
O B I T U A R Y

Sister Margaret Byrne, OP

(Sister Mary Brita)

Early on the morning of January 9, 2024, our Sister Margaret (Peggy) Byrne was taken to meet her God. She was 79 years old and had generously and faithfully lived her Dominican life for 62 years.

Peggy was born on April 20, 1944 to Francis and Dorothy (White) Byrne in Jamaica, Queens. Peggy's brother, John, their firstborn child, Peggy next, and brother James completed the family. They lived in Queens Village. Our Lady of Lourdes Parish was where Peggy went to elementary school. It was at Dominican Commercial High School that the stirrings of Peggy's Dominican vocation were nurtured.

On September 9, 1962, Peggy entered the Novitiate at Amityville. She was given the Dominican habit on August 5, 1963 and received her religious name, Sister Mary Brita. Her First Vows were pronounced on August 7, 1964 and Final Vows on August 7, 1967.

Peggy earned a Bachelor of Science degree at St. John's University and a Master of Arts degree at La Salle University in Pennsylvania. She later was awarded a Master of Science degree from the College of New Rochelle. Peggy's ministries included serving as an elementary school teacher at several schools in Queens and Brooklyn from 1964 to 1987. From 1987 to 1995, she



"I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills to make artistic designs...to engage in all kinds of crafts."

- Exodus 31:3-5

went on to serve as a Religious Education Director and Parish Services Coordinator at several parishes in Nassau County.

Throughout her life Peggy was very involved in spirituality. She enjoyed leading all kinds of weekend retreats and prayer groups with the Dominican Community at Mastic Beach. Peggy was very creative with her artwork and with her writing. In her *Creative Contemplations* she wrote, "With Dominic and Catherine as our models, our course for preaching the Word must be rooted and lived in compassion. The constant throbbing ache on our own hearts will lead us to preach a Gospel of Mercy."

Peggy also loved animals, especially her own cats! Her humor was fantastic.

Peggy is survived by her family, her set, the Peonies, as well as all her Dominican sisters and all those who loved her. She especially will be missed by her family, particularly her brothers John and Jim.

The wake and funeral for our Sister Peggy will take place at St. Albert Chapel on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Visitation will begin at 9:45 AM with a Prayer Service at 10:15 AM followed by the Mass of Christian Burial and Interment at St. Dominic Cemetery on the Motherhouse grounds.

