



THE MOTHER ANGELINE SOCIETY

The Mother Angeline Society is dedicated to promoting the cause for beatification and canonization of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, O. Carm, foundress of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm and advancing her charism in the church.

Spring 2025



*Commemorating the 41st Anniversary of
Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa's Entrance into Eternal Life.*



Baptism into the Faith ~ Hope was her Anchor ~ Kindness was her Legacy



From the Pen of Brother Robert Chiulli, O.Carm.

On May 9th, 2024, Pope Francis declared that 2025 would be a Jubilee Year, a year dedicated to the theological virtue of hope, and a year in which visits to holy places are encouraged. Jubilee years have existed in the Church since the 14th century, and are opportunities for Catholics to rededicate themselves to their faith, to seek forgiveness for their sins, and to embrace God's grace and mercy as they continue on their journey to the heavenly homeland.

Jubilee years are also special times of pilgrimage, particularly to Rome. There, the faithful can visit the four major basilicas, and pass through the specially designated Holy Doors, with the opportunity to receive a plenary indulgence (when the additional conditions are met: sacramental confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father). Mother Angeline herself, visited Rome during a Jubilee Year (1950) and went to all four of the major basilicas. In her letter to her sisters in which she describes her visits to these churches in great detail, she is overwhelmed by the variety and quality of the religious art she sees, but more so, she is humbled by how these holy places have served to inspire Catholics for centuries. She writes, *"One cannot describe the feeling of pride in being a Catholic when the immense crowds of people from all over the world assemble here, the center and heart of Christendom, to proclaim their*

faith and pay their respects to the Vicar of Christ."

In a world beset by wars, violence, inequality in wealth, and natural disasters, one can see why the Holy Father chose Hope as the theme for this year's Jubilee. As there is so much negativity around us these days, it is easy to fall into cynicism and despair and wonder if there is any chance for things to get better. But as people of faith, we look to the cross as the ultimate sign of hope, for in the crucifixion, our sins - and our very death - was conquered. The hope found in the cross inspired the Carmelite martyr, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) to adopt as her motto, *Ave crux, spes unica* (*Hail to the Cross, our only hope*). Hope belongs to the Christian because he is confident that Christ's passion, death, and resurrection have secured for us eternal life, and hope, as the Catechism states, is a weapon that protects us in the struggle for salvation.

The Holy Father challenges us in this jubilee year *"to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind."* One group in particular that the Holy Father identifies in need of hope are the elderly, for *"(t)he elderly, who frequently feel lonely and abandoned, also deserve signs of hope. Esteem for the treasure that they are, their life experiences, their accumulated wisdom and the contribution that they can still make, is*

incumbent on the Christian community and civil society, which are called to cooperate in strengthening the covenant between generations." As an elderly person himself, the Holy Father is well acquainted with the limitations that the aged endure. He understands the ongoing burden of illness and chronic health issues and recognizes the often-overlooked value of the elderly in the community.

Hope was the reason Mother Angeline founded her community for the aged. She wanted to bring hope and compassionate care to those elderly men and women who would otherwise have had to suffer the burdens of aging alone. And she believed that the aged deserved attentive and loving care in the autumn of their lives. But providing the elderly with hope is more than just tending to their physical needs, it also means bringing *"Christ to every old person under our care. Bringing Christ means giving them His compassion, His loving care, His warmth-morning, noon, and night."*

May your Jubilee year be one filled with hope and many graces, and may we be inspired by Mother Angeline's words and the Holy Father's invitation to be messengers of hope to the elderly among us.

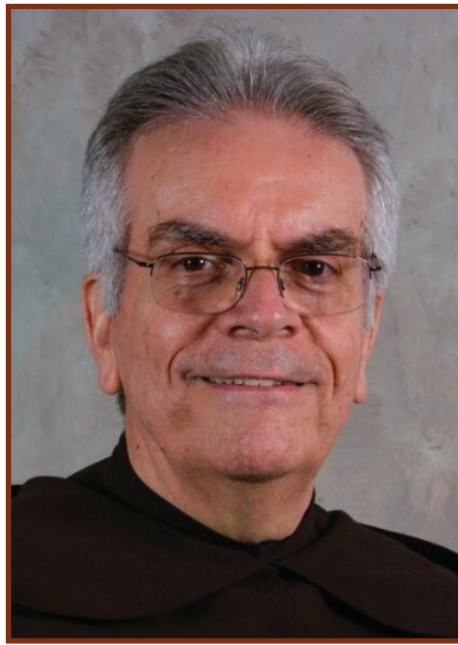
Cover Credit: Display design and artwork by Sr. M. Ambrose, O.Carm.

Greetings from Father Mario

Dear Members of the
Mother Angeline Society,

Peace and blessings to you as you read the first issue of the Mother Angeline Society Bulletin for 2025. We rely upon your prayerful and financial support as we continue to spread the news of the Cause and Charism of Venerable Mother Angeline Teresa, O.Carm., Foundress of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm. Each month, you are in our prayers and remembered in Holy Mass as we lift up your intentions, spiritual and temporal welfare to the Lord and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

For 2025, we have been reflecting upon Mother Angeline Teresa and her Legacy of Kindness. She always encouraged her Sisters to be kinder than kindness itself, and her encouragement was not just in words. In her attitudes and actions, the Foundress of the Carmelite Sisters exemplified kindness, shown in both big and little ways. She wanted comfortable rooms and good food for her beloved old people. By respecting the cultural and religious values of the residents, she created homelike settings and a respect for their dignity in all matters, and most of all, emphasized charity and kindness in dealing with the residents, and with the staff of the various homes. Even today you can see as you visit a Carmelite facility the way the Sisters and staff personalize the care of all who live there, and through mission effectiveness programs, train each new co-worker in how to treat God's beautiful and fragile elderly. This kindness extends to the families of the residents as well, who are often hurting as they entrust their family members to the care of others. Mother showed through a gentle touch, a smile, and a little treat, how special each resident was, and this legacy has been passed to the Sisters.



*Very Reverend Mario Esposito,
O.Carm., Vice Postulator*

Within the Congregation of Carmelite Sisters, Mother Angeline's kindness was manifested in how she strove to treat each Sister in an individual way according to her needs and situation, and at the same time constantly encourage joyful and supportive community life. In so many ways and words, Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa taught how prayer and reflection, devotion and faith alone would strengthen the Sisters in their vocational resolve to serve God in Mary's Order and to care for God's precious seniors in a loving and kind way. We meet people all the time who had a parent, relative or friend in a Carmelite Sisters nursing home years ago, and

still talk about the kindness and care that the Sisters and their associates provided when their loved one needed it most. This is the beautiful and powerful legacy of Mother Angeline which needs to be treasured and expanded.

In this Holy Year of Hope, we are reminded by such witnesses as Mother Angeline that charity and kindness foster hope and a belief in the God of life and love. We want someday, I trust, to be remembered for our own kindness to others, and to leave our own inheritance of good on this earth.

Thank you so much for promoting the Cause for the beatification and canonization of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa. Please continue to help us make Mother Angeline known through your prayerful and financial support of the Cause. May God bless you and Our Lady watch over you.

In Christ,

Father Mario, O.Carm.

Very Reverend Mario Esposito, O.Carm.
Vice-Postulator

The 41st Anniversary of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa's Entrance into Eternal Life



On January 21, 2025, the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm and invited guests gathered at Saint Teresa's Motherhouse Chapel to commemorate the 41st anniversary of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa's entrance into eternal life.

The principal celebrant and homilist was The Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, OH, with Very Reverend Mario Esposito, O.Carm. as the Master of Ceremonies. The invited members of the clergy were Rev. James Donlon, Rev. James Miara, and Rev. James Hess, O.Carm. Brother J.B. Duc Nguyen, O.Carm., Mr. J.B. Truong An Nguyen and Mr. Matthew Wise, the Carmelite Brothers of the Saint Elias Province, assisted in the liturgy.

Among the invited guests were the McCrory family, the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, staff members of the Avila Institute of Gerontology, and the Carmelite System. The celebration concluded with a special reception. It was a beautiful day to remember and honor the life and legacy of Mother Angeline, who exemplified a deep love and devotion to our residents through her acts of kindness.

Top Photo: "A Legacy of Kindness" Theme Display by Mary Ann Iaccino

Top Left: Sister Jean Davis, O.Carm. proclaimed the first reading

Middle Left: John McCrory proclaimed the second reading

Bottom Left: Sister Veronica Robert, O. Carm. offered the intercessions



Bishop Fernandes, Mother Mary Rose, Concelebrants, and Council



The Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes



Celebration Cake

Excerpts from Bishop Fernandes' homily:

"...when I was in between medical school and the seminary, I lived in Cincinnati.... I would work at St. Margaret Hall where the Carmelite Sisters were. I saw the love and the care that they gave to all those who were residents there... what is this care all about? It's about affirming the dignity of each and every person. No matter how old or young, no matter how able bodied or disabled or ill you might be, we have to show reverence for the human person. For the human person is made in God's image and likeness..."

We could think in a worldly way and say, well these old people, these sick people – they're just using up resources. They're keeping us from being efficient. And in some societies, that's what people say. And we are moving more and more toward what the Pope calls a throwaway culture. But you Sisters and you who support the Sisters with your prayers and your gifts, and your sacrificial offerings, you refuse to throw people away. You stand beside them; you hold their hands, and you stay strong.

We can afford to fail in many things, but not in kindness and certainly not in charity...

My dear sisters, my brothers, this is our task to be kinder than kindness. To love one another with true heartfelt compassion. To share God's love with the sick and the infirm and those who suffer from a terrible poverty of loneliness to bring about a revolution of tenderness...

God called Mother Angeline McCrory from Ireland to Scotland, to France to New York to build something to bear fruit that will remain. And you are the fruit of her labor. Christ has planted the seed. He planted a seed of great love in her heart, and it continues to bloom and grow and so it continues to live in your vocations, faithfully committed to Christ, the true spouse of our souls. Continue to put on the garment of love, which is the bond of perfection. And you will see you will change our world."

A Visit from Mossend Scotland

John Mallon and Brian Timmons are the co-founders of a Video Production Company Based in Lanarkshire, Scotland specializing in Catholic Church Videography. In 2016 they started by filming short videos and documenting the history of their parish church, The Holy Family in Mossend. Over time, their team has grown to include various contributors who help produce a wide range of content including documentaries and live streams covering significant religious sites and events such as important Church and charity events, pilgrimages, and celebrations; inter-

views featuring prominent figures in the Catholic community; and educational videos exploring topics related to Catholic teachings, history, and contemporary issues. Their content is available on platforms like YouTube and their official website, www.sancta.tv.

In January, John and Brian traveled to the United States to cover the March for Life in Washington, DC. They then traveled to Avila (Germantown, NY) and New York City to produce the definitive story of Mother Angeline's life through her birth in Ireland, youth in Scotland, years of formation in France, and work in America.

Many Sisters were interviewed for their memories, anecdotes, and stories about Venerable Mary Angeline. John and Brian were able to visit the archives at Avila and were able to see photos from Scotland and Ireland that they had not seen before. They also visited the Mother Angeline Heritage Center, and the Heritage Room in the Motherhouse. At Mother's gravesite John said, "...it's very moving to be here, coming all the way from Scotland to see the grave of someone who is a normal Mossend person just like us growing up on the same street as us, going to our school, to our church, yet the legacy here you see the size of the grounds and the Sisters that have joined her order and the legacy of kindness and care for the elderly she's inspired across the United States and beyond. That legacy continues today. We felt very warmly welcomed by the



Top Photo: What a warm and lovely welcome from the Sisters

Bottom: At Mother's Gravesite

Sisters and we're very moved to see her resting place."

To complete their trip, John and Brian were able to visit two nursing homes. "Our impression of the residents in the homes was one of a deeply caring and professional environment... in Mary Manning Walsh Home and Ozanam Hall, residents were interacting with staff and religious in a warm and friendly manner. We were given a preview of the new dementia unit in Ozanam. It is a well-designed and clean space which will help (these) residents"

From one of their Facebook Posts: *"Only when you visit the States where she developed most of her work and spent her time do you realise the immense legacy of this 'wee lassie' from Mossend, Venerable Mother Angeline. A complete visionary, kind, humble and Holy. Everyone in @holyfamilymossend should be proud of her."*



Top Photo: Interviewing and Recording for the Documentary

Bottom: John and Brian with Regine Lambrech in the archives

In Memorium



Sister Mary Matthew James of All Saints passed away peacefully on February 14, 2025, at Ozanam Hall. Sister Matthew was in the 61st year of her religious life.

Sr. Matthew diligently handled numerous challenging tasks at the Motherhouse, where she served for forty-six years. She worked in close proximity to Venerable Mother M. Angeline Teresa and the members of the General Council. Sr. Matthew was blessed to be with Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa when the Lord called Mother Angeline to Himself. In every way, Sister Matthew supported the promotion of Mother Angeline's Cause and lived her Charism to the full. May she rest in peace.



Sister M. Fidelis Therese O.Carm. went home to the Lord on September 30, 2024, at St. Patrick's Manor, Framingham, MA, in the 35th year of her religious life.

God blessed her with multiple talents in music, art, photography, and computer graphics. Sr. Fidelis created prayer cards, theme posters and Mass booklets for the January 21st celebrations, and designed several gift items for the Mother Angeline gift shop. She also helped compile the booklets, *Ven. Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, O.Carm. - Mother and Friend to Priests and Model of Vocation*. Sr. Fidelis played the accordion and melodica, wrote music, songs, and poetry, and was always very generous in using her gifts whenever and wherever they were needed.

Sr. Fidelis was full of love for her Community and she will remain forever close in our minds and hearts.

The Ministry Corner

*St. Patrick's Manor in Framingham, MA —
Our Dedicated Housekeeping Staff*



Sr. Kathleen John McLinden, O. Carm.

What makes a house a home? Here at St. Patrick's Manor, it is the obvious commitment and dedication of our staff. Everyone knows how important it is for all the residents to have a neat and clean environment, ensuring they feel safe and can move around their rooms freely. At St. Patrick's Manor, safety is the top priority for residents, staff, and families alike. We are blessed with a dedicated housekeeping staff whose focus and dedication are to insure a home-like environment.



Our staff includes Leandro, Healthcare Service Account Manager of 20 years, and is responsible for 28 employees, 3 porters, and laundry staff, who serve 258 residents in nine units. These employees are dedicated to our core values of Hospitality and Shared Commitment, working together to provide a clean and neat home-like setting. Employees witness the love, care, respect, and compassion shown to the residents and many are long-term employees, working 34 years and 10 years, for example, while enjoying their jobs. Their care for residents is genuine and obvious.



They embody "The Difference is Love." The dedicated staff pour their hearts into maintaining this cleanliness, tirelessly working to create a warm, welcoming, and supportive atmosphere where residents feel cherished and loved.

Left: Jesus busy in the largest long-term care laundry in the state

Middle: Karine receiving a treat for the housekeeping and laundry staff - they do an amazing job!

Right: Leandro Almeida Healthcare Services Account Manager with Sr. Kathleen John McLinden, O. Carm.

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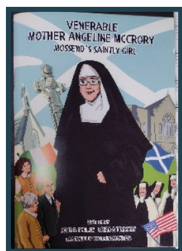
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NEW! Mother Angeline Children's Book



We have a children's book about Mother Angeline's journey in faith from Ireland to Scotland to France and then to the US!

38-page soft cover book - measures 6" x 8"

\$12.00 shipped by media mail.

Please note that the Gift Shop Sales Sheet will no longer be included in the newsletter. **Visit our online gift shop at motherangeline.org and click "Gift Shop."**

What Are Your Thoughts?

We invite you to participate in a brief 10-question survey about The Mother Angeline Society bulletin. Your feedback on the content and your preference for a digital newsletter versus a printed version would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us.

You can access the survey by scanning the QR code or by using the link: motherangeline.org/survey-questions/



Those who believe their prayers were answered through Mother Angeline Teresa's intercession are encouraged to contact the Carmelite Sisters, or you may write to:

The Postulator's Office

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for the Aged and Infirm
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