Dominican Sister of Peace Marie Cleary



Dominican Sister of Peace Sister Marie Cleary

Dominican Sister of Peace Marie (Bernard Marie) Cleary, OP (84), a native of Boston, Massachusetts, died on December 2, 2020, at Sansbury Care Center, St. Catharine, KY.

Sister Marie was born in 1936 to Catherine Enright and Herbert Cleary. She worked for a year after graduating high school, then entered the Congregation in 1955. She made her First profession in 1957 and took her final vows in 1960 and served God and the Church for 63 years.

A life-long and devoted learner and educator, Sister Marie earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Education from Regis College and her Master of Arts in Special Education from Bridgewater State. She also

studied Open Education at the Newton College of the Sacred Heart. She was also certified by the Archdiocese of Boston to teach Religion in elementary school and in adult education programs.

Sister Marie ministered in her beloved Bay State, serving as a teacher, administrator and librarian in Belmont, Charlestown, East Boston, and Reading for 35 years. Because of her knowledge, experience, and love of teaching, she became a certified Master Teacher who could help other educators become more effective, and she delighted in creating innovative learning practices for her students.

After retiring from teaching, Sr. Marie ministered as a reference librarian, and later as a volunteer.

Sister Marie's grace and good humor made her a devoted friend and faithful community member. After moving to St. Catharine's in 2018, Sr. Marie was an attentive friend and caregiver to Sister Jean Delaney, who had been part of her community at Rosary Manor in Massachusetts. She began her final ministry of prayer and presence at Sansbury Care Center in 2020.

Sr. Marie is survived by two sisters, Jean Hickey and Joan Picariello, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Sr. Marie's was interred in a private graveside service on December 11, 2020, at the St. Catharine Motherhouse cemetery. A memorial mass will be held at a date to be announced at Sansbury Care Center, St. Catharine, KY. Memorial gifts in Sr. Marie Cleary's memory may be submitted securely online or sent to the Dominican Sisters of Peace, Office of Mission Advancement, 2320 Airport Dr, Columbus, OH 43219.