



## *Sister Alice Klein, OSF* *Professed 1954*

*"Everything I have and everything I became is because of the strength of the Lord, and through him I have accomplished everything." Mariano Rivera*



Sister Alice Klein, formerly Sister Margaretta Marie, spent her long life sharing her wealth of knowledge and her love of sports with others. Sister Alice entered the eternal loving embrace of God on January 30, 2023. She had been a professed member of the sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia for 69 years.

Sister Alice grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, with her parents—John and Margaret—her brother and five sisters, and attended The Catholic High School of Baltimore (TCHS). Sister Alice's passion for sports began in grade school where she was a member of the CYO softball team at St. Anthony School in Gardenville, Maryland. During this time, she placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Maryland 33<sup>rd</sup> Softball Throw competition. At 6'2", Sister Alice was recruited by the basketball coach at TCHS and helped to win many trophies in the sport. A born leader and strong student, Alice was also instrumental in organizing the school's newspaper and student council. After high school, Alice was drafted by Glenn L Martin to play basketball and softball for the Bombenettes and participated in the Women's National Basketball Tournament. However, her call to religious life and love for her God was stronger than the glamour and thrill of winning. She entered the congregation in 1952 and professed her first vows in 1954. After earning a bachelor's degree in social studies from Neumann University, Sister Alice went on to become a teacher and a coach.

Sister Alice helped countless students not only in the classroom but on the sports field as well. She taught at many grade schools throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. At St. Joseph School in both Dallastown and York, Pennsylvania, she also began and coached the girls' softball teams and won state championships for multiple years in a row. "Whatever I did, I did my best," Sister Alice once wrote, "Win or lose my heart is in it. I always taught the girls good sportsmanship. In sports and life, other people may be better, but just do your best." For 12 years, Sister Alice served as principal of Blessed Sacrament School in Walpole, Massachusetts; and served as house mother for five years at St. Mary Home in New Bedford, Massachusetts. But perhaps the most noteworthy for Sister Alice was returning to her alma mater, TCHS. Here she first served in the mission and ministry department as the director of adult spiritual formation and coached sports; later she served as sports chaplain and as a volunteer. In 2004 Sister Alice was the first ever to receive the special honor of being inducted into the TCHS Hall of Fame for Sports

Sister Alice wrote that she has always been proud to be a Sister of St. Francis, "Being part of this wonderful group of women, I feel that I have learned so much about being a servant of God which has brought me closer to St. Francis." Sister Alice was a warm and caring person who was very considerate of others. Sister Rose Christopher Sheridan said of her friend, "She was very good with the students she taught and took an interest in them." As to the kind of friend Alice was, Sister Rose shared, "Once in a while we would take off for Baltimore and get ourselves some crabs. It was a lot of fun. She did a pretty good polka, too! We would turn the music on after studying for a while during summer school and do a bit of dancing before heading off to bed."

When she was not ministering in education, Sister Alice added to the world's beauty and joy by creating crocheted towels for the craft fair or making ceramics and macrame. She enjoyed spending time with many of her sisters in deep conversation, watching sports, and taking walks. Reflecting on her life and what people should remember about her, Sister Alice wrote, "I love to talk about Jesus and what he is doing in my life and share what Jesus is doing in their life. I have used the talents God gave me to the best of my ability."

Upon hearing the news of her death, others that knew her commented with the likes of, "She was simply the best," "An incredible woman," and "One of a kind." Throughout her decades as a sister of St. Francis, Sister Alice profoundly proved her faith and determination and her full commitment to doing her best. All who have been touched by Sister Alice's wisdom, guidance, and example are deeply grateful for the many gifts of her life.

*All services will be held at Assisi House on Thursday, February 2, and will be livestreamed.  
A Christian Wake Service will be held at 9:30 A.M. Mass of Christian Burial  
will follow at 11 A.M., with burial in Our Lady of Angels Cemetery.*

