

**SISTER MATTHIAS MARIE KRIPPNER O.S.F. (Lillian) 693**

**Born:** January 8, 1916 in Chicago, Illinois  
**Parents:** Matthias and Anna (Kraman) Krippner  
**Postulancy:** September 4, 1940  
**Novitiate:** August 12, 1941  
**First Profession:** August 12, 1943  
**Final Profession:** August 12, 1946  
**Died:** Monday, November 11, 1991 at 4:15 a.m.  
at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet



**Ministry:**

1943 - 1946 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Student at College of St. Francis  
1946 - 1964 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL, Shorthand, Typing, Bookkeeping  
Office Practice, Comptometry  
1964 - 1968 St. Peter High School, Mansfield, OH, Typing, Office Practice  
Bookkeeping, Stenography  
1968 - 1972 Sisters of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, General Secretary  
1972 - 1976 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL, Business Department  
1976 - 1990 St. Francis Academy Center, Joliet, IL, Adult Education  
1990 - 1991 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Adult Education

**Wake:** Wednesday, November 13, 1991 from 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Prayer Service at 4:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels, Joliet

**Mass of Christian Burial:** Wednesday, November 13, 1991 at 7:00 p.m.

**Burial:** Thursday, November 14, 1991 at 9:00 a.m. at Resurrection Cemetery

**Survived by her brother:** Frank G. Krippner

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

On November 11, 1991, at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, our Sister Matthias Marie Krippner was born to life eternal. Diagnosed with terminal cancer in July, 1991, she faced her death with dignity and acceptance.

Lillian was born on January 8, 1916 in Chicago, Illinois to Anna and Matthias Krippner. Her parents were founding members of St. Ludmilla Parish in Chicago, Illinois. When Sister Matthias Marie was only ten years old, her mother died. There were six children in the family. They remained close to each other through the years. She is survived by her dear brother Frank.

On the day before she died she whispered words about Frank. She asked us to take care of Frank, and "tell him I love him." It was only two years ago this November, that Frank invited her to be his guest on a trip to Rome. This trip was in anticipation of her Golden Jubilee celebration in 1993. In Rome they joined thousands of Czech Catholics for the canonization of St. Agnes of Prague. She wrote in glowing terms of her wonderful memories. We extend our sympathy to Frank, and claim him as our brother too.

In 1940, at age twenty-four, having worked in a business office for ten years, she entered the Congregation as a postulant. She embraced religious life with her characteristic wholeheartedness. Her vocation was a response in love, with her Sisters in community, to God and God's People in ministry.

Sister Matthias Marie lived with balance and order in her life. She planned her time to include quiet time for prayer and spiritual reading. Often we knew we could find her in chapel. This contemplative dimension of her life was integrated with genuine community living. The Sisters who lived with her in community spoke of her constant kindness and cheerfulness.

She taught high school business subjects for twenty-three years, spending twenty of those years at St. Francis Academy. She said, "I try to teach more than subject matter." She was a creative and innovative teacher. We remember her invention of the "Job Wheel" for her Office Practice Class. We remember her enthusiasm as she helped a whole generation of young women find positions in the business world. "I love teenagers," she said and we all knew how true this was.

She seemed to be always conscious of Congregation needs in responding in ministry. She was elected to be Congregation General Secretary in 1968, and served four years in this position. She was the first Secretary to work with the new Governing Board structure of government. Those who were on the Governing Board experienced not only her expertise, but her loyalty to them in the difficult days of Vatican II renewal of religious life.



When there was a need in 1976 for another teacher in the Adult Education Program, she responded. She spent thirteen years helping adults obtain their high school GED diplomas. In 1990, when she moved to Our Lady of Angels, she began a career of teaching in the new Congregation Adult Literacy Program. Just this year she asked to be responsible for an adult literacy student each day.

Through all her years of active ministry she worked hard. Nothing was too much. She helped with Mardi Gras at SFA, organized Congregation Chapters, helped in the gift shop at Our Lady of Angels. She was a generous woman and dedicated.

Perhaps this story tells us about the heart of our Sister. On Saturday, two days before her death, Sister Clarette was visiting her. Sister Clarette mentioned that she was going to attend a Pre-Chapter Meeting that afternoon. The theme of the meeting was "The Passion of Life." She asked Sister Matthias Marie, "What would you say about the Passion of Life if you were there?" Without hesitation, Sister Matthias Marie answered, "only Love." This was the source of her Passion! This was the spirit of her life!

Our lives change as each of our Sisters leave us for life eternal. We mourn them, and miss their presence in our lives. In her last hours Sister Matthias Marie promised to continue to intercede for us, her Sisters, her Congregation. In this promise we trust we will continue to experience her presence and blessing. Amen! Alleluia!