

### **Sister Lorraine Hahn – 80 years**

Sister Lorraine Hahn's original wish was to enter a contemplative order; however, with the guidance of Mother Lucina Appel, she found her call was really leading her to the Sisters of St. Francis in Millvale, Pa., where her two older sisters were already professed religious. She explains that she has always been happy and at peace with God. In fact, if she could live her life over again, she would do just what she did so many years ago. She says that daily Mass and Holy Communion help her sustain her enthusiasm and commitment to the vows she made 80 years ago.

For many years Sister Lorraine was engaged in education, including 15 years at the former St. Joseph School in Pittsburgh's Mount Oliver neighborhood and 10 years at Johnstown Catholic High School, now Bishop McCort High School, as religion and math teacher.

When Sister Lorraine was getting ready for her first class in one school, a couple students would come in, glance at her, then take off. After this happened a few times, she looked up from her desk and asked one of the boys what they were looking for. "You don't look like a battle-ax!" was the reply. Lorraine was stunned. She asked the student what he meant. He sheepishly explained that last year's teacher admonished them with a warning that "If you don't behave, next year you will have a battle-ax for a teacher!"

When she retired to the Mount Alvernia, Sister Lorraine took a daily walk over to the Mount Alvernia Day Care and Learning Center where she ministered as a teacher and staff member from 1993 to 2005. Today Lorraine lives in the health care unit, engaging in some of her favorite pastimes – books, puzzles, word searches and computer games. She loves company and enjoys sharing stories about "the good old days."

Sister Lorraine's hope for the future of religious life is that it will grow and flourish and young people will hear the call and find their happiness in listening and following the way of the Gospels.

