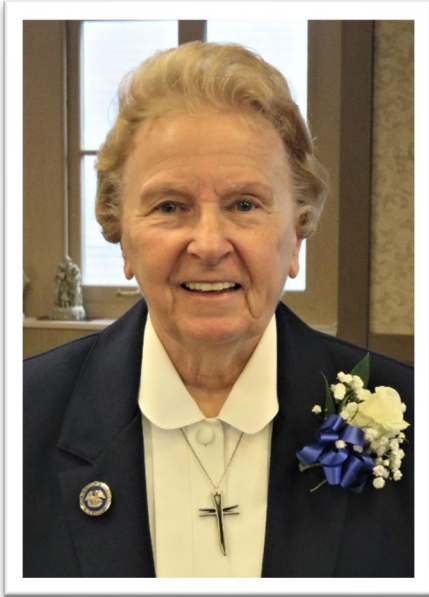


SISTER JOAN EILEEN BUTLER, SC

Entered eternal life on December 10, 2022



Deep sympathy to those in Joan's family who are present with us and those family members and sisters who are joining us by live streaming. Thank goodness for this technology which enables us to share in important moments when distance challenges. We are all shocked and saddened by this sudden loss.

Many sisters have shared memories with each other of the last time they saw Sister Joan. She served as Eucharist Minister on Saturday morning, had breakfast with a group of sisters and I met her as I was leaving the dining room as she was on her way out.

Sister Joan was born in Jersey City, one of three children of John and Josepha Butler. She has two sisters, Gloria (now deceased), and Dorothy who lives in the state of Washington. Joan remained close and was very connected to so many in her family.

She entered the Sisters of Charity on September 6, 1955, and served faithfully for 67 years. Joan was an educator and taught at St. Peter's in New Brunswick, Our Lady of Grace in Hoboken, and Our Lady of Lourdes in West Orange. She had many humorous stories about the students she taught and remembered many by name over the years.

Sister Joan was the first Sister of Charity my nephew ever had as a third-grade teacher. My sister and I practiced all summer before school started in September, saying "Yes Sister, No Sister". When I spoke to my nephew last night, he remembered her as a strict teacher and had strict adherence to "Yes Sister, No Sister".

In the mid 70's, she expanded her educational preparation into the nursing field and worked as a Nursing Assistant in various places, which included our own Villa, Elizabeth Seton Residence in Massachusetts, and Nursing Offices in Montclair. She had great compassion for anyone struggling with illness and in need of care.

She was a faithful friend to Sister John Margaret Harrington, who died in May of 2020. Joan brought Sister John to the Villa Mass every Sunday. This was a labor of love because it required assisting Sister John and transporting her in a wheelchair to make that possible. She knew it was life-giving for both to be able to connect with our sisters at the Villa each week.

Sister Joan supported as many missions as she was able. Many envelopes were sent to her requesting her support. She had a special place in her heart for the work and efforts that were done to help the most vulnerable.

In June of 2022, Sister Joan moved here to the Motherhouse. There was never a sister who went home to God without a Mass that was offered by Sister Joan Eileen. In the five months that Joan lived at the Motherhouse, she brought a sort of happy and loud presence. She helped wherever needed. She considered assisting with duties in the Chapel a privilege.

Thank you, Sister Joan, for all you shared with your family and all of us in our community. May you rest in peace and find the bird who completed your life list.

Sister Mary Patricia Hooper, SC