



SISTER BARBARA CONNELL, SC

Sister Barbara Connell, 93, formerly Sister Mary Regis, a Sister of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, died September 7, 2022 at St. Joseph's Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Cedar Grove, NJ, after a short illness.

Sister Barbara was born in Boston, Massachusetts, the daughter of William and Margaret (Tonra) Connell. She entered the Sisters of Charity on September 8, 1947 and was a member for 75 years.

Sister Barbara graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth, (Saint Elizabeth University) Morristown, New Jersey with a B.A. degree in Latin, from The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC with an M.A. degree in Latin and Greek, from Manhattan College, The Bronx, NY with an M.A. in Catechetical Theology and from

Salve Regina College, Newport, RI with an M.A. degree in Holistic Counseling.

Sister Barbara served in the ministries of education and spirituality in New Jersey and Rhode Island. She served as a teacher at Star of the Sea Academy, Long Branch NJ; St. Cecilia School, Englewood; and St. Aloysius High School, Jersey City. She was a Supervisor of Schools for the Southern Province of the Sisters of Charity and served as County Coordinator of Education for the Archdiocese of Newark. Sister Barbara also served as Coordinator of Religious Education at the Church of the Assumption, Roselle Park, NJ.

Sister Barbara's ministry of spirituality began at Hopstead House of Prayer, Montclair, NJ. The ministry moved to Wickford, RI and Sister Barbara continued to serve there until 1985 when she was appointed Director of Novices for the Sisters of Charity. Sister Barbara then served on the Parish Mission Team of the Archdiocese of New York.

Sister Barbara served on the Retreat Team at Loyola House of Retreats, Morristown NJ for twelve years. In 2004 Sister Barbara moved to the Convent of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station where she continued to be of service wherever there was a need. Sister Barbara continued her ministry of Spiritual Direction and also served as Assistant in the Sisters of Charity Archives Office, Director of Seton Associates, and dedicated staff member in the Blessed Miriam Teresa League.

Sister Barbara was known as a prayerful, kind, and compassionate Sister of Charity. Her gifts as a Spiritual Director were a blessing to many people.

Sister Barbara was predeceased by her sister Margaret O'Rourke, her brothers William and Lawrence and her nieces Deborah Connell and Kathleen Connell. She is survived by the Sisters of Charity, many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and great grandnieces and great grandnephews.

The wake for Sister Barbara Connell will be held in Holy Family Chapel, 2 Convent Road, Convent Station, NJ from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16. The Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00 a.m. Masks are required in-person. Burial will be in Holy Family Cemetery, Convent Station immediately following the Mass.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Sisters of Charity Development Fund, P.O. Box 476, Convent Station, NJ, 07961-0476 would be appreciated