

Sister Christine Marie Goodman, OP



Born to Earthly Life on September 1, 1933

First Profession on August 15, 1954

Entered Eternal Life on January 6, 2026

BEATRICE GOODMAN was born on September 1, 1933 to Mary and Frank Goodman in Fowler, Michigan. She was the youngest of nine children, growing up on the family farm with animals of all kinds. She especially loved the milk cows and horses and was a natural caretaker. She described growing up on a farm as a “carefree childhood with parents who were always there.”

She felt her call to religious life early and had many Racine Dominican Sisters as teachers. She admired their love of educating their students and their devotion to their faith. Another important part of her call was her parish priest, who would pray for everyone to discover their own vocation after every Mass. She professed her first vows in 1954 and final vows in 1960, taking the name S. Christine Marie of the Holy Trinity.

S. Christine Marie received her Bachelor’s Degree from Dominican College in Racine, with an emphasis on the education of middle school aged children. She taught in various schools throughout Wisconsin in her 21 year teaching career, including Sacred Heart and St. Edward schools in Racine. S. Christine Marie loved being in the classroom and watching her students grow. As she said, “my students are a treasured part of my life. I try to remember to include them in my prayer life by praying for those I had taught, those I was teaching at the time and those I would teach in the future.” She truly felt that she was taking care of her students through faith and learning while they were in her classroom.

Her next phase of ministry would continue to allow S. Christine Marie to be of service. She served as a school secretary at St. Joseph School in Racine and held clerical and clinic secretary positions in Michigan, allowing her to be closer to her family. Each of these roles required a caring heart, organizational skills and a willingness to do what was needed. She was a perfect fit and spent nearly 20 years helping others in these ministries.

After her time in Michigan, Siena called S. Christine Marie home. She returned to Racine and became part of the Racine Dominican Retreat Program, now known as the Siena Retreat Center, helping to set up and clean up after retreats. She also did the bulk mailings for the retreat center. She was a valued member of the team in those years.

S. Christine Marie was always busy with prayer, music and the work of justice. She lent her lovely voice to the Siena Choir and the Jubilars and Music Makers Orchestras at Siena. Always a voice for justice, S. Christine Marie worked to support efforts for peace throughout the world. She is known to have participated in peaceful demonstrations and rallies opposing the War in Iraq and she helped carry and fly a peace dove in the Racine Parade.

S. Christine Marie was a very prayerful, quiet contemplative woman. She believed that each of us needed to live the now, stating “Now is the only moment we can really know because we may not have the next moment on this earth.” Thank you for the gift of your presence and prayer among us and for reminding us to take care of others in all that we do.

