Sister Judith Smits, CSA

Sister Judith Smits, CSA, (formerly Sister Josepha) died peacefully on Sunday, July 15, 2012, at Nazareth Center in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. This day was Jubilee Sunday for the congregation. Sister Judith was celebrating her 50th Jubilee as a member of the Sisters of St. Agnes. She is truly celebrating an eternal Jubilee.

Judith was born January 20, 1941, in Rockford, Illinois to Julia Agnes Holland and George Joseph Smits. She had a brother and two sisters. The family moved to Two Rivers, Wisconsin, while the children were still in grade school. Judith was professed August 15, 1962. She taught in Houghton, Michigan; Defiance, Ohio; St. John, Wisconsin; and Bronx, New York. After receiving a Masters Degree in Theological Studies she ministered as a Religious Education Coordinator in Gallup, New Mexico; Farmington, New Mexico; Nogales, Arizona; and Tucson, Arizona. Judith also received a Social Work, Social Justice Associate Degree which she put to good use in Mobile, Alabama, at the Service Center and at the Quest for Social Justice.

Sister Judith was preceded in death by her parents, George Smits and Julia Holland Smits, her brother George Henry Smits, and her sister Patricia Elizabeth Smits. She is survived by her sister, Sister Charlotte Smits, SSSF/OSF, and the Sisters of St. Agnes, with whom she lived, prayed, and ministered.

Visitation will be at Nazareth Court and Center on Monday, July 23, at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Prayer Service at 11:00 a.m. A Memorial Mass and burial will be on Monday at 2:00 p.m. in St. Francis Home Chapel.

Memorials: may be directed to the Sisters of St. Agnes Development Office, 320 County K Road, Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

The Sisters of St. Agnes are grateful to the nurses and staff of Nazareth Court and Center for their care of Sister Judith this past year and for the staff of Hospice Hope.

Zacherl Funeral Home is serving the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Agnes.