

Sister Rosemarie Miller
August 27, 1917 – December 22, 2013

Sister Rosemarie was born August 27, 1917 at the family homestead in Denton Montana. Sister Rosemarie parents John Miller and Margaret O'Donnell Miller, had their daughter baptized Margaret Loretta on December 23, 1918 at the Sacred Heart Church in Greybull, Wyoming. Until the seventh grade, Sister Rosemarie lived and attended public school in Basin Wyoming. After the seventh grade, she moved to O'Neill Nebraska to attend boarding school at St Mary's Academy.

It was here she met the Sisters of St Francis of Penance and Christian Charity. In September of 1931, Sister Rosemarie went to Stella Niagara, New York to enter the convent of the Sisters of St Francis. She made her temporary August 17, 1939 and final vows August 15, 1941 at Marycrest, in Denver Colorado. Sister Rosemarie was one of the first three Sisters to make vows in the Midwest Province, Sacred Heart. She was the last Sister to die from this group and would have celebrated her 75th jubilee next year (2014).

Sr. Rosemarie's first assignment was at St Agnes Academy in Alliance NE. She served as house mother for the girls, portress, receptionist, sacristan (taking care of the chapel), by serving guests and in domestic house work. She had the same assignment at St Mary's Academy in O'Neill NE. Sr. Rosemarie spent six years at St. Francis Indian Mission in South Dakota there she worked in the boarding school with the boys and in the sewing room with girls. She was sacristan, and cared for the guests by cleaning rooms and serving them meals.

At the age of forty-five she completed LPN, licensed practical nurse, training in Alliance NE. Sr. Rosemarie worked seventeen years in medical institutions sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis. These included St. Joseph Hospital in Minot ND, St. Joseph Hospital/Gerontology Center in Alliance NE, St. Mary's Hospital in Scottsbluff NE and St. Anthony Hospital in O'Neill NE.

Sr. Rosemarie volunteered and worked in hospitality at St Joseph Hospital in Minot ND, and at Marycrest, the motherhouse, in Denver CO after retiring from nursing. After retiring because of poor health Sister Rosemarie had more time for prayer and fasting, intercessory prayer and scripture study. She had a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother of Jesus and was faithful to praying the rosary during the week with parish members from Holy Rosary Catholic Church when she was able, and when her physical health prevented her from doing this she prayed it privately.

The last several years of her life Sr. Rosemarie graciously accepted her poor health. Upon entering her room, there was felt presence of peace. Sisters and staff stopped in her room to pray with her, to pray silently or to sing a song for her. A saying Sr. Rosemarie often said was "I thank God for His goodness and mercy and his love for me."

Sr. Rosemarie died peacefully 5:30 in the morning on Friday December 20, 2013. Her wake was held on December 22 (where wonderful stories were told about her life) and was followed by a Mass of the Resurrection on Monday, December 23, 2013 at Marian Residence, both presided over by Fr. Lou Nollette. She was buried with the Sisters at Calvary Alliance Cemetery.