

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, CLINTON, IOWA

ST. FRANCIS DE PAULA NEWSLETTER

March 2022

In Memory - Sisters Who Served at SFDP

Sister Rosalie Noder, Parish Ministry from 1969-1983

Sister Rosalie Noder, who ministered in education, parish ministry, and served persons suffering from AIDS, passed away on October 17 in Clinton, Iowa. Sister Rosalie was a Clinton Franciscan for 73 years.

Sister Rosalie entered the Sisters of St. Francis at Mount St. Clare Convent, Clinton, on September 8, 1948, and received the name Mary Rosalie at her reception on June 20, 1949. She made her first profession on August 13, 1951, and her final vows on August 13, 1954.



Sister Rosalie Noder
1930 - 2021

Her early ministry was in education, teaching primary and intermediate grades in Lourdes, Fonda, and Danbury, Iowa; Chino and Oildale, California; and Oak Lawn and Toluca, Illinois. During the 1960s, Sister Rosalie felt called to become involved in the faith life of adults. She began to serve in parish ministry in 1969 at St. Francis de Paula Parish. In her fourteen years

continued on page 2...

Sister Yvonne Gehant, Teacher from 1950-1955

Sister Yvonne Gehant, who ministered as teacher and principal, served in various roles at Mount St. Clare College, and as General Secretary for the Sisters of St. Francis, passed away on December 24, 2021, in Clinton. Sister Yvonne was a Clinton Franciscan for 74 years.

Sister Yvonne entered the Sisters of St. Francis at Mount St. Clare Convent, Clinton, on September 8, 1947. She received the name Mary Yvonne at her reception on June 19, 1948. She made her first profession on August 12, 1950, and her final profession on August 12, 1953.



Sister Yvonne Gehant
1928 - 2021

She spent many of her 58 years of active ministry teaching students at the junior high level. She began teaching sixth graders at St. Francis de Paula. She later taught in Riverside, California; Rochelle and Macomb, Illinois; and Sacred Heart School in Clinton, serving also as principal for twelve of those years. For an additional 28 years, she served in various capacities at Mount St. Clare College. She was an English instructor, Business Office

continued on page 2...

In Memory continued...

Sister Rosalie Noder continued...

at SFDP, she began a food pantry, clothing center, senior citizen's club, and the first RCIA classes. Through her efforts, a religious education program that included a cluster of six other parishes was developed. Sister Rosalie did further ministry at St. Gall's in Chicago, St. Patrick of Merna in Bloomington, and St. Charles Borromeo in Hampshire, IL.

In 1991, Sister Rosalie became co-founder and first Executive Director of AIDS Ministry of Illinois in Joliet. She also served in positions such as Outreach Services Coordinator, Educator and Case Manager, as she continued to meet the various challenges that her ministry involved.

She retired from AIDS ministry in December 2002, and volunteered at Catholic Charities of Joliet in the Foster Grandparents program until 2006. She then came to live at The Canticle in Clinton, where she actively ministered in any way she could. She moved



St. Francis de Paula Clothing Center

to The Alverno in July 2019 and remained there until her death.

At her request, her body was donated to the University of Iowa for scientific purposes, her final gift of self for the benefit of others.

Read her full obituary on our website at www.clintonfranciscans.com.

Sister Yvonne Gehant continued...

Manager, and assistant in the office of the Academic Dean, the Bookstore, and the Flavian Academic Support Center.

In 1990, Sister Yvonne was appointed to the position of General Secretary for the Sisters of St. Francis. She served in that capacity until her retirement from full-time ministry in 2008.

Sister Yvonne lived at The Canticle from the time it opened in 1997 until she moved to The Alverno on December 10, 2021, and remained at The Alverno until her death.



Sister Yvonne Gehant with her students in Room 6, 1954

Read her full obituary on our website at www.clintonfranciscans.com.

Names of the Neighborhood

Submitted by Albert Alfano and Dorothy (Fuscaldo) Alfano, Class of 1955

- High-Low Foods at 74 & Cottage Grove
- McGintys Tavern at 74 & Cottage Grove
- Al's Liquor Store at 74 & Cottage Grove
- Wakeford Hardware Store at 74 & Cottage Grove
- Grove Theater at 76 & Cottage Grove
- Army Navy Store at 74 & Cottage Grove
- Ford Dealership at 78 & Cottage Grove
- Ray's Lounge at 81 & Cottage Grove
- Marty's Sporting Goods at 75 & Cottage Grove — \$1 baseballs!
- Millas at 76 & Dobson — her famous Oscar Mayer bologna sandwich for 25 cents! Great after swimming at Grand Crossing Pool.
- The park was our Heaven!
- Cornell Public Grammar School on 76th Street with its big school yard.
 - We would do pick-up teams hardball. Dorothy was an awesome second basewoman. She could hit and field; always on my team. Been on my team for the past 60 years!



Submitted by Bernadette (Socha) Fitzsimmons, Class of 1941

My parents, Raymond and Marie Socha, owned and operated Flowers, Inc. at 809 East 79th Street. Next door to us was EJ Ryan, men's elegant clothing. Next came Vogel's Jewelry.

At the southeast corner of 79th Street and Cottage Grove, the Cigar Store with the iconic Indian standing guard outside. Across the street on the southwest corner, Walgreens, with its soda fountain and lunch service. It's still there.

George's Grill, a typical and beloved Greek grill, was across the street from our flower shop. My sisters Mary Ann ('44), Kathleen ('48), and I often "dined" while my mother worked in the flower shop. I can't fail to cite Jenny's Italian Cuisine at 79th and Langley. Jenny was the cook, waitress, and cashier. Fabulous food and great lady!

Who could ever forget the ritual that occurred occasionally in Hecker's Diner located on the northeast corner of 79th Street and Ingleside! Mrs. Hecker would announce the ritual to take place. We would all gather at the counter near the cash register. She then laid hot dog buns one by one on her left bare arm from wrist to shoulder. Then, she placed a steaming hot dog on each bun. Next came mustard and relish — we all waited in awe. Never did she drop a crumb! Gingerly she placed each concoction on a square of wax paper, wrapping them up neatly. The hot dogs were 10 cents; the cherry phosphate, 5 cents.

My friends Virginia Blooster, Marian Brown, Lillian Doherty, Pat Fleming, and Margie Barrett would partake.



Class Photographs

Submitted by Rosemary Maroney, Class of 1937

St. Francis de Paula Grade 5, 1934



St. Francis de Paula Grade 1, 1930



We pray for the repose of the souls of:



Sister Paschal Hocum — February 10, 2022

Sister Paschal, a Clinton Franciscan Sister for 63 years, passed away on February 10, 2022, in Clinton. She ministered as a math instructor in Iowa, Missouri, and California; a part-time mathematics faculty member at Western Illinois University; a Pastoral Associate in Illinois; and in various roles at the Franciscan School of Theology in California. She served as the Vice President of the Sisters of St. Francis from 2004 to 2008 and as administrator of The Canticle for three years. Read her full obituary on our website at www.clintonfranciscans.com.



Margaret (Fitzgerald) Andres — January 15, 2022

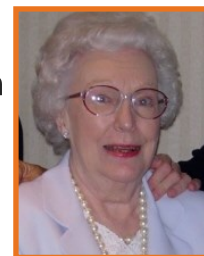
Margaret was a member of the St. Francis de Paula Class of 1942. She was born April 20, 1928, the daughter of Bert and Jennie Fitzgerald. She had one brother, Michael. She married Edwin Andres, C.F.D., and they raised five children. She retired from the Chicago Board of Education with 25 years of dedicated service. Margaret is survived by her five children (Karen, Edwin Jr., Maureen, Rev. Timothy, and Thomas), seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Gerald Mandarin — September 29, 2021

Gerald was a member of the St. Francis de Paula Class of 1959. He was born November 2, 1945, the son of Baptist and Julia Mandarin. He was an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Navy after faithfully serving his country. After leaving the armed forces, he went on to serve as a police officer for many years before retirement. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary; two children, Michael and Angela; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; five brothers; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Rosemary Grant — August 15, 2021

Rosemary was a member of the St. Francis de Paula Class of 1940. She was born August 24, 1926, the daughter of Thomas and Mary Grant. She had three brothers, Joseph, John, and Gerald. Rosemary taught for 37 years with the Chicago Public Schools at Schmid Elementary.



Dominic "Tommy" Rizzi, Sr. — October 3, 2019

Dominic "Tommy" was a member of the St. Francis de Paula Class of 1951. He was the son of Vincent James, Sr. and Thelma. Tommy was a retired Captain of the Chicago Police Department and Director of Security for Standard Parking O'Hare/Midway Airport. He was also head of security for the Chicago White Sox for many years. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; six children; ten grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and two brothers, Vincent James, Jr. and Leonard. He was preceded in death by his parents; siblings John, James Vincent "Joe," Lenora, and Rosemarie; and one granddaughter.



We pray for the repose of the souls of:



Liliana (Palma) Roche — May 4, 2019

Liliana was a member of the St. Francis de Paula Class of 1942. She was born January 5, 1928, the daughter of Elvira and Anacleto Palma. She had two brothers, Leo and Aldo. Liliana married John Roche and was a devoted wife for 65 years until his death in 2014. They raised ten children. She was a proud “Nonny” to twenty-six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Photos from the Past

From the photo archives of the Sisters of St. Francis...

