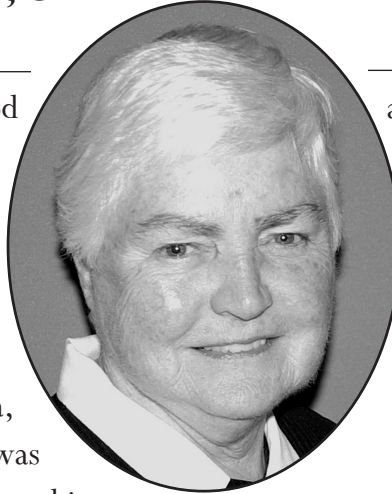

O B I T U A R Y

Sister Mary Clare Kolczynski , OP

In the early morning of April 23, God called Sister Mary Clare Kolczynski to her eternal reward. Sister was 92 years old and was a dedicated member of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville for 73 years.

Mary Anne, born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on December 2, 1923, was the daughter of Stanley and Mary Kolczynski; her father was born in Poland and her mother was born in Ireland. Her early life was spent in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Rye, NY, before the family moved to Long Island. After her high school graduation, Mary Anne worked in real estate, for the Boy Scouts of America, and Coca Cola. It was at Our Lady of Lourdes, Malverne that she became acquainted with the Dominican Sisters. She entered the Congregation on February 2, 1943, received the habit and was given the name Sister Mary Clare on August 4, 1943. On August 7, 1944, she pronounced first vows and was assigned to teach at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Lindenhurst. From 1955 to 1964, Sister was assigned to St. Ignatius Martyr in Long Beach and in 1964 she continued her teaching ministry at St. Kilian in Farmingdale. In 1965, Mary Clare moved to St. Fidelis, College Point where she taught until 1997. For the next three years, she was a substitute teacher at St. Fidelis. In all these places, she was a first grade teacher. In 2000 she retired



For we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus
those who have fallen asleep in him

~1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

and, when St. Fidelis Convent closed, she joined the community at Harbor of Grace Convent. During this time, she lovingly cared for her infirm sister. Failing health necessitated her move to Carlin Hall Infirmity community in 2015.

Sister Mary Clare was known to be an extremely organized person and a very hard worker, qualities that would have served her well as a first grade teacher. She was committed to the St. Fidelis Parish community and knew almost everyone by name. An avid reader, Mary Clare particularly enjoyed mysteries. During various musical entertainment sessions in Carlin Hall, she was especially drawn to "Big Band" music.

Family was very important to Sister Mary Clare and this was most apparent as she cared for her ill sister. In addition to her family here in the U.S., she remained in contact with her Irish relatives and had the opportunity to visit them in Ireland.

Sister Mary Clare will be missed by her loving family members and by the Sisters of St. Dominic. All services will be in St. Albert's Chapel at the Motherhouse, with a wake on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 3-5 p.m. and 7-9 pm. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 27 following Morning Prayer at 10:10 am. Burial in the Sisters' cemetery will follow immediately after Mass.

