

Sister Matthew (Sophia) Nykoluik SSMI

(submitted by Olive(Lukie) Gurica of Grandview, MB

Sister Matthew truly was my inspiration. She was educated in Lethbridge, SK and Sacred Heart Academy, Yorkton. She made her Final profession of Vows in 1937. Often she came from Yorkton to Grandview to teach summer catechism. She was very compassionate, dedicated and she loved to sing. I remember asking her to teach us more hymns and songs during the lessons.

Having finished Gr. XI in Grandview and six weeks of summer school, I was assigned to teach at Borshaw school in Ethelbert. After classes, I taught Ukrainian songs and carols, held a Ukr./Eng. Christmas Concert, of course, recalling Sr. Matthew's ways of teaching and singing. I also visited with her at the Ancaster, ON Vidpust.

In 1969, our family moved to Thunder Bay and happily met Sr. Matthew in church. We were most grateful that she taught our four children their catechism. She often picked them up for ice cream treats. In 1972, we were moving to the family farm in Grandview and since St. Matthew was transferring to St. Paul's Home in Dauphin, we loaded her earthly possessions into our moving van and gladly delivered them for her. She often delightfully visited us at our farm.

Inspired by Sr. Matthew, for many years I taught catechism and choir in the Grandview and Gilbert Plains churches. Again thankful to her, I still continue to cantor in these parishes, knowing she would be most pleased.

God graciously took Sr. Matthew to heaven on March 23, 1989. May she rest in peace! Vichnaya Pamiat!