



## Josephine (Sosso) Mazza

August 30, 1927 - January 23, 2023

UTICA – Mrs. Josephine (Sosso) Mazza, age 95, passed away in the comfort and dignity of her home while in the company of her family on Monday, January 23, 2023.

Born in Utica, on August 30, 1927, to the late Gaetano and Archangela (Calenzo) Sosso, Josephine spent her fulfilling life locally and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School. On May 21, 1949, she married Frank M. “Babe” Mazza, with whom she shared a beautiful and loving union of 64 years prior to his passing on June 2, 2013.

Josephine was a loyal employee of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles as a cashier for 23 years. At one time, she also was employed with Modern Photo, which allowed her the ability to stay home and raise her children.

A woman of extraordinary class, she never failed to conduct herself with great elegance in everything she did. She was also a woman of humility and a tremendous, loving matriarch to her entire family. Josephine was always reminded of and proud of the fact that she was the last remaining member of her and her husband’s generation. She presided over her family with unflinching love and held a special place in her heart for all her “babies” – especially her great-grandkids.

She earned a reputation as an excellent cook – especially her sauce and meatballs. But more than the food itself, her family will look back on their Sunday dinners together for their warmth and the fond memories they created.

Not one to sit on her heels, Josephine kept active, even later in life. She could often be found bowling, reading biographies, mysteries, and romance novels. She was always generous to a fault which was displayed by being an active member of the St. Anne's Society, a volunteer at the St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish rectory, and aided the communicants of Chancellor Apartments by distributing Holy Communion on Fridays. She was also a member of the original Board of Mt. Carmel Apartments.

Josephine is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Adele and Richard Grimaldi, Carmela and Robert Brown, and Regina and James Klodnicki. She will also be greatly missed by her grandchildren, Regina Grimaldi, and Andrew Grimaldi; Geno and Tanya Brown, and Robert Brown and fiancée, Selene Vences; Joanna and Chris McLendon, Katie and Ryan DiFondi, and Kristina and Cody Armstrong. She is also survived by her great-grandchildren, Frank Brown; Irelynn, Julia, and Isabella McLendon; Carlina, and Talia DiFondi; and Charli Armstrong, and she was proud to know she would be expecting another great-grandchild in April. She also leaves behind many adored nieces and nephews whom she cherished, and a host of wonderful friends.

Josephine was predeceased by her brothers and sisters-in-law, Anthony and Antoinette Sosso, Ralph and Frances A. Sosso, James and Mary Sosso, and Louis Sosso; her sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary T. and Jerry V. Gazzilli, Michelina and Edward Sychtysz; her in-laws, Antoinette "Toni" and Joseph L. Bottini, Salvatore and Mary Mazza, Anthony and Loretta Mazza, Carmella and Nicholas R. Ponzio, Catherine A. "Kay" and Ralph J. "Farmer" Cangello; and

her niece, RoseMarie Bottini.

Her family wishes to acknowledge and extend a sincere thank you to dear neighbors Bernie and Dee Tomaino for their loving gestures that made Josephine's life a bit easier.

In keeping with her wishes, there will be no public visitation. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Josephine's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life which will take place on Saturday morning, February 4, 2023 at 12:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St., Utica. She will be laid to rest at Calvary Cemetery next to her beloved husband Frank.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, NY

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

FEB 4. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish  
648 Jay St  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-1482

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ Aunt Jo- hugs to my Ralpie for me-fly with the angels!!



danette sosso - February 01, 2023 at 03:27 PM

DA

“ My only regret is that I am in Tennessee and didn't have the opportunity to spend more time with my precious Aunt. I am so thankful I got to see her last June 2022. She was the most amazing Woman, Mother, Wife, Aunt, Gramma. She was loved by all. As I age I pray I will follow in her footsteps. Such a beautiful legacy she left for all of us. I will see you again one day Aunt Josephine. So many beautiful memories I hold in my heart. Thank you.

Donna Auffhammer - January 30, 2023 at 10:37 PM

JM

“ Joe and Nancy Mazza purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Josephine (Sosso) Mazza.



Joe and Nancy Mazza - January 30, 2023 at 01:27 PM

FR

“ *Such a lovely woman of simple, but deep faith. She was a woman of the gospel who gave witness by her gentle, calm and loving presence.*

*She was perfect as an parish office volunteer -she was the first parishioner I met when she greeted me at the door when I came to interview for the pastorate. She left a lasting impression.*

*One time I asked her opinion on something I was cooking. She said it needed more pepper. She was right. It was just the needed touch. She always added flavor to our lives. Well done good and faithful servant. Now enter the peace promised you by our loving God.  
Fondly, Father John Rose*

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**Father John Rose** - January 29, 2023 at 03:50 PM