

SISTER MURIEL BODIN, CDP
August 1, 1924 – October 17, 2018

Sister Muriel Bodin, CDP, entered eternal life on October 17, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas, at the age of 94. Born to Willie Bodin and Leah Vincent in Erath, Louisiana, on August 1, 1924, Sister Muriel was the fifth of seven children, and was given the baptismal name, Lily Mae. She entered the novitiate to become a Sister of Divine Providence on June 21, 1946, and professed first vows on June 22, 1947.

Educated in the Louisiana public school system, Sister Muriel, had never spoken with a religious sister, though she had seen them when she attended Mass. "I was already out and earning my own living," she said in a CDP interview, "I was a Southwestern Bell operator."

In 2007, when Sister Muriel celebrated her Diamond Jubilee (60 years in religious life), she recalled how her mother prayed the rosary every evening with the family. "That did something to me. When I told my mother that I wanted to enter religious life, she was so happy."

Upon entering the convent, Sister Miriam Fidelis became her mentor. Her first teaching assignment was to teach singing which she found "a little difficult." However, with the help and guidance of her mentor, she proceeded and accepted the call. Sister Muriel received her Master's in Education from Our Lady of the Lake College and received specialized education in library science, counseling, and French.

Sister Muriel grew to love teaching. She dedicated 52 years of her life to educating others. She was an elementary school teacher in 10 schools throughout Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Louisiana and a junior high teacher in five schools in Texas and Louisiana. In recalling her many years of teaching, and even more her many students, Sister Muriel knew she had a special relationship with her students that could not be surpassed.

In the fall of 1975, while teaching in Houston, Texas, Sister Muriel was told by her doctor that she needed to leave Houston due to its polluted air. During the Thanksgiving holiday, she visited her mother in Erath, Louisiana. At Mass the pastor announced the need for a religious education coordinator. The hand of Providence was guiding her back to Louisiana where she served more than 1,100 students from kindergarten to 12th grade for seven years.

Sister Muriel was preceded in death by her parents and siblings: Roy, Eunice Scalfano (Frank), Eula Garber (Walter), Nelson, Isaac, and Theresa. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Miriam Bodin (widow of Isaac) and many nieces and nephews.

The Rosary for Sister Muriel is Sunday, October 21, at 4:30 p.m. and the Wake at 6:30 p.m. A Mass of Resurrection will be Monday, October 22, at 11:00 a.m. All services will be in Annunciation Chapel at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center.

In lieu of flowers, you may wish to make a memorial contribution to the Sisters of Divine Providence, 515 S.W. 24th Street, San Antonio, TX 78207-4619.