

Caritas

A publication for the Sisters of Providence and Friends ● WINTER 2001

Providence Pilgrims Travel to Rome to Witness



THE BEATIFICATION OF EMILIE GAMELIN

In early October, hundreds of Providence pilgrims— Sisters of Providence, Associates, family and friends — traveled to the Vatican for the beatification of foundress Emilie Tavernier Gamelin. Their journey was challenging, enlightening, historic, and deeply spiritual. Each pilgrim has a story to tell, but Sister Barbara Schamber's daily e-mail missives home to the Sisters of Mother Joseph Province who did not make the trip, reprinted in part inside *Caritas*, reflect the flavor of the experience. ●

Thursday, October 4, 2001



At 7:15 p.m. (4:15 a.m. Friday in Italy), Sr. Barbara called from her hotel in Rome. She said everyone had arrived safely in Rome and that only one piece of luggage did not arrive with the travelers.

Sr. Barbara will call each evening with an update of the activities of the day. A summary of her calls will be sent in the next broadcast e-mail.

Sr. Barbara sends her greetings and an assurance of her prayers for those at home during these special days of grace. She thanks everyone for their prayers for the safety of the travelers.

Friday, October 5, 2001

The Sisters from the Philippine sector are arriving Saturday. They are the last of the Providence pilgrims to arrive in Rome.

Sr. Bev Dunn's step-father, Johnston J. Ford, collapsed on Friday during the tour of St. Peter's Basilica. He is in the hospital in Rome and may be suffering from cardiac arrest. Please keep Mr. Ford, his wife and Sr. Bev in your prayers.

Today, for the first time, we were able to see all of the Providence pilgrims. We were organized into groups of 30, each with our own tour guide. In hot and very humid weather, we spent the entire day walking.

Our first tour was St. Peter's Basilica. The experience of being there in that magnificent place was overwhelming. Everywhere we looked, we saw other groups of Sisters of Providence, Providence Associates, and Providence friends and family.

After touring all morning, we took a 45-minute walk (in the mid-day heat and humidity) to an Italian restaurant for lunch – spaghetti followed by meat, potatoes, salad, fruit and dessert!

In the afternoon, we toured the Vatican Museum, which contains the Pope's library and collections. Then we visited the Sistine Chapel. The frescoes in this chapel have been restored and are very beautiful. We were invited to spend about a half hour in quiet meditation. There are more

than 500 persons walking through the chapel at any one time and the guards call out periodically, "Silence, silence." Though it was very quiet, the aura of the chapel and the many people there made it a bit difficult to enter into quiet meditation.

At 4 p.m. we were back in the buses and returned to our hotels. In the evening, we were served another fabulous Italian meal. During supper, Sr. Carolyn Koreski led the English

contingent in practicing the song, "Holy Ground." We will be singing this hymn at the Beatification Mass.

Sr. Jacqueline Fernandes passed out the yellow gold scarves identifying us as pilgrims representing Mother Gamelin and the beatification medal. It was a moving moment as each of us received ours.

Today, we saw the huge tractor-trailers unloading thousands of chairs in St. Peter's for the 30,000 persons who will be in the square for the Beatification Mass at 9:15 on Sunday morning. Our prayers and thoughts are with you. It is a profoundly moving experience to share to be here with so many Sisters of Providence, Providence Associates, family and friends of Providence.

Lovingly in Providence,
Sr. Barbara



Saturday, October 6, 2001

Today, many of the Providence pilgrims toured famous monuments in Rome, including the Trevi fountain and the piazzas, riding buses and walking. A number of persons stayed at their hotels in order to be rested for tomorrow, Sunday, the day of the Beatification.

Today, Sr. Helen Brennan fell getting off the bus and broke her arm. Sr. Joan

Campbell fell on the cobblestones and needed stitches for a cut on her head. Both Joan and Helen were in the emergency room for a time.



PHOTO CREDITS:

Many thanks to Sisters Felma Cerezo and Rosalie Locati for the photographs in this issue of *Caritas*.

Think you have enough equipment there?



Snapshots



Follow that thing sticking up in the air – the flag, sunflower, rose, whatever. Just follow it or get left behind.



Guess what's for dinner?



A new modified habit



Careful now. As one wise woman said, Rome is a trippy place. These two have the scars to prove it.



Ahhh. The end of another perfect day.



Now, how does that go? Agua, no gas?



Sr. Claudette Chenier from Montreal fell and broke a bone in her shoulder and she, too, was treated in the emergency room.

Each evening, just before we go to supper, we meet to reflect and share on the experiences of our day and to pray together. This evening, we agreed to be even more watchful of each other and to take good care of each other. We also talked in preparation for Sunday's Beatification. Because of the intense humidity, the large crowds and the long service in the sun, we will be taking our water bottles and wearing our hats.

The excitement is growing among us. Some of us saw the different banners for those who will be beatified being hung in St. Peter's Square, and Mother Gamelin's banner was among them. All of the banners are covered now, waiting to be unveiled.

We learned today that yellow is a popular color and that we will not be the only group wearing the yellow scarves.

Sr. Bev Dunn's stepfather, Mr. Ford, will remain under observation in the hospital through Sunday. Sr. Bev is working with the travel agency to make arrangements for her parents to return to the United States.

We are praying with and for all of you as we celebrate together this wonderful, beautiful and graced event in our Providence Community.

Lovingly in Providence,
Sr. Barbara



Sunday, October 7, 2001

Day of the Beatification of Mother Emilie Gamelin...what a day it was! How will we ever recount the emotion of this day -- the pageantry, the ritual, all the people gathered in St. Peter's Basilica...and Emilie Gamelin?

We left for St. Peter's about 7 a.m. What an experience it was to see us all in black and white (a few blues) with our yellow scarves. We boarded the bus and sang "Providence of God".

We were met by our guide on our arrival at St. Peter's and we waited in line for about ten minutes, then we went into the basilica. The Sisters of Providence in wheelchairs went through the first gate (I was with Sr. Carolyn Koreski) and were positioned at the base of the steps leading up to the platform in front of the main altar, about 14 steps from where the Holy Father would be saying Mass. We were that close!

It was beautiful to see the thousands of persons and the many colors.

As we waited, we were handed the book for the liturgy. It is about one inch thick and has a picture of each one who is to be beatified. The picture of Mother Emilie Gamelin that was chosen for this book is the one done by Sidney Lawrence which hangs in our houses and institutions.

At 8:45 a.m., the bells began to ring, all the bells of St. Peter's! We could feel the pulse of these bells in our bodies.

Just before the liturgy began, announcements were made regarding the persons to be beatified in the different languages - French, English, Russian, German.

The announcement for Mother Emilie Gamelin, the fifth, was read in French by Sr. Celine Brousseau, in English by Sr. Linda Jo Reynolds, and in Spanish by Sr. Maria Antonieta Trimpay. (The sound system in the basilica is as clear as a bell. Wonderful!)

These readings were followed by a procession (across the platform in front of the altar) of the dignitaries and their spouses from the various countries. The women were in long, black dresses with mantillas reaching to the floor and held by combs. The men were in tuxedos and white ties.

The Mass began with the entrance procession. First came the acolytes followed by about 60 bishops in green vestments. They were followed by ten bishops representing the countries of those to be beatified, who would be with the Holy Father at the altar during the Mass. The Holy Father entered wearing a beautiful green vestment and mitre, a gift of the Sisters of Providence and another religious community who also have a person beatified today. The Holy Father took his chair in the front of the altar.

Bishops or cardinals from the city of the beatified persons read documents extolling the virtues of those to be beatified. Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte of Montreal read about Emilie Tavernier Gamelin, religious and founder. The relics were brought up and placed on the altar--Blessed Emilie Gamelin's by Sr. Julie Macasieb of the Philippine Sector. The Holy Father spoke about each person and it was an emotional moment for us when he read, very clearly, in Italian: "Emilie Tavernier Gamelin."

The Eucharistic celebration was very formal. The first reading was in German and Sr. Pauline Massicotte read the second in French. The Holy Father gave the homily and spoke about each of the beatified persons in the language of their country. (He spoke about Mother Emilie Gamelin in French)



Pope John Paul II waves from his "pope-mobile."



Sr. Barbara Schamber, Team Leader/Provincial, joins in the processional at a Mass of Thanksgiving.



The congregation thanks Sr. Therese Frigon for her work on the beatification of Emilie Gamelin.



Superior General Sr. Gloria Keylor welcomes guests to the Mass of Thanksgiving.

Srs. Gloria Keylor, Therese Frigon, Rollande Malo and Yannick (the man who was cured through the intercession of Mother Emilie Gamelin) received Communion from the Holy Father.

At the end of the liturgy, the Holy Father said again the names of all the newly beatified and spoke in all their languages. In English, he spoke to us and asked us to pray for peace, to say the Rosary in October for peace in the world. Then we received the Papal Blessing.

The "Pope-mobile" arrived and went up the ramp to the altar. The Holy Father got into this vehicle and he went out the back. We moved out of the basilica and were placed in straight lines. No one moved. Then, the Holy Father came in his "Pope-mobile" to bless all those in the wheelchairs. (I was with Sr. Carolyn, pushing her wheelchair.) He was close enough for us to touch him. There was a severely handicapped boy near us and the Holy Father stopped right in front of him. The boy's father lifted him up and he was blessed and kissed by the Holy Father, who then left. He had stopped only to bless those in the wheelchairs.

The Sisters of Providence gathered into the buses and went to the Canadian Embassy for a three-hour reception. (The lay persons went to a restaurant for a meal.) For the first time, we 300 SPs were all together in one place and we had our picture taken.

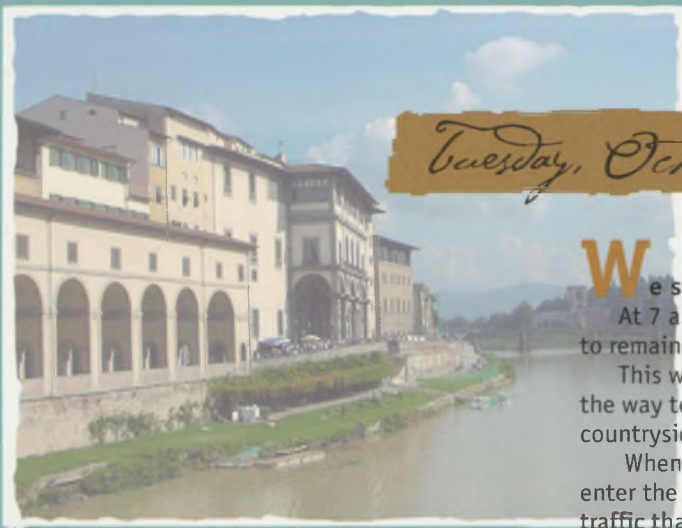
After the reception, we took buses back to our hotels. Most of the Sisters went to bed...it had been a long, emotional and beautiful day.

You are all in our thoughts and prayers and we know that you are praying for us. We heard a brief announcement of the attacks on Afghanistan and we join you in prayers for an end to violence, for peace and for safety for everyone.

Let us give thanks to God for Blessed Emilie Gamelin and ask her to intercede for us for peace in the world, for compassion and justice for those persons who are most in need in our world.

Lovingly in Providence,
Sr. Barbara





Tuesday, October 9, 2001

We spent today in the city of artists -- Florence, Italy.

At 7 a.m., we boarded our buses for the four-hour trip. Some of us chose to remain in Rome and to spend the day resting and relaxing.

This was our first opportunity to travel outside the city of Rome, and on the way to Florence we had an opportunity to see the beautiful Italian countryside -- lush rolling greenery and trees. It was a beautiful drive.

When we arrived at the outskirts of Florence, we stopped and got a pass to enter the city. The city of Florence keeps control of the amount of tourist traffic that enters the city.

The buses are not allowed to go beyond their parking area, and so we made the 45-minute walk into the city of Florence.

In the city, the roads are very narrow and there are many cars, motorcycles and city buses. Our guides were looking for breaks in the traffic so that some of us could get across the streets. And these streets are made of huge cobblestones from the 14th century, uneven with rough edges.

The wheelchairs have special difficulty on these cobblestone pavements and there are no "handicapped access curbs." People have been so good to help with the wheelchairs, sometimes for two or more miles at a time.

We are in groups and each group has two tour guides. We were free to choose where we wanted to go after lunch. Some groups chose to take the two-hour tour of Florence. Others chose to shop and others went directly to Michelangelo's museum to spend time there.

We all met at 4 p.m. at the museum and viewed the work of Michelangelo, especially "David," which is truly magnificent. In the museum, there are huge marble blocks of carvings never finished or, some say, they are finished. In this latter view, the carvings portray "man coming out of a block of marble."

We took taxis or made the 55-minute walk back to where the buses were parked, boarded the buses and made the trip back to Rome. We arrived at our hotel at 9:30 p.m. and were at our restaurant by 10 p.m. Every other time we have been at the restaurant around 7:30 p.m. and there weren't many people there. Tonight, at this hour, the restaurant was very crowded. This is the supper hour in Italy! We had ordered a light supper of pizza and salad and so were able to eat without much waiting and return to the hotel for a short night's sleep.

Once again, we are remembering you in our prayers and though we do not have much access to the "news of the world," we are with you in prayer for an end to violence and for peace with justice in our world. Providence of God, we hope in you.

Lovingly in Providence,
Sr. Barbara



Wednesday, October 10, 2001

The trip to Assisi was beautiful and not without its anxious moments. We boarded our buses and left the hotels at 7 a.m. for the three-hour drive. We were on the main highway for a time and then we were on back roads that took us through some beautiful countryside.

Assisi is up on the top of a mountain and the city has a lower and an upper part. The buses took us to the Santa Maria section of the city, where there is a very large basilica, built in 1211, with an imposing and huge dome. Inside this basilica is another, smaller church, and the place where St. Clare received the veil from St. Francis. This church is called "The Portiuncula."

There are beautiful paintings in this huge cathedral. It is so large and the altar so far back that television screens are used to show the altar during Mass.

Our Mass was celebrated by Bishop Gean-Juy Hamelin from Quebec. He greeted us in English, French and Spanish, but he gave the homily in French.

Sr. Pierrette Chevette had prepared this liturgy. The logistics, the materials and the remote and immediate preparations are amazing -- the large picture of Mother Gamelin in the basilica for this liturgy, the liturgical books in three languages, the vestments, the music...

At the conclusion of this liturgy, Gloria thanked Sr. Rollande Malo for all she had done to make this pilgrimage possible. There was a long and enthusiastic applause of thanks.

After the liturgy, all of the Providence pilgrims gathered for a lunch together. This was the first joint meal for all of the language groups together and it was a grand occasion.

Then we took the buses up to the upper level of Assisi. The 15-minute bus ride was like going up to Snoqualmie Pass.

What a view of the valley below! Then we walked or took the escalators up to the Monastery of St. Clare and the Church of St. Clare. All of these buildings still have the scaffoldings around them. It is three years since earthquakes did significant damage to these structures. St. Clare is buried in this church.

Then we walked down very steep steps or took one of the taxis to the Basilica of St. Francis. The entire roof of this church is caved in and is under repair. There is a second chapel one level below the main church and a third chapel below that. This third-level chapel is in honor of St. Francis. One more level down and we were at the tomb of St. Francis. It is hard to explain the feelings at being present at the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi.

We left the basilica and boarded our buses, ready for the trip back to Rome. The count was taken and two persons, Billy Jo and Jerry Cooper, Providence Associates from Great Falls, were missing. We waited, waited, and they didn't come. Some of us wanted to go and look for them but the guides would not let us off the buses. Sister Roberta Rorke said, "Let's ask Mother Gamelin to find them," and we prayed. At 5 p.m. the buses left without them. Our tour guides said the buses must go on schedule. Needless to say, we all were quite worried about them and could not imagine what had happened. The Coopers had been more than prompt on every other occasion and it was not typical for them to miss a departure time.

About an hour into our return trip, I received a cell phone call. It was from the Coopers. Billie Jo had hurt her back and they had stopped in a restaurant for her to rest. By the time they got a taxi and made it to the bus parking area, the buses had left. They said they would catch a train, transfer once and, after arriving in Rome, take a taxi to the hotel.

We arrived in Rome and were in the restaurant for supper about 10:30 p.m. when Jerry walked in. What a relief it was to see him and to know that they were okay and back with us!

We returned to our hotel, grateful for the wonderful day and especially grateful that the Coopers were back, safe and sound. (Billie Jo is doing well.)

Everyone is doing well through the activity-packed days. We are staying in 12 different hotels here in Rome. For example, some of us are in a hotel on the outskirts of Rome, about an hour's travel from the center of the city, and others are in the heart of the city.

We had a USA Today paper today and were able to read some of the stories about the attacks on Afghanistan and related news.

Let us continue to thank God for the blessings of these days and for peace and justice for all in our world.

Lovingly in Providence,
Sr. Barbara



Thursday, October 11, 2001

Today was a "do whatever you want to do" day, and it was most welcome!

Some of us visited the churches of Rome and the catacombs. Others took taxis and visited special places of interest, and some of us took time to do some shopping.

Those who visited the catacombs of San Sebastian said that there are about 40 miles of underground caverns in this catacomb. It is dark and very cool there, like a coal mine, and it is very important to stay close together while touring. The guides insisted that no one wander away from the group, as it would be very easy to become lost in one or another of the tunnels. On the sides of the tunnels are platforms where the Christians are buried. Some of these tombs are marked with a marble slab and others are open. This is truly the site of "the underground church of the martyrs."

I learned today that we had a couple of mishaps yesterday in Assisi. Sr. Lillian DesLauriers was hit by a car and is black and blue. Another sister from Quebec was hit by a motorcycle. Both Lillian and the other sister are bruised but otherwise are doing fine.

Sr. Roberta Rorke will leave a day early and will be back in Seattle on Saturday evening. She will go directly to Yakima to be with her mother, who has been ill, and with other members of her family who are there.

Tomorrow, we start our day a bit later. At 9:30 a.m. we will board the buses for a visit to the Tivoli Gardens and we'll spend part of the day preparing for our departure early Saturday morning. We'll leave for the airport at 5:30 a.m. Saturday and are scheduled to arrive at SeaTac on Saturday evening.

It has been a blessed and wonderful pilgrimage. We are so very grateful and we are looking forward to being home once again. We are ready to come home!

We are united with you in a prayer of gratitude to our Provident God and we thank you for your prayers. Please pray for a safe return trip for the Providence pilgrims.

Lovingly in Providence,
Sr. Barbara





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Sisters Have an Audience with the Holy Father

Two Sisters from Mother Joseph Province were among those who received a papal blessing— Sr. Loretta Marie Marceau (above) of Spokane, and Sr. Carolyn Koreski of Olympia (left), assisted by Providence Health System President/CEO Hank Walker.

Photos courtesy of Servizio Fotografico De "L'O.R."

Rest in Peace

Jo Marie Einen, PA

Jo Marie Einen, a Providence Associate from Great Falls, Mont., died October 26 of complications from diabetes.

Jo Marie served as co-director for the Providence Associates in Great Falls, and was campus minister at the University of Great Falls until she retired in 2000. She also served as chaplain for the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Great Falls.

She became a Providence Associate in 1995 and was joined in 1999 by her husband, John, and her mother Stella Janosov.

Vigil Service was held October 28 at O'Connor's Funeral Home in Great Falls and the funeral liturgy was on October 29 at St. Luke's Parish Church in Great Falls. Inurnment was at Mount Olivet Cemetery. ●



Julian Moran, SP

Sister Julian Moran, age 93, died November 10 at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane. She had been a Sister of Providence for 74 years.

Sarah Marie Moran was born January 6, 1908, in Moore, Mont., the only girl among five children of Timothy J. and Sarah (Clark) Moran. For a time she attended the Ursuline Sisters school in Great Falls and also lived at St. Thomas Home. In 1923, she and her family moved to St. Ignatius, Mont. She graduated from Sacred Heart Academy in Missoula in 1927.

That same year, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence in Seattle, professing first vows in 1928 and receiving Sister Julian of the Blessed Sacrament as her name in religion. She made final vows in 1931.

Sister Julian earned a B.A. in education from the University of Great Falls and an M.A. in English from DePaul University in Chicago. She also attended the CREDO program at Gonzaga University.

Sister Julian taught in Montana at Sacred Heart Academy and St. Francis Xavier School, Missoula; St. Thomas Home, Great Falls; and



St. Benedict School, Roundup, in addition to St. Mary's Training School, Des Plaines, Ill., and St. Joseph Academy, Yakima. She also was novice director at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, from 1953 to 1962, and principal at St. Louis School, Winooski, Vermont, and St. Patrick School, Walla Walla.

Other assignments included director of admissions at the University of Great Falls, administrator and superior at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, and receptionist for the Provincial Administration and later for Mount St. Joseph before she retired in 1989.

Sister Julian was preceded in death by her four brothers.

Vigil Service was held November 16 and the funeral Mass was celebrated November 17, both at Mount St. Joseph. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery. ●

Rose Dolores Reisenauer, SP

Sister Rose Dolores Reisenauer died October 3 at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, at the age of 87. She had been a Sister of Providence for 67 years.

She was born Mildred Mary Reisenauer on July 7, 1914, in



Colton, Wash., to John and Margaret (Becker) Reisenauer. She graduated from Colton High School and began nurses' training at Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Spokane in 1932. She entered the novitiate as a postulant in 1933.

Sister Rose Dolores resumed her nurses' training at St. Patrick School of Nursing in Missoula, Mont., and graduated as a registered nurse in 1938. She earned a bachelor's degree in nursing education from the College of Great Falls (Mont.) in 1952 and also studied at Gonzaga University and Seattle University.

She professed first vows in 1935 and perpetual vows in 1938. Her ministry assignments were chiefly in health care in Great Falls, Mont.; Colfax, Wash.; Wallace, Idaho; and Walla Walla, Wash. She retired in 1971 at Mount St. Joseph, where she was a switchboard operator until 1981.

Survivors include two brothers, Edmund and Mark Reisenauer, both of Colton, Wash.; a sister, Bernadine Greiser of Genesee, Idaho; and a brother-in-law, George Scharbach of Colton. The Vigil Service was held at Mount St. Joseph on October 5, and the funeral Mass was celebrated there October 6. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Spokane. ●

Briefs

Anchorage Chamber honors SPs with Gold Pan Award

The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce has presented the Sisters of Providence with its prestigious Gold Pan Award for distinguished community service by an organization. The award was presented on September 22, on the eve of the anniversary of the death of foundress Mother Emilie Gamelin, and just two weeks before her beatification ceremony in Rome.

The Sisters of Providence were one of three nominees for the annual award. Sister Kaye



Belcher accepted the honor "on behalf of the hundreds of Sisters of Providence who have ministered in Alaska and on behalf of the thousands of Sisters of Providence ministering around the world!"

She also thanked "the people of Providence and the people of Anchorage who have partnered with us in our

various ministries over the past 100 years in Alaska and into the future."

The Sisters of Providence have served in ministry in Alaska since being called to Nome in 1902. The religious community will celebrate its 100 years of ministry in Alaska with special events in April. ●

Sr. Rebecca Berghoff named 2001 Woman of Achievement

Sister Rebecca Berghoff, vice principal of St. Joseph Marquette School in Yakima, has been named a recipient of the YWCA's 2001 Women of Achievement Award for community service, with recognition for her more than 50 years in education. The awards program notes that Sister Rebecca "has dedicated

her life to giving to people and serves as a role model for countless teachers, administrators, students and parents."



Her community involvement also includes service as a Camp Fire board member and as a presenter at the YWCA Week Without Violence. ●

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Francis Bouffard, brother of Sister Claire Bouffard, SP, died August 30 in Battle Creek, Mich.

Dr. Ed Weaver, husband of Marian Julum-Weaver, PA, died September 22 in Burien, Wash.

Mary Ellen Turley, aunt of Sister Chauncey Boyle, SP, died September 22 in Seattle.

Ray Gott, uncle of Sister Donna Burkhart, SP, died September 25 in Lafayette, Ind.

Elizabeth Tyrrell, aunt of Sister Clare Lentz, SP, and Marilyn Sendek, PA, and mother of Father Michael Tyrrell, SJ, died October 14 in Yakima.

Aurore Baker, oldest sister of Sisters Annette and Jeanette Parent, SP, died October 16 in a nursing home in Baker, Mont.

Sister Nora St. Denis, SP, of Holy Angels Province, died October 18 at University of Alberta Hospital.

Jim Kurtz, brother of Kathryn Kurtz, died October 25 in Puyallup, Wash.

Bob Tormaschy, brother-in-law of Sister Charlene Hudon, SP, died October 30 at Providence Yakima Medical Center.

Frederic Fortier, grand nephew of Sister Madeleine Monica Fortier, SP, died November 2 in Australia.

Barbara Depenbrock, mother-in-law of the uncle of Adrienne McKenzie, Seattle Provincial Administration, died November 3 in her home in Washington, DC.

Leon Ward, father and father-in-law of Mike & Becky Ward, PA, died November 3 in Redmond, Wash.

Mrs. Jeannette Drouin, cousin of Sister Madeleine Monica Fortier, SP, died November 7 in Quebec.

Bill Markel, nephew of Sister Katherine Ann Markel, SP, died November 8 in Portland.

Kathleen Seifert, cousin of Sister Clare Lentz, SP, and Marilyn Sendek, PA, died November 13 in Seattle.

Sister Pearl Herard, SP, of Holy Angels Province, died November 15 in the infirmary at Providence Centre, Edmonton.

Rest in Peace

Conrad Mary Bomer, SP

Sister Conrad Mary Bomer, age 85, died November 2 at St. Joseph Residence in Seattle. She had been a Sister of Providence for 66 years.

Born Margelet Bomer on December 18, 1915, in Portland, she was one of four children of George Grover and Katherine (Fox) Bomer. In 1935, Margelet entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence in Seattle. In 1937, she made her first profession of vows and received Sister Conrad Mary as her name in religion. She made final vows in 1940.

Sister Conrad Mary graduated from Seattle University with a B.A. in nursing in 1941. She had a long career in the nursing field, with assignments at Providence Seattle Medical Center, Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, Mount St. Vincent in West Seattle, St. John Hospital in Port Townsend, Providence Everett



Hospital, Providence Hospital in Anchorage, St. Joseph Hospital in Fairbanks, and Providence Hospital in Medford, Ore. During her last ten years in Medford, she was director of the Pastoral Care Department. She retired to St. Joseph Residence in West Seattle in 1991.

She was the last surviving sibling in her family.

Vigil Service was held November 5 and the funeral Mass was celebrated November 6, both at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery, Seattle. ●

Rosalie Dionne, SP

Sister Rosalie Dionne, age 96, died October 30 at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane. She had been a Sister of Providence for 74 years.

The youngest of 12 children, she was born Rosalie Blanche Dionne on April 16, 1905, at St. Epiphane, Quebec, Canada, the daughter of Amable and Emma (Bouche) Dionne.

In 1927, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence at the Motherhouse in Montreal. In 1928, she made her first profession of vows, received Sister Marie



Chrysanthé as her name in religion, and was missioned to Spokane. She professed perpetual vows in 1931.

Sister Rosalie's ministries were primarily in the dietary field, at Sacred Heart Medical Center, St. Joseph Care Center and Mount St. Joseph, Spokane; Sacred Heart Academy, Missoula, Mont.; St. Thomas Home and Columbus Hospital, Great Falls, Mont.; Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, Wallace, Idaho; and Mary Immaculate School, DeSmet, Idaho. She also did social service work in Spokane, including at Catholic Charities.

Sister Rosalie was the last surviving sibling in her family.

Vigil service was Nov. 2 at Mount St. Joseph, followed by the funeral Mass on Nov. 3. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery. ●

Esther Dufault, SP

Sister Esther Dufault, age 84, died November 8 at St. Joseph Residence in Seattle. She had been a Sister of Providence for 63 years.

One of five children of Peter Noel and Dulcina (Beaulaurier) Dufault, Esther Mary Dufault was born February 1, 1917, in Yakima.



In 1938, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence in Seattle. She professed first vows in 1939 and received Sister Marcella Ann as her name in religion. She made perpetual vows in 1942.

Sister Esther graduated from the University of Great Falls with a B.A. in education in 1944, then began a long career in the education field. Her assignments included Sacred Heart School, Tacoma; St. Patrick School, Walla Walla; St. Joseph Academy and School, Yakima; Holy Family School, Seattle; Providence Academy, Vancouver; St. Finbar School, Burbank, Calif.; St. Michael School, Olympia; Holy Rosary School, Sun Valley, Calif.; and Providence Child Center, Portland. She also served in pastoral care at Providence Yakima Medical Center. She retired to St. Joseph Residence in West Seattle in 1987.

Sister Esther is survived by her sister and four brothers: Annette Sorenson, Leon Dufault, and Conrad Dufault, all of Prosser, Wash.; Marcel Dufault, Moxee, Wash., and Emile Dufault, San Carlos, Calif.

Vigil Service was held November 12 at St. Joseph Residence. Funeral Mass was celebrated November 13 followed by burial at Calvary Cemetery, Seattle. ●