

1. Mary Claire 'Mersie' Bonin — Rochester

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ROCHESTER — A memorial Mass for Mary Claire “Mersie” Bonin will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Rochester, with the Rev. Timothy Reker officiating. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Ryan, Iowa.

Mrs. Bonin, 47, of Rochester, died Wednesday (July 16, 2008) at Saint Marys Hospital.

Born May 18, 1961, in Minneapolis, she moved with her family from Dubuque, Iowa, to Rochester in 1965. In Rochester, she attended St. Francis Catholic Grade School and Central Junior High, and graduated from Mayo High School in 1979. She attended Rochester Community College for two years, where she was enrolled in the medical secretary program. She worked for Charter Communications for 10 years.

Throughout life, music was her passion. As a young child, she sang and played ukulele in a duet with Father John Czaplowski. For four years, the pair performed locally and nationally. Most recently she played drums with the group Sisters & Company. She was also an accomplished cook.

She is survived by her mother, Clara Bonin of Rochester; and three siblings, Sue (Tom) St. George of Rochester, Mark Bonin of Tucson, Ariz., and Loras Bonin of Rochester. She was preceded in death by her father.