



Sister Joseph Anne Collins

Sister Joseph Anne Collins entered the Congregation from St. Joseph parish in Weedsport, New York. “My Pastor recommended that I contact the Sisters of Saint Joseph in Auburn about entering. I rode up to Auburn with a coal truck driver because of the distance. I lived with wonderful Sisters and I was anxious to go to school.”

Sister Joseph Anne went on to pursue a career in education. “Teaching was the primary work of our Congregation when I began to teach. I think the Catholic schools did a wonderful job teaching religion and all subjects.” She taught at Immaculate Conception, Rochester; St. Augustine, Rochester; St. Mary, Auburn; St. Pius X, Rochester; Most Precious Blood, Rochester; St. Anne, Palmyra; St. Francis de Sales, Geneva; Immaculate Conception, Ithaca; St. Mary’s, Elmira.

After teaching, Sister Joseph Anne worked in the St. Joseph Convent Infirmary. She was also faithful to her prayer ministry. “She used to volunteer for us by sitting in the waiting room talking to people, praying her rosary or napping,” recalled Sister Christine Wagner at St. Joseph’s Neighborhood Center. “Eleven years ago she started praying for a NYS Grant through Senator Joe Morelle’s office. She prayed for ten years, we got the first grant, and then we put in for another one. It arrived three weeks before her death.”