



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.

Fall 2026



Mother Angeline was an Irish immigrant who dedicated her life to caring for elderly people - many of whom were immigrants like herself. Read more on the back cover.



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

This summer has been a very active one in our country, with the simultaneous celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, and the FIFA World Cup soccer tournament. While the Semiquincentennial festivities that took place in all 50 states were an opportunity for Americans to express their pride and gratitude for the many blessings we have and for the rich legacy of freedom we enjoy, it has been particularly gratifying to see America through the eyes of the millions of visitors here for the soccer tournaments. The news has reported that people from around the globe have discovered a United States much different from the one they learned about in their home country. They have been amazed by the size of our stores, that you can get free refills on soda, and that ranch dressing can be used to improve most any food. More importantly, they have found that Americans are far more open and friendly than they were led to believe. Many of these visiting soccer fans have noted that even with the many challenges we face as a nation, we still have a deep sense of optimism and hope for the future. It is part of the American DNA to believe that with conviction and hard work, anything is possible.

Mother Angeline, as an immigrant-born in Ireland, raised in Scotland, and formed as a religious in France, took immediately to this particularly American disposition. When she assumed her first assignment as a religious sister in the United States, she

noted that the customs of the community for taking care of the aged were not those best suited for the American temperament. Americans were used to more independence and freedom, and Mother believed that they were entitled to a different style of care. Eventually, Mother and six companions felt called to start a new community – the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm – that would embrace this American mentality. Mother not only cared for Americans, she wholeheartedly embraced their can-do philosophy. She established new homes for the aged across the country, and she implemented innovative methods of care for the elderly, all the while staying true to her belief that her sisters should treat their residents as if they were Christ Himself.

In the Declaration of Independence, it states that all men are created equal, and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. The first of these rights is the right to life. From a Catholic perspective, we believe that because everyone is created in the image and likeness of God, they possess a dignity that is intrinsic to them. There is a clear complementarity between the Declaration of Independence and Catholic teaching in that we must regard our brothers and sisters with the deepest respect, and we must attend to their well-being, as best we can. When the rights of human beings are threatened, particularly the right to life, we have a moral obligation to act.

Mother Angeline, from an early age, felt a particular sensitivity to the burdens that the elderly carry, and carried a deep conviction that God wanted her to care for those who are often invisible and neglected in society. When the elderly are left to face the autumn of their lives alone and afraid, and when their value is questioned because they are no longer “productive”, this is an affront to the dignity that God has instilled in them. And this is why for her entire religious life, Mother Angeline exhorted her Sisters “to receive, feed, and care for the Aged with the same love and joy they would show in caring for the Lord Himself.”

As our country continues its birthday celebration throughout this year, may we never take for granted the freedoms we enjoy, and may we always make a special effort to protect the rights and dignity of our elderly.

Our Gift Shop has Moved

Our gift shop has moved to a new location! If you haven't visited lately, now's the perfect time to explore what's new. Discover books, religious items, gifts, and more...

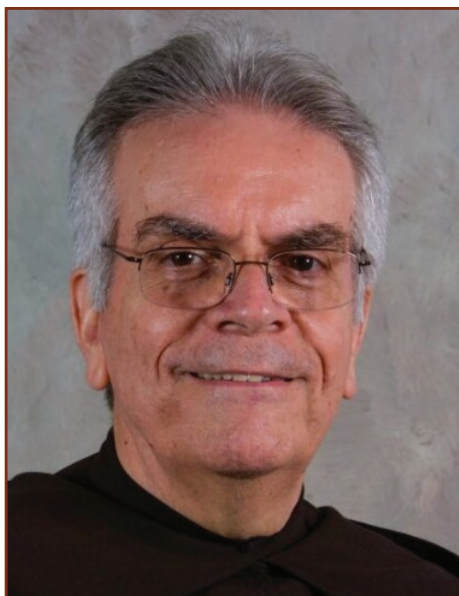
Visit us online at
www.motherangeline.org/shop

Greetings from Father Mario

Dear Members of the
Mother Angeline Society,

Greetings to you in this mid-year issue of the Mother Angeline Society Bulletin. Between the 250th Anniversary of our beloved United States and the long-anticipated World Cup finals, it has not been a humdrum summer. As members of the Mother Angeline Society, you and your intentions have been remembered in a nine-day Novena of Masses in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel as part of the benefits of your membership. A recent priest jubilarian wrote to my community thanking us for a prayer enrollment on the occasion of his 25th Anniversary and stated, "Of all the gifts that I have received, none equals being remembered each day in the prayers and Masses of your Carmelite community. Daily, I know, I will receive the grace and strength of God to sustain me in my priestly ministry and life."

I had occasion recently to spend quite a bit of time in a Carmelite Sisters Nursing and Rehabilitation facility, visiting several times a week. Being quite familiar with the Sisters and their charism, I found myself reflecting on what I saw and felt while I was there. As we had the phase of "WWJD" - what would Jesus do, I invented my own version of, "WWMAS" - what would Mother Angeline say as she watched her Carmelite daughters in their ministry in the 97th year of the foundation of the Congregation. For sure, she would experience the tremendous changes in how health care for the elderly and infirm is conducted today. But could she recognize her core values? I think Mother Angeline Teresa would answer "Yes". I marveled at the ability of the Sisters to know absolutely everybody by name, and something of their background. What smiles and positive feelings were generated by the Sisters' compassionate presence, kind words, little jokes and a soothing hand in a lonely or difficult moment. Mother wished the Sisters to treat each resident with the respect, care and love that would give to Our Lord, and I saw that over and over again. The atmosphere of Christ-like hospitality per-



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

vaded the whole facility. With all the diminishment the aged might experience in their bodies and minds, they certainly were not diminished in the care and personal encounters they had with the Sisters. I watched too, as the Sisters also showed respectful care for the staff, who carry much of the daily burden in the Home, while also balancing their own lives, and their work.

I saw the presence of the scapular, and moments of prayer. Many times, Mother Angeline wrote about the Eucharist, and the tabernacle as the center of a Carmelite Home. What time and effort were dedicated in that facility, led by the Sisters and their pastoral care coworkers, to make the daily Mass special, to

bring people down for the Mass and back to their rooms, and to make different celebrations extra prayerful and uplifting so that Christ the Good Shepherd could minister to His elderly brothers and sisters. There was such dedication to visiting the residents and bringing them Holy Communion and a word of solace. I believe Mother Angeline would be happy to see the atmosphere of compassion, and the many acts of kindness displayed by the Sisters and all the staff, even with the real, manifold challenges of staffing and management that are part of our modern health care system. One could tell that above all in that place, the value of life and the dignity of each person were respected and demonstrated. May the work of Mother Angeline and her vision of care flourish for many years to come.

Thank you for your ongoing financial and prayerful support of the Cause for the Beatification and Canonization of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa, O.Carm. Thank you for helping us to make Mother Angeline better known. You are always remembered in our prayers, and we know that Mary, the Mother of Carmel, will guide and protect you each day.

In Christ,

Father Mario, O.Carm.

Very Reverend Mario Esposito, O.Carm.
Vice Postulator



Celebrating

80, 75, 60, 50, and 25 Years of Religious Life

On June 6, 2026, a Mass of Thanksgiving was held to celebrate religious jubilees of our Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm. Very Reverend Carl Markelz, O.Carm., Prior Provincial of the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary, was the Principal Celebrant and Homilist. Very Reverend Mario Esposito, O.Carm. was the Master of Ceremonies with the Carmelite Brothers from the Saint Elias Province assisting at the liturgy. Concelebrating were Reverend James Hess, O.Carm. and Reverend Reynaldo Taylor.

We congratulate our 2026 Jubilarians and thank God for their many years of loving service to the Lord and His elderly - with the dedicated staff who serve alongside our Sisters.



Above: Jubilarians (Sr. Joseph Marie -not in the photo)



*Above: Very Reverend Carl Markelz,
O.Carm. Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

Excerpts from Very Reverend Carl Markelz's Homily:

...Living (today's) readings... Receive daily – Spend time in prayer asking to be rooted and grounded in Christ's Love... Trust completely – When faced with demanding situations, repeat Mary's words of surrender, trusting that nothing is impossible for God... Serve intentionally – like Mother Angeline said, "Be kinder than Kindness Itself" seek out someone who really need words of comfort or an act of kindness...

... My Dear Sisters... You do not merely care for the aged; you minister to Christ hidden beneath the veil of physical frailty. May you continually clasp the hand of God's elderly children, filling the autumn of their lives with warmth, dignity, and the light of the Holy Spirit... The Christ in you awakes the Christ in each person you minister to.



Above: Celebration Cake



80th Jubilee
*Sister M. Xavier Frances
Marchiony, O.Carm.*



75th Jubilee
*Sister M. Robert of the Infant
Jesus Romano, O.Carm.*



70th Jubilee
*Sister M. Shawn Bernadette
Flynn, O.Carm.*



60th Jubilee
Sister Alice Webster, O.Carm.



60th Jubilee
*Sister Joseph Marie of the Holy
Spirit Maloney, O.Carm.*



50th Jubilee
*Sr. M. Raphael Peregrine of the
Holy Face Schmitz, O. Carm.*



25th Jubilee
*Sister Mary Vianney Dinh,
O.Carm*

***"Be faithfully
faithful."***

— Venerable Mother
Mary Angeline Teresa
McCrary, O.Carm.

Mother Angeline's Legacy Included at the Catholic Saints of America Celebration

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion in Wisconsin - the only approved site in North America where the Blessed Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared - hosted the "Catholic Saints of America" celebration from July 1-9, 2026, honoring America's 250th anniversary. The event featured an exhibit on 76 American saints, blessed, venerables, and servants of God, along with daily Masses, speakers, relic veneration featuring fourteen of the seventy-six individuals represented in the exhibit, and a national novena for the United States. Attended by 15,000 people, the celebration sought to inspire faith, prayer for the nation, and greater awareness of America's Catholic heritage.

A special focus was Servant of God Adele Brise, the Belgian immigrant who reported three Marian apparitions at the Champion site in 1859. Her sainthood cause opened earlier in 2026, and the Blessed Virgin Mary is honored there under the title Our Lady of Champion.

Sr. Theresa Marie Pfeffer and Sr. Lois Ann Wetzel attended this event to raise awareness of Mother Angeline's commitment to the sanctity of life in all its stages, and of Mother Angeline's cause for beatification and canonization. The Sisters highlighted Mother's spirituality as well as the mission, ministry, and work of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm.



Above: Sr. Theresa Marie Pfeffer and Sr. Lois Ann Wetzel



Come Join the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm for their Rosary Rally

October 3, 2026

1:00 pm Arrival & Tour of Heritage Center
3:00 pm Rosary Procession
4:00 pm Sunday Vigil Mass

Located at:
St. Teresa's Motherhouse,
600 Woods Rd.,
Germantown, NY 12526

Join us following Mass for a meet-and-greet social. Enjoy fellowship while exploring a special display of books, religious items, and vocation materials.

**For more information and updates visit
www.carmelitesisters.com or call (518) 537-5000.**

Avila Institute of Gerontology

ROOTS OF CARING

Celebrating 15 Years of Sustaining Fidelity to the Mission



Photo: Graduates of the Roots of Caring Program, Courtesy of Sr. Christopher Jude Pineault, O. Carm.

The Avila Institute of Gerontology (AIG), offers a variety of educational programs designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of healthcare professionals and caregivers working in long-term elder care, whether they are new to the field or seeking to update their expertise.

Among one of AIG's core programs for those serving in Homes affiliated with the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm is the Roots of Caring. Emphasizing mission and leadership, this program is intended to prepare future leaders to carry forward the Carmelite Mission by grounding them in the philosophy of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa.

Established in 2011, Roots of Caring is geared toward lay leaders, including managers, directors, supervisors, assistant administrators, and administrators. Throughout the six-month program, lay leaders become deeply rooted in Catholic Social Teaching and the Carmelite Mission embodying the values of compassionate and faith-based care.

Roots of Caring is comprised of two in-person modules held in Germantown, NY, along with remote classes and assignments throughout the year. The curriculum emphasizes the Sisters' Mission, Catholic healthcare principles, and leadership development topics. Instruction is delivered through a blend of lectures, videos, reflective exercises, case studies, and both small and large group discussions.

Participants are actively involved so that their personal experiences with the Carmelite Mission can be more fully realized. They complete a final project that demonstrates their understanding and shows how they can apply what they have learned in their leadership roles. Coursework is assessed and feedback is provided.

This year, Avila Institute of Gerontology is thrilled to congratulate 17 exceptional graduates of The Roots of Caring program. For more information about all of our faith-based healthcare education programs, visit www.avilainstitute.org.

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Mother Angeline: An Immigrant's Vision of a Home for All

A Nation of Immigrants that Strives To Be One

Mother Angeline was an immigrant who devoted her life to caring for the elderly - many, if not most, of whom were immigrants themselves. She never forgot her Irish roots and was very proud of her ethnicity. But she was also equally proud of her American identity (becoming an American citizen in 1934) and of the country in which her new Congregation began. But above all national and ethnic identities, Mother Angeline was a Spouse of Christ, someone completely devoted to His service, and it was because of this intimate relationship with Christ that she was able to, as she wrote, "provide a home for all nationalities and creeds where the feeling of home might be stressed."

There is no doubt that Mother Angeline's vision continues today in the homes administered by the Congregation, and she must be glad to continue to see her charism carried on by the employees who come from so many different countries.

On July 4, 2026, our nation commemorated and celebrated the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It was an opportunity for us to appreciate our own ethnic backgrounds and the many gifts the Lord gives to different cultures to enrich the human family. We all thank God for the great diversity of peoples He has brought to our American shores, and may we, as Mother Angeline did, see our common humanity rooted in the person of Jesus Christ.

Cover photos courtesy of the many Carmelite homes that shared photos of their July 4, 2026 celebrations.



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
Carmelite Sisters for the Aged
and Infirm
600 Woods Road
Germantown, NY 12526