

Romans 8:28

"We know that

for those who love God,

all things

work together for good,

for those who are called

according to his

purpose."

## Blessings on the Journey

If you would like to share memories and stay connected with the Sisters, we welcome your visits, correspondence and calls. Our doors and our hearts are open to you!

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To honor the memory of Sister Margaret
Anne and her loving concern for others,
a donation can be made to the Franciscan
Sisters of the Sacred Heart to further
our works of neighborly love
for those in need.

Thank you for enabling Sister to continue doing good on earth through your generosity.



FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE SACRED HEART





Sr. Margaret Anne Floto, OSF

1940-2024



"MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU."

2 CORINTHIANS
12:9A

## Sister Margaret Anne

## At Rest October 12, 2024

Sister Margaret Anne Floto was born on November 27, 1940, in Dixon, IL, to Frank and Wilma (Stanley) Floto, having five brothers and one sister. Her childhood blessings were being close to nature while growing up on a farm and her gift of music enriched through piano and organ lessons.

Her faith-filled parents raised the children in the Evangelical United Brethren Church until Sister's freshman year in high school. Around that time, her mother read an article about the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist which resulted in her entering the Catholic Church. After that, Sister was prepared for entrance into the Church, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation by Sister Marie Martin, a Sinsinawa Dominican, her first contact with a religious sister.

Following high school graduation, Sister was accepted into the nursing program at St. Anthony Hospital in Rockford, IL. However, she had visited our congregation and heard God speaking to her heart that she would spend the rest of her life in this community. For several months she tried to ignore this because she was planning to become a nurse. But the

Lord kept nudging her until she finally entered the congregation in August 1958. Sister enjoyed her time of formation, learning much more about Jesus, the Church, and Religious Life. She professed First Vows on June 21,1961, and Perpetual Vows on August 6, 1966.

Sister earned a BS in Nursing and an MS in Health Services Administration which enabled her to follow her dream of being a nurse. She ministered at St. Joseph Hospital, Joliet, IL, St. Joseph Hospital, Elgin, IL, and St. Joseph Hospital, San Francisco, CA, where she was Director of Nursing. After two years in that position, she wanted to return to bedside nursing. So, she went to St. Anthony Hospital in Chicago, IL, and worked as a staff nurse in Medical Nursing and eventually in the Intensive Care Unit. Also, her beautiful gift of music enabled her to be an organist wherever she was missioned and to sing harmony in choral groups.

In 1979, Sister was elected Vicaress of our congregation. During two terms in that position, she worked for our mission in Brazil and eventually started the Icoaraci Auxiliary which initiated the Garage Sale. She served on our Illinois and California hospital boards. Following a third term on the Council, Sister ministered in the Diocese of Rockford's Marriage Tribunal until she retired. When at the Motherhouse, she continued involvement with the Marriage Tribunal, organized a Volunteer Program, worked with our Rockford area Associates, and contributed to issues that she cared deeply about, especially our association with young women.

So evident in Sister's life were her love for people, especially her family, her loyalty to

friends and willingness to spend time with them, and her openness to goodness wherever she found it. She enjoyed moments with her Sisters, remembering and being grateful for what had been and being ready for what would be. Of great importance to her was her faith journey, her dedication to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and her desire to become the person God created her to be. On her 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee she said, "I love my God, and as the song says, 'God is the center of my life.' That is my goal, and that is what gives me passion for life." Also, very important to her was our congregation's recent focus on deepening personal contemplation in seeking transformation because this helped her to better discern Jesus' dream for her. Sister reflected on this saying, "This gives me life and joy and energizes me to accept the trials and tribulations in life and also to recognize the goodness and joy in every minute of every hour of every day."

Goodness and happiness were especially hers on October 12, 2024, when she was escorted by Sister Death into the fullness of life and joy. Sister Margaret Anne, may the eyes of Jesus gaze lovingly upon you, His beloved one, and may He eternally hold you in the center of His Sacred Heart!

