

**Sister M. Clotine Siegel, O.S.F.** 729

Born: December 9, 1911  
Parents: Frank and Gertrude (Conklin) Siegel  
Entered from: St. Mary Immaculate, Plainfield, IL  
Postulancy: September 5, 1927  
Novitiate: August 12, 1928  
First Profession: August 12, 1930  
Final Profession: August 12, 1933  
Died: Friday March 24, 1995 (eve of the Feast of the Annunciation) in St. Joseph Medical Center, Joliet, IL at 10:30 p.m.



**Ministry:**

1930 - 32 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grade 1  
1932 - 34 St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL, Grade 2  
1934 - 41 Cathedral of St. Raymond, Grade 2, Kindergarten  
1941 - 42 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL, Grade 1  
1942 - 46 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 1  
1946 - 53 St. Michael, Worthington, OH, Grades 1, 2, 3  
1953 - 54 St. Francis de Sales, Toledo, OH, Grade 1  
1954 - 57 St. Michael, Worthington, OH, Grade 1  
1957 - 59 St. Bernard, Joliet, IL, Grade 1  
1959 - 66 St. Paul the Apostle, Joliet, IL, Grades 1,2  
1966 - 74 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grade 2  
1974 - St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Parish Visitor, Sacristan, Parish Ministry

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Sunday, March 26, 1995  
2-7:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 3:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL Sunday, March 26, 1995  
at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Monday, March 27, 1995 leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:30 a.m. to  
Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, S8-L352-G6.

Survived by: her brother Francis Siegel of Lockport, IL and nieces, nephews, and  
cousins.

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

Sister M. Clotine Siegel was born in Lockport, Illinois on December 9, 1911 to Gertrude and Frank Siegel. In Baptism, she was given her mother's name, Gertrude. Gertrude spent her childhood on the family farm with her brothers Ambrose, Eugene, Don and George, and Francis and her sister Mary. Her second cousin Sister Canisia Binka was already a Joliet Franciscan Sister when young Gertrude chose to seek entrance into this Congregation. She became a postulant in September, 1927 and was welcomed into the novitiate on August 12, 1928, receiving the name Sister M. Clotine.

Beginning with her first assignment to St. Peter's in Mansfield, Ohio, Sister Clotine ministered over forty years as a primary teacher. Some of her pupils became priests and religious sisters. Bishop Roger Kaffer of the Joliet Diocese was one of those pupils. She prayed for them and for all priests in a special way. Another friend Fr. Emil D'Cruz, S.J. was delighted when Sister Clotine and her nephew Larry Siegel visited his parish mission in Bombay, India. And without doubt it was an unique joy for Sister Clotine to see her own nephew Joseph Siegel ordained a priest of the Joliet Diocese.

Her special gift of concern and prayer and her long connection with the people of St. Pascal Parish in Chicago led Sister Clotine to begin a new ministry as a Parish Visitor. It was announced in St. Pascal's parish bulletin dated September 4, 1974: "We have added Sister Clotine Siegel, O.S.F. to our parish team. Sister Clotine is not a newcomer to our parish. She has taught second graders in our school for eight years. Sister Clotine has already begun to study the needs of the parish and will start to make her visitations this month." Her ministry continued at St. Pascal's and expanded to cover many other aspects of parish life.

Because of failing health Sister Clotine began to slow down this past fall, but her work continued through other ministers whom she had trained. After being hospitalized at Resurrection Hospital in Chicago, she came to our Lady of Angels in Joliet to recuperate. When her condition worsened, she was hospitalized at St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet. She directed her caregivers not to use extraordinary means to prolong her life. Alert almost until the end, she prayed with family members and her Franciscan sisters, assuring them of her love and care. She peacefully gave her soul back to God on the eve of the Annunciation to be in the company of Mary, our mother and with Jesus her son.

At the time of her heart surgery in 1982, Sister Clotine wrote about her experience: "I am writing this letter to you, Jesus, because I want, in some tangible way, to thank you and to share your love with my closest friends. I entrusted my life entirely into your hands. I had no questions, no fright, no apprehensions. I was entirely calm, serene and completely at peace. I was so at peace I actually felt that you had me in your arms and I knew that everything would be all right."

Sister Clotine, we commend you now to the arms of Jesus, as he was held by Mary. May you continue to watch over each of us, your family members, your Franciscan sisters, your former pupils and all your friends. Pray to God for us, for all who suffer, for all who care for the sick and for all who continue to teach others and lead them to God. May you who taught us so much shine as a star for all eternity. Amen.

