

Sister Paula Marie Jarosz, OP



Born to Earthly Life on March 2, 1930

First Profession on August 15, 1956

Entered Eternal Life on November 14, 2021

ROSEANNA LUCILLE was born on March 2, 1930 to John and Agnes Jarosz in Racine, Wisconsin. The Jarosz family grew up at St. Edward's Parish, where Roseanna was guided by the Dominican's influence during her school years. She said, "with faith, hope and a deep sense of being loved by God, I was moved to ask and be accepted into the Racine Dominicans." She was given the religious name Paula Marie when she professed her first vows in 1956 and she made her final profession in 1962.

S. Paula Marie received a B.A. in Education from Dominican College, learning to become both a teacher and librarian. She spent 40 years as an educator at schools throughout Wisconsin, including in Kimberly, Green Bay, Roxbury, Wausaukee, Tomah and Knowles. She taught locally in Racine at St. Louis and St. Lucy. She also taught in New Mexico and became a substitute teacher for the Milwaukee Public School System.

You could often find S. Paula Marie volunteering for local non-profits and giving of her time and talents so willingly. She belonged to the League of Women Voters and Friends of the Wisconsin Libraries and was also a beloved member of the Dominican Institute of the Arts for years. S. Paula Marie served on the Dominican Alliance Eco-justice and Care of the Earth Committee which produced educational programs focused on care of the Earth. She was a dedicated 22-year volunteer at Guest House in Milwaukee, a safe place for homeless and street people to find a respite, warmth, socialization, a meal and friends to welcome and listen to them.

She also found a new calling after her retirement from teaching, undertaking clinical pastoral education so she could minister in hospitals. She was dedicated to her work of spending time with patients, staff and their families as they struggled through their illnesses or surgeries. She prayed with people of all denominations in her hospital ministry and was a source of strength and comfort to people in need.

Her ministries were her passion, and when she wasn't teaching or volunteering, you could find her listening to music, doing crafts, traveling to see family and gardening.

One of S. Paula Marie's favorite quotes was, "Claim your own greatness, have courage to stand for your convictions, but bend when prudent." She showed us through her life and work how to share our gifts with others. We remember Paula Marie's smile, joy, prayerfulness and compassion. We are grateful for her lifetime of faithful service and commitment to her students and her ministries.

