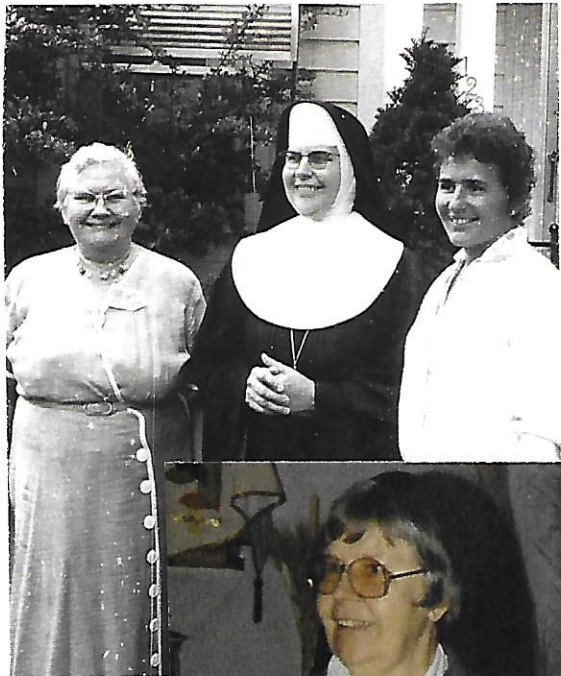


Sister Mary Urban Kolash
September 10, 1909 - March 1, 2001



Secular Name: Mary
Entered: September 10, 1928
Place of Birth: Punxsutawney PA
Parents: Peter & Mary Balavich
Siblings: 7 sisters and 2 brothers
Elementary School: Sandy Township, Dubois
High School: St. Catherine High School
Higher Education: Duquesne University, Pgh.
Catholic Univ, Washington DC
Univ of Vytauto, Lithuania
Degrees: Bachelor in Education
Cert. of Medical Technogy

Ministry:

Her formative years were spent in attending the local Catholic school as well as helping to raise her younger siblings. Sister Urban decided, while still in high school to enter the convent. She first went to visit the Sisters of Mercy in Erie. However, on her eighteenth birthday she arrived in Pittsburgh and began her life with the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God.

Her ministry of teaching included working in the United States, Lithuania and Brazil. While in the United States, her studies took her to New York, New Jersey as well as Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. While studying in New York, she also conducted CCD Classes in Brooklyn. In 1940, after studying in Lithuania with Sister Virginia Pask, they, along with other Americans, fled the reign of Communism which was overtaking Lithuania. They then made the arduous trip back to the United States.

During the ensuing years, she continued to teach and to educate those under her capable guidance. In her final years of ministry of prayer at the Motherhouse, she suffered serious health problems but continued to ride her scooter throughout the Motherhouse, both indoors and outside, always stopping to offer words of comfort and prayer to those she met.. After spending a short period of time in the infirmary, she returned to the Lord on March 1, 2001. On March 3, 2001, her Funeral Liturgy was celebrated in the Mary Immaculate Chapel with her community of sisters as well as many members of her family in attendance.



“I rejoice in your greatness, O God.”