

September 11, 2015

Dear Sisters and Associates,

Mary Wanamaker entered her eternal resting place on September 8, 2015. She and her husband Bill were the parents of four children. As a member of St. Jude Parish in Cincinnati, Mary nurtured her spiritual soul and devoted her time to prayer.



Mary was born in St. Bernard and attended St. Clement School where she was taught by the Franciscan Sisters. Committed to her faith, and influenced by the Sisters who taught her, Mary felt called to Religious life. Before making final vows, she met Bill, and after a period of discernment felt a deeper call to married life. Mary and Bill celebrated 63 years of marriage.

Mary's sister, Julian Scherpenberg, OSF was also an Oldenburg Franciscan. Through visits with her Sister and the other community members Mary was introduced to the Associate Relationship. With Sr. Carol Ann Sunderman as her contact Sister, Mary signed her Associate commitment in 1982. She committed to, *"keeping in personal contact with the Sisters and offering to God her works, and prayers in union with all the Sisters and Associates."* Mary believed that, *"Once a Franciscan, always a Franciscan."* After Sr. Carol Ann passed away, Mary reached out to her friend Sr. Mary Ann Miles to be her new contact with the Community.

Committed to her family and very proud of them, Mary spent a good part of her life babysitting the grandchildren. She also enjoyed making rosaries for the missions until her health would no longer permit her to do so. Mary also relished her monthly visits to Oldenburg when she would take some of the retired Sisters out for lunch.

Mary was an extremely organized person to the point of having her funeral all planned out. She enjoyed music and was the organist for many years at St. Jude Parish. Mary enjoyed sewing and sending notes to family members and friends.

When she was able, Mary attended daily Mass. Now she resides in Heaven with Jesus where she can play her organ and be in the presence of those she loved and prayed for, who have gone to their eternal resting places before her.

Rest in Peace, Mary!

Jane A. Schaefer