

## Sister Mary Jane Timmermans, SC

Entered eternal life on April 29, 2026

Mary Jane Timmermans entered the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth on September 6, 1953, and lived her life of Charity in Action for 72 almost 73 years. Sister Mary Jane, known also as Sister Alice Joseph, loved being a Sister of Charity. This was evident to those of us who had the privilege of living and or working with her. She truly exemplified the virtues of humility, simplicity and charity. Mary Jane was a person who saw only good in others she encountered, both young and old alike. Words of praise and gratitude were always on her lips when speaking of others. I think all of us here can testify to this, especially the nurses who attended to her health needs.

Sister Mary Jane earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the College of Saint Elizabeth (now St Elizabeth University) and a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Seton Hall University. She instructed the students in the following schools: Saint Mary's, Dumont, NJ, Saint Francis, Riveria Beach, Florida, Saint Mary's, Nutley, NJ, Saint Mary's, Waterbury CT, Saint Peter's Belleville, NJ and Saint Thomas Bloomfield, NJ.

Sister Mary Jane was a superb teacher, one that every principal would want on her faculty, and every parent would want for her child. Every teacher is in the spotlight on the classroom stage. Sister Mary Jane was a star in the spotlight. She created a learning environment that recognized students as individuals with unique talents and abilities and was able to help them develop and use their gifts. Her lessons were well prepared, creative and exciting. She created a joy of learning. Her students knew her to be faith- filled, kind, understanding, patient, fair and open-minded. They knew they were loved and they in turn loved and respected her.

Sister Mary Jane was the recipient of awards from the Archdiocese of Newark and Today's Catholic Teacher Magazine in recognition of her expertise in the field of Catholic Education.

At the time of her retirement from teaching, Sister Mary Jane served in the health care ministry as Chaplain at Saint Joseph University Hospital in Paterson. She loved visiting patients, praying with them, listening to their stories and consoling them. She told me that she learned a few words in Spanish so that she would better serve the Spanish speaking patients.

For many summers Sister Mary Jane and Sister Carol Williams volunteered their services teaching and preparing children for the sacraments at the Seton Center in Princess Anne Maryland. Our sisters at Princess Anne speak with praise and gratitude for their dedicated service.

Sister Mary Jane was very contented with her life here at the Motherhouse. She participated enthusiastically in all spiritual, congregational and recreational events and activities offered. When volunteers were requested, she generously answered the call. She was a gentle gracious presence among us. She enjoyed listening to and sharing humorous stories of the past, especially at mealtimes. She was fun-loving and enjoyed a good joke.

It was not until her health began to fail that her presence among us was limited. During this time, she was most grateful to the nurses who cared for her. She realized herself when it was time for her to receive long term care, so she willingly accepted the decision to go to McAuley Healthcare Center in Watchung. While at McAuley she continued to live her spirit of love.

Sister Mary Jane had great love and devotion to her family- her parents, Harold and Mary Lillian, her brothers, Harry and Johnny and her sisters Elizabeth and Carolyn all of whom are deceased. She is survived by many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, great great nieces and nephews. Her niece Cindy was always very present and generous to Mary Jane, especially during these final years. How grateful Mary Jane was for Cindy's visits and attention.



So dear Sister Mary Jane, you touched the lives of so many people by your love and devotion and of course your gifts. We thank you for you. I am sure our dear Blessed Lord's greeting to you is "Whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters you did for me." May you rest in the peace and love of God. "God is love and she who abides in love, abides in God and God in her."

~ Sister Marie Charitina Frabizio