

Platinum Jubilarian Celebrating 75 Years

Sister M. Alma Zigment, OSF

Sister M. Alma Zigment, a daughter of the late John and Agatha Zigment, came to Sylvania, Ohio from St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish in Duluth, Minnesota on June 28, 1930 to attend St. Clare Academy and to begin preparation for becoming a Sister of St. Francis. She made her First Profession of Vows on August 17, 1936 and her Final Vows on August 17, 1939. Her professional background includes a B.A. degree from St. Teresa College in Winona, Minn. and a M.A. degree from Mary Manse College in Toledo, Ohio. Sister Alma taught in elementary schools in Sylvania, Fremont, Toledo and Bowling Green, Ohio; Minneapolis, Winona and Wells, Minn.; and Liberty, Texas. After 54 years of classroom teaching, she tutored students and did volunteer work in elementary schools and at Lourdes College for several years until her health declined and she moved to Rosary Care Center where she continues her ministry of prayer for others.

Recently Sister Alma was asked what influenced her becoming a Sylvania Franciscan over 75 years ago when she left her home and family in Duluth and came to Sylvania for high school. She credits the Sisters who taught her and her parents who were good Catholics influencing her vocation to religious life at a tender age. She loved teaching and enjoyed her life and found herself continuing teaching others how to do to one of her favorite hobbies—tattooing. She made cards, bookmarks and lovely mementoes using the results from her nimble fingers as she tattooed using colorful threads and unique designs. She feels that she has influenced others throughout life by just being herself.

Sister Alma has a deep spiritual life which she expressed a few years ago when she was asked about her spirituality. She said that at this time in her life prayer often means, “I gaze at the tabernacle; I always talk to Jesus; and as I gaze out the window God entertains me with the birds, the sunrise and the flowers.” She believes that her illness has made her stronger in her faith because before her illness she took her faith for granted. Sister Alma is a beautiful example of someone who has grown closer to the Lord as she has grown in wisdom and grace.

