

## Sisters of St. John the Baptist

Provincial Residence-

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## SR. CARMELITA MARIE LAUDATO, C.S.JB.

September 20, 1924 - March 10, 2003

Sr. Carmelita Marie Laudato was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Carmine Laudato and Philomena Crisci and was baptized at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on October 12, 1924.

On March 25, 1954, Sister entered the Congregation of Sisters of St. John the Baptist at Immaculate Heart Novitiate, Glen Cove, Long Island, and made her first profession on February 3, 1956. On August 29, 1961, following her perpetual profession, Sr. Carmelita Marie served the needs of the Community faithfully and lovingly at Immaculate Heart Novitiate, Providence Rest, Mt. St. John Convent, Purchase, and Alphonsus Manor. During those quiet moments of her life, Sister enjoyed crocheting, and most especially her time for prayer and sharing spiritually with the Sisters. She had great devotion to our Blessed Mother and loved to pray the rosary.

When Sr. Carmelita Marie was no longer well enough to continue her work for the community, she retired to Providence Rest Nursing Home on May 18, 1982. There she loved to spend time chatting with the residents and Sisters of the Home and always had a smile for everyone who visited her. Sister accepted her physical limitations with a true spirit of trust in her loving God.

During the last years of her life, Sr. Carmelita Marie's health began to falter due to respiratory problems, and in January 2003 it became necessary for Sister to be admitted to a facility specifically for ventilator dependent and respiratory care patients. Carmelita Marie was always open to God's will in her life, and on March 10, 2003, Sister once again responded to the call of her Divine Spouse and entered His eternal kingdom.

Sr. Joseph Paul Manderine, who knew Sr. Carmelita Marie since 1964, eulogized Sister's life so beautifully with these words:

> Hope and faith will both come to an end when we die - but love will remain - love is eternal. Love comes from God and returns to God. When we die we lose everything that life gave us, except love. The love which we lived our lives is the life of God within us. This love not only will remain but will also bear fruit from generation to generation.

"Come, Bride of Christ, accept the crown which the Lord has prepared for you in eternity."