A Mass of Christian Burial for Lillian E. Sanow of St. Leo was held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 26, at St. Leo Church. Father Tony Hess officiated. Honorary casketbearers were her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren. Casketbearers were her grandsons: Shane Sanow, Joshua Sanow, Adam Gorecki, Luke Gorecki, Jamie Schmitt, Branden Schmitt, Austin Schmitt, Jared Longtin and Jordan Longtin. Interment was in the St. Leo Cemetery.

Lillian, 82, died peacefully in the company of her loving family on Sunday, November 23, 2008.

Lillian Elizabeth (Eischens) Sanow was born April 30, 1926, to J.M. and Lena Eischens at St. Leo.

Lillian faced a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. In 1993, she was first diagnosed with memory problems, and the last several years her loving husband, Sylvester, was her primary caregiver. On May 19, 2008, she was admitted to the Prairie Home Hospice House in Marshall.

Lillian was a devoted daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister. She was very passionate and caring. She was a hard worker, always kind and helpful and the best cook in the world. She was known for her "Ma Sanow" dill pickles, her potato salad, and her pineapple fluff.

She had an incredible love for God, and she faithfully prayed her rosary daily.

After graduating from eighth grade, she attended Northwestern College in Minneapolis and became an LPN. She worked in Tracy as a nurse where she met her husband, Sylvester. They attended many dances and were married October 26, 1949. They recently celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary.

Lillian worked in Canby as a nurse until their first son was born, at which time she stayed home. Lillian and Sylvester raised eight children.

Lillian is survived by her husband, Sylvester; eight children: Allen (Myia) of Wenatchee, WA, Michael (Cindy) of Minneota, Teresa (Don) Gorecki of Taunton, Mary (Greg) Haugen of Minneota, Jane (Andy) Schmitt of Boyd, Ann (Mike) Longtin of Taunton, Mark (Beth) of St. Leo, John (Rebecca) of Omaha, NE; 20 grandchildren with another on the way; 11 great-grandchildren; siblings: Mervin (Velma) of St. Leo, Silvie (Marcella) of Pipestone, Genevieve Jelen of Canby and Magdalene Kapolizyn-ski of Arizona.

She was preceded in death by her parents, J.M. and Lena; her siblings: Joseph, Clarence, Herman, Susanne, Josephine, Flor-ence, and Bernice; and her great-grandson, Zachary DeSmet.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Prairie Home Hospice House in Marshall or the St. Leo Church.