

Obituary: Sister Ann Murtha (Sister Mary Martin)



Sister Ann Murtha (Sister
Mary Martin)

Sister Ann Murtha (Sister Mary Martin), OP, 86, died Tuesday, Dec. 5, in St. Catherine of Siena Healthcare Center in Caldwell.

A funeral Mass will be offered in St. Catherine of Siena Convent Chapel, 7 Ryerson Ave., Caldwell on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10 a.m. Visitation will be in St. Catherine of Siena Convent on Friday, Dec. 8 from 2 to 7 p.m. Office for the Dead will be prayed on Friday at 4 p.m. in St. Catherine of Siena Convent Chapel.

A joyful, kind and compassionate woman, Sister Murtha served her God and Congregation faithfully for 68 years.

Born in Hoboken, Sister Murtha knew of God's love for her first from her parents, Mary and Michael. Sister Murtha

entered the Dominican Sisters of Caldwell on Sept. 8, 1949, received the Dominican habit on April 13, 1950, made first profession on April 14, 1951, and final profession on April 14, 1957.

Sister Murtha earned a bachelors of arts degree in social studies and elementary education from Caldwell University, a masters of arts degree in American history from Marquette University in Wisconsin and a masters of arts in pastoral ministry from LaSalle University in Philadelphia.

Sister Murtha taught elementary grades at St. Mary School (Rutherford) and St. Joseph School (West Orange) and served as Principal of St. Aloysius School in Caldwell and Holy Spirit School in Union. She served as youth minister/coordinator of adult education at St. Cassian Parish in Upper Montclair, pastoral associate at Immaculate Conception Parish in Mahwah, St. Catherine Parish in Holmdel, St. Catherine Healthcare Center in Caldwell, Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish in Jersey City and was the hospice chaplain for the Bayonne Visiting Nurse Association. For many years, she was the co-director of the associate program for the Sisters of St. Dominic.

Sister Murtha was predeceased by her parents, Mary and Michael and siblings, Vincent, Mary Dunn, John and James. She is survived by the Sisters of St. Dominic, her sister-in-law, Carol Murtha, brother-in-law, Bill Dunn and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Sisters of St. Dominic, One Ryerson Ave., Caldwell, NJ 07006 would be appreciated.