



SISTER RAPHAEL SANTITORO, MPF

Sister Raphael Santitoro, MPF, died peacefully on Monday, October 12, 2026, at St. Joseph Hall, Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey. She was 96 years of age.

A viewing will be held on Tuesday, October 20, beginning at 2:00 p.m. in St. Lucy Chapel, Villa Walsh, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 4:00 p.m. After the Liturgy, interment will take place at Ave Maria Cemetery. Arrangements are by Doyle Funeral Home, Morristown, New Jersey.

Born in Trenton, New Jersey in 1930, Sister Raphael grew up in a loving and faithful family. After attending St. Joachim School, Trenton, New Jersey, for eight years, Sister Raphael entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1944. She received the habit in 1946, and professed her Perpetual Oblation in 1949. Sister Raphael earned her B.S. degree in Elementary Education from the College of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, New Jersey.

In her 80 years of religious life, Sister Raphael served as a primary grade teacher for 57 years, 37 of which were in First Grade, and also as a classroom aide, in the afterschool program, school cafeteria, and wherever she was needed. Sister Raphael loved God and helped everyone around her love God, too. She lived out her religious life in the (arch)dioceses of Camden, Hartford, Metuchen, Newark, Paterson, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Providence, and Trenton. Sister Raphael gave more than 30 years of service in the Diocese of Trenton. Her last active assignment was at Villa Victoria Academy in Ewing, New Jersey, serving as a classroom aide and school volunteer from 2004 to 2024. In 2024, due to increasing health needs, Sister Raphael transitioned to St. Joseph Hall, a long-term, skilled nursing facility at Villa Walsh, Morristown. Even there, Sister Raphael gave her attention, smiles, and encouragement most generously.

Sister Raphael is predeceased by her parents, Raffaele and Mariantonia (Zuno) Santitoro, her brothers, Alphonse Santitoro, Anthony Santitoro, and Rev. Francis Santitoro, and her sisters, Marie Santitoro and Anna Vispetti. Sister Raphael is survived by her sisters, Frances Rocco and Lucy Pavlov, her brother-in-law Andre Vispetti, and many nephews and nieces, along with all those she encountered in her lifetime of ministry.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Sister Raphael may be made to the Religious Teachers Filippini, c/o Sister Marianne McCann, MPF, Provincial Superior, Villa Walsh, 455 Western Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960.