

SISTER FRANCES CERRONE

Sept.14,1902 - Sept.14,1968

Around six o'clock on the morning of September 14th, one of the Sisters found Sister Francis suffering from difficulty in breathing. She immediately summoned another Sister, who contacted a Priest and doctor without delay. Sister Francis had been ailing for a long while, but was up and around and showed no signs of any acute illness, when she retired on the evening of the 13th. However, she passed to her eternal reward before the doctor could give her any assistance.

Carmela Cerrone, the future Sister Francis, was born in Italy and came to the States, as a Postulant, in 1922. She labored in the community here for 44 years, and when she passed to her Maker on her 66th birthday, she had completed a dedicated religious life.

Sister Francis was the cook for many, many Sisters in the Community during her years, having worked in almost half of the houses in our Region. The last four years of her life were spent at St. John's Villa Academy, where she did her best at kitchen duties, despite her ailments. Sister had suffered from diabetes, arthritis and towards the end from asthma attacks.

Having died at St. John's Villa, Sister was waked and buried from there. Her Confessor offered the Mass before burial in the convent chapel. He spoke beautifully about her simplicity and ready smile and how much she contributed to the community through her cooking abilities. He also confided that she consistently sought advice on spiritual practices for self-improvement toward holiness. There were many Sisters and children present at the Mass and the singing was exceptional.

Everyone who knew Sister Frances admired her life of sacrifice. However, she was quite a silent soul and it is understood that she made many sacrifices known to God alone.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE!