



Sr. Mary Louise Foley, FMI
Entered this Life, February 7, 1937
Professed First Vows - August 22, 1962
Entered Eternal Life, October 19, 2021

Sr. Mary Louise Foley F.M.I., 84, (Sr. Mary Patrick) passed away peacefully at Diversicare Siena Woods, on Tuesday, October 19. Her parents, Edward and Regina (nee Kelly) Foley, sister-in-law Joan Foley, and many members of her Marianist Family preceded her in death. She is survived by her brother, retired Judge Patrick Foley of Dayton, her sister Jeanne Foley, of Cleveland, and well-loved nephews and wives Dan (Kathleen) Foley of Dayton and Mike (Chris) Foley. She is also survived by her great nieces and nephews, and her Marianist Sisters.

Sr. Mary Louise was a graduate of Julienne High School and held a Bachelor's degree from the University of Dayton (UD) and a Master's degree from St. Mary's University, TX. She also enjoyed summer study at Loyola University in Chicago.

After graduating from the UD, Mary Louise joined the Marianist Sisters in San Antonio, TX in 1959 and professed first vows on August 22, 1962. She began her teaching ministry at St. James Catholic grade school in San Antonio, where later she served two years as principal. Her many years as a pastoral minister began at the Marianist Sisters' Our Lady of the Pillar Retreat Center in San Antonio, where she spent 12 years, leading parish retreats and providing hospitality for the Texas Catholic Conference.

Sr. Mary Louise gave many years of service in Provincial Leadership for the Marianist Sisters, including eight years as Provincial. During that time, she was also a parish minister at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Helotes, TX. Upon completion of her time as provincial and a sabbatical at Notre Dame, Sr. Mary Louise moved to Dayton. There she was a Pastoral Minister at the Queen of Apostles Community for two years. She then returned to UD, serving ten years as a Campus Minister, where one of her main areas of ministry was at the Law School. Mary loved UD basketball and football, drawing coaches and their families into the many ministries she led – providing cribs for newborns, serving at St. Vincent de Paul, mentoring students who came from distant states, and leading retreats for UD faculty and staff. Her presence to the wider Marianist Family, tending many groups of lay Marianists, culminated in accompaniment of the Visitation State Community, some of whose members she knew since their early years as UD students. Her ministry is remembered by many for her “constant, quiet, cheerful and hope-filled presence.”

Sr. Mary Louise retired from UD in 2011 and continued to volunteer, serving meals at St. Vincent de Paul shelters and as a greeter for visitors to UD’s Marian Library. When her memory began to fail, Sr. Mary Louise moved to Mercy Siena Woods where she took part in the activities of the Marianist Community. She resided at Siena Woods, now Diversicare, until her death.

Visitation will be on Saturday, October 30 at 9:30 AM at the Queen of Apostles Chapel in Beavercreek with the Mass of Christian Burial following at 11 AM. The burial will follow in the Queen of Heaven Cemetery on the same property, Mt. St. John. In lieu of flowers, donations are welcome for the Marianist Sisters’ Vocations Fund or the Marianist Sisters’ ministries in Malawi, Africa. Contributions may be sent to the Marianist Sisters, 30 Sawmill Road, Dayton, Ohio 45409.