

Sister Mary Victoria Pozorski, CSA

Sister Mary Victoria (Agnes Gertrude) Pozorski CSA, 89, a resident at St. Francis Home, passed away Monday, April 14, 2008, at her home.

She was born on October 22, 1918, in Clarissa, Minnesota, a daughter to the late Felix and Gertrude Ostrowski Pozorski.

Sister Mary Victoria was an educator for more than fifty years after her profession of vows in August, 1938. Having earned a BS in Education from Marian College of Fond du Lac and an MA in history from DePaul University in Chicago, she taught and served terms as Vice Principal or Principal in Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Wisconsin, and New Mexico. As a teacher she continued her education to include mathematics, religious studies, and enrichment courses. Her students ranged from intermediate grades through high school and her classes from history and social studies to mathematics and special education to Latin and English as a Second Language (ESL). She loved teaching and some of her students became lifelong friends.



With such a broad education and wide interests, Sister Mary Victoria kept abreast of current issues. She lists four languages of which she had at least a reading knowledge: Polish, Latin, German, and Spanish. Her compassionate heart led her to reach out to those who were often overlooked in society. She spent several summers with the Latin American Mission Program (LAMP) serving poor areas of Mexico. Sister's last several years of active ministry were in Farmington and Lumberton, New Mexico. At various times, she taught ESL courses to Hispanic people and Civics to undocumented persons; visited the sick, mostly Native Americans, in a local nursing home; worked with the San Juan Catholic Charities, one year with an emphasis on the Amnesty Program; taught religion and social studies courses in a local school; and served as principal of a Catholic school in Lumberton.

With firm determination and strong principles, Sister Mary Victoria was a committed woman religious whose desire to serve God and others bore fruit in her long life of prayer and ministry. She had another, creative side which revealed itself in her cooking and baking; her love for gardening; and her study of nature, especially geology and anthropology. Many Sisters and visitors experienced her hospitality, at times including her own cinnamon-pecan rolls, cookies, or other delicacies.

Nearly half way through her eighties, Sister retired to Nazareth Center and then St. Francis Home. In these six years she has welcomed visits from family, friends, former students, and Sisters of St. Agnes. Even when her health declined to the point where she could no longer join in conversations, she was often aware of visitors and reacted to letters, cards, anecdotes, and questions with a smile or a clear indication of her desire. She was looking forward to celebrating her seventy years as a Sister of St. Agnes in July. The wonderful singing voice that she had in earlier days will surely be heard in the heavenly courts as she sings with the choirs of angels and saints.

Survivors include three sisters, Evelyn Pozorski of Plymouth, Indiana, Florence (Matthew) Paul of Winfield, Kansas, and Mary Ann Best of Indianapolis, Indiana; three brothers, Francis Pozorski of Kokomo, Indiana, Ambrose Pozorski of Plymouth, Indiana, and Lawrence Pozorski of Warsaw, Indiana; nieces, nephews, other relatives, friends, and the members of the Congregation of Saint Agnes with whom she lived and ministered.

Visitation: Visitation for Sister will be held on Friday, April 18, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Nazareth Court and Center, 375 Gillett Street, where a prayer service will be held at 11:00 a.m.

Services: A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 18, at the St. Francis Home Chapel, 33 Everett Street. Fr. Edward Sippel will officiate. Burial will be in St. Joseph Springs Cemetery, Fond du Lac.

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

The Sisters of St. Agnes are grateful to the nurses and staff at the St. Francis Home and Hospice Hope for their care of Sister Mary Victoria.