

Obituary of Sister Mary Carmeline Bielawski, CSSF

SISTER MARY CARMELINE, Estelle Bielawski of Lowell, Massachusetts, age 91, religious 75 years, entered eternal life March 29, 2010 in Blessed Mary Angela Convent, Livonia, Michigan.

Born on February 24, 1919 in Lowell, Massachusetts, and baptized at Holy Trinity Church in Lowell, she was the eldest of three children. Her parents, Adolph and Anna (Swiecicki), moved to Detroit where Estelle attended St. Stanislaus School. She entered the Seminary of the Felician Sisters (Felician Academy) in Detroit for high school and was accepted into the Postulancy of the Felician Sisters in 1935. At the investiture ceremonies she received the name, Sister Mary Carmeline.

Sister Carmeline earned a Bachelor of Arts from Madonna University and a Master of Arts from Notre Dame in preparation for a ministry of education that spanned 39 years. She touched many lives in the following Michigan schools: Our Lady Help of Christians, St. Andrew, Patronage of St. Joseph, St. Casimir, St. Hyacinth and St. Christine – all in Detroit; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Wyandotte; St. Mary Catholic Central, Alpena; Catholic Central, Muskegon; Lumen Christi, Jackson, and St. Edith, Livonia.

Although Sister Mary Carmeline's teaching days came to a close in 1983, she was engaged in various ministries as Vocation Director, Provincial Councilor, and Administrative Assistant at St. Joseph Home, Jackson and Provincial Archivist. Sister spent two years in the House of Prayer.

Afflicted with asthma for many years Sister Carmeline returned from an extended stay in the hospital and remained on hospice care until she slipped peacefully into God's eternal embrace just after midnight on March 29.

Translation services were conducted on Wednesday, March 31 at 10:00 a.m. by Reverend William Murphy. The Mass of Resurrection was celebrated by Father Murphy at 10:30 a.m. in the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Chapel of the Felician Sisters Convent, Livonia, Michigan. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, Michigan.