
O B I T U A R Y

Sister Mary Frances Bacon, OP

(S. Charles Frances)

On December 22, 2024, as the light of the short December day began to fade, our Sister Mary Frances Bacon passed peacefully home into God's eternal light. Sr. Mary Frances was two weeks shy of her 92nd birthday and had been a Sister of St. Dominic of Amityville for 73 years.

On January 7, 1933 in New Hyde Park, NY, Mary Frances was born to Charles and Frances (Duker) Bacon. A year later, her brother Charles was born; they remained a close twosome all their lives. Mary was educated by our sisters in Holy Spirit School and went on to graduate in 1951 from Dominican Commercial High School in Jamaica, Queens.

On September 8, 1951, Mary entered the Novitiate of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville, along with her high school friend, Sr. Marie Hegarty. They had thought to work a year first, but their mothers said to them, "Why wait?" They signed up that year and entered after graduation, forever partners for all ceremonies and events as members of the Daisy set.

On August 4, 1952, Mary received the habit and her religious name, Sister Charles Frances. She professed First Vows on August 7, 1953 and Final Vows on August 7, 1956.

Mary received a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from St. John's



"But God will redeem my life...; he will surely take me to himself."

- Psalm 49:15

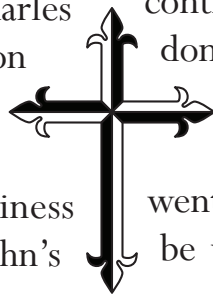
University in Queens, NY and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Catholic University, a degree she earned during several happy summers in Washington, DC.

Mary began her long ministry as an educator in 1953 in Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Lindenhurst,

NY. In 1957, she moved to Brooklyn and St. Joseph Patron School, then on to St. Francis of Assisi School in Astoria, NY. In 1960, Mary began to use her excellent skills as a business teacher, teaching commercial courses in St. Michael's High School in Brooklyn and Dominican Commercial High School in Queens.

From 1969-1972 Mary was appointed Principal of Queen of the Rosary Academy (QRA) in Amityville. In 1972 she returned to teaching business curriculum courses in Dominican Commercial High School and lived in Bethany Convent in Jamaica, NY. Sisters who lived with Mary there admired her self-discipline and her ability to get things done in an unhurried manner. She was a good community member in that large house, always contributing and sharing in what needed to be done.

Sr. Judy Flanagan, who lived with Mary at that time, remembers that Mary went out to New Hyde Park on weekends to be with her aging father. He was a gentle



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man and was made so happy by Mary's being with him those weekend days. Mary's close friend, Sr. Colleen, would often go along with Mary for company.

In 1989 when Sr. Veronica Greeley was elected Prioress, she asked Mary to become her Administrative Assistant or Secretary General of the Congregation. Mary was well suited by personality and education to assume this important position. She was organized and efficient and handled situations calmly and graciously. Mary always knew how to respond rather than react, and she held all congregational information in complete confidence. Mary served in this position for the terms of three Prioresses, from 1989 to 2007 when she retired.

Ever the teacher, in retirement, Mary volunteered in our OPening Word Literacy Program in Huntington Station, NY for several years. She shared both literacy and life skills with the women who came.

Mary enjoyed good times with friends, especially Colleen Colbert and Mary Templeton. They travelled on a memorable trip to Canada, her father's birthplace, and on another to Ireland. Summers would see them heading to Florida where her brother Charles

had a home, and they would have those special weeks in the sun.

Mary moved in 1998 to St. Patrick's Convent in Glen Cove, NY. Her faithful care of her father in the 1970's carried over to her presence and care of several sisters who lived in St. Patrick's in difficult times of sickness. She could be depended upon to help in any way that was needed, always in her own soft and quiet way. Mary continued to live in St. Patrick's until the time of her death.

Sister Mary Frances Bacon is now among the wise and faithful who line the halls of heaven. She was predeceased by her parents Charles and Frances and by her brother who died on December 24, 2023. She is survived by her sister-in-law Laurabelle Bacon, and her nephew John C. Bacon, and his wife Ashley, as well as by her Dominican sisters, especially her ten Daisy Set sisters, and her dear friend Sr. Colleen Colbert.

The wake and funeral for our Sister Mary Frances Bacon will take place in St. Albert Chapel on Friday, December 27, 2024 beginning at 9:45 AM. A Prayer Service at 10:15 AM will be followed by the Mass of Christian Burial and interment in St. Dominic Cemetery on the Motherhouse grounds.
