

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

St. Paul Province



Genealogy Request

Family Name Lambe, Mary Anne

Sister Name (if applicable) Sister Ameda

Birth Date/Place 7-26-1899 Emerald, P.E.I., Canada

Reception into Novitiate 9-8-1920

First Vows 3-19-1923 Final Vows 8-15-1929

Date/Place of Death 4-10-1967 St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Paul, Mn

Date/Place of Interment 4-12-1967 Resurrection, St. Paul Mn

Education High School

Ministry Elementary teacher

Mother's Maiden Name Ellen Mc Guigan

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

Father's Name Patrick Lambe

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

Other Notes

SISTER ALMEDA LAMBE

Sister Almeda Lambe was born in Emerald, Prince Edward Island, Canada, on July 26, 1899. A few days later she was baptized Mary Ann at the parish church of St. James. Sister's mother died when she was born, a loss that Sister was to feel keenly as she grew older. Her early life was spent in Emerald where she attended grade school. Her High School years were spent as a boarder at St. Joseph's Academy in Charlottetown.

In 1920, Sister left her home in Prince Edward Island to enter our novitiate in St. Paul. She received the habit on March 19, 1921, and made her first vows two years later. During the next twenty years Sister taught the lower grades in our schools. She was an excellent teacher and endeared herself to the little ones under her care. A meticulous exactitude to duty characterized Sister's work.

By nature Sister was quiet and sensitive. She was prayerful and appreciated the community. Her earnest desire was to please God and grow in perfection.

God, however, saw fit to ask a great sacrifice from her. Sister was not blessed with a strong physical constitution. From early childhood she had been afflicted with an asthmatic condition which grew steadily worse as time went on. In the fall of 1943, because of mental illness, Sister was unable to return to the classroom. This cross Sister accepted with generous fortitude and her suffering was more intense because she was fully aware of her condition. For the next few years Sister did some house work such as portressing and sewing, but even this proved too much for her. She was then to St. Vincent's Sanitorium in St. Louis for treatment. Later she returned to St. Paul but was unable to resume community life for any length of time. It was then thought advisable to send her to Council Bluffs where she spent thirteen years.

During these years Sister was always interested in the welfare of her home province and she suffered keenly because she could not serve as she wished. Her one prayer, which God saw fit to answer, was that she would be able to come home and die in her own community.

In March of 1966 Sister came to St. Joseph's Hospital for surgery. At that time it was discovered that she had terminal cancer. When she was told of her condition her acceptance was complete. She said, "This is God's will for me so I am ready to go when He wants me. I am not afraid."

During the past year Sister spent a few months at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in River Falls, Wisconsin, but returned to St. Joseph's Hospital in March where she remained until her death on April 10. Her prayer was answered. She died as she had wished among her own in her own community.

Death must have been a great reunion for Sister Almeda as she met the mother she never knew but always longed to know. The father she loved so dearly, her step-mother, sister and brothers had all predeceased her. At the time of her death the only close relative she had was her uncle, Cardinal McGuigan of Toronto, who was not well enough to come her funeral.

After a life of such intense suffering, Sister's heavenly reward should be great. May her dear soul rest in peace.

---by Sister St. Leo