Sister Agnes Rita Fisette

Sister Agnes Rita Fisette, CSA, 91, a resident of St. Francis Home in Fond du Lac, died at the Home on Friday, June 30, 2006.

Sister Agnes Rita was born on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1914, in Dollar Bay, Michigan, the sixth of seven children of Louis and Georgietta Duteau Fisette.

Sister entered the Congregation of Saint Agnes in Fond du Lac, from St. Peter Parish in Marquette, Michigan, in 1932 and professed her vows on August 15, 1935.

Sister Agnes Rita was a gifted woman and shared those multiple gifts in her 71 years as a Sister of St. Agnes. In her first ten years as a sister, she shared her culinary skills with her sisters in Wisconsin and with the orphans in Marquette, Michigan. In 1945, Sister volunteered to be one of the first four Sisters of St. Agnes to go as missionaries to Waspam, Nicaragua. Sister returned home after eight years having struggled multiple times with malaria. After a long struggle to regain her strength, Sister Agnes Rita went to work at Holy Family Home in Marquette, Michigan. At first she worked with troubled girls from the ages of 12 to 16 and then, in 1962, responded to the invitation to be housemother for high school and college age young men who were Cuban refugees. Until the time of her death, Sister continued to hear from those men she assisted so many years ago. After leaving that position in 1963, Sister continued to share God’s love in multiple ways in Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York, Alabama, and Michigan.

Survivors include two nieces, Georgia (Bob) Maynard of Harvey, Michigan, and Judy Fisette of Port Falls, Idaho; other relatives and friends; and members of the Congregation of Saint Agnes with whom she lived and ministered.

Sister Agnes Rita was preceded in death by six brothers and sisters, Dorothy, Isabelle, Harvey, Gordon, Howard and Wilson.

Services: A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, July 3, 2006, at St. Francis Home Chapel at 33 Everett St. in Fond du Lac. The Rev. Edward Sippel will be the celebrant. Burial will follow the Mass and will be at St. Joseph Springs Cemetery in Fond du Lac.

Visitation: Visitation will be held after 9 p.m. on Monday, July 3, 2006, at Nazareth Court, 375 Gillett Street, in Fond du Lac, where a prayer service will be held at 2 p.m.