



Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

On Monday, March 23, 2009, Sister Merwyn Baron slipped quietly from this life to her eternal reward. She had looked forward to celebrating her one hundredth birthday; that celebration will be with her dearly loved family and friends who have preceded her into eternity.

Anna Baron was the daughter of Mary Harligh and John Baron. She was born in Burnside, Illinois, and resided for some time at Guardian Angel Home. Anna attended St. John's Elementary School and St. Francis Academy. She entered this Congregation on September 5, 1927, after graduating from the Academy.

Her desire to become a Franciscan Sister is evident in her letters of request to the Congregation to be allowed to profess first vows in 1930 and final vows in 1933. During her early years in religious life, Anna, now Sister Merwyn, continued her education at the College of St. Francis, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

In 1930, Sister Merwyn began her teaching ministry at St. Peters in Mansfield, Ohio. She was assigned to teach 4th grade, which, according to forms she completed, indicated that 4th grade was her favorite. However, she taught first through fifth grades in many other schools throughout Ohio and Illinois. Her last year of active ministry was at St. Boniface Parish in 1975-76. She retired in 1977 to St. Francis Academy Residence and served some years as a receptionist there.

Alleluia!



Sister M. Merwyn Baron, OSF

One of Sister Merwyn's superiors wrote of Sister's willingness to help out wherever needed. Sister Merwyn felt the need to help her dear Sister Jane, who had been diagnosed with an illness that weakened her greatly and caused her death quite suddenly in 1979. Sister Merwyn mourned her sister's death, but always felt strengthened by the awareness of Sister Jane's presence in her life.

In 1988 Sister Merwyn finally retired to Our Lady of Angels where her time was devoted to prayer and special ministry. The next ten years of her life were relatively calm and peaceful, for in 2008 Sister Merwyn celebrated her 80th year with the Joliet Franciscans. No doubt she felt the presence of her "dear Janie" during this jubilant time!

Then, in March of 2009, Sister Merwyn joined her God and her deceased family members in what must have been a reunion like no other!

We now pray that Sister Merwyn may know all the unimaginable joys the Lord has promised to those who love him and have served him faithfully!

Sister M. Merwyn Baron, OSF

August 6, 1909 — March 23, 2009

<i>Born:</i>	August 6, 1909
<i>Parents:</i>	John and Mary (Harligh) Baron
<i>Postulancy:</i>	September 5, 1927
<i>Novitiate:</i>	August 12, 1928
<i>First Profession:</i>	August 12, 1930
<i>Final Profession:</i>	August 12, 1933
<i>Entered New Life:</i>	March 23, 2009

Ministry History

1930-1937	Teacher: Grades 3 and 4; St. Peter, Mansfield, Ohio
1937-1949	Teacher: Grades 2 and 3; Immaculate Conception, Toledo, Ohio
1949-1950	Teacher: Grade 5; St. Joseph, Joliet, Illinois
1950-1951	Teacher: Grade 4; St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, Illinois
1951-1952	Teacher: Grade 1; St. Joseph, Elgin, Illinois
1952-1954	Teacher: Grade 2; St. Peter, Mansfield
1954-1959	Teacher: Grades 1, 2, 3, 4; Immaculate Conception, Kankakee, Illinois
1959-1960	Teacher: Grade 3; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago
1960-1963	Teacher: Grades 1 and 2; St. Peter, Mansfield
1963-1965	Teacher: Grade 2; Immaculate Conception, Columbus, Ohio
1965-1966	Teacher: Grade 2; Holy Family, Cleveland, Ohio
1966-1967	Teacher: Grades 1 and 2; St. Mary, Green Creek, Illinois
1967-1968	Teacher: Grades 1 and 2; Sacred Heart, Chicago
1968-1970	Teacher: Grade 1; St. Joseph, Joliet
1970-1975	Teacher: Grade 1; St. Boniface, Chicago
1975-1983	Community Service
1983-1988	Receptionist: St. Francis Academy, Joliet
1988-2009	Community Service

<i>Wake:</i>	Thursday, March 26, 2009, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Prayer Service:</i>	Thursday, March 26, 2009, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Mass of Christian Burial:</i>	Thursday, March 26, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Burial:</i>	Friday, March 27, 2009, leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL
<i>Interment:</i>	S8-L367-G1 Resurrection Cemetery
<i>Predeceased by:</i>	Her parents, John and Mary (Harligh) Baron; her brother, Michael (Helen); her sisters, Tillie Hanson and Julie DiBartolo
<i>Survived by:</i>	Her brother, Matthew (Lorrie), nieces and nephews

Rest in Peace, Sister Merwyn