



## **Carolyn Mary Tighe SL**

### **December 18, 1917 – July 25, 2011**

Alice, the fourth daughter in the family was nine when the family moved to Elizabeth, Colorado forty miles from Denver. Two more daughters and two sons joined the family there. She attended St. Mary's Academy, Denver, earning her diploma in 1935.

In a letter dated April 24, 1935, Alice wrote to Mother Olivette Norton the Superior General. "I am a senior at St. Mary's Academy this year. I will be graduated the first part of June and for several months I have been contemplating following in the footsteps of my sisters Lucina, Alice Eugene, and Anne Virginia. I would like very much to enter with the June class of postulants. I will be very happy, Reverend Mother, if you will grant my admittance. Since I am the last of four of my sisters to ask admittance to your Motherhouse, I have feared that perhaps it is too much to ask of you this privilege. However, my Mother and Father are kind to let me go, if you will accept me. I await your reply. Sincerely, Alice Tighe"

Alice, known as Sister Carolyn Mary, became a novice on December 8, 1933 made first vows on December 8, 1937 and final vows on August 15, 1941.

From 1937 through 1975, Carolyn Mary taught in Elementary schools in Kentucky, Texas, Missouri, California and Arizona. She also taught the Ward Method of singing and had wonderful children's choirs for over thirty-five Years.

After her teaching career, Carolyn Mary used her skills to work in new settings. She joined the staff of Four Seasons Nursing Home in Colorado Springs in 1975, and, she wrote: "after much study I earned my credentials to be a medical records technician."

In 1980 she was hired at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Colorado Springs as Director of Religious Education. She came in contact with many people who

were poor and suffering. She reached out to those in need, with help and support developing programs for the young, for teen-agers and for adults.

In 1994, Carolyn Mary retired as she continued to build connections and friendships. She visited her neighbors when they were ill, praying with and for them and in general making their lives more pleasant.

In 2007, Kathleen Tighe (the fifth Loretto Tighe sister) wrote: "To this day Carolyn Mary helps her house-mate Rita Vigil, CoL, minister to a group of physically handicapped adults. They take them to doctor appointments and to Mass; call them, read to the blind and keep up the wonderful Spirit of Loretto service. Sister Carolyn Mary is a great example of what it means to be Loretto."

Carolyn Mary and Rita Vigil lived together in Colorado Springs for many years. For the past several months Carolyn Mary has been on hospice being cared for by Rita. She died peacefully on Monday, July 25 surrounded by Rita and several friends.

Thank you Carolyn Mary for the care and concern you have shown to so many people through the years. You will be missed by many, especially, Alice Eugene, Kathleen and Rita.