

Sister Therese Marquis, OSF

July 8, 1930 - December 15, 2017



Secular Name: Marie Therese
Birth: July 8, 1930
Entrance: October 8, 1949
Parents: Edwin and Marie
Siblings: Leo, Louis, Marc, Alton, Cecile, Lorn, Maynard, Gabrielle
High School: Holy Trinity
Higher Education: B.S. Ed.; Masters Ed. - Duquesne University; Master of Arts in Religious Studies - St. Joseph College, Hartford CT; Studied French at the University of Poitiers in France

Ministry:

As a teenager, Marie Therese wrote in her journal of her responsibilities at home since her mother was sickly. Therese needed to care for her younger brothers and sister and do much of the cooking and cleaning. It was a difficult time.

Sister Therese met our sisters during her first two years at Holy Trinity High School after the family moved to Hartford. In her "Vocation Story", she wrote, "While at Holy Trinity, one Sister had been very friendly towards me and I liked her because she was up-to-date and not old fashioned with her head bent down and her hands folded." Further, she wrote, "Once, while dancing with two-inch high heels, swinging skirt and waist-length blond hair, feeling great, I began to scold myself wondering why I was wasting my time dancing while I could be doing something better with my life."

That "something better" for her began on October 8, 1949 when Sister Therese entered the community. She received the name Sister Mary Teresita and after novitiate began teaching primary grades for the next 13 years. In 1964, she became principal while teaching in Coopersville, MI. From 1970 to 1978, Sister Therese taught at South Catholic High School in Hartford. She then returned to Pittsburgh to teach French at St. Francis Academy, became vice-principal and then principal.

Following her years of ministry, Sister Therese continued to use her artistic talents in painting and sculpture during a sabbatical. In the 2000 General Chapter, she was elected to the General Leadership team. Following her term in leadership, Sister Therese organized the motherhouse library. In 2010, she began her final ministry of prayer and upon the sale of the motherhouse, Sister Therese became a resident at Presbyterian SeniorCare, where she lived in the skilled care unit.

*"Weaver God, I, your thread,
approach you with reverence, awe and infinite respect."*

(Sister Therese)