



St. Anne Province Center  
Melbourne, Kentucky  
March 29, 2023

**SISTER MARY BELLE BORROS**  
was called into eternal life.

Born January 27, 1934 in Covington, Kentucky, Sr. Mary Belle Borros entered eternal life on March 28, 2023 at Holy Family Home. She was eighty-nine years old and a professed member of the Congregation of Divine Providence for sixty-eight years.

Mary Belle was the third of four children born to Marion and Pauline Borros. She is preceded in death by her brothers Hodge, Thomas, and David. She is survived by nieces and nephews and her very dear friend Donna Esposito.

Sr. Mary Belle attended St. Mary's Cathedral School, Holy Cross Elementary, and La Salette Academy. After graduation from high school, she worked for over a year in an insurance company in Cincinnati. By the time that Sr. Mary Belle was aware that she had a vocation to religious life, she had already been well acquainted with the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and the Benedictines. She did not know which order to enter. Sister was a member of the Blessed Mother Sodality at the Cathedral when Fr. Ed Bauman was the director. Several members of the Sodality expressed interest in religious life, so he offered to take them on a tour of the motherhouses in the diocese. St. Anne Convent was the last one on the tour and impressed Sr. Mary Belle the most. She felt drawn by the simplicity of the surroundings and the joyous, cheerful welcome they received especially by Sr. Loretto Marie Driscoll and a couple of young sisters. Realizing her call to dedicate her life and service to God in a sacred and special way of life, Sr. Mary Belle entered St. Anne Convent on August 31, 1952. She made her first profession of vows on August 29, 1954 and final vows on August 29, 1959.

After her first profession of vows, Sr. Mary Belle taught in elementary schools for several years. During the same time, she completed her course work for an A.B. degree from Villa Madonna College (now Thomas More University). Sister taught at St. Aloysius School in Covington, Kentucky from 1954 to 1960. She spent the next ten years in Ohio: St. Michael School in Ripley from 1960 to 1962, Assumption School in Mt. Healthy from 1962 to 1963, and then again in Ripley from 1963 to 1970. She was appointed principal her last two years there. When she returned to Kentucky, Sr. Mary Belle worked as the secretary at Good Shepherd School for one year. Her final position as a classroom teacher was at Christ the King School in Lexington from 1971 to 1973.

At the Chapter of 1973, the Province decided to establish Aletheia House of Prayer. Sr. Mary Belle was chosen to be one of the founders. In preparation for this, she participated in an orientation program at Kresge House of Prayer in Detroit, Michigan. Sister served as a core member until 1978 when she was sent to Jeanne d'Arc Residence in New York City, New York. From 1978 to 1986 her main work was in pastoral ministry and community service. She was always helpful to both the residents and the sisters. Sr. Mary Belle had a great listening ear and

was adept at cheering people up. She studied Spanish to better serve the Hispanic population and trained to become a certified Auxiliary Police Officer of the New York City Police in the 10<sup>th</sup> Precinct to help protect the neighborhood.

In 1986 Sr. Mary Belle was assigned to be the local animator of Holy Family Home in Melbourne, Kentucky. For the next eleven years she experienced one of the most privileged times of her life in ministering to and learning from the elderly and infirm sisters and helping them prepare for death. Sr. Mary Belle considered assisting at the death of a sister to be one of the greatest blessings she had ever received. After a brief sabbatical at the Monastery of St. Gertrude in Cottonwood, Idaho, Sr. Mary Belle became the assistant activities director at St. Charles Care Center in Covington, Kentucky from 1998 to 2010. Then she retired to Holy Family Home but continued as a volunteer at St. Charles until 2014. At Holy Family Home she committed herself to the service of her sisters until her move to the Health Care Center in 2019.

Sr. Mary Belle embraced the spirituality of John Martin Moye. She was faithful to her prayer life, had a deep spirit of simplicity, and lived her abandonment to Providence in her “go with the flow” attitude. Sister was gentle, kind, and compassionate and a great example of charity and concern for everyone. She had a loving and generous heart and never had anything to say against another person. Sr. Mary Belle was a very free spirit who was always full of fun and really enjoyed life. She had a wonderful sense of humor and was filled with joy, a constant delight, and a bubble of sunshine. She was especially grateful for everyone and everything in her life.

In thanksgiving for our dear Sr. Mary Belle and for her witness as a loving, joyful woman of Providence and as a woman of prayer, compassion, and loving service throughout her religious life, let us entrust her to the care of our Provident God.

United in God’s gracious Providence,

Sister Barbara Patrick, CDP for  
Sister Barbara Rohe, CDP, Provincial

Mass of Christian Burial:       Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.  
  Immaculate Conception Chapel, Melbourne

Burial in the Convent Cemetery, Melbourne, Kentucky