
O B I T U A R Y

Sister Anna May Rochford, OP

(S. Mary Warren)

On the afternoon of May 27, 2025, our beloved Sister Anna May Rochford, quietly and peacefully as she had lived, was embraced by the God she had loved and served as a Sister of St. Dominic for almost 80 years. She was 98 years old.

On August 7, 1926, William and Mary Ellen Nolan Rochford, both born in Ireland, welcomed Anna May into their family. Raised in Brooklyn with her eight siblings, Anna May was educated at Fourteen Holy Martyrs School. She spent her high school years at the Dominican Juniorate, Villa Maria, in Watermill, N.Y.

On September 8, 1945, Anna May entered the novitiate at Amityville and on August 4, 1946, she was clothed in the Dominican habit and received her religious name, Sister Mary Warren. She pronounced her first vows on August 7, 1947 and her final vows on August 7, 1950.

Anna May earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Molloy University, Rockville Centre, N.Y., and a Master of Science from St. John's University, Jamaica, N.Y. From 1947 to 1973, she taught elementary grades at several schools in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk. She also served as Principal at Our Lady of Lourdes, Massapequa Park, N.Y. In 1975, she began her ministry in secondary education teaching history at St.

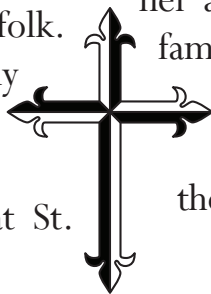


“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”
- Numbers 6:24-26

John the Baptist Diocesan High School, West Islip, N.Y. and then at La Salle Military Academy in Oakdale, N.Y. where she also served as Campus Minister and later as Administrative Assistant. Anna May ministered as Administrative Assistant at Siena Spirituality Center in Water Mill, N.Y. and at the Motherhouse in Amityville, N.Y. In 2013, as her health declined, she became a resident in Carlin Hall at the Motherhouse in Amityville.

Over her many years of ministry and communal living, Anna May was known as a warm, spirited, deeply prayerful, and involved community member. Her great love for the congregation was noted by everyone who lived with her over the years; it was, many said, a pleasure to be in her company. She was generous with her time, and always thoughtful, and had a wonderful dry sense of humor. Vacations with Sisters Rosann McHale, Eileen Stattel, and Catherine O'Shea were times of enjoyment and relaxation. Her long years of friendship with Sister Eileen Dunn remained special to her. Sister Theresa McCombe, with whom she entered 79 years ago, described her as loving and caring for community and family.

Anna May was an avid reader especially of history and historical novels. Among the outstanding memories of Anna May was



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the beautiful and welcoming smile that would greet everyone who visited—a smile that seemed to light up her room.

Anna May had a deep love and concern for her large family as it had for her. She took great pride in her Irish heritage. She was predeceased by her parents, her brother William, and her sisters: Sr. Maureen, O.Carm; Eileen; Veronica; Patricia; and Bernadette. She is survived by her loving sister and brother, Margaret and John, and by many treasured nieces, nephews, great

nieces and great nephews, and by her devoted sisters in community.

Visitation will take place at Queen of the Rosary Motherhouse on the morning of Wednesday, June 4, 2025, followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 1:00 PM the grounds of the Motherhouse.

*~May our beloved Anna May be held in the
loving arms of God~*
