

Sister Louise Marie Simcoe, OSF

January 8, 1947 – March 30, 2018



Secular Name: Anne Therese
Birth: January 8, 1947
Entrance: September 8, 1964
Parents: Andrew and Anne Therese
Siblings: Louise Marie
Elementary School: St. Agnes
High School: Saint Casimir
Higher Education: B.S. Ed. LaRoche; Duquesne University

Ministry:

Anne Therese entered our community from St. Agnes Parish in Oakland where she was taught by the Sisters of Mercy. However, it was at St. Casimir High School on the South Side that she came to experience our community. She entered our congregation on September 8, 1964 and at her investing, she took the name Sister Louise Marie after her sister Louise.

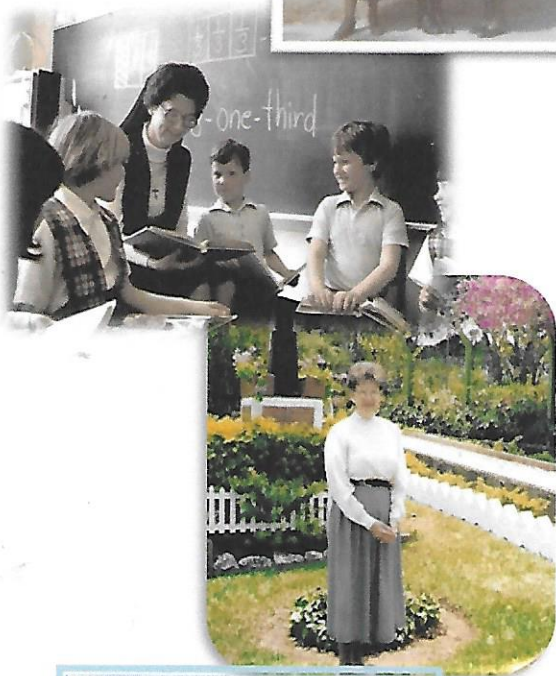
After completing her Bachelor of Education at LaRoche and Duquesne Universities, Sister Louise Marie was back at St. Casimir teaching first and second graders. Imagine having been a student in the high school and then returning to teach these little ones.

Sister Louise Marie taught at St. Valentine in Bethel Park, Mt. St. Peter in New Kensington, James LaVelle in West Mifflin, Our Lady of Sorrows in Kearny, NJ and Sts. Peter and Paul in Elizabeth, NJ. It was at James LaVelle where she had some of her fondest memories. She was there from 1986-1996 and was able to see her “little ones” graduate from eighth grade. Parents were always delighted that their children were in the care of someone who loved them. Her very gentle and caring ways made it so much easier for children to learn.

After teaching, Sister Louise Marie served as Assistant Director of our Franciscan Child Day Care Center and Vocation Director for our Congregation. She then became a Pastoral Visitor in Sharpsburg and O’Hara Township parishes visiting the sick and bringing them Eucharist. Sister Louise Marie would grieve with families at the death of a loved one, where she offered a presence of care, compassion and support. In 2014, due to her declining health, she had to give up this beloved ministry and she did so with grace and understanding.

Sister Louise Marie had a natural gift of listening to those that she visited, encouraging them and spending time in conversation. In an article that she prepared for our Congregational Bulletin, she wrote: “What a humbling and awesome gift to bring Jesus to those who are sick, suffering or infirm. Not only do I bring Eucharist to them, but they are Eucharist for me, for I see and experience in them the face of the suffering Christ. What a witness to me of people’s great faith and trust in God even during times of testing and pain.”

In the words of Sister Louise Marie, “Let us continue to be united in heart and prayer – let us always seek the good in one another and strive to have hearts full of love and understanding.”



The Lord has done great things for me. ~ Lk. 1:49