



Sr. Rose Margaret Broerman

BORN: March 1934

ENTERED CONGREGATION: August 15, 1950

DIED: October 24, 2021

On a very cold March day in 1934, Julius and Marie (Leisner) Broerman welcomed baby number four of seven into their family. Two days later she was baptized Margaret JoAnn. JoAnn's childhood years were spent on the family farm in St. Marys, Ohio. Her first encounter with the Sisters of the Precious Blood was at Holy Rosary School in St. Marys. Having been educated and inspired by these women for eight years, Margaret chose to enter the aspirancy and attend high school at Salem Heights in Dayton, Ohio.

When JoAnn entered the Novitiate she received the name Sister Mary Rose Margaret. She made first profession of vows in 1953, and immediately started her hopscotch journey across the U.S. as she began her teaching career at Queen of Angels in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Her hopping continued as she came back to Cleveland, Ohio, then to St. Joseph, Missouri; Dayton; Phoenix; back to St. Joseph, Missouri, then on to Denver where she ended her classroom teaching career. She also worked in the Archdiocese of Denver Northern Area School Office.

Her focus then switched to working with adults. She was elected to congregational leadership as the Western Region Director. It was in that role that she spoke at the closing Mass at San Luis Rey Academy in 1977. At that time she said, "In the 64 years we Sisters of the Precious Blood have been in the San Luis Rey Valley, many young women and men have come to our academy. Despite many hardships and difficulties, each was given the best education we could provide. Our constant aim has ever been a quality education."

It seems that a quality education was also Rose Margaret's constant aim, whether she was working with children or adults. After her terms as Western Region Director, she was coordinator of the St. Henry Catechetical Center in St. Henry, Ohio, where she was principal and in charge of Adult Education there. As she stated on her Golden Jubilee as a CPPS, "I most enjoyed ministry with

adults, whether catechists, religious education directors, sisters, lay ministry participants, or future homeowners."

In 1984 she continued her own education at Regis University in Denver, obtaining an M.A. in Adult Community Development. She had previously obtained a B.S. in Education at the University of Dayton and an M.A. in History from the University of Northern Colorado.

In 1985 she began to coordinate the northern area of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. She said that that ministry was "most personally fulfilling and rewarding for me." During that time "I had the privilege of working with many dedicated men and women. ... I received many blessings and my life was enriched as I became a part of their journey." The participants also appreciated her help during their time in the program. One of them wrote: "It's not always been easy but in the long run you were good for me. You challenged me when I needed it and I grew because you did. Thank you."

From 1988-1991, Rose Margaret's smiling face could be found behind a desk at 4000 Denlinger Road as she ministered as Administrative Assistant. Following that she began her association with St. Mary Development Corporation. She had various roles at St. Mary Development, from Administrative Assistant at St. Mary Center to director of St. Mary Center to General Services Coordinator for the Home Ownership Supportive Services Program, to the Director of the Professional Homeowner Development program. Once Rose Margaret told Sister Rose Helene not to find anything else for her to do at St. Mary Development because she didn't want to write another letter of resignation!

From 1998 until 2005, Sister Rose Margaret was the Assistant to the Director at Mercy Manor in Dayton. Sister Donna Liette was the director. She helped not only Donna but also the women who came through Mercy Manor. There were times when so much was happening at Mercy Manor and Donna could not quite keep things straight. It was in those

times when Rose Margaret would say to Donna, "Focus, Donna. Just focus." Even now there are probably days when Donna can hear Rose Margaret's voice saying to her, "Focus, Donna. Just focus."

Rose Margaret was a woman of many talents. She used her talents and touched many people's lives in the process. Many of her accomplishments will never be known, for so often she was in the background. But she was more than that — she was the oil that kept the wheel running smoothly. She challenged people to help make them all they could be. She treasured her quiet time for prayer, for reflection and for reading. But she also loved to travel, to be with family and with friends, to party, to celebrate, to go out to breakfast.

A former Mercy Manor resident wrote this for Rose. It is titled *Something About You*. It says,

There is something about you,
Sister Rose.
It's a calm peace and a quiet serenity
Both being God-given qualities.

It's that you've made me feel so
comfortable
because I must admit
I did not know what was behind
these doors.

Although I was apprehensible
the choice to come here was right.
because I am not yet strong enough
to win my fight.

Sister Rose, you also remind me of
my mom whom I surely miss
but I see you smile and I know I will
see her in a while.

These are just some of the thoughts
going through my mind
and since you are a gift please accept
these words as my gift to you
to say how much I appreciate it and
may God bless you too.

Rose, you are a gift to us CPPS as well.
You will be missed. Rest in the peace
and joy of the Heavenly Banquet.

— Sister Ann Clark