



Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

Born on February 3, 1924, in Cleveland, Ohio, Adeline Beatrice Novak was the youngest of three children born to Charles and Anna Novak. Recognized early on in life as a quiet, responsible and cheerful person, Adeline was a natural born teacher and someone who inspired others by her kindness and gentle manner. From the time of her entrance into the postulancy on September 8, 1942, she embraced her Franciscan vocation wholeheartedly and grounded her commitment to community and service in a life of prayer and spiritual growth.

From 1946 through 1964, Sr. Carol Ann was a devoted instructor who, early on in her career in secondary education, communicated to her colleagues and students alike the importance of allowing literature to be an important resource for reflection on religious themes and issues. As director of Young Christian Students at St. Francis Academy and faculty moderator for the Sodality, Sr. Carol Ann enabled a generation of young women to recognize the interconnectedness of Catholic social action and Marian spirituality. Given her studies and proven abilities in the field of library science, Sr. Carol Ann embarked on a thirty-eight year journey of dedicated service to the University of St. Francis, where she created the conditions necessary to enable the college library to grow and prosper. In the process, she sought to guarantee that those who took advantage of the opportunity to make use of the library's books and materials might better serve God, their neighbors and society. Sr. Carol Ann never lost sight of the multiple ways in which her seemingly "quiet" ministry was a labor of diligence, preparedness and love. As a faithful steward and a committed custodian, her constant prayer was that the books and materials entrusted to her care would be protected from damage, theft and loss. Moreover, she prayed for the students, faculty, administrators and staff who came to her for guidance, assistance and encouragement in their studies, research and enrichment. Being able to help others to locate the

Alleluia!



Sister M. Carol Ann Novak, OSF

best resources available to meet their needs and aspirations brought her an enormous amount of joy and satisfaction. Resonating with the words of the contemporary author Ann Quindlen, Sr. Carol Ann had a deep understanding and appreciation for the ways in which "Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." As an administrator committed to innovation, acquisition and excellence, Sr. Carol Ann worked creatively to make the most of resources within the "limits of the possible."

On November 24, 2009, shortly after midnight, Sr. Carol Ann entered into eternity on the Feast of All Souls of the Seraphic Order. She died as she lived, confident in the faithfulness of the God who had called her by name. In her final hours, Sr. Carol Ann was surrounded by love. At her bedside, she was held and comforted through prayer and song by her Franciscan sisters, cherished by devoted students who were well-represented in the person of Natalie Bayci, touched by the loving words of blessing and gratitude spoken by niece Marilyn, and cared for tenderly by the nurses of Hospice and St. Joseph's Hospital. Let us pray that Sr. Carol Ann's lifelong witness as a woman of prayer and her legacy of unwavering commitment to the ministries of education and administration may continue to be a source of inspiration and edification for us all. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Sister M. Carol Ann Novak, OSF

February 3, 1924 — November 24, 2009

Born: February 3, 1924
Parents: Charles P. and Anna A. (Arnost) Novak
Postulancy: September 8, 1942
Novitiate: August 12, 1943
First Profession: August 12, 1945
Final Profession: August 12, 1948
Entered New Life: November 24, 2009

Ministry History

1945-1946 Student: College of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois
1946-1964 Teacher: English, Religion, Librarian
St. Francis Academy, Joliet, Illinois
1964-2002 Teacher: Library Science and Director of Library Services
University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois
2002 –2003 Community Service, Motherhouse, Joliet , Illinois
April 2003-2009 Community Service, Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, Illinois

Wake: Friday, November 27, 2009, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Prayer Service: Friday, November 27, 2009, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Mass of Christian Burial: Friday, November 27, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
Burial: Saturday, November 28, 2009, leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to
Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, Illinois
Interment: Resurrection Cemetery: Section 8, Lot 364, Grave 12
Predeceased by: Her parents, Charles and Anna (Arnost) Novak; her brother, George and sister,
Lillian Frater
Survived by: Niece Marilyn Frater

Rest in Peace, Sister Carol Ann