

Sister Ellen Gresock (formerly Sister M. Neri) 80 years

Sister Ellen Gresock was inspired to join the Millvale Franciscans through visits from Sisters Winefrid and Adelaide Feldmeier to her family home in Sagamore, Pa., where she lived as a young child. Her aunt, Sister Roseleen Kuzma was also an inspiration as she followed the call to religious life. Ellen entered the congregation from Holy Family Parish in Erie, Pa. For most of her busy life, Ellen was engaged in teaching at different levels, but mainly in the primary grades. The present mayor of Millvale, Mr. Vince Cinski, recalls loving memories of her as his first grade teacher. From 1976 until 1985, Ellen ministered in home health at her family home in Erie, Pa, caring for her aged mother in her final illness.

When she returned to Mount Alvernia, Sister Ellen helped to develop programs for our senior sisters, endeavoring to keep them active and healthy. She continued in community service until failing health confined her to the health care unit where she is presently engaged in prayer ministry.

Sister Ellen was always happy when she could in some way help to lift the spirits of others and encourage them in their efforts to do good. She always enjoyed interacting with the sisters, keeping up with the news and relating stories from her past years in the teaching ministry. Among all the great blessings that she enjoys, the very greatest is knowing that she is living under the same roof as Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Sister Ellen finds great peace in her prayer life – quiet times alone with the Lord, community prayers with the other sisters, and enjoying God’s beauty and presence in all of creation.