

## **Sister Margaret Mary Shorten**

Entered eternal life on September 5, 2017



Sister Margaret Mary Shorten, formerly Sister Jean Mary, entered the Sisters of Charity on September 6, 1953. She was pre-deceased by her parents, John and Mary, and her sister, Elizabeth. Sister Margaret, known as Maggie or Mag, was born in Rockaway Park, Long Island, NY and then moved to Jersey City, NJ. She graduated from Sacred Heart Elementary School in Jersey City, NJ. She attended Saint Bridget's Commercial School in Jersey City and Saint Vincent's Prep in Convent Station, NJ. She continued her education and graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, NJ with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and Seton Hall University with a Master of Arts Degree in English. Education was her passion, she taught at Saint Michael's Elementary School, in Jersey City, NJ and various Sister of Charity High Schools. She, also, was a missionary in the Virgin Islands with our sisters.

She loved her family, she often spoke of her mother who worked as a cook at Assumption/All Saints Convent in Jersey City, NJ. She, also, spoke very dearly of her sister Lizzy. She was known to her nieces and nephews as Aunt Maggie. She spoke often of her nephew Michael, his wife Patty, and their children, Justin and Sean; her nephew Thomas, his wife Leslie and their son Thomas; her niece Eileen and her children Jacob and Elizabeth. Michael her nephew, said when Aunt Maggie visited the family, she would bring Dunkin Donut Munchkins and she would give scratch-off lottery tickets at birthdays and family events. She was blessed with many cousins and was close to her cousin Irene.

To the Sisters of Charity and the sisters she entered with, she was known as Maggie or Mag. After her full-time ministry of teaching, she volunteered at Caritas Academy in Jersey City, NJ and Trinitas Medical Center in Elizabeth, NJ. Her most recent local community was Saint Anthony Convent in Elizabeth, NJ. Mag was a very kind, generous Sister of Charity, often driving the Sisters to the doctor or buying items that were needed. When she wasn't feeling well she never complained. She was very generous in making sure we made donations to those in need, such as, Saint Joseph's Social Service Center, The Coalition for the Homeless, Josephine's Place all of which are in Elizabeth, NJ. We always made a donation to Maris Stella, our Retreat and Vacation Center in Harvey Cedars, NJ.

Mag was very proud of her Irish heritage. She would listen to her Irish CD's, had a picture of Ireland and kept the Irish flag and other Irish trinkets in her room. She loved sports and the Yankees, especially in the era of Yogi Berra, Notre Dame Football, and the March Madness Basketball Championship. She would check the NY Daily News every day to keep up with her team's standings.

Each one of us was touched by her kindness, gentleness, and generosity. Our consolation is that she is at peace, no more suffering. In her last days, she was praying, "Come Lord Jesus, I am ready" and on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, Jesus came and said "Come Mag, my good and faithful servant".

Peace, Mag, you will be truly missed, you made a difference in our lives.

Sister Joyce O'Shea