



**SISTER NOREEN STURM (M. JOHN ALOYSIUS), EDUCATOR**  
**9/19/18 – 3/5/11**

Sister Noreen Sturm of Williamsville, a longtime educator, died Saturday, March 5, 2011 at St. Mary of the Angels Health Care Center. She was 92.

Almost 70 years ago, 23 yr. old Noreen, daughter of John and Catherine Sturm, entered the Sisters of St. Francis. Having an aunt, Sr. Agnes Marie, in our congregation and having our sisters in school, she became familiar with the Franciscan spirit and she desired to become a part of it. In doing this, she accepted the Rule of Life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis.

Sister Noreen was born in Buffalo, NY. Before entering the congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis in 1941, she served her apprenticeship as a lay teacher for four years at St. James School in Buffalo. She earned her Bachelors and later, her Masters in English at Canisius College. She also studied at Notre Dame University in Indiana, St. Lawrence University and Brockport University in New York and Bridgeport University in Connecticut.

For 45 years, Sister Noreen dedicated her efforts to teaching students of all ages. She taught all levels of elementary school at schools including, St. Nicholas in North Java, Our Lady of Good Counsel in Darien Center, St. John Maron in Buffalo, and Sacred Heart in Bowmansville where she was also principal. She taught high school at St. Mary's in Lancaster, Neumann in Williamsville, and O'Hern in Buffalo. She also taught at the congregation's St. Clare College and conducted teacher training classes.

Idleness was not in her vocabulary. She was a woman of service – of quiet service. We see that in her 45 years spent in educating young people from all the levels of elementary school, to high school and at our St. Clare Junior College where, among other subjects, she taught teacher training classes. When she “retired”, she did bookkeeping at St. Francis Hospital and also St. Elizabeth's and Holy Family Home. When she retired for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, she came to St. Mary of the Angels and assisted our Treasurer. It was only within the last year that she finally fully retired. Her office was near mine these last few years and she would be there every day, carefully tending to her tasks.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 9:30 AM Tuesday in the chapel of St. Mary of the Angels, 201 Reist St., Williamsville.

We have been blessed by her love and her example.

Noreen, thank you. May you enjoy the fullness of God's love.