

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

St. Paul Province



Genealogy Request

Family Name Dalton, Catherine Evelyn
Sister Name (if applicable) Sister Catherine Rita
Birth Date/Place 6-20-1906 Fort Augustus, P.E.I., Canada
Reception into Novitiate 8-15-1924
First Vows 3-19-1927 Final Vows 8-15-1930
Date/Place of Death 12-31-1994 Bethany Convent, St. Paul, Mn
Date/Place of Interment 1-3-1995 Resurrection, St. Paul, Mn
Education B.A.

Ministry Teacher

Mother's Maiden Name Catherine Campbell

Birth Date/Place ? P.E.I., Canada

Father's Name James Dalton

Birth Date/Place ? P.E.I., Canada

Other Notes

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

St. Paul Province

Sister Catherine Rita Dalton

1906-1994

**God dawns on you in radiant beauty.
We see God's glory within you.**

adapted from an Advent antiphon



Sister Catherine Rita died during the season of her soul -- the Advent-Christmas season of the church year. This is a time filled with messages of God's loving graciousness, a time to hear and to speak the good tidings of God, a time to enjoy the presence of Mary, the Mother of God, a time of radiant beauty. All of this was treasured by Sister Catherine Rita, not only during Advent-Christmas but throughout the year, and year after year. *How blessed are we because of her life among us.*

Catherine was born on June 20, 1906, in Fort Augustus, Prince Edward Island, to James and Catherine Campbell Dalton. She was the youngest in the family and enjoyed the company of five sisters and one brother. In 1924 she accompanied Sisters Mary Charles and Damien McIver, who had been visiting on the Island, back to St. Paul where she joined the Sisters of St. Joseph and her cousins Sisters Paul Damian Grant and Grata Power. Her earliest assignments included old Holy Angels and the College of St. Catherine where she began her studies in education and history.

For 45 years Sister Catherine Rita taught primary and middle grade students at schools in the Twin Cities, rural Minnesota, and Grand Forks -- and each assignment was her favorite. She always believed in her students, she always believed each could do a little better, and she was always there to motivate, to encourage, to praise them. Remedial students, in particular, thrived under her diligent tutelage. To other teachers and school administrators, Sister Catherine Rita was just as affirming. She appreciated the good work and accomplishments of others and was always the first to offer compliments and appreciation.

This quiet enthusiasm was a life-long gift Sister Catherine Rita generously shared with others. Her 1975 retirement to Bethany brought her home to the community in a special way. She greeted and treated people as though each had been her friend for many years. She was generous, considerate, comfortable to be with, the "soul of hospitality" as one person said. Always