



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

PO Box 100 OLDENBURG, IN 47036

WWW.OLDENBURGFRANCISCANS.ORG

FACEBOOK: FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF OLDENBURG



September 1, 2017

Dear Sisters, Associates, Co-workers, Family and Friends,

S. MARGARETTA BLACK, OSF

S. Margaretta Black peacefully journeyed home to God in the early morning of September 1, 2017.

“I have called you by name, you are mine.

You are precious in my eyes and glorious because I love you.”

Isaiah 43:1, 4a

Yes, S. Margaretta was indeed precious to God! Born in Chicago, Doris Barbara Black was the only child born to her parents of German descent, Hedwig and Milton Black. At age three her family moved to Indianapolis where she later attended St. Joan of Arc Elementary School and St. Mary Academy. After entering the convent in 1951 she continued her educational career and received degrees from Marian College (University), University of Cincinnati, Case Western Reserve University and University of Wisconsin.

Margaretta taught in the Catholic elementary schools for eight years after which time she moved to the high school level, teaching French, religion and history. Shortly thereafter she began her thirty-nine years of ministry at Marian University serving in such roles as French Professor, Academic Dean, Project Manager, Chair of the Language Department and Director of Study Abroad. She also served on the Marian University Board of Trustees as secretary and later as a member of the Board.

During her tenure at Marian, the Chapter of 2000 called Margaretta home to serve the Community as Councilor on the Leadership Team for six years. She had a keen sense for planning and diligently led the community forward. Excerpts taken from an article she wrote during this time for the LCWR *Occasional Papers* entitled “Homecoming: Reigniting Passion, Freedom to Come Home” still hold true today. Her words include:

- ✚ ***Consecrated life is a searching, a journey of faith that is always open to discerning the movement of the Spirit...A true homecoming is an invitation for all members of community to reignite in themselves the passion of their founder for the mission of Jesus. The drive to ‘return home’ is that deep hunger for contemplative vision.***
- ✚ ***We are called to love God and one another, and to give witness to God’s voice before the whole world. The love of God and of our sisters and brothers is the source of our strength. To glorify God is our mission.***
- ✚ ***We are here in this place and time, in the embrace of this community, and in the expanding sense of a global family. It is here that we touch the reality of who we are and who we are called to be. It is here that we are challenged to love, to proclaim, to give witness, to renew our covenant. It is here that we rejoice and laugh. It is here that we contemplate the wondrous compassion and faithfulness of our God. Let us strive for and be grateful for our sense of belonging.***
- ✚ ***Welcome home!***

(LCWR Occasional Papers, Summer 2005)

After Community leadership, Margaretta returned to her ministry at Marian until she retired in 2012. Coming home, her talent, expertise and exquisite insight and taste were then quickly utilized through her work in the OSF Heritage Room, discovering all those prized items and beautifully arranging many of them in the display cases for all to see.

Describing Margaretta, many speak of her as a gentle soul, purposeful, witty, a tasteful decorator, appreciative of flowers and beauty. She enjoyed her annual autumn trips to Brown County with friends. Margaretta liked to knit, sew, crochet and cook. She loved the theatre, opera, country music and singing in the choir. Visiting her Chicago cousins brought special joy. Sipping a cup of hot tea, while reading a French novel, was a delight. She was creative, a woman with a brilliant mind, prayerful, peaceful, private, and a very loving person.

In her later weeks and days of earthly life, Margaretta faced her human condition and spoke of going to her eternal home, her union with God. She was ready to be called. For God says, ***“Welcome home! You are precious in my eyes and glorious and I love you.”***

We offer our sympathy, prayers and love to Margaretta’s family, friends, classmates, Marian University community, and all those who knew and loved her. We thank our nursing and pastoral care staff for skillfully and compassionately ministering to Margaretta while she was in St. Clare Hall.

Thank you, Margaretta, for being such a beautiful part of our Franciscan family. May your spirit continue to be with us. Please continue to intercede for us.

Gratefully,



S. Joanita Koors, OSF
for the Council

SISTER MARGARETTA BLACK, OSF

Birth: October 26, 1933

Entrance into Religious Life: September 8, 1951

Entrance into Eternal Life: September 1, 2017

MISSIONS AT WHICH S. MARGARETTA SERVED:

1953-1954 St. Leo, Cincinnati, OH
1954-1955 Sacred Heart, Clinton, IN
1955-1957 St. Mary, Greensburg, IN
1957-1958 St. Mary, North Vernon, IN
1958-1962 St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, IN
1962-1965 Oldenburg Academy, Oldenburg, IN
1966-2000 Marian University, Indianapolis, IN
2000-2006 Councilor, Leadership Team, Oldenburg, IN
2006-2012 Marian University, Indianapolis, IN
2012-2017 Motherhouse, Oldenburg, IN

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Weigel Funeral Home – visit their website to view Sister’s online memorial, and if desired, an online condolence may be left on the site to share with her family and the Franciscan Sisters – www.Weigelfh.com

Memorial Donations in Sister’s memory may be given online at www.OldenburgFranciscans.org