

Sisters of St. Francis

of Mary Immaculate

So many of our sisters came to know us during grade school. Patricia Ann Wagner felt drawn to being a teacher, a Franciscan sister and a musician while she was a student at St. Pascal School in Chicago in the 1930s and 1940s. There she was encouraged by both teachers and her parents to pursue her dreams. Born on January 10, 1933, she was the only child of Rose (Pahr) and Frank Wagner.

After attending high school at St. Francis Academy in Joliet and living at the Prep, Pat joined the Joliet Franciscans in 1949 and received the name Sister M. Rosalima, named after the Peruvian St. Rose of Lima. She graduated from the College of St. Francis and earned a Masters degree from DePaul University.

Pat's many talents served her well in a variety of ministries and hobbies. In 1952, she began a 17 year ministry as teacher, organist and principal at schools in Illinois and Ohio. She then served on the faculty of Education Department at the College of St. Francis for 10 years, pursuing further studies in curriculum and educational methods — areas of study that she was responsible for teaching. As a supervisor of student teachers, she helped to launch the careers of many elementary school teachers during her tenure as a college instructor.

CSF reluctantly accepted her resignation when she returned to parish work at Divine Savior in Norridge, Illinois, where she was the Director of Religious Education and Family Life. At one point, when she was supposed to be on sabbatical, Sr. Pat

Alleluia!



Sister Patricia A. Wagner, OSF

accepted a full time teaching position in fifth grade for a year and called it a “wonderful experience.” This could only be said by a born teacher! Pat later ministered at the Fran Center in Darien, Illinois, and taught literacy at Joliet Junior College.

Pat and her great friend Sr. Mary Ann Clark spent many years in one another's company, in ministry together and living and praying together right up to Pat's passing on June 28th, 2022. Pat had chosen the readings for her funeral, including scripture passages and Franciscan writings that clearly spoke to a spirituality of the cross Jesus bore. Pat too bore her crosses. This aspect of her spirituality was inspired and modeled by another dear friend and colleague, Sr. Anita Marie Jochem, with whom she lived and worked at CSF. Of Anita Marie, Pat wrote, “She gave me a sense of pride in sharing her living and dying. She gave me courage to slow down and walk with people and listen to the heart of those around me.” Pat learned those lessons well as she continued in that same spirit until the day she left us to meet the crucified Christ whom she loved so well. Amen! Alleluia!

Sister Patricia A. Wagner, OSF

January 10, 1933 — June 28, 2022

<i>Born:</i>	January 10, 1933
<i>Parents:</i>	Frank C. Wagner and Rose Pahr
<i>Postulancy:</i>	September 6, 1948
<i>Novitiate:</i>	August 12, 1949
<i>First Profession:</i>	August 12, 1951
<i>Final Profession:</i>	August 13, 1954
<i>Entered New Life:</i>	June 28, 2022

Ministry History

1951-1952	Teacher: Grade 4, St. Bernard, Joliet, Illinois
1952-1956	Teacher and Organist: Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, Music, St. Paul the Apostle, Joliet
1956-1959	Teacher and Organist: Grades 6, 7, 8, St. Ann, Lansing, Illinois
1959-1960	Teacher and Organist: Grade 7, St. Paul the Apostle, Joliet
1960-1961	Teacher and Organist: Grade 7, Music, St. Pius X, Lombard, Illinois
1961-1962	Teacher and Organist: Grades 5, 6, Music, St. Mary, Mount Vernon, Illinois
1962-1968	Superintendent/Principal/Teacher/Organist: Grade 8, St. Jude, Cleveland, Ohio
1968-1971	Education Department: College of St. Francis, Joliet
1971-1973	Student/Graduate Study: George Peabody Teachers College, Nashville, Tennessee
1973-1978	Teacher: Education, College of St. Francis, Joliet
1978-1979	Religious Education Coordinator: Divine Savior, Norridge, Illinois
1979-1980	Pastoral Minister: Divine Savior, Norridge
1980-1981	Teacher: Divine Savior, Norridge
1981-1982	Teacher: Lorraine Young Learning Center, Inc., Darien, Illinois
1982-1984	Administrator: Fran Center, Inc., Darien
1984-1985	Teacher/Therapist: Divine Savior/Fran Center, Norridge/Darien
1985-1987	Ministry to Family/Teacher: CCD-Junior High, Mother's Residence/Divine Savior, Norridge
1987-1989	Ministry to Family/Director of Religious Education: Mother's Residence/Divine Savior, Norridge
1989-1992	Ministry to Family/Director of Family Life/CCD: Divine Savior, Norridge
1992-1993	Family Care: Mother's Residence, Norridge
1993-1995	Center for Adult Basic Education and Literacy: Joliet Junior College, Joliet
1995-1999	Resident Coordinator: Motherhouse, Joliet
1999-2000	Residential Manager: St. Elizabeth Home, Joliet
2000-2005	Support Services Administrator: Fran Center, Darien
2005-2015	Volunteer: Joliet
2015-2019	Volunteer/Ministry of Prayer/Assist in OLA Resident Life: OLA, Joliet
2019-2022	Volunteer/Ministry of Prayer: OLA, Joliet

<i>Interment:</i>	Section 8, Lot 329, Grave 2B, Resurrection Cemetery
<i>Predeceased by:</i>	Her parents, Frank C. Wagner and Rose Pahr
<i>Survived by:</i>	Her devoted cousins, classmates in religious life, close friend Sister Mary Ann Clark, numerous friends, students, and many acquaintances.

Rest in Peace, Sister Patricia!