



**Remembering Beatrice (Nathaniel) Faucher, IHM
Oct. 14, 1910-Feb. 6, 2009**

Sister Beatrice Faucher was born in 1910 in Detroit, Mich. Her parents, Alfred Faucher and Catherine Krantz Faucher, were both from Michigan, with roots in France and Germany. Bea had one brother, Gregory, and two sisters, Constance and Jean. Jean is still living and is 90 years old. The family was raised in Holy Redeemer Parish and Bea graduated from Holy Redeemer School. It was from there that Bea entered religious life in 1929. Bea's sisters and her brother married and gave her a slew of nephews and nieces. Among them are Donna, Clare and Connie, who live nearby and have been able to stay close to Bea. In fact, Connie relates that Bea was able to tell her many things about her own mother who died in childbirth. Their visits were very special to both of them.

Beatrice took the name Nathaniel at her reception in 1930. Her first teaching assignment was at Blessed Sacrament, Detroit, followed by St. Martin's. Then, in 1937, after only six years of teaching, she was assigned to Marygrove College as Registrar. Bea kept that position for eight years, after which she again returned to teaching. Bea taught middle and junior high grades. She was appointed principal at St. Joseph's, Monroe in 1955. In 1961 she went back to Detroit where she taught high school at St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart, Roseville. Once again she became principal, grade school teacher and high school teacher in various places.

In 1974 she retired from school and became a parish secretary at St. Rene's in Sterling Heights. Bea also did pastoral work at St. Rene's until 1985. She was well loved in this position as we can tell by the church bulletin article, written on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee. "Many people, those having a child baptized, the old, the sick, the RENEGades, have come to know and appreciate the wit and wisdom of this lady." "She continually reassures us through her demeanor that we are worthwhile people, that it's her privilege to take care of us, and her pleasure to be of service, even when it means getting her hands dirty." "I certainly am proud and grateful that she is a member of St. Rene's pastoral staff."

After St. Rene's, in 1985, Sister Bea began to work in the Northeast Province where she did advisory and clerical work for six years. Sister Dorothy McDaniel said that they were a province team of three, but Bea entered into the work so generously, helping even with the finances, that they thought of themselves as a team of four. Bea was very easy to be with, very gracious and always positive.

A beautiful friendship between Bea and Adele DuRoss began the day they both entered the IHM community in 1929. After Bea finished her work with the Northeast Province in 1991, the two of them moved to the Hampton Apartments, and lived there until they moved to the Motherhouse in '98. Even when both were in healthcare, they continued their friendship, visiting and playing cards. For a while they adopted Maxine Kollasch, when she was a novice, ostensibly playing cards, but in reality, sharing their wisdom and wit.

Then – one day the cutter was ready.

And with sure decisive strokes cut through the precious stone.

Then lo!

From deep within its inmost core

a light of purest white shone forth

Afire and sparkling as the blinding rays

Reflected out the mystery deep within.

The cutter gazed with love upon this beauteous handiwork
and smiling said, "It is good."

Beatrice Faucher, IHM

Written by Roberta Richmond, IHM

Feb. 10, 2009