

Sister Marilyn Zaino, SC

Entered eternal life on October 31, 2024

Today we celebrate the life of Sister Marilyn Zaino (formerly Sister Irene Maria) who entered eternal life on October 31 – All Hallows Eve and joined the company of saints, and we rejoice with her.

Sister Marilyn was born in Teaneck the daughter of Alfred and Irene. She attended the Sisters of Charity Preparatory School for high school and entered the Sisters of Charity on August 20, 1959. This year marked her 65th anniversary in the Congregation.

Sister Marilyn graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth (now University) with a degree in education and studied pastoral ministry at Seton Hall university. Throughout the years, Marilyn's life moved in many different directions. She served in various ministries: elementary school education, child care aide, visiting homemaker, Saint Anne's Villa and pastoral ministry in Saint Philomena's and Saint Virgil's parishes, always with the thought of service to others.

Sister Marilyn served at the Motherhouse as Assistant Sacristan for a few years. She lived at the Motherhouse for many years where she enjoyed the presence of the Sisters. Her favorite place in the Motherhouse was the chapel where she prayed for her many intentions, among them, an increase of vocations to religious life.

During the last few years Marilyn lived in Madison and attended Congregational events when she was able. As Marilyn's health deteriorated, she was not able to be present at events. Life was not easy for Marilyn – she had many struggles both physically and mentally, but through it all Marilyn maintained her deep faith and love for the Eucharist.

We give special thanks to those who cared for Marilyn, to all who visited her, transported her, shopped for her and to the nurses and aides who cared for her during these past few weeks and to all who mourn her passing, especially the band of 1959.

The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth express their deep condolences to Marilyn's family: her brother Fred and his wife Lana; her nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Marilyn – we know that you are celebrating your 65 years as a Sister of Charity, and that you are dancing in heaven because Bishop Seratelli is presiding at this liturgy for you– the best anniversary gift you could have received. We thank Bishop Seratelli, Father Kevin Corcoran and Father Anthony for being present today.

This quote from Timothy that we heard during the prayer service: “The time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith” describes Marilyn's life well.

May our Sister rest in peace and may we, like Marilyn, continue to be faith filled women of charity.



Sister Mary Morley, SC