

## Sister Alberta Bekkers, OP



Born to Earthly Life on March 27, 1933

First Profession on August 15, 1954

Entered Eternal Life on January 8, 2023

**W**ILHELMINA ANNA BEKKERS was born on March 27, 1933 in Combined Locks, Wisconsin, the oldest of eight children born to Albert and Walteria Bekkers. She loved practicing her faith and would often be found in quiet prayer. Her seventh grade teacher taught the class how to meditate, and she found herself called to religious life during those

meditations. She met three Racine Dominican Sisters at church when they were home to visit their mother, and they left a lasting impression on Wilhelmina. She made her first profession on August 15, 1954 and took final vows on August 15, 1960, receiving the name of Sister Alberta Bekkers of the Sacred Heart.

S. Alberta lived a life of service, and that service took many forms. She was someone that could be counted on to do whatever needed to be done. S. Alberta worked in many convents and hospitals throughout Wisconsin, Illinois and Nebraska, always being the hardest worker and always endearing herself to everyone with her smile and her joy. She helped often in the laundry or you could find her in the kitchen helping with meal prep. She did many maintenance tasks, receiving a third-class engineer's license so that she could ensure the proper working of the mechanicals. She found such joy in service, saying "I have enjoyed all my different ministries, especially when it included variety."

S. Alberta enjoyed working with the elderly and worked for more than 30 years in home health care and as a resident assistant. She loved being of service to help keep seniors healthy and independent in their later years.

She was a wonderful knitter, and spent hours of her week knitting mittens and blankets for those less fortunate. She knew the small comfort these items brought and quietly delivered them to be distributed. Many people were the recipients of her kindness.

S. Alberta was a woman of prayer and of the Word. She had a great devotion to Jesus and receiving the Eucharist was very important to her. She always received Jesus with great reverence and joy. She was frequently seen in chapel intent in prayer. She had a great devotion to the Blessed Mother and the rosary.

Thank you for sharing your life with us S. Alberta, and for the many ways you shared your gifts, your selfless service and your love with so many.

