



Society of the Holy Child Jesus
AMERICAN PROVINCE

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Mary Owen O’Gorman, SHCJ

July 27, 1928 – December 12, 2016

Educator

Rosemont, Pennsylvania – Mary Owen O’Gorman, SHCJ, who was a Sister of the Holy Child Jesus for 66 years, died of heart failure on Monday, December 12, at Holy Child Center in Rosemont, PA.

Sister Mary Owen came from a family of religious vocations. Two of her aunts were Holy Child Sisters: Sister Mary Immaculata and Mother Mary Madeleine. Both of her brothers became priests. She was drawn to the Society of the Holy Child Jesus by her love of Cornelia Connelly, Founder of the Society, whose life she had read while a student at Saint Walburga Academy in New York City. She entered the Society in 1946 and became well known by her religious name Mother Mary Owen.

Sister Mary Owen’s teaching ministry spanned 38 years and focused mainly on students in grades four through eight. She taught for 23 years at four schools: St. Elizabeth School in New York City (1950 - 1955, 1965 - 1969, and 1983 - 1987); Sts. Peter and Paul School in Mt. Vernon, NY (1955 - 1956 and 1959 - 1962); St. Mary School in Melrose, MA (1956 - 1959 and 1962 - 1965); and St. Veronica School in Chicago, IL (1968 – 1969).

For 15 years, she served as a teacher and principal at Our Lady of Lourdes School in New York City (1969 – 1982 and 1987 – 1989). In 1989 she became a mentor in Fordham Intern Fellowship Program where she coached intern-teachers for the next seven years. In 1996, she moved to the Holy Child community in Rye, NY, where she volunteered in the library at School of the Holy Child.

In 2014 ill health made it necessary for Sister Mary Owen to move to Holy Child Center in Rosemont, PA. There she continued to be a faithful alumna

of Saint Walburga Academy, a devoted member of the community, and a spirited and loving friend.

Sister Mary Owen earned an undergraduate degree in Education from Villanova University and a master's degree in Remedial Reading from Boston College in 1957 and 1965, respectively.

She was the loving daughter of the late Thomas and Marie (Amy) O'Gorman. She joins her parents, her younger sister, Marie, and her priest brother, Richard, in eternal life. She is survived by her sister, Paula, and her brother, Tom, a Jesuit priest in the Philippines.

Friends and family are invited to a prayer service of remembrance on Thursday, December 15, at 4:00 p.m., and to the Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, December 16, at 11:00 a.m., at New Sharon Chapel, 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, PA, 19010. Preceding Mass, friends and family are welcome to attend the wake at 10:00 a.m. Funeral arrangements are handled by Donohue Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Society of the Holy Child Jesus, 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, PA 19010, or make a gift online at www.shcj.org/american/donate.