

Sister Lillian Javanage
June 9, 1915 - September 25, 2012



Secular name: **Lillian**
Entrance: **July 13, 1931**
Birth: **Mahanoy City, PA**
Parents: **John and Catherine Yanavich**
Siblings: **Six brothers, one sister**
Elem School: **St. Joseph, Mahanoy City**
High School: **St. Francis Academy, Pittsburgh**
Higher Education: **B.S. Ed. Duquesne University**

Sister Lillian began her teaching career in Kenosha, WI in 1933, followed by five years as the music teacher at St. Francis Academy. From 1944 on, she taught intermediate grades, in different schools, including: St. Casimir in Pittsburgh, SS Peter and Paul in Grand Rapids, St. George in Rochester, NY, St. Anthony in Detroit, St. George in Philadelphia, SS Peter and Paul in Elizabeth, NJ, St. Joseph in Mahanoy City, and St. Gabriel in Pittsburgh.



Gifted with musical talent, Sister Lillian served as both organist and liturgist in several parishes while teaching her regular classes full time. She was a devoted teacher and was especially appreciated by all the sixth grade students who passed through her classroom at St. Gabriel, over the seventeen years that she taught there. This was her last teaching assignment. After her retirement she continued to assist the community in whatever way that she could.

Sister was unique, enigmatic and extremely private. We do know she loved the Steelers and her room was festooned with their memorabilia. She also liked fancy shoes and clothes that were not out of style! Possessing a dry sense of humor, she enjoyed being teased about these things.

After years of patient suffering and illness, she earned her place in her heavenly home. Perhaps on her entrance, a choir of angels sang one of her favorite hymns – maybe one that she taught her students long ago.

*“Sing a joyful song to the Lord! Let the heavens
and earth rejoice”*