



Born to New Life



Sister Antoniette De Nardo, MPF

Sister Antoniette De Nardo, MPF, 86, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, September 30, 2020, in St. Joseph Hall Infirmery, Villa Walsh, Morristown, NJ.

Born in Blue Anchor, New Jersey, in 1934, Sister Antoniette entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1951. She received the habit in 1952 and made her religious profession in 1955.

Sister Antoniette received a BS degree in Elementary Education from Catholic Teachers College in Providence, Rhode Island and MEd in History from University of Hartford in Connecticut. Following the call of Christ the Teacher, Sister Antoniette brought the light of faith to the students she taught in many schools throughout New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, obediently answering the call to go wherever she was sent on mission. After more than forty years of classroom instruction, Sister Antoniette served as pastoral minister, offered part time religious instruction, and assisted the principal in the school office. Wherever she was assigned, Sister Antoniette was always present in the parish. She was very active in the St. Vincent de Paul Society and leaves a legacy of making rosaries and promoting devotion to Our Lady.

For many years Sister Antoniette would spend her summers volunteering in St. Joseph Hall Infirmery, tenderly caring for the elderly sisters. She herself became a resident there for less than two months before being called to her eternal home.

Sister Antoniette spent her last year of ministry in the town where she grew up, attending St. Joseph's grammar and high schools in Hammonton, New Jersey. Not long after her passing, the parish Facebook page was quickly filled with warm remembrances. Here are but a few: *"God has called an angel home!" "Sister Antoniette will be thought of daily when we use the rosaries that Sister made. A beautiful heart and so sweet." "A good friend and a wonderful role model." "She was always a source of calm." "I am deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Sister Antoniette. She was a wonderful teacher and a sweet woman. I feel blessed to have known her and worked with her." "She was so helpful in our St. Vincent de Paul Society here. We will never forget her wisdom and kindness. A very saintly woman of God."*

During the Mass of Christian Burial which he celebrated for Sister Antoniette, Bishop Emeritus Arthur Serratelli stated, *"For this purpose: to help others find the true happiness that God intends for us, Sister Antoniette dedicated her life as a religious ever since she was 17. She knew that Jesus is the only truth that answers our deepest questions. . . Today, as we hand her back to God, we pray that, for her faithful and tireless service lived so generously in response to Jesus, she now hear him say: 'Well done, good and faithful servant...Enter the joy of your master.' "*