



Born to New Life

Sister Jane Feltz, MPF



Sister Jane Feltz, MPF, died peacefully on June 2, 2025 at St. Joseph Hall Infirmary, Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey. She was 80 years of age.

Born in Ardmore, Oklahoma, and raised in Maywood, New Jersey, Sister Jane was the eldest of four daughters born to Carmine and Miriam (Domnik) Feltz. Sister Jane attended the parish school of Our Lady Queen of Peace in Maywood, where she first became acquainted with the Religious Teachers Filippini. Sister Jane entered our religious community in 1962. She received the habit in 1963 and offered her Perpetual Oblation in 1969. Sister Jane earned a BS degree in Secondary Education with a concentration in Science from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. She went on to obtain a MS in Educational Administration and Supervision from Fordham University, New York, New York.

Throughout her 61 years of religious life, Sister Jane generously shared her many gifts, ministering in the (arch)dioceses of Newark, Paterson, and Trenton. She served as a classroom teacher, Principal, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum in the Diocese of Paterson, Vocation Director and Mission Director for the Province of St. Lucy, Campus Minister at William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, and Early Childhood Instructor at Passaic County Community College in Paterson, New Jersey. Sister Jane offered her assistance at St. Joseph by the Sea Retreat House in South Mantoloking, New Jersey, and coordinated Community and Spiritual Life activities at St. Joseph Hall Infirmary. In addition, Sister Jane was appointed local convent Superior and served as a delegate to Provincial Chapters. In recent months, Sister Jane endured her illness with remarkable courage, sustained by her faith and the prayerful support of her religious Sisters, family, and friends.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Jane was held in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh on Saturday, June 7, 2025. The Reverend Thomas Ryan was the principal celebrant with three additional concelebrants. Sister Jane's body was laid to rest in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy recalled: *"Those of us who walked alongside Sister Jane through so many years, and knew her well, enjoyed lofty conversations with her, and experienced her desire to pray, her way, of course, a prayer that comes naturally from the depths of one's heart and experiences. Sister Jane was free-spirited, and prayer gave her this opportunity for freedom of expression. Those who knew Sister Jane also found in her conversation a search for something more and something better than what is. There was in her a questioning spirit, a restless energy that often asked, 'Is there another way to do this?' And it wasn't questioning for its own sake – it was a searching from within, a love of her vocation and her apostolate, the community, and no doubt family, too! She believed that faith should be alive, not static, and that love and passion come from beyond what is easy or comfortable.... Sister Jane's desire for 'something more' was wrapped in hope. She could truly be identified with this Holy Year theme, 'A Pilgrim of Hope!' ... And hope moved her to the very end To all of you, Sisters, family, and friends: Can you hear Sister Jane's message?... 'Walk on, not in sorrow, but with passion for life! Bring light and joy into a world that is searching, like I have searched. Move forward and be 'Pilgrims of Hope!'"*

The Reverend Thomas Ryan, concluded his homily with these words: *"Today, as we pray for Sister Jane, the most powerful prayer we have as Catholics, the celebration of the Mass, we ask Almighty God to receive this loving daughter of his, his spouse, to eternal life. It is also, too, in the celebration of this Mass, as we are nourished, indeed, nourished by the Word of God, nourished indeed by the gift of the Eucharist, to be our hope, to be our source, to be our strength, until that day, with God's love and mercy, we pray that we are joined together with our dear Sister Jane, with her brothers, and her many sisters, and all those who, indeed, who share and profess our faith in Jesus Christ. St. Lucy Filippini, pray for us."*