

Sister M. Marguerite Dovidaitis

May 30, 1919 – February 28, 2014



Secular Name: Helen
Entrance: July 14, 1935
Birth: Waterbury, CT
Parents: Francis and Mary Dovidaitis
Siblings: Mary Cecilia, Anne, Joseph, Edward
Elementary School: St. Joseph, Waterbury, CT
High School: St. Francis Academy, Pittsburgh, PA
Higher Education: B.S. Education, Duquesne
M.A Education, Duquesne

Ministry:

Sister Marguerite began her teaching ministry with 2nd graders, gradually moving through to 8th grade, before being assigned to teach biology and chemistry at Holy Trinity HS in Hartford, CT. This was followed by assignments at St. Casimir, SS Peter and Paul in Grand Rapids, MI, St. Francis Academy, and Geibel HS in Connellsville, PA. In 1974, she returned to Hartford to teach at her beloved South Catholic HS for the next 17 years, serving as Science department chairperson. When finances caused the school to close, she, other teachers and students raised \$10,000 in a walkathon, but to no avail.

Sister Marguerite loved to have her students form the Living Rosary, especially after a difficult chemistry lesson.

Upon her return from Hartford, she enrolled in the Franciscan Studies Program at St. Bonaventure, saying it was the highlight of her years in religious life. At age 79, she came back to the motherhouse, working in community service and then as receptionist until age 86.

Community members recall Sister Marguerite as a faithful Franciscan woman and are certain that Jesus welcomed her and called out:

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”