

Necrology of Sister Claire Morin (Sister Armand-de-Jésus) 1927 – 2022

On October 27, 1927, the Morin family welcomed their youngest child, Claire. Already blessed with a daughter Lucille and a son Armand, Claire's arrival completed this faith-filled and loving family.

At the age of fifteen, Omer immigrated to Franklin, NH, from St. Celestin, P.Q., to live with an aunt and to work in the mills. It was here that he met his future wife, Eva Chabot, who was a friend of his cousin. Omer and Eva married on August 14, 1911. After seven years of marriage and two children the family moved to Worcester, MA, where Claire was born. When Claire was a year old, the family returned to New Hampshire where they later settled in Laconia.

Claire's father was quiet, patient and hard working. His love of God and of his family was evident in everything he did. Her mother was loving, gentle, pious and industrious. Her husband and children were the center of her life. Her parents' example nurtured Claire's faith. The family prayed the Rosary nightly. Attendance at Mass and receiving the Sacraments were paramount. Her parents valued education. They made the necessary sacrifices to ensure each child's development.

Claire attended Saint Joseph Elementary School and Laconia High School. Before entering, she worked one year as a knitter. On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1938, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of the Assumption to realize her life-long desire to be a religious. An added incentive was having a sister and two aunts +in the Congregation.

In 1941, Sister Claire began her educational ministry of thirty-three years. She could be strict, but fair. She also had a loving spirit and a fun-loving and mischievous side. Her students received a sound training. Their lives stood on a solid foundation with Christian principles and practical work habits. She faithfully wrote the names of her students in a journal. To her delight, some of them kept in touch over the years.

Sister Claire's faith and love of God were the defining and most important part of her life. Each day was offered to God for his honor and glory. She revealed God's love as an educator, superior, principal, bursar, care-giver, and Eucharistic minister. Her life of service culminated in the ministry of prayer.

When Sister Claire's parents suffered a stroke and needed to be placed in a nursing home, she asked to be sent to Laconia to care for them. She visited them almost daily. After their deaths, Sister Claire went to Petersham where she ministered to the senior sisters, did laundry, oversaw the employees, and rendered other community services.

Blessed with a keen mind and a phenomenal memory, on Sister Claire's hundred-third birthday when the Sisters gathered to celebrate, she amazed everyone by saying each one's birth date and profession anniversary.

Sister Claire was forthright. She spoke the truth as she perceived it. She could humbly ask for forgiveness when she deemed it necessary. Hers was a faith-filled, loving life expressed in service. Her desire for complete intimacy with her Beloved was intensified each time she expressed her longing. "Why isn't God calling me home? Has God forgotten me?" On April 10, 2022, God granted Claire's heartfelt and burning desire by welcoming her Home into God's eternal embrace.

"My Beloved spoke and said to me, Arise, my darling, My beautiful one, come with me." Song of Songs 2:20