



## Born to New Life

### Sister Anna Pompei, MPF



Sister Anna Pompei, MPF died peacefully on April 22, 2024, at St. Joseph Hall, Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey. She was 101 years of age.

Born on November 10, 1922, in Baltimore, Maryland, Sister Anna grew up in a loving and faith-filled family. In 1936, Sister Anna entered the Religious Teachers Filippini, received the habit in 1939 and made her Perpetual Oblation in 1942.

Earning a teaching certificate from Villa Walsh Normal School in 1946, Sister Anna attended numerous conferences and professional development workshops, throughout her many years in elementary education. In 1994, Sister Anna was chosen by her colleagues in the Diocese of Trenton to be honored as "Outstanding Educator of the Year."

In her 84 years of religious life, Sister Anna served as classroom teacher, Principal, and catechist. She ministered in the (arch)dioceses of Baltimore, Cleveland, Hartford, Newark, Paterson, and Trenton. In addition, Sister Anna was appointed local convent Superior. At the age of 101, due to declining health, Sister Anna transitioned St. Joseph Hall.

The Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop Emeritus of Paterson, offered the Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, April 26, 2024, in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh. The Liturgy was concelebrated by Father Ronald Sordillo. Sister Anna's mortal remains were laid to rest in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.

In his homily, Bishop Serratelli offered these thoughts: *"The Lord has taken Sister Anna from our midst. We grieve not for her, but for our loss of her presence among us for more than a century. In all of her 21 assignments, she was pleasant, prayerful, and extremely thoughtful of others. In her quiet and gentle way, she constantly looked for ways to help others. She had a special care and concern for the sick, ever-interested in their welfare and their health. ... More than any word that could be said of her today, her life itself speaks of her great cooperation with God's grace, especially as a member of this Community ever since she was 13 years old. This past Monday evening, our Crucified and Risen Lord looked down on this house and saw Sister Anna's life radiating His grace and beauty. And ever so silently, so gently, He took her from our midst to the Father's House where He had prepared a place for her to enjoy the glory of His presence."*

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy remarked, *"During Sister Anna's years in retirement at Villa Walsh, she leaves behind a roadmap for each of us to create a lifestyle that makes these years as fruitful and as life-giving as her teaching ministry. While her health still prevailed, Sister Anna assisted in any area where help was needed. ... However, over and above her areas of service, her presence at prayer, meals, and community functions were the priorities of her life in common. One image that remains with me passing by her room in the course of an afternoon, she would be sitting upright in her recliner praying the rosary. She shared that she prayed every night to have a peaceful passing, a prayer which was answered. Sister Anna found her fortification in her life of prayer and her love for our Blessed Mother. The fruit of her prayer filtered through her demeanor which was peaceful and consistently affable and approachable. Thoughtfulness, generosity, and sharing with others were just a part of who Sister Anna was to so many. ... Sister Anna closes her last chapter and now enters a new life. Presenting her book of life, she reaps its reward. Each chapter has brought her closer to this great venture of meeting the God who has made all these good works possible in her, a God who remains faithful both in life and death, thus her Spouse accepts her into the glory of His Kingdom. 'Come, my Beloved!' Sister Anna, rest in peace."*