



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

PO BOX 100 OLDENBURG, IN 47036

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S. ROSAIRE BISHOP, OSF
FORMERLY MARY MARGARET

July 3, 2021

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

On Saturday, July 3 at 2:55 p.m. Sister Death visited us again as Sister Rosaire departed this life to continue eternal life in the presence of our gracious and loving God.

S. Rosaire Bishop was born Mary Margaret in Indianapolis, Indiana, the third child of Charles and Marie Bishop. Her arrival coincided with the second wedding anniversary of her parents. Previously born into the family was a set of twins - a boy and a girl. The family would continue to grow, numbering 11 children altogether which included another set of twins – a boy and a girl. Mary Margaret was surrounded by siblings, two boys and nine girls.

Rosaire's parents loved books and her mother read to the children and gave them gifts of books for Christmas. To her delight, Rosaire received the whole Raggedy Ann set of books! Rosaire would go on to be a lifelong learner and lover of books, like her mother.

By third grade, Rosaire knew that she wanted to be a Sister. It was in her high school years at St. Mary's Academy that Rosaire met our Sisters and first worked in a library. She then debated as to whether she would join the Providence Sisters or the Franciscans. In the end, she joined the Oldenburg Sisters as her older sister, S. Madonna, had entered there. Rosaire was very devoted to her sister.

As a Community member, Rosaire was known for her dry sense of humor and her teasing. The story is told that when she was a novice, Sr. Estelle came into the recreation room and announced, "We have a new Bishop". Everyone expected that this meant there was a new Archbishop, but Rosaire knew that she had a new sibling and was excited.

Though some of us may think of Rosaire as always being a librarian, but that is not the case. Rosaire served as an elementary teacher for almost 40 years. Social studies was her forte. Through those years she not only earned degrees in education but added to her knowledge of history by her attendance at various workshops. Especially notable was the certificate that she earned at a six-week workshop in Egypt which she was chosen to take, along with two other Sisters. Upon her return, she did a presentation on the Egyptian family using the slides she had taken to enhance her classroom teaching. Rosaire also expanded her knowledge by visiting historical places like Valley Forge. When Rosaire moved on to teaching at Martin University, she was surprised that their history books taught about the KKK – information which was omitted in the grade school history books at that time.

The Sisters' library at Oldenburg was in need of a librarian, but Rosaire was told that she was too young to do just that. So she applied at Oldenburg Academy to be a part-time librarian there in addition to serving as a part-time librarian for the Sisters. She did this from 1996-2005. Needing to be certified to be the librarian at Oldenburg Academy, Rosaire returned to school to earn a Master's Degree in Library Science. In one of her classes she wrote a paper on moving a library. Over the years Rosaire moved the Convent library twice – a monumental task. Some other librarians asked for a copy of her paper since they were moving libraries as well. What a blessing Rosaire's paper was for them! From 2005 until her retirement in 2018, she continued to serve as the Convent librarian.

The following statement by Willard Scott seems especially true about Rosaire: "Librarians have always been among the most thoughtful and helpful people. They are teachers without a classroom."

We extend our sympathy to S. Rosaire's siblings, S. Madonna, Thelma, Jerry, Ann, Cathy and Joan, her many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and extended family. We also offer condolences to her close Community friends and classmates.

Our wholehearted thanks to her caregivers in St. Clare Hall and to the Sisters in Pastoral Care.

In gratitude for Rosaire, a lifelong learner and lover of books,


Sister Annette Grisley, OSF
for the General Council

S. ROSAIRE (Mary Margaret) BISHOP, O.S.F.

Born: October 7, 1933

Entrance into Religious Life: September 8, 1951

Entrance into Eternal Life: July 3, 2021

MISSIONS AT WHICH S. ROSAIRE SERVED:

1953-1955	St. Aloysius, Bridgetown, OH	1981-1986	St. Bernadette, Indianapolis, IN
1955-1956	St. Francis, Kansas City MO	1986-1991	Central Catholic School, Indpls, IN
1956-1960	St. Wendell, Evansville, IN	1991-1993	Martin University, Indianapolis, IN
1960-1964	St. Peter, Chillicothe, OH	1993-1995	Sabbatical, Little Falls, MN
1964-1966	St. Aloysius, Bridgetown, OH	1995-1996	Job Search
1966-1973	St. Christopher, Indianapolis, IN	1996-2005	OA, Oldenburg, IN
1973-1976	St. Mark, Indianapolis, IN	2005-2018	Convent Librarian, Oldenburg, IN
1976-1979	St. Clare, Cincinnati, OH	2018-2021	Motherhouse, Oldenburg, IN
1979-1981	Little Flower, Indianapolis, 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