

Sister Catherine Boland, CSA

Sister Catherine (formerly Mary Joseph) Boland, CSA, 78, of Fond du Lac passed away at Nazareth Center on Monday, December 17, 2007.

Sister was born in Gallitzen, Pennsylvania, on March 11, 1929, a daughter to James and Marie Isabelle (Litzinger) Boland. She made her profession of vows with the Sisters of St. Agnes on August 15, 1951.

From her profession until her recent retirement, Sister Catherine was an educator, with a B.S.Ed. from Marian College of Fond du Lac and Masters in Education from Duquesne University. Her first thirty-six years were spent teaching elementary school children in Pennsylvania, New York, Kansas, Indiana, and Wisconsin. The next ten years, she continued tutoring small groups on a part-time basis. From 1997 until very recently she participated in the Foster Grandparents Program, tutoring first graders in reading. Her calm and gentle manner made her approachable by students.

Both in the classroom and outside of it, Sister Catherine was a friendly, pleasant person. Everything she did, she did with great care. Although a private person, she made no secret of her great loves: prayer, God, God's Mother Mary, sunshine, singing, simple pleasures, and family. She was grateful for every favor done for her and never failed to say thank you. After several months of struggling with illness, she left this life as quietly and as privately as she had lived.

Sister Catherine is survived by one brother, William (Winifred) Boland of Bridgeville, Pennsylvania, one sister, Mary Ann (Raymond) Steinbugl of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, one brother-in-law, George O'Friel of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, nieces, nephews, other relatives, friends and the Sisters of St. Agnes with whom she ministered and lived.

Preceding Sister in death are her parents and one sister, Lois O'Friel.

Visitation: The family and the Sisters of St. Agnes will receive relatives and friends from 9:30 a.m. until 1:15 p.m. on Saturday, December 22, 2007, at Nazareth Court and Center, 375 Gillett Street, Fond du Lac. A prayer service will be held there at 11:00 a.m.

Services: A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 22, 2007, in the St. Francis Home Chapel, 33 Everett Street, Fond du Lac. The Rev. Edward Sippel will preside. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Springs Cemetery.

The Sisters of St. Agnes are grateful to the nurses and staff at Nazareth Court/Center and St. Francis Home for their care for Sister Catherine in these last months.

Memorials may be directed to the Sisters of St. Agnes Development Office, 320 County Road K, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

