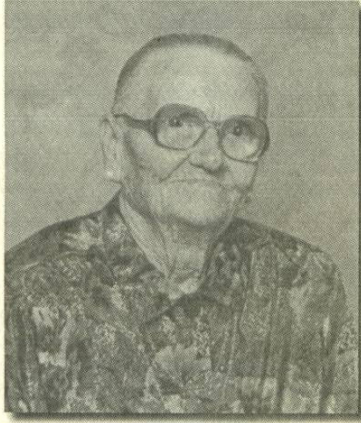


See Website

L A B



Memorial Service



Louise "Alma" Baptiste

November 9, 1909 - January 9, 2000

Monday, February 7, 2000

7:30 p.m.

St. Anne's Church - Frenchtown

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Celebrant: Fr. Alejandro Sanchez

Co-Celebrant: Bishop George V. Murry

Co-Celebrant: Fr. Jerome Feudjio



L A B

Louise "Alma" Baptiste

"Miss Alma," as she was fondly called, was born in St. Barths to Louis and Blanche Berry. She was one of several children. When she was a teenager, her parents sent her to St. Thomas to live with a relative. While there, she got to know a young carpenter who was also from St. Barths, and who had a sister that lived nearby. The young carpenter's name was Philip Baptiste. The two fell in love. It was a love that would last the rest of their lives. The couple got married and had one child.

Along with taking loving care of their son, they soon began to accept responsibilities at St. Anne's Chapel. Philip became the bell-ringer and maintenance man, and Alma took on the behind-the-scenes duties such as laundering the vestments and altar linens. She also took care of the altar wine and the candles along with many other chores that were necessary for the maintenance of the Chapel.

The couple continued their work at St. Anne's for more years than they could remember. When old age and failing health crept up on them, they gradually relinquished their self-assigned duties. Over the years, many of the Priests and Sisters that served at St. Anne's maintained contact with the Baptistes, some as late as this past Christmas.

"Miss Alma," like her husband, was a kind and loving person. Always willing to help the sick and those in need. She loved everyone, but especially her family. She was always ready to give words of encouragement and advice. She encouraged those around her to pray and to have patience. Though she deserved it, "Miss Alma" neither sought fame nor glory for her many years of work at St. Anne's. She did her work in silence and with



humility. Her reward, she was confident, she would receive in heaven.

Several years after her husband passed away, she moved to Ohio to live with her son and his family. While there, she never forgot her family and loved ones she had left behind. She never forgot her friends. She never forgot St. Anne's Chapel.

She was truly an inspiration.

Hymns

#96 Amazing Grace

105 How Great Thou Art

107 Blessed Assurance

#270 Bind Us Together

#290 Hear Oh Lord

#343 Heart of Jesus, Hear

#493 Softly and Tenderly

Recessional - J'Irai La Voir Un Jour

