
O B I T U A R Y

Sister Ana Maria Marrero, OP

(Sister Scholastica, OP)

On the morning of May 2, 2016 God called Sister Ana Maria Marrero home to her eternal reward. Sister was 98 years old and had dedicated 79 years to religious life as an Amityville Dominican.

Born in Puerto Rico on April 4, 1918, Ana Maria was the daughter of Ruffino and Maria (Hernández) Ruffino. She was the first child of a large family who knew real poverty at the time. In her last years Ana Maria was both amazed and proud that despite their poverty, her father always paid their bills which was no small feat and took hard work on his part.

Ana Maria first met the Amityville Dominicans in their missions in Puerto Rico. In 1936 Ana entered the Dominican Novitiate in Amityville from the parish of Vega Alta, Puerto Rico. She received the habit and the name, Sister Scholastica, on August 8, 1937 and pronounced her first vows on August 20, 1938. After the Second Vatican Council Sister returned to her baptismal name.

Sister's first mission was helping the Sisters with the domestic work at Cathedral College Preparatory High School in Brooklyn for a year where she also was able to practice and improve her language skills in English. Ana loved to cook and beginning in September 1939 was assigned to serve the Sisters in this capacity first in the convents of the parishes of St. Barbara, Brooklyn, and then at St. Clement Pope Martyr in Ozone Park, Queens. From 1945 until 1950 Sister Ana Maria assisted with the cooking and other domestic tasks in St. Rose Convent, Melville, NY. The community at St. Rose was a large one and also had the ministry of hospitality during the summers to some Sisters who worked in local summer camps and others who vacationed at the Convent. Sister Ana Maria was welcoming and helpful whenever she was able. In 1950 Sister Ana Maria returned to Puerto Rico where, as a Nursing Assistant, helped at the Dispensario de Providencia, in San Juan until 1954. Sister then began her teaching ministry in elementary education as a Religious Educator at Santo Tomás de Aquino Colegio in San Juan until 1960.

Sister Ana Maria held a B.A. from the Catholic University of Puerto Rico and an M.S. from the University of Puerto Rico. She later received an M.S.T. (Master of Science in Teaching Theology) from the Aquinas Institute, then

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

~ Romans 8:16-17

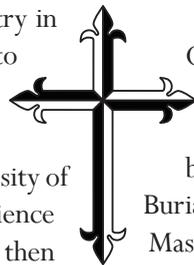


located in Dubuque Iowa. From 1960 through 1980 Ana Maria's mission was elementary education in the following schools in P.R.: San Vicente Ferrer, Cataño; Academia Santa Rosa, Bayamon; St. Augustine, Isabela where she taught for a time and then became the Librarian for the school. From 1988-1993 Sister ministered in Pastoral Services to the elderly in Bayamon. As her health began to fail Sister came to Queen of the Rosary Motherhouse in Amityville in 1993 where her ministry became Intercessory Prayer. The return to the Motherhouse enabled her to be near family members who, with her help and assistance, had come north to the States and had settled in the New York area. The need for greater assistance with her health needs in 2003 necessitated her move to Maria Regina Residence in Brentwood, NY.

Sister Ana Maria loved her family and they remember many good times when she came to visit and helped to cook and enjoy the laughter and their love. Indeed, the family speaks with pride that they did not have much money but they had the greater gifts of love, good values and faith. Sister was a treasured part of their family and of the Amityville Dominican Congregation, both in Puerto Rico and the States, who remember her humility and smile. Sister was grateful for the care her nurses and aides gave in Amityville and especially for the care, loving concern and gentle understanding of the nursing and aides at Maria Regina with special gratitude to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood at Maria Regina Residence and the Sisters from Amityville who visited her so faithfully.

Sister is survived by her beloved sister Felicita Marrero and by many loving nieces and nephews including her niece Elizabeth Fox and her husband James, and her nephew William Grauzo and his wife Carol, and the entire extended family. They will miss her as will the Sisters of the Amityville Dominican Congregation.

All services will take place in St. Albert's Chapel at Queen of the Rosary Motherhouse. The wake will be on Tuesday, May 3rd from 3-5p.m. Morning Prayer will be said at 10:10a.m. on Wednesday, May 4th and will be followed by The Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30. Burial in the Sisters' cemetery will follow immediately after Mass.



S I S T E R S O F S A I N T D O M I N I C O F A M I T Y V I L L E , N Y

