

SR. NORA RISPOLI, C.S.JB.
March 7, 1916 – March 6, 2001

Sr. Nora Rispoli was born on March 7, 1916, in Foggia, Italy, to Luigi and Francesca Rispoli and was given the baptismal name, Gorizia (Eleonora).

Sr. Nora entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. John the Baptist in Rome, Italy in 1935. After making her first profession of vows on June 24, 1937, Sister, with six other Baptistines, traveled to the United States and began her twenty-three year ministry as Directress of Resident Students at Mt. St. John Academy, Gladstone, New Jersey and St. John Villa Academy, Staten Island, New York.

In 1960 Sr. Nora was assigned to St. Vincent de Paul School, Stirling, New Jersey, to teach Kindergarten. In 1964 Sister returned once again to Mt. St. John Academy, Gladstone, and continued her ministry of teaching Kindergarten until 1970. At this time God called Sister to minister to the children of St. Dominic School, Bronx, New York until 1982.

In 1982 Sr. Nora was given the opportunity for a year's sabbatical or renewal, which she spent in Rome taking theology classes at Regina Mundi. It was at this time that she had the great opportunity to work at the Vatican residence in the Holy Land, Notre Dame Jerusalem Center, from 1983 to 1986.

In 1986 Sister was reassigned to St. Dominic Parish, but returned many times to Notre Dame for extended visits. For the past fourteen years (1986-2000), Sr. Nora had reflected the Lord's loving presence to the Italian-speaking population at St. Dominic Parish, Bronx, New York. Sister always attended to the care of the Church and to the needs of the clergy and parishioners with an open and loving heart.

In August of 2000, Sr. Nora was diagnosed with terminal cancer and moved to the Congregation's Retirement Home, Mt. St. John Convent in Purchase, New York. Even during this difficult time, Sister was still involved in a ministry, the ministry of prayer for herself and for God's people. On the day before her 85th birthday, March 6, 2001, God called Sr. Nora home to heaven. "Come, Bride of Christ, to receive the crown the Lord has prepared for you from all eternity."

As we remember Sr. Nora, we will always recall a religious woman whose love and dedication to God and His people was manifested by her exuberance, enthusiasm, and untiring energy in all she was asked to do. Whether Sister was teaching, ministering in the parish, caring for resident students, cooking, or doing other forms of domestic work, she was truly a manifestation of the Lord's great joy and love. Sr. Nora, who was truly His angel on earth, is now His angel in heaven.