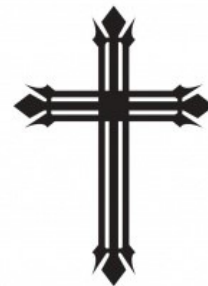




Born to New Life

Sister Anne Amato, MPF



Sister Anne Amato, MPF, 96, died peacefully on Sunday, August 16, 2020, in St. Joseph Hall at Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey.

Born in Reggio Calabria, Italy in 1923, Sister Anne entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1940. She received the habit in 1941 and made her religious profession in 1944.

Sister Anne received a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey. Early in her educational ministry, Sister Anne taught primary grade children as well as intermediate and upper graders in various elementary schools throughout New Jersey and New York. Sister Anne completed a successful term as principal and several fruitful terms as local superior.

As an outstanding educator, Sister Anne traveled to Mexico to study the Spanish language and culture. She availed herself of annual academic conferences and studied the synoptic Gospels at Dunwoodie Seminary in New York for several years. Even in her years of retirement, Sister Anne continued to serve as a classroom aide on a part time basis.

Following more than six decades of active evangelization, Sister Anne's journey eventually led her to Villa Walsh, Motherhouse, where she spent many happy years in residence. Reading, sewing, and attending all community functions, Sister Anne continued to find comfort and peace in her strong faith.

In a letter of condolences to the province, Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, recalled the positive impact Sister Anne had made on those to whom she ministered: *"Although Sister Anne's health has been challenging these recent years and her passing could be regarded as a blessing for her sake, my heart remains saddened to lose this Sister who has given so many years of faithful service to the community. Wherever she was sent to minister, she was loved by the people she served and was not easily forgotten. Through her goodness and witness, the community was blessed with vocations to our community and also with generous benefactors."*

Longtime friend and sisterly companion, Sister Anne Louise Abascal summarized Sister Anne's virtues in her eloquent tribute: *"They were an example of a prayerful, loving family. This love created in Sister Anne a love for life. With this love came a zeal to nurture and share the gifts she was given, thus enabling her to grow and succeed. Among these gifts was her inner strength that allowed her to persevere when times were tough, embodying a storehouse of energy! Her heart was infused with steadfastness, keeping her commitment strong."*

God's light illuminated Sister Anne's path, leading her through stumbling blocks to fulfillment. Tenacious, courageous, centered, and focused on the peace and love of God and His loving Mother, she found strength to tackle the challenges of life with sublime dignity."

Bishop Emeritus Arthur J. Serratelli celebrated a private Mass of Christian Burial on August 19, 2020 in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh. Interment followed in Ave Maria Cemetery.