

Sister Margaret, Taught in Archdiocese

Sister Margaret Gerard von Achen, O.P., a teacher in the archdiocese for 14 years, died Nov. 28 in Siena Hall in Sparkill. She was 89.

She served at Cathedral High School, Manhattan, 1961-1966; Thorpe Secretarial School, Manhattan, 1958-1961; St. Pius X, Scarsdale, 1956-1958; St. John Chrysostom, the Bronx, 1954-1956; and St. Joseph School, the Bronx, 1950-1952.

At Sparkill, she was administrator of the Dominican Convent, 1974-1976; guidance counselor at Rosary Academy, 1972-1974; director of the junior professed, 1969-1972; and director of postulants, 1966-1969.

She retired to Sparkill in 2007.

Born in the Bronx, she entered the Dominican Congregation of Our Lady of the Rosary in 1948 and professed final vows in 1955.

Sister Margaret received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Fordham University, a master's in business education from the College of St. Rose in Albany and a master's in counseling from Iona College.

Her brothers, Eugene, Richard and Robert, and her sisters, Margaret and Carol, survive her.

A Funeral Mass was offered Dec. 1 in Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel in Sparkill. Burial was at St. Agnes Cemetery, the sisters' cemetery, Sparkill.

Sister Mary, Principal, Teacher

Sister Mary Palance, M.P.F., who taught at St. Ann School in Harlem for nine years, died Nov. 15 at Villa Walsh, the motherhouse of the Religious Teachers Filippini in Morristown, N.J. She was 95.

She taught at St. Ann's, 1955-1964, and served as principal at schools in Rhode Island and Connecticut. In addition, she served as superior at convents in Rhode Island and Connecticut. She was general councilor for the institute, at the Generalate in Rome for six years ended in 1994, and provincial superior at Queen of Apostles Province in Bristol, Conn. In 1996, she became director of Hartford Archbishop Daniel

Cronin's residence in Connecticut and remained there as director until 2015, when she retired to St. Joseph Hall in Morristown.

Born in Bristol, Conn., she entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1939 and made final vows in 1943. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the College of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J., and a master's in elementary education administration from Rhode Island College in Providence.

A Funeral Mass was offered Nov. 20 at St. Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh in Morristown. Burial was at Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.

Brother Driscoll, Science Teacher

Brother Michael Austin Driscoll, C.F.C., who taught science in the archdiocese for four years, died Nov. 13. He was 82.

Brother Driscoll served at Cardinal Farley Military Academy, Rhinecliff, 1961-1964, and Rice High School, Manhattan, 1957-1958. He also served in Illinois, California and New Jersey.

Born in Manhattan, he entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers in 1950 and professed final vows in 1960.

He earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Iona College, and master's degrees in physical science from the University of Notre Dame and computer science from DePaul University.

His brother, Kevin, and sister, Geraldine Cryan, survive him.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated Nov. 18 at Holy Family Church in New Rochelle. Burial was at Christian Brothers Cemetery in West Park.

Sister Marietta, Principal and Teacher

Sister Marietta Joseph Mackin, S.C., who served as a schoolteacher in the New York area for many years, died Nov. 18 at Cabrini of Westchester, Dobbs Ferry. She was 92.

She was principal of Our Lady of the Angelus in Rego Park, Queens, for 18 years, retiring in 1997. Before that, she was an eighth-grade teacher at St. Mary of the Snow in Saugerties. Prior to that, she was assistant principal at St. Augustine School in the Bronx for five

years, and taught there for 11 years.


Born in Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland, she entered the Sisters of Charity of New York in 1943 and made final vows in 1949. She received a bachelor's degree in sociology from St. John's University, and a master's in education from Fordham University.

A Funeral Mass was offered Nov. 27 at the Mount St. Vincent Convent in Riverdale. Burial was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

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