



Born to New Life

Sister Adeline Orlandini, MPF



"In my talks with Sister Adeline, I came to know and understand how Sister Adeline was just a little woman who loved God, loved being a Filippini Sister, and loved doing for others. She lived the charism of Saint Lucy and was kind and generous to all those she served.... She was one of Jesus' faithful followers. She now receives her reward and enters fully into the Kingdom of Heaven." These words of Father Ronald Sordillo, celebrant at Sister Adeline's Mass of Christian Burial, beautifully capture the woman we honor in this text.

Sister Adeline Orlandini, MPF, 85, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at Bayonne Medical Center, Bayonne, New Jersey, after a very brief illness. She was born and raised in Bayonne, New Jersey. She entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1948, received her habit in 1949, and made her religious profession in 1952. Sister Adeline was awarded an AA degree in elementary education from Villa Walsh Junior College, Morristown, New Jersey.

For many years, a primary grade teacher, Sister Adeline taught at the following schools: Saint Francis Xavier, Newark, New Jersey; Saint Anthony, Dunmore, Pennsylvania; Saint Bernadette, Brooklyn, New York; Sacred Heart, Natick, Rhode Island; Saint Sebastian, Middletown, Connecticut; Saint Nicholas, Palisades Park, New Jersey; Saint Bartholomew, Scotch Plains, New Jersey; Holy Family, Nutley, New Jersey; Our Lady of Sorrows, Jersey City, New Jersey; Saint Joseph, East Orange, New Jersey; Saint Peter the Apostle, River Edge, New Jersey; Our Lady of Pompeii, Baltimore, Maryland; Saint Anthony-Our Lady of Lourdes, Union City, New Jersey; Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood, New Jersey.

Sister Adeline retired at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood, New Jersey, in 2004, retired to Villa Walsh in 2011, and became a resident at Saint Joseph Hall Infirmary in 2012.

Sister Adeline will be remembered for her joyful witness to God's people, especially children. She was generous and gregarious in spirit. Her favorite pastime was crocheting, and she loved making people happy by sharing her handmade pieces with others.

Sister Jean Gaeta, a longtime friend of Sister Adeline from childhood, honored Sister Adeline in a warm tribute. Sister Jean began her tribute with these words:

I have always wondered about the words "Celebration of Life" spoken at funerals. But today it becomes clear, because today we do celebrate the life of a generous and humble soul, Sister Adeline." Sister Jean then shared many recollections that confirmed how her childhood friend had impacted her entire life, including Sister Adeline's final weeks. Among her reminiscences, Sister Jean shared:

"Her generosity and kindness knew no bounds – not only to me – but to all the sisters in the convent. If any of the sisters became ill, you could be sure that Addie would be there with a bowl of chicken soup or whatever needed to be done..."

"Addie enjoyed being with people and with her God. The rosary was one of her favorite forms of prayer. The quotation "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat stop mail carriers, - well, that quote goes for Addie too, because neither snow, nor rain, nor heat could keep her from going to daily Mass."

"She had numerous hobbies and joyfully shared them with others. Among them, she crocheted baby blankets and baby sets, and she even crocheted black woolen hats for all the sisters. If you attended our Sisters' Sale, you would see that all her crocheted kitchen towels were the first to go..."

"...and so we come to this "Celebration of Life" and say "Thank you, Adeline, for being a part of our lives."