



SISTER ROSE ANN TRUDELL, OLVM

Sister Rose Ann Trudell slipped away into the open embrace of God late Thursday afternoon, October 5, 2017.

Sister Rose Ann was born in Enosburg Falls, Vermont, on January 28, 1928, the fifth child of Isaac William Trudell and Rose Anita (McGoan) Trudell. Although she was known as Sister Rose Ann, she was baptized Gladys Anita, on May 13, 1928, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Enosburg Falls. Her parents; three brothers, Richard, Armand and Charles Trudell; and two sisters, Grace Jones and Jeannette Towle, all proceed Sister Rose Ann in death.

Sister Rose Ann graduated from Enosburg Falls High School in 1948, and attended Johnson Teachers College. She worked as a telephone operator for North East Telephone and Telegraph Company before she entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters on September 6, 1954. After spending three years in formation, Sister Rose Ann made first vows on August 5, 1957. In her early years of ministry, Sister Rose Ann was in catechetical ministry and her first mission was in Ida, Michigan. The following year she went to California, serving in Azusa and Indio before she was sent to Ogden, Utah, in 1962. She once said that mission was her favorite because, “It was very beautiful there.”

Sister Rose Ann spent more than 30 years working in Kansas City, Missouri. The majority of her ministry years in Kansas City were in nursing and home health. She worked as a nursing assistant at St. Mary’s Hospital where several other Victory Noll sisters also ministered. Later, Sister Rose Ann provided one-on-one care to meet the healthcare needs for people still living in their own homes. She would visit daily and often bring communion to those who were homebound, She always provided conversation and joy. Her healing touch as a caregiver, warm smile and her caring presence brightened the day for many homebound patients. Even when she returned to Victory Noll in 2000, she dedicated her time to being a caring presence to the sisters in the Camilla Center.

Sister Mary Jo Nelson gave the eulogy for Sister Rose Ann at her wake saying, “Rose Ann loved the simple things of life — cats and hats, celebrations and outings. Rose Anne’s life was not an easy one. She struggled and experienced a lot of brokenness in her life — much of which is unknown to most of us. She searched for hope in the darkness. Her struggle is not singular. I suspect we all share in the

struggle of life. However, tonight we celebrate the resurrection of our sister, Rose Ann. We celebrate the love and mercy of God — a God who never, never left her. We celebrate the gifts that come from darkness. We celebrate the freedom and joy that new life promises us — no matter our journey, no matter our struggle.”

The readings that Sister Rose Ann chose for her wake and funeral all had the theme of Love. She chose 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, as the first reading for her funeral. This well-known passage, “In the end there are three things that last, faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love,” could have easily been her life’s motto. There were several poems or prayers that she had written over the years. In these, she writes of the idea of loving freely, generously and abundantly. Her writings speak of an intimacy with God that she longed for and sought.

One of her musings started with the line, “It is my heart in your heart that loves.” It ended with “Look at Me, Call Me, Love Me.” Another one simply stated, “Teach me, Lord to serve others instead of serving myself. Help me learn that love grows from giving.”

The Victory Noll community celebrated the wake for Sister Rose Ann on Monday evening October 9, 2017. We celebrated the funeral liturgy on Tuesday morning October 10, 2017, with Reverend Dale Bauman presiding.

Sister Rose Ann, your childlike innocence and smile were a blessing and a gift to all who knew you, especially your Victory Noll Sisters. As you once wrote, “When you have entered into the light you will comprehend. Until then you will feel your way in truth.” May you now totally understand and know the truth. You have been seen, you have been called and you are Loved.

With Gratitude and Blessings,



Sr. Ginger Downey, OLVM

