

Sister Jane Frances Brady, SC

Entered eternal life on January 23, 2026



Thank you all for taking this morning to honor my aunt Sister Jane Brady. I would like to thank the Sisters of Charity, the staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, the sisters and staff at St. Catherine of Siena care home for their part in being such a huge part of Sister Jane's life and the care provided to her in her later years. My name is Tom Hill, and I was fortunate to be born her nephew. Most of you have known Sister Jane for many years, some even longer than I have. I want to say a few words about Sister Jane and what she meant to our family, and I think you'll find it a very familiar story.

You all know her as Sister Jane from the Sisters of Charity, President and CEO of St. Joseph's hospital and know of all she's done supporting the poor and disadvantaged both in New Jersey and all over the world. We simply knew her as Sister Jane (SJ) - our aunt, my mother's sister, and she was awesome. When I reflect on everything she was, it comes down to one thing to me – she was there.

All our lives, at key moments and in the calm in between she was there. Given all her professional and spiritual responsibilities, she was always there for me and my family. I thought about every stage of my life and she is a constant. I thought I would step through some highlights.

My parents divorced when I was 5, and Sister Jane played an important part in helping my mom (her sister) and her 5 kids move from Maryland to New Jersey to be closer to family. This was very traumatic as you can imagine, but my memories of that time very much included her being there.

1. She helped with the move, getting settled in New Jersey, stabilizing things for my mother and us kids. I remember her and my grandmother at our house often, helping with us and having dinners and other activities as a family. Simply put she was there.
2. Some of my earliest memories of St. Joseph's were from when my sister Laura and I would go visit her. Many fond memories of days / nights spent at the convent. I really enjoyed getting to know her and the sisters in these years and everyone treated us so well. I will be honest the unlimited ice cream sandwiches were a big draw. That said - Sr. Jane was always there.
3. We were enrolled in catholic school, but she was never in our face about religion. She ensured we were on the right track and allowed us the space to build our own spiritual relationship with God. From First Communion to Confirmation, she was there. Fast forward to 8th grade, when she took my sister and I on our first airplane ride ever to Florida to Disney World. Whether in a spiritual or secular way – she was there.
4. She inspired us to have compassion for people and work at the hospital. My oldest sister Jane became a pediatric intensive care nurse, my oldest brother Andrew a Cardiac Technician, my twin sister Laura lifelong physical therapist working with the elderly and special needs kids – each for decades. This continues with the next generation, my oldest daughter Alexandra going to be a Pediatrician, Laura's youngest Emily a nurse. These are further examples of the inspiration and impact she's had on the world. When I got to high school and needed a summer job, I worked in Medical Records and my sister Laura worked in the Cafeteria at St. Joseph's. These were formative years defined by hard work. Side note that medical records stint allowed me to work with some amazing people and got me my first professional job after college. Every step of the way Sister Jane was there.
5. When I was thinking about college, I was torn between Rutgers or going far away from home to college. She gave me objective, life-changing advice, encouraging me to go where I wanted to be and if that were far away then so be it – it would be the right move. I followed her advice and it has led to a very rich, fulfilling life experience that has taken my family and I all over the world. She loved to travel and experience other places and cultures. Her guidance opened our amazing world to me. Sister Jane was there every step of the way.

6. My sister Laura, brother Mark and I had children at roughly the same time in the 2000s, and she found the time to be a part of their lives. She got to know them and built relationships, taking the time to be with them and sharing the joys of growing up with the children. She maintained these relationships as best possible for the rest of her life, and our children are richer for it. She also loved my wife Tobey, not only because she was an amazing woman in her own right, but also because Sr. Jane was always worried, I would never find a wife. She often told me she always thought she would have to go around the world to find me a wife. Jokes aside, she was an integral part of our family, and she was always there.
7. Sister Jane loved keeping track of the various things that went on with the extended family. Wondering when my brother was going to take her niece Gianna on vacation, or where in the world my kids Tommy, Alexandra and Kiana were, or the latest with Emily or Juliana there was always active engagement and support. She was very proud of every one of them. She had a treasure trove of life experience and stories to tell, and we all spent hours with her hearing them. I always found her interesting to talk to and never struggled for words. Throughout the course of her life, it boils down to one thing – she was there.
8. In her final years she was still very engaged with all of us. I must thank two people and call out their extraordinary care for Sister Jane. My sister Laura and niece Emily (the nurse). Their care for Sister Jane was both steadfast, resolute, and compassionate. For several of her later years and her final months she required significant support and it was not easy, yet they were there – going above and beyond – in the same way Sister Jane did for us all these years. Laura has been a rock for our family for many years and really did everything she could for Sr. Jane in her final years, sacrificing much in supporting Sister Jane. For Emily I am sorry you had to get such a task dropped on you so young, yet you showed incredible strength of character and compassion throughout. You're an outstanding nurse and even better person – I am so proud to be your uncle. Laura and Emily didn't have to care for her that way, but they did. I can't thank them enough. Sr. Jane didn't have to care for her family and others to the degree she did, but she did anyway. She was truly an inspiration for us all and it shows that a life well-lived will come full circle. Simply put - she was there so others were there.

So, when I take a step back and look at Sister Jane's life and the impact she's had on the world, I feel like it is a similar story for all of us. She was there. In ways big or small she was there. The lives impacted for the better and downstream impacts are too many to count. If there were ever a fast track to heaven, she was surely on it. I think we should all take comfort in that – she is still here for us, looking down as a guardian angel like no other.

I thank God that I was blessed to have her as part of my family and find comfort that she is in a better place, resting in peace in the eternal light of the Lord. Thank you.

~Tom Hill,
Sister Jane's nephew