

SR TERESA MORAN SM

06.06.1933 -27.03.2025



Teresa was the youngest of four children born to Bridget and Robert Moran on 6th June 1933 in Drumkeelanbeg, Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim, Ireland. Born into a gracious and faith filled family, prayer and commitment to church and community was a way of life, the hallmark of their day to day living.

Teresa received her primary education at the local Drumkeelanmore Primary School. Second level education was at the at the Marist Convent Secondary School in Carrick-on-Shannon. She would say that the spiritual and academic grounding she received there, strengthened her desire to be a missionary. As she completed this phase of her education, she knew what, by God's grace and with the blessing of her parents, the direction her life would take – to be a Marist Sister and to serve on 'mission ad gentes.

She was received as a postulant at Saint Brigid's Novitiate Carrick-on-Shannon in August 1953 and professed her first vows in August 1954. Ongoing formation continued in Saint Prix where, with several companions she prepared for life as a missionary until they set sail for Australia in 1955. Preparation for professional training for teaching as well as student teaching followed until in 1960 Teresa was missioned to Fiji where for seven years she engaged in her ministry of education in several schools. In 1969 she was missioned to New Zealand where she exercised ministry as community leader, bursar and teaching.

In 1979, health concerns saw her return to Ireland for treatment. While there she enjoyed some sabbatical time for spiritual renewal. On her return to New Zealand, she took up the role of Principal in Mount Albert Primary School. However, her time on overseas mission finished in 1992, when Teresa bade farewell to her many friends and associates in New Zealand and returned to England.

Hers was not to be a quiet time of retirement! As part of her re-entry, Teresa took a sabbatical year, during which she availed herself of a variety of spiritual and educational programmes in readiness for her next incarnation!

For five years she worked as Pastoral Assistant in St. Kentigern's parish in Manchester. This was followed by times in community leadership and bursar roles in several communities and that of Parish Administrator in a south Yorkshire village which had no resident priest. Additionally, she served on the Body of Trustees for seven years. Teresa was unstintingly generous in sharing her time and talents with all.

Fatigue and failing health, obliged her to 'retire' to Villa Maria in 2020 but undaunted as ever, Teresa entered into the life of the community with energy and enthusiasm.

Always supportive of any new initiatives, she was determined to be present, to engage in community activities and to support the many 'good causes' that were presented, until eventually she was obliged to 'slow down' and to take cognisance of her own needs.

This was not an easy task for Teresa but again she embraced her fragility and limitations with grace and resignation. She was admitted to hospital in the early days of March where she received excellent care and support. Members of the community visited her daily and always found her peaceful, uncomplaining and interested in all that was happening at home. She was totally at peace with her situation and frequently expressed her gratitude to the medical and caring staff for their kindness and professionalism. It had been hoped that she would return to Villa Maria but alas that was not to be and in the early evening of 27th March she gently breathed her last.

May she rest now in God's eternal peace.

