

## Obituary of Sister Mary Arthur Wrobel

**SISTER MARY ARTHUR**, Rita Ann Wrobel, was 81 years old and 59 years in religious life when she entered eternal life on March 1, 2010, in Angela Hall, Livonia, Michigan.

Born September 25, 1928, to Peter and Anna (Marchlewicz), Rita was baptized and confirmed at St. Adalbert Church, South Bend. An only brother, Richard, died in 1977. Rita attended Kindergarten and first grade at Benjamin Harrison School and was then enrolled at St. Adalbert School staffed by the Felician Sisters.

All through elementary school and high school Rita played the piano, strummed the guitar, played the saxophone in South Bend Catholic's orchestra and sang with the choral groups. She became part of a Polka Band at the age of thirteen and was the captain of the girl's basketball team at South Bend Catholic, staffed by the Resurrection Sisters. After graduation in 1945, Rita enrolled in the South Bend College of Commerce and was employed as a stenographer with the Universal C.I.T. Credit Corporation. Something was missing in her life, and on March 3, 1951, Rita surprised everyone when she announced that she would join the Felician Sisters in Livonia, Michigan.

Rita was accepted into the Felician community as a postulant in June 24, 1951, and the following year received the religious habit and name of Sister Mary Arthur. First Profession of Vows were made in 1953 and Final Profession in 1959. During this time Sister Mary Arthur obtained a Bachelor's degree from Madonna University and continued with post graduate courses at University of Detroit and Mundelein College, Chicago in preparation for a ministry of education that spanned 39 years. This sister with a dynamo of energy and enthusiasm loved children and was assigned to several schools in Michigan: Sacred Heart, Holy Ghost, and St. Stanislaus in Detroit; St. Theresa, Wayland; St. Valentine, Redford; Holy Rosary, Saginaw; and Ladywood High School, Livonia. But it was a real "homecoming" in 1974 when she was assigned to St. Adalbert, South Bend, Indiana as principal, and then in 1980 to Holy Family, as a teacher and principal for another thirteen years.

Sister Arthur was elected to the Provincial Council in 1994 and six years later was assigned to Marybrook Nursing Care Center, sponsored by the Felician Sisters, as Resident Community Activities Coordinator. In 2002, Sister Arthur was assigned as Local Minister in St. Joseph Convent in the infirmary of the Provincial House and continued to care for the sisters until an onset of progressing Alzheimer's disease and other medical conditions ended her active ministry in 2009. Sister was a vivacious person who walked into a room and sparked everyone with joy! She loved life and lived every moment to its fullest. She will be remembered as a person with a boundless supply of energy whose faith sustained her through many trials. Her attention to the needs of the Sisters and her love of the One whom she served was not left unnoticed.

On March 1, 2010 at 5:30 p.m., Sister Arthur peacefully left this earth to return to the God whom she so joyously served on this earth for 81 years – 59 in religious life. No doubt the lilting melody of "La-de-da" can already be heard among the strains of the Angelic Choir! Sister Arthur is survived by nieces and nephews and many friends.

The Mass of Resurrection was celebrated on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. by Monsignor Bernard Galic, pastor of Holy Family Parish, South Bend, Indiana, with concelebrant Reverend Matthew Kafka, friend of the family. Services were held in the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Chapel of the Felician Sisters, Livonia, Michigan. Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, Michigan was the place of burial.

