

Sr. Annette Seiter, OSF
March 20, 1936 – September 8, 2026

Annette Kathrine Seiter was born on March 20, 1936, in Utica, NY and passed into eternal life on September 8, 2026, at St. Elizabeth Motherhouse, Allegany, NY (exactly 73 years from the day she began her FSA journey). She was the daughter of Lloyd and Minnie (Siedsma) Seiter.

Annette entered the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany on September 8, 1953; was received into the Congregation on August 15, 1954; received her religious name, Sr. Anne Matthias, OSF; and professed her final vows on August 16, 1961. She continued to live joyfully her call as an Allegany Franciscan for over 73 years reflecting God's love and mercy to all with whom she came in contact.

Annette graduated from Blessed Sacrament School in 1949 and St. Frances de Sales High School in 1953, both in Utica, NY. She received her BS in Education from St. Bonaventure University in 1967 and pursued further graduate education at Hunter College in New York City, NY and Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

For over 60 years, Sister was involved in various fields of Education. For the first 20 years, she ministered in Congregational schools in NY (Catskill, Ossining, Niagara Falls and NYC) and NJ (Merchantville and Pompton Lakes). The following 40 years, she assumed various positions in St. Anthony Parish in Greenwich Village, New York City. Annette was teacher and principal of the Elementary School, teacher in the Commercial High School and Director of Religious Education. She loved the people of St. Anthony's and was dearly loved in return by the friars and all whom she served!

After receiving word of Annette's passing, the following message was received from Fr. Joseph Lorenzo, OFM:

“I send my condolences and prayers on the passing of Sr. Annette Seiter, OSF, who served St. Anthony's for many years. During my 12 years as pastor, she was DRE and did a great job! More than that, she was a wonderful person, filled with faith and love for the people, as well as Franciscan values. She was much loved in the parish and in our province. She will be missed!”

Annette was known as the “Queen of Hospitality and Gentleness” by all who lived at St Anthony’s, as well as all who visited. For many years, St. Anthony’s was an inter-community residence and her kind, peaceable, calming personality was needed in this setting. Hence, she served as Local Minister for over 25 years.

Kathleen Stagnaro, bandmate and best friend, recalled her summer visits with Annette in “The Village” and their many trips out to Yankee Stadium to cheer on their team. Go Yankees! Even until a few weeks ago, she was faithful to her Yankees.

In 2017, Sr. Annette was warmly welcomed home to St. Elizabeth Motherhouse in Allegany, NY. She kept her heart, mind and hands busy visiting and comforting other Sisters, as well as participating in Activities, winning at Bingo and enjoying the many social gatherings. She toasted to all with her beverage of choice -- Manhattans!

The Nursing Staff noted that Annette was a wonderful part of the St. Francis Community. She was cheerful, pleasant and helpful to all. In particular, she had a special bond with Sr. Rita Frances Guaracsi -- the 2 gals from Sullivan Street!

To capsule Annette’s life, she loved her family, was a deep listener, attentive to all, a cancer survivor and most importantly, a faithful follower of our FSA mission, vision and charism.

She is predeceased by her parents, Lloyd and Minnie Seiter; her brothers, Theodore and Charles; and her sister, Virginia Burth. She is survived by her sisters, Jean (Michael) Johnson and Kathleen (Lane) Krenichyn; her brother-in-law, Jack Burth and sisters-in-law, Ginger Seiter and Gladys Seiter; and several nieces and nephews.

A Wake Service will be held on Friday, September 18, 2026, at 4:00 pm in the Chapel of St. Elizabeth Motherhouse. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at 1:00 PM in the Chapel of St. Elizabeth Motherhouse. Burial will follow in St. Bonaventure Cemetery.

Rest in Peace, Annette!