

Born to New Life



Sister Nancy De Angelo, MPF

Sister Nancy De Angelo, MPF, 84, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 13, 2016, Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, at Saint Joseph Hall, Morristown, New Jersey.

Rev. Ronald Sordillo, pastoral care chaplain at Saint Joseph Hall, celebrated Sister Nancy's Mass of Christian Burial. Father Ron knew Sister well and spent much time speaking with and ministering to her. He experienced Sister Nancy as a woman of hope and compassion.

Among the many tender sentiments he shared in his homily, Father perceived Sister Nancy as one who chose to walk with God even though the personal cost was heavy and burdensome, especially during the many years she underwent dialysis treatment. At no time did Sister Nancy complain in her suffering, and she never asked the frequent question of those who agonize, "Why me?" She valiantly accepted the crosses that were laid upon her. She was a woman of grace and a gift to those who knew her. Father emphasized that Sister Nancy's legacy is doing something beautiful for Jesus, which was visible in her devotion to God and His Mother and her dedication and commitment to the sisters.

Sister Nancy was born and raised in Trenton, New Jersey, the daughter of the late Anthony and Jennie (Radice) De Angelo. Nancy entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1949. She received her habit in 1950, and made her final religious profession in 1953. She was a member of the community for 66 years. Sister Nancy was awarded a BA degree in Secondary Education and an MA degree in History from Saint John's University, New York.

Sister Nancy taught junior high and high school history for thirty years. From 1980 -1993 she was the principal of Saint James School, Trenton, New Jersey. Upon completing this role, Nancy substituted in various schools. She was also the superior and then sister-in-charge at Saint James, Trenton, New Jersey, from 1990-2005.

She taught in Mt. Carmel, Orange, New Jersey, Saint Joseph Hammonton, New Jersey, Villa Victoria Academy, Trenton, New Jersey, Paul VI High School, Haddonfield, New Jersey, Saint Mary of Mount Virgin, New Brunswick, New Jersey, and Saint James, Trenton, New Jersey. Sister Nancy reached out to the poor at Saint James and practiced patience and love while teaching and caring for the underprivileged. They responded to her caring and distinctive personality.

Sister Nancy entered Saint Joseph Hall in July 2005. Leading and singing hymns at the daily liturgies and preparing programs with the sisters became an enjoyable pastime for Sister Nancy. One of her greatest gifts was that of a beautiful voice which she shared freely.

Sister Nancy loved life and lived it generously. She wrote her own eulogy through her personal witness among those with whom she spent her last years. She accepted all that God sent her way, the good, the challenges, the suffering. All these were accepted in a serene, resigned manner.

Sister Nancy often treated the sisters at Saint Joseph Hall and will be most remembered by them with her triumphant greetings as she entered the dining room each day. She brightened the dining room with her upbeat, joyful presence. In her last days, she had a beautiful smile for everyone who entered her room. She will be sorely missed by the residents at Saint Joseph Hall. A faithful, joy-filled daughter of Saint Lucy for sixty six years is the greatest of tributes rendered Sister Nancy.