June 4, 2018



Rose Seiler was born on December 5, 1919 in Cincinnati, Ohio. This quiet, determined woman never wanted to be in the limelight as an adult, but as a child, she led processions at St. George's for May Crowning and Forty Hours, perhaps contributing to her lifelong faith and commitment to her parish. When she graduated from Hughes High School she worked at Schaefer Tailoring Company for 17 years. When she retired, she was a Trust officer and Assistant Secretary of the Southern Ohio bank. She built an accomplished career in her day, the only woman Trust Officer in the Trust Department. She did not get equal pay for equal work and responsibility, but she conscientiously did the work anyway.

She always wanted to be with family, to be in the midst of all of the activity. She came to every family event possible: graduations, birthdays, school functions, profession of vows. She helped her sister Jane, with her family, and with the care of their dad after his stroke. Once, when she repaired some broken kitchen gadget for mom she said to me, "I always was mechanically inclined." That impressed me; a girl could be mechanically inclined and skilled! She loved developing her artistic talents. Textile painting, turning out Christmas napkins and a tablecloth, monogrammed handkerchiefs and lovely flowers on a cotton blouse for me. She learned ceramics and volunteered at Little Sisters of the Poor in Cincinnati for years, creating ceramics that could be sold to help support the sisters' ministry. She also played the piano gracefully.

She had a reservoir of capacity for humor and would laugh totally out of control, tears rolling down her cheeks as she gasped for breath. She archived old family photos, the ancestors, she called them, wanting us to know the people who came before us and gave us ourselves. She prayed for family, for Country, for Sisters and Associates, for the world and even for Olympic athletes. As an Associate she was a Minister of Praise and received letters each month with prayer intentions to add to her prayer list!

She read and archived the materials she received as an Associate, impressed and inspired by what Sisters and Associates were doing. Rose appreciated the respect that the sisters had for all people and all of creation. For over 30 years she was in a relationship with the sisters at Oldenburg and always enjoyed the Communication from the 'burg! In 2007 she celebrated her 15 year Jubilee as an Associate, along with her sister Mary Jane. And just last year she was happy to be recognized as a 25 year jubilarian.

Rose, may you soar free as an eagle in the heavens above us, at peace knowing Jesus remains at your side.



With love,

Marya Grathwohl, OSF