an educator, and as a social service worker in the Diocese of Toledo. In 1956, Sister Christine was elected to the General Council of the Congregation. During that same time she also began a ten-year term as principal of St. Francis Academy in Joliet, where she worked to further develop the high standards of the school. During her time as Council Member, she also worked on many projects making plans to build Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. Her students from the Academy donated the crucifix which hangs in the Chapel.

Sister Christine had an avid desire to learn as well as to work. She earned a Bachelor's Degree at DePaul University, a Master's Degree in Social Work at the University of Wisconsin in 1937, and continued to learn and to study throughout her life. She authored several articles. She wrote the story of her own vocation in a prize winning entry called, "Convent Life Was Not On My Menu!" and prepared a slide presentation on the life of Our Foundress, Mother Alfred, entitled "Roots in Remich".

Prayer was a most important part of Christine's life. She spoke of her bedroom as her "prayer nook". She had a great devotion to the Blessed Mother and had a special picture of the Madonna of the Street hanging in her room. "She is my model," she would say, "for she went around in her neighborhood helping families."

Sister Christine went on to other ministries, including that of Secretary to the General Superior, Secretary to the Bishop, College Instructor, Pastoral Minister and the ministry of prayer. It was on July 28, 1992 that Sister Christine must have felt she was finally "all prayed out" for at that time she quietly returned home to her heavenly Father, as well as to her father, Carl, and her mother, Maria, to Sister Charles Marie and all her other brothers and sisters as well as all her Franciscan Sisters in heaven.

Sister Christine, we ask you not to be "all prayed out," but to continue to pray for each of us, to pray as you prayed on your Golden Jubilee, that others may hear and follow the call to religious life, to carry on the work you have so energetically begun. Continue to pray for us, your family, your friends and your Franciscan Sisters, that your zeal and your pioneer spirit may continue to flourish in each of us.  
Amen. Alleluia.

