

## MEMORIAL MASS

### SISTER MARGARET MARY FITZGIBBON

Sister Margaret Mary Fitzgibbon, 86, formerly Sister Mary Madonna, a Sister of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, died January 21, 2019 at the Convent of Saint Elizabeth. As her last charitable act, donated her body to medical research. A Memorial Mass for Sister Margaret Mary Fitzgibbon will be held on Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 11:00am in Holy Family Chapel, Convent Station, NJ. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

Sister Margaret Mary, better known as Peggy, was born in Dover, New Jersey, the daughter of John Francis and Margaret Mary (Vallimont) Fitzgibbon. She entered the Sisters of Charity on June 24, 1949 and was a member for 69 years.

Sister Peggy graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, NJ with a B.S. degree in Education and from Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA with an M.A. in Urban Education. She was an educator in the States of New Jersey, Florida, Mississippi, Washington as well as in Mexico and Chile. She served as a teacher at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Ridgewood; Our Lady of Victories School, Harrington Park; Our Lady of Sorrows School, South Orange; St. Rose of Lima School, Newark and St. Mary High School, Jersey City. In Pensacola, FL she was both teacher and elementary school principal at St. Joseph School..

Her missionary heart led her into Parish Ministry at St. Helen, Amory, MS and eventually to Mexico, and Chile where she worked among the impoverished in the barrios and with different peace groups in collaboration with the Maryknoll Missionaries. Upon her return to the States, she worked with a variety of refugee groups, with the sanctuary movement, and with bilingual education in Washington, DC.

Sister Peggy returned to her beloved Trenton, NJ to assist her sister who was ill. During this time she was a substitute teacher in Trenton Public Schools, and a teacher of GED in Mercer County College, Trenton, NJ. She later became an ESL instructor for Catholic Charities in Trenton. When her own health began to wane, Sister Peggy moved to the Convent of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, NJ where she volunteered her ESL services to different groups in the Morristown area.

Sister Peggy loved people. No one was a stranger to her; no one was invisible. She loved her family and made sure she stayed connected to them. Her nieces and nephews loved when she would visit because she was full of life. She loved singing and dancing! She always got everyone up dancing at family and community gatherings. Sister Peggy died as she lived, quietly and peacefully trusting in God's loving Providence and surrounded by her religious community of Sisters of Charity.

Sister Peggy was predeceased by her parents, by her brothers: Michel, John, Patrick, and Paul; and by her sisters, Gertrude Russo, Theresa Fitzgibbon, Cecilia Pacera, and Grace Fitzgibbon.

She is survived by the Sisters of Charity; Her siblings: MaryJo Junghans, JoAnn Haney, and James Fitzgibbon; and by many nieces and nephews who loved her and treasure her as a blessing in their lives.

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

