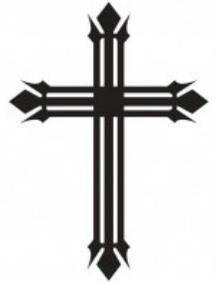




Born to New Life

Sister Claire Ouimet, MPF



Sister Claire Ouimet, MPF, 81, died peacefully on Wednesday, September 30, 2020, in Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, New Jersey.

Born in Bristol, Connecticut in 1938, Sister Claire entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1956. She received the habit in 1957 and made her religious profession in 1960.

Sister Claire received a BS degree in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey and MEd in Supervision and Curriculum from William Paterson College in Wayne, New Jersey. She proudly held certifications in New Jersey for Elementary Teacher as well as K-12 Administrator and Supervisor. Attending conventions and workshops on a regular basis bolstered her expertise in Catholic Education.

Sister Claire's fruitful teaching ministry of over twenty years blossomed into a leadership role as she accepted the position of principal in several different schools in New Jersey, primarily in the Archdiocese of Newark. Well known for her dedication and commitment, Sister Claire drew many people to the faith through her industrious and collaborative efforts to nurture gospel values in students and their families.

As an esteemed member community, Sister Claire was appointed member of the provincial task force to study the Filippini schools as well as a member of the provincial committee for the study of the health care facility. Having been elected Provincial Councilor and delegate, she participated in several Provincial Chapters. Beginning as Coordinator of Elementary Education, Sister Claire's influence broadened as Director of Ministries, serving in these executive capacities for over ten years.

Having endured a serious illness for almost two decades, Sister Claire viewed her condition as *"a gift from the Lord. I was given the gift of the Cross, and I accepted it."* This statement was quoted by Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, a lifelong friend. In her letter to the Province of Saint Lucy, Sister Ascenza testified to the way Sister Claire embraced this gift: *"Sister Claire never begrudged and never reneged accepting the gift of the Cross. In surrendering to the Cross, she was given courage, strength, and peace. . . Still joyful, still wanting to serve, she continued to reach out to God's people. . . Glorious, without doubt, is her entrance into heaven! With heartfelt gratitude, she returns her worn Cross and receives the crown of eternal life, worthy of a faithful spouse of Christ."*

"The Cross is the flower of His marked elect, and the fruit it bears is divine.

Choose it, my heart. It is a beautiful sign." taken from, *The Sign of the Cross* by Jessica Powers