



## SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

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WWW.OLDENBURGFRAUCISCANS.ORG



May 1, 2022

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

S. KATHLEEN MULSO, OSF

As the morning of May 1, the Third Sunday of Easter, was slowly approaching, Sister Kathleen Mulso moved quietly from this life to eternal life. Our loving God drew her gently into the joy of being held in God's presence where she had come to know God's surprising love for her.

Kathleen was born as the second child of John and Evelyn Mulso. She described them as the "best parents" she could have asked for. She had an older brother, Jim, and together they would welcome three more siblings, Mary, Julie and Jackie. She remembers the many good times that they had together. Kathleen relates that, "It was in this home that I learned most of what I would need to know in getting along with others through the years."

Early on, Kathleen felt drawn to be a Sister. She first met the Sisters of St. Francis when they came to Roseville to conduct a Bible School. She had just finished eighth grade and decided to volunteer to be a helper. In doing so, she spent a lot of time with the Sisters. She sensed a real joy in them which they shared not only with each other but with everyone. It was then that she learned about the aspirancy and wanted to attend. Her parents thought that she was too young but said if when she turned sixteen, she still wanted to go to the aspirancy, she could go to Oldenburg. And that is what happened. She completed her high school classes and entered the convent in February of 1965.

As many of our Sisters did, Kathleen began as a grade school teacher. She taught all the elementary grades at one time or another. She especially enjoyed teaching religion, language arts and history and was glad when someone else taught her math classes or helped her teach music. Kathleen then had the opportunity to move to Religious Education and teach religion to about 400 children who were bussed from public schools during the day or came to evening classes. Later Kathleen became a Parish Director of Religious Education which involved her not only with children but also with adults.

Kathleen relates in her autobiography that "due to physical changes taking place, I was not able to stay out on mission." She saw that God had a specific plan for her. Her work was not ended. She walked with adults in the RCIA process at one local parish and taught several children in catechetical programs offered nearby. She also worked as a substitute religion teacher at Oldenburg Academy. She visited the local hospital and nursing homes and visited some parishioners in their homes. Here at the Motherhouse, Kathleen prepared an information sheet about the saints in the stained glass windows in our chapel and did presentations about them at our Oldenburg Franciscan Center. She organized tours of the Motherhouse as well as welcoming visitors. She shared spirituality with some directees. She enjoyed being with people. In Kathleen's words, "All was good time spent."

Kathleen was always very open in her sharing and in an update to her autobiography she shared, “[God] has allowed illness to be part of my story so that I can pause and listen to Him.” Recently, the Sisters were asked to name something that was on their “Bucket List.” Kathleen desired to have dinner with all her classmates. This happened a few months ago. All were able to be present except one who joined them by phone.

*Here is a poem written by S. Kathleen that seems very apropos for now.*

***Wrinkles in Time***

*The Wrinkles come  
When Life doesn't  
Follow my plan*

*I have laid out my expectations  
Then God's Plan comes...*

*Gradually, I surrender  
I wait  
Slowly, the wrinkles smooth out*

*God's time becomes my time  
He has better ideas.*

*I am awed in His presence  
I am surprised by His love for me.*

We extend our sympathy to her siblings, Jim, Mary, Julie and Jackie as well as members of her convent class and other Sisters and friends, especially those who joined her in card playing. Our whole-hearted thanks and sympathy to our nursing and pastoral care staff in St. Clare Hall.

In gratitude for S. Kathleen and her open sharing,

*S. Annette*

S. Annette Grisley  
*For the General Council*

S. KATHLEEN (formerly John Marie) MULSO, OSF

Birth: September 27, 1947

Entrance into Religious Life: February 3, 1965

Entrance into Eternal Life: May 1, 2022

**MISSIONS WHERE S. KATHLEEN SERVED:**

1967-1968 St. Mary of the Lake, New Buffalo MI

1968-1971 Holy Name, Beech Grove IN

1971-1972 Marian College, Indianapolis IN

1972-1975 St. Lawrence, Indianapolis IN

1975-1980 St. Gabriel, Connersville IN

1980-1982 St. Michael Charlestown IN

1982-1984 St. Edmunds, Warren MI

1984-1994 St. Athanasius, Roseville MI

1994-2004 Holy Cross, Marine City, MI

2004-2019 Motherhouse, Volunteer Ministries

2019-2022 Motherhouse Retirement

*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](http://www.Weigelfh.com)*

**Memorial Donations** in Sister's memory may be given online at [www.OldenburghFranciscans.org](http://www.OldenburghFranciscans.org)