

# SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, CLINTON, IOWA

## ST. FRANCIS DE PAULA NEWSLETTER

June 2021

### *Names from the Neighborhood*

Take a trip down memory lane to see if you recall some of these names from around the neighborhood!

**Groceries:** Hi-Lo, A & P, Consumers, National Tea, John Pantelis, Meadowmoor Dairy Store, Malito & Frangella, Royal Blue, Millie's, Murray's (baked ham at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays)

**Drug Stores:** Walter Barnes, John Harris, IC Pharmacy at 82nd Street Station, Walgreen's (79th and Cottage Grove and 82nd and Ellis), Larkin Drug Store

**Clothing Care:** Becker's Cleaners, Ersil Perusso

**Meat:** Novak's on 82nd Street

**Bakery:** Amber

**Candy:** Dutch Mill at 82nd and Dobson, Mrs. Donnelly's School Store, Mrs. Hughes' Candy Store

**Transportation:** Chicago Surface Lines, Illinois Central Suburban



*Enjoying a treat at the corner of 77th Street*

*Names continued on page 4...*

### *Seeking Information*

*Submitted by Diana Vickery*

I am a researcher/writer with the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation, and am currently researching a man who attended St. Francis de Paula parish school in the 1930s. I am trying to find out how he learned to be fluent in German, which would have been required for his job as an airborne voice interpreter with the 95th Bomb Group during World War II. I am interested in knowing if he took German language classes or whether German was spoken at home. I have located transcripts from his high school and college. He didn't take any German classes in high school and only one semester of German in college.

His name is David John Willoughby and he was born March 7, 1921, in Winnipeg, Canada. He attended Leo High School and Purdue University before entering the service. David died in the line of duty in a plane crash in 1945 in Germany. He parachuted to safety, but received fatal internal injuries when he landed in a tree. His body was buried in Germany by the Germans, and later, his mom and dad had his remains disinterred and reburied in St. Mary's Cemetery in Chicago. His parents are also buried in the same lot.

*Do you have information to share? Contact us at (563) 242-7611 or [aeberhart@clintonfranciscans.com](mailto:aeberhart@clintonfranciscans.com) to receive Diana's contact information.*

## *We pray for the repose of the souls of:*



**Sr. K. Cleary**

**Sister Kathleen Cleary, OSF** — April 24, 2021

Kathleen was born October 23, 1940, in Columbus, Ohio. She entered the Sisters of St. Francis at Mount St. Clare Convent, Clinton, Iowa, on September 8, 1958, and received the name Mary Philip at her reception on June 15, 1959. She later resumed her baptismal name. She made her first profession on August 12, 1961, and her final profession on August 12, 1964.

Sister Kathleen began her ministry as a teacher at St. Mary's School in Carrollton, Missouri, where she served from 1961-1969, and was director of Mount St. Clare Preschool in Clinton, Iowa, for the next eight years. While missioned in California, Sister Kathleen taught primary grades at St. Margaret Mary School in Chino from 1978-1986, and at St. Catherine of Alexandria School in Riverside from 1988-1993. She returned to Chino and served as librarian at St. Margaret Mary School for the next twenty-six years. For several of those years, she also held the positions of counselor and assistant principal. She retired in November 2019, and moved to The Alverno in July 2020. She continued to minister to everyone around her through her cheerful spirit, her positive attitude, and her openness to all she met.



**Fr. H. Meyr**

**Father Herbert Meyr** — December 22, 2020

Herbert was born in Chicago on November 2, 1935, to Joseph and Barbara Meyr. He attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago and the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 3, 1960, and celebrated his first solemn Mass five days later at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Chicago.

After ordination, Father Meyr served as assistant pastor at the following Chicago parishes: St. Teresa of Avila Parish on Armitage Avenue, St. James Parish on Wabash Avenue, and St. Anne Parish on Garfield Boulevard and 55th Street. He was also the pastor of St. Francis de Paula Parish from 1971 to 1988 and St. James Parish in Maywood from 1988 until he retired in 2006. Father Meyr is survived by his brother, John, and two nephews.



**M. Leamy**

**Marilyn (Morin) Leamy** — August 11, 2020

Marilyn was the daughter of Earl and Loretta Morin and the mother of seven children, twenty grandchildren, and eighteen great-grandchildren. She was an avid reader and sang professionally with the Wilmington, DE Opera Society. She performed and sang with the Arden Singers and traveled to the British Isles with the Savoy players performing Gilbert and Sullivan Productions. She was a devout Catholic and sang and directed in her church choir.

Marilyn passed away on August 11, 2020 due to COVID-19. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald; son, Andrew; sister, Betty; and brothers, Earl and John. She is survived by her sister, Nancy; one daughter; five sons; one daughter-in-law; and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



**M. Claessens**

**Marilyn (Middaugh) Claessens — June 30, 2020**

Marilyn Ruth was the daughter of Donald and Ruth Middaugh, and the wife of Robert Dennis Claessens, class of 1954. She passed away on June 30, 2020 in San Leandro, California. Marilyn attended Dixon elementary school and Hirsch and Bowen high schools. She earned a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois and worked as an editorial employee and reporter for the Chicago Tribune and Evanston Review for many years. Dennis and Marilyn met at a 1960 New Year's Eve party hosted by a student of Hirsch High School. She is survived by her husband, Dennis; son, Daniel; daughter, Elizabeth; and grandsons, Dominic and Francis.



**J. Sears**

**Joann (Hackenbroch) Sears — February 13, 2020**

Joann Elizabeth, class of 1950, was born April 2, 1936, the daughter of Leroy and Lucile Hackenbroch. She was lovingly married to Robert Sears for nearly 51 years. Joann has many hobbies and community involvement that kept her very busy with an unlimited supply of true friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, and daughter, Debra Ann. She is survived by her brother Jack Hackenbroch; sons, Robert Douglas and Stephen Walter; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.



**R. Rosignal**

**Rose Mary (Micelli) Rosignal — August 1, 2019**

Rose Mary was born January 8, 1930, the daughter of Joseph and Jennie Micelli. She was the beloved wife of the late Walter Rosignal. Rose Mary was preceded in death by her husband and one brother, Charles. She is survived by brothers, Edward, Donald, Frank, and Joseph; sisters, Carol, Josephine, Virginia, and Kitty; one sister-in-law, Chris; and several nieces and nephews.



**M. Downing**

**Margaret (Popelka) Downing — July 4, 2019**

Margaret Cecelia Veronica was born December 6, 1945, the daughter of Anton and Helen Popelka. She married George Downing and worked hand-in-hand with him to grow his business, Lake Geneva Spindustries. She served as president of its sister company, San Jamar, and also served as administrator for the Town of Geneva. A devout Catholic, she dedicated her life to helping others. Margaret was elected president of the St. Francis de Sales School Board, served on the Vocational Industries Board of Directors, and was an active volunteer at the Lake Geneva Food Pantry. She served terms on the Walworth County Board and the Walworth County Alliance for Children.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George; sister, Patricia; brother, Joseph; son, Jeffrey; one grandson; and one son-in-law. Survivors include four daughters; one son-in-law; one daughter-in-law; nine grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; brothers, Anthony, Edward, John, Robert, and Vincent; and sisters Barbara, Elizabeth, Mary, Rita, and Theresa.

## *Names continued...*

**Department Stores:** Sears Roebuck, Frank's, Marshall Fields

**Hair Care:** Mr. Targianni, Sam Rome, Olaf Pearson

**News:** Cyril at 82nd and Ellis, Newstand at United Cigar Store at 79th and Cottage Grove

**Health Care:** Chicago Board of Health, Jackson Park Hospital, Dr. Marcus Manley (physician), Dr. Leo Finley (dentist)

**Investments:** Mr. Ball at 79th and Dobson and 82nd and Dobson

**Undertakers:** George Thompson, Frank Thompson, Michael Tarsitano, O'Hanley Inc.

**Utilities:** Avalon Coal Company; Commonwealth Edison; Peoples Gas, Light, & Coke Company

**Building Materials:** A.T. Stewart Lumber Company

**Shelter:** McKey & Pogue, Draper & Kramer, Baird & Warner

**Culture:** Visiting orchestras (Mr. Palma, oboe and conductor)

**Recreation:** Grand Crossing Park, Avalon Park, Rainbow Beach

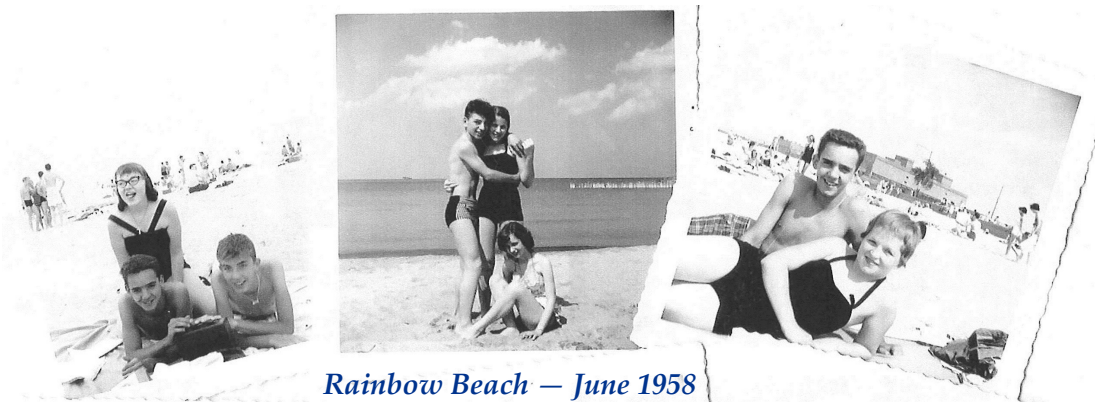
**Theaters:** Avalon, Grove, Rhodes, Capitol

**Library:** Chatham Branch at 79th and Maryland

**Post Office:** Grand Crossing Branch (Chicago 19) at 78th and Cottage Grove

**Police:** Grand Crossing Station

**Employers:** City of Chicago, Illinois Central Railroad, Van Cleef Brothers



## *Submit Information*

We are always looking for new content to include in this newsletter! Please share any life updates or memories with us. Getting together in-person or virtually with classmates? Send us a picture! We also appreciate being notified of deaths. It is helpful to include if the person is a classmate, parishioner, and/or relative. All information can be sent to us using the information below. 