



Sr. Frances Marie Calhoun OSF Professed 1950

"I would love to live like a river, carried by the surprise of its own unfolding." John O'Donohue

Sister Frances Calhoun, OSF, (formerly Sr. Joseph Therese), 93, died in Riddle Memorial Hospital on June 29. She was born in Klamath Falls, Oregon, where she was a member of Sacred Heart Parish, and entered the congregation in 1949. Frances would have been celebrating her Diamond Jubilee (70th) this year. Her years in ministry were primarily spent in education and took her to the Dioceses of Portland, Baker, Seattle, San Diego, Honolulu, and ultimately Philadelphia. As a young sister, Frances was "asked" to earn a math degree—a difficult request because math was difficult for her. However, she was known as an "excellent" teacher—one who always had time for her students and their needs. That interest and concern extended beyond the classroom as evidenced by her frequent presence at student games.



Frances was a kind and hospitable woman who enjoyed chatting one-on-one with friends. At the same time, friends described her as an "upfront person" who "told it like it is." She was also very definitely a cat lover—well known for her devotion to these dear pets. For her 90th birthday, her niece made her a beautiful quilt picturing nine cats. When Frances made the decision to move to St. Ann Convent, her moving date was determined by her efforts to find a suitable home for her pets!

When Frances moved to Hawaii, she volunteered with the Maryknoll Sisters and visited senior citizens. Later, at the request of Catholic Charities, she and Rochelle Liu opened the first Amerasian Guest House and welcomed the first "boat people" coming from Vietnam. There they taught families how to use American appliances and other skills needed to live in America. The experience was a learning experience for both students and teachers!

Sisters often described Frances as a "classy dresser." She always looked polished and well groomed. What few people knew was that almost all her clothes came from Good Will or other second-hand sources!

Poet John O'Donohue wrote, "I would love to live like a river, carried by the surprise of its own unfolding." Frances, as the river of your life unfolded, your faith in your gentle God of Love enabled you to "go with the flow," a flow that was evident in your ability to engage fully in life. Rest now in the gentle waters of God's love!

All services will be held in Assisi House, 600 Red Hill Road, Aston, Pennsylvania, 19014 on Monday, July 6 and will be private. Burial will be in Our Lady of Angels Cemetery in Aston.

