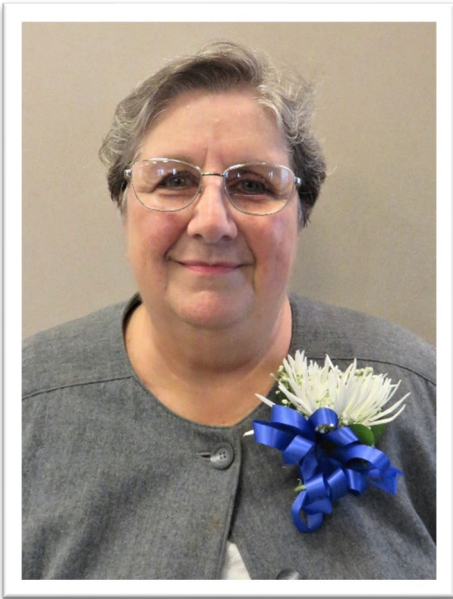


Sister Amelia Lamendola, SC
Entered eternal life on June 2, 2026



Amelia Lamendola was born on July 31, 1937, to her parents John and Jennie Lamendola. Amelia had great love for her parents, her sister Virginia Sansevere, her brother Philip. Amelia was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Virginia, her brother Philip, and her nephew Charles Sansevere. Amelia had ongoing love for her nieces Maria, Susan, Joanne and her nephews John and Mark. She has countless grandnieces, grandnephews and one great grandnephew.

Amelia lived in Union City and attended St. Michael's High School. After graduation she attended Drake's Secretarial School from 1955-1956.

Amelia entered the Sisters of Charity on August 20, 1957. She received the religious name of Sister Maria Cordis. She attended the College of St. Elizabeth (now the University) and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education. Later she attended Fairfield University

in Fairfield, Connecticut and earned a Master of Arts Degree in Guidance.

Sister Maria Cordis's years of teaching began at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in East Orange, NJ in which she taught the second grade. She then taught the seventh grade in Sacred Heart, Vailsburg, NJ, St. Michael's, Newark, St. Peter's, Belleville, and St. Clare's, Clifton. She also taught Religious Studies at Sacred Heart Academy, Hoboken, NJ. She was Director of Religious Studies at Lacordaire Academy in Upper Montclair.

Cordis became very experienced in Guidance in the following schools: St. James, Newark – Elementary and Junior High Guidance, Sacred Heart Academy, Hoboken, St. Aloysius High School, Jersey City. Sister Maria Cordis's commitment to care for young people and adults who are vulnerable and marginalized led her to ministries which were focused on alleviating pain, suffering, and distress. She served as Residential Counselor at Triad House, Ewing. She served as Counselor at Anchor House, Trenton, which was a safe haven for runaway and abused teenagers. She also served as Program Director and as both Assistant Director and Acting Director of the House of Faith, Jersey City. The ministry of the House of Faith was to provide outreach and support services to people who don't have homes.

Sister Maria Cordis advocated on State and local levels for affordable, safe housing for those most in need. She also had a heart of gold; she would give a helping hand and the love and charity in her heart to those in need. This was very evident in her 68 years living as a Sister of Charity.

Several years ago, Sister Maria Cordis chose to go back to her baptismal name. She became Sister Amelia Lamendola. For me personally, I always knew her as Sister Maria Cordis. I met Cordis when I entered the Sisters of Charity 50 years ago and lived at St. Clare's Convent, Clifton, NJ. For me, living at St. Clare's was a gift and a great introduction to living in community with four special women – Sister Maria Cordis, Sr. Claire Donnelly, Sister Dorothy Mangan and Sister Peggy Nulty. This is where my friendship with Cordis began. She had a great personality, a great sense of humor. She had no fear and was definitely a "Free Spirit." She did what she wanted no matter what others thought. She always kept us laughing. When I moved from St. Clare's, we kept in touch, would go down the shore. No matter how long it was since we saw one another, we could always pick up again in our conversation and presence to one another. What a gift is a friendship of 50 years – I am so grateful. Most of all, I am grateful for the person she was in Sister Maria Cordis of yesterday and Sister Amelia Lamendola of today.

Unfortunately, Sister Amelia Lamendola's health began to fail. Charitina and I would visit her at Complete Care, Cedar Grove. Many times, she would be singing; other times she would be very much at peace. In her last days, she was very peaceful until God took her from this world to heaven.
God bless Sister Amelia Lamendola!

~ Sister Joyce O' Shea, SC