

Generalate – Rome

Necrology n. 41 January – June 2026



Sister Geraldine Contento, MPF



✠ Trenton, New Jersey

November 29, 1945

✠ St. Joseph's Wayne, NJ

January 5, 2026

Sister Geraldine Contento, MPF, died peacefully at the age of 80 on Monday, January 5, 2026, at Saint Joseph's Wayne Medical Center, Wayne, New Jersey.

Born in Trenton, New Jersey on November 29, 1945, Sister Geraldine proudly attended Saint Joachim School and Cathedral High School, both in Trenton. She entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on August 5, 1963. Sister Geraldine received the religious habit August 22, 1964, and made her Perpetual Oblation on August 16, 1970. Sister Geraldine studied at Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey, where she earned her BS degree in Elementary Education. She also received her MA in Sacred Scripture from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Furthermore, Sister Geraldine merited a Certificate in Spiritual Direction from the Upper Room Spiritual Center of the Diocese of Trenton, New Jersey.

In her 61 years of religious life, Sister Geraldine ministered as classroom teacher, Principal, Parish Spiritual Formator, Director of Religious Education, Retreat Presenter, Spiritual Director and served as Directress of Formation for the Religious Teachers Filippini. She was also appointed local convent superior. Sister Geraldine served in the (arch)dioceses of Camden, Newark, Ogdensburg, Paterson, Philadelphia, and Trenton. Although she struggled with poor health for a number of years, Sister Geraldine's love for the Word of God, the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church, and retreat ministry was more than admirable.

Monsignor George Hundt, pastor of Saint Gerard Majella Parish, Paterson, New Jersey, where Sister Geraldine was missioned at the time of her passing, was the principal celebrant of the Mass of Christian Burial, held at Saint Lucy Chapel, Villa Walsh, on Friday, January 9, 2026. Father Anthony Sirianni concelebrated the funeral Liturgy.

In his homily, Monsignor Hundt shared, "I know that Sister Geraldine spent her life delving into the Mystery of God. She had that kind of beginner's mind that was never satisfied with having learned enough. She always wanted to know more and to experience more. She sought to encounter God in many different ways, certainly through her study of the Scriptures, through her love of the Liturgy, and for her seeing the presence of God in all of nature. All of these are ways that Sister Geraldine allowed herself to be drawn more deeply into the Mystery of our God who is Love."

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy to the Sisters of the Province wrote, *"It is in a spirit of admiration that, together with you, I celebrate Sister Geraldine's life, even at a distance. Sister Geraldine's life was a reflection of her upbringing, shaped by her wonderful parents, Ida and Fred, and nurtured within Saint Joachim Parish and School, where the seeds of faith were so carefully and lovingly planted. So often, Sister Geraldine shared stories that spoke of their enduring influence upon her. The values she cherished and embodied were clearly rooted in these formative experiences and were reflected throughout her life, her teaching, and her witness. ... Always a conscientious and good student, Sister Geraldine possessed a strong passion and hunger for learning. Her choice of topics for study was mostly directed toward her life of faith, her Mission, and the Word of God. Her studies aimed to share this richness in her classes, conferences, and as a Retreat Director. This brought her great satisfaction and fulfillment. Sisters, moving forward, let us be strengthened by her example to remain rooted in the Word, faithful to our mission, and confident that*

Emmanuel remains with us always. Sister Geraldine certainly leaves her mark, and we cherish the memories she leaves behind. Now free of all illness, may the God she loved and proclaimed so faithfully welcome her into eternal joy. Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Sister Geraldine Contento's mortal remains were interred in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.



Sister Senait Tesfaldent Weldegebriel, MPF



✳ **Adi Zenu, Eritrea**

November 17, 1987

✝ **Regional House, Asmara**

February 14, 2026

Sister Senait Tesfaldet was born in Adi Zenu, Eritrea on November 17, 1987. Her parents' strong Christian faith enabled Sister Senait to grow deeply in faith from her early age.

She entered the Pontifical Institute of the Maestre Pie Filippini in Tukul, Eritrea, as an aspirant on September 19, 2005. In 2007, together with five companions, she moved to Hamelmalo in the Anseba Sub-zone as a pre-postulant, seeking to avoid military service. During this period, she served the sick in the community clinic.

In 2008, while continuing her formation as a Postulant at the Mother House, she continued her studies and worked as an assistant kindergarten teacher. On August 30, 2009, she entered the Novitiate for deeper discernment of her vocation and to love and follow Christ above all things. She made her Temporary Oblation on August 27, 2011, and her Perpetual Oblation on August 28, 2016.

Sister Senait studied Home Economics for Women for one year at the Institute's central convent in Asmara. She gratefully accepted the opportunities given to her by the community for further study. While teaching the women cooking and handicrafts, she completed her studies at the Asmara Catechesis Training Center and graduated a two-year program of studies successfully.

From September 2014 to 2020, for approximately six years she served faithfully and diligently in Berakit and surrounding villages as a catechist for the youth and children. In addition, she provided educational service to women and young girls in teaching cooking, sewing, cutting, embroidery, weaving and handicrafts. She also worked with mothers' groups with full dedication and enthusiasm. Sister Senait often walked on foot, enduring sun and wind, to teach Catechism. In 2021, she served in Keren as an assistant formator. The following year, she was assigned once again to Hamelmalo, where she faithfully carried out her responsibilities within the convent and continued teaching catechism to children and families.

From 2023 until the time of her death in 2026, she served in Asmara as an assistant treasurer. At the same time, she ministered to the families in the parish and in the nearby villages; Qushet and Zaida Christan. With steadfast faith and tireless dedication, Sister Senait plunged into everything that needed to be done in all the communities that she lived.

She presented herself very calmly, diligently, lovingly, compassionately and sociably to all the members of the community. She had a special devotion to Our Lady and gave great importance to the sacraments. Faithful in obedience, she loved the poor and was dedicated to visiting families. Sister Senait was gentle, patient, prayerful, courageous and deeply committed to the community and to others; a kind person who gave herself generously. She never shied away from any task. She bore every suffering with hope and perseverance.

Sister Senait suffered from various health problems since 2016. Her health gradually declined, and what initially appeared to be severe headaches and thyroid, turned out to be a serious condition of Epilepsy. Throughout her illness, the community remained by her side, ensuring that she received the medical care and treatments needed. From 2024, she also began experiencing shortness of breath and fatigue. Despite all these, she faced every illness with great patience, endurance, and hope and continued her journey.

Unexpectedly early in the morning of February 14, 2026, at the age of 38, the Lord called Sister Senait to Himself to reward her for the good done on this earth and to offer her the crown of glory earned through her many good works and years of suffering borne with love.

Sister Senait Tesfaldet's mortal remains rest in the Diocesan Cemetery, Asmara.



Sister Angela Turco, MPF

✱ **Montemaggiore Belsito, PA**

May 17, 1933

✙ **Volto Santo, Rome**

February 24, 2026



Sister Angela Turco was born in Montemaggiore Belsito, PA, on May 17, 1933. She entered the Pontifical Institute of the Maestre Pie Filippini on September 12, 1954, received the religious habit on August 30, 1956, and consecrated herself forever to the Lord on August 30, 1959.

Sister Angela served zealously in the communities of Umbertide (PG), Rome-Largo Santa Lucia Filippini, Rocca di Papa (RM), Castelgandolfo (RM), Rome-Via delle Fornaci, and Frascati (RM). She remained in Frascati for 49 years.

With enthusiasm and generosity, Sister Angela carried out her evangelizing mission as a nursery school teacher and as a catechist in parish ministry, dedicating herself especially to preparing children for the sacraments.

A strong woman, an example of faith, integrity, and passion, Sister Angela was a beacon and a point of reference in every school community, sustained by tenacity and the fear of God. Enlightened by the Gospel, she was always ready to listen, to offer a smile, and to share words of wisdom.

As a Maestra Pia, she left a significant mark on all the communities where she served and her presence was dignified and admired. Because of the many years she lived in Frascati, she left an indelible mark on the generations of children she educated. She was a precious guide for those many children she accompanied during their first journey within the school environment. For the teachers, she was a firm and confident guide whose experience enriched their work, making it increasingly authentic. Thus, she left a legacy of virtue and was a shining example to follow.

The cancer which afflicted her many years before, returned more aggressively at the end of 2025, and in February 2026, it became necessary to transfer her to Volto Santo, where she was lovingly and professionally cared for by her fellow sisters.

On the evening of February 24, 2026, due to the progression of her illness, which she accepted and endured with dignity, Sister Angela returned to the Father's house, into the eternal embrace of God, where there is no longer toil and suffering, but only the infinite peace she always sought to bear on earth.

"Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever." (Daniel 12:3).

Sister Angela Turco's mortal remains rest in the Institute's tomb in the cemetery of Frascati, Rome.



Sister Giuseppina Cionco, MPF

✿ **Acquapendente, VT**

February 5, 1953

✙ **Santa Rosa Hospital, Viterbo**

March 7, 2026



Sister Giuseppina Cionco was born in Acquapendente, Viterbo, on February 5, 1953. She entered the Diocesan Institute of the Maestre Pie Filippini, received the religious habit, and consecrated herself forever to the Lord through the profession of her Oblation on November 4, 1970.

In addition to her diploma in primary school teaching, she earned a degree in pedagogy. In her apostolate, Sister Giuseppina actively collaborated in the towns of Montefiascone, Marta, and Capodimonte.

Sister Giuseppina joyfully lived her vocation as a Maestra Pia, always devoted to her preparation for catechism and teaching in the school, where she worked zealously and lovingly for 50 years. Rich in human and spiritual gifts, Sister Giuseppina was lively, tireless in service, and available to everyone. She served as a sister, friend, and guide to students, teachers, parents, parishioners, priests, young people, and fellow sisters.

In her interpersonal relationships, she always demonstrated a joy for life, a warmth, and affability to everyone she met. Following the footsteps of her holy Foundress in her daily life, Sister Giuseppina sought to follow and put the Word of the Gospel into practice. She instilled trust, reawakened faith in

the Lord, encouraged hope, and taught love for others. She faced her illness without losing heart, setting an example of constant patience and collaboration, and the acceptance of God's Will for her.

The Lord gave her strength during her long years of suffering, which she accepted serenely, with generosity and fervent courage, and which she offered prayerfully until the end of her earthly journey. All who knew her will remember her with deep affection and great gratitude to God and to the Founders, Venerable Cardinal M. Barbarigo and Saint Lucy Filippini whom she loved and invited others to love. She will be remembered as a loving and giving person. In the early hours of March 7, 2026, God welcomed her into His paternal arms.

Sister Giuseppina Cionco's mortal remains rest in the Institute's tomb, in the cemetery of Montefiascone, VT.



Sister Barbara Ranere, MPF

✱ **Hammonton, NJ**

July 12, 1942

✝ **Basingstoke Hospital, England**

March 10, 2026



Sister Barbara Ranere, MPF died Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at Basingstoke Hospital in Hampshire, England. She was 83 years of age.

Born and raised in Hammonton, New Jersey, USA, Sister Barbara entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on September 11, 1960. She received the religious habit on August 20, 1961, and professed her Oblation on August 22, 1964. Sister Barbara studied Secondary Education, with a concentration in

Social Studies, earning a BS degree from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. She also attended many seminars, conferences and workshops.

Sister Barbara ministered in a variety of ways, among them: classroom teacher, Vice-Principal, and Principal. She gave service in the (arch)dioceses of Camden, Newark, Paterson, and Trenton. She ministered as Directress of Postulants and Novices for the Religious Teachers Filippini. Sister Barbara served as local convent superior of Saint Peter Convent, Merchantville, New Jersey, and Saint Joseph Convent, Hammonton, New Jersey. Sister Barbara also assisted at Saint Joseph by-the-Sea Retreat House in South Mantoloking, New Jersey. In 2015, Sister Barbara generously accepted the role of Regional Superior at Saint Lucy Convent in Medstead-Alton, England. She was serving in that capacity at the time of her passing.

The Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop Emeritus of Paterson, offered the Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, March 27, 2026, in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh.

In his homily, Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli remarked, *“In her baptism as an infant, Sister Barbara was first joined to Christ in death to sin and rose with him to the new life of grace. And for 64 years, she deepened that union with Christ by living the evangelical counsels generously and faithfully. In all her*

various ministries... Sister Barbara dedicated herself unselfishly to the works of this great community. ... Growing up in Hammonton and serving there many years, she cherished the strong bonds of family and worked zealously to build up the family of faith. Her wisdom and experience, she shared readily and enriched others by doing so, never letting any physical obstacle impede her. It was from her deep prayer life that came her unrelenting service to others. She loved the Lord and helped others love him as well."

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy to the Sisters of the Province wrote, "I was blessed with the privilege of being with Sister Barbara during her final days. With these emotions still close to my heart and clear in my mind, I offer these few reflections to you, dear Sisters, and to her loving family. ... It was no small sacrifice for Sister Barbara [in 2015] to leave America and begin anew in another country. Having already surpassed retirement age, she was asked by Mother Nicolina to serve as Regional Superior in England. I recall well her days of discernment, especially the time she spent in Saint Lucy Chapel, praying for the grace to accept this call. ... With humility and obedience, she embraced this responsibility as God's will, and God, who is always faithful, guided her. Her mission there was truly fruitful, as I was privileged to witness firsthand. If I were to describe Sister Barbara in a single word, it would be selfless. She lived this virtue in every circumstance. Her concern was not for herself, but was always oriented toward others. Even in recent years, as she quietly endured her own health struggles, she remained attentive to the needs of the sisters, faithfully carrying out her role as a devoted superior and dedicated steward of the Medstead convent, a large and historic residence requiring constant care and sacrifice. Her life there was a true offering, marked by openness to God's will and genuine love in action. ... Sister Barbara, may you rest in God's eternal peace. Our gratitude for your life of service and sacrifice runs deeper than the sorrow we feel today. May you now receive the reward prepared for you, good and faithful servant, and share in the joy of God's Heavenly Kingdom."

Sister Barbara Ranere's mortal remains were laid to rest in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.



Sister Joan Henry, MPF

✱ **Rainham, Essex, England**

February 19, 1935

✠ **Basingstoke Hospital, England**

March 12, 2026

Sister Joan Henry was born in Rainham, Essex, England on February 19, 1935. She entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on November 21, 1962, received the religious habit on October 5, 1963. and made her Perpetual Oblation on February 19, 1965.

During her many years in Religious Life, Sister Joan devoted herself to ministry in several communities, including Farnham, Arundale, Medstead, and Winchester in England. From 1985 until 2011, Sister Joan continued her service in Newport, County Mayo, Ireland, where she became deeply loved and highly regarded by families and children throughout the area.

In Ireland, Sister Joan managed the soft-toy factory, which belonged to the Community Region. It provided valuable local employment especially for women. The site also included a tea room and a craft shop that welcomed visitors from around the world especially during the summer months, many of whom also visited our chapel. In addition, Sister Joan oversaw a thriving playschool, originally founded by Sister Josephine Di Raimo, and helped it grow into a joyful and nurturing environment for young children.

Sister Joan was deeply devoted to the Lord and a true instrument of his Love. Under her wing, Sister Joan's influence has had an uplifting, positive impact on the many children she has nurtured and cared for through many years. Possessing warm and kind characteristics, Sister Joan had a natural ease with children. With a capacity to make people feel safe and free from fear, the ability to build trust where it had been broken, offering love, support and protection, all this created a sound and secure environment for children. These special qualities were firmly embedded from her family that held Catholic values wrapped in plentiful love.

Sister Joan was an accomplished person, a great organizer, and could put her hand to anything: plumbing, building, baking, driving. Her personality blends a very dependable person, fun-loving, and one that encouraged and inspired others so they could find their path in life.

In recent years Sister Joan suffered greatly with health issues. Sister Joan was lovingly assisted by the sisters in the community. Never wanting to be a burden, she struggled. Even in her vulnerability, God's grace was visible, and she never lost her sense of humor.

In her very last days, Sister Joan was also accompanied by her family members who were very attentive. Her niece relates that she gave Sister Joan a cross and said to her, "*Stay with Him.*" Sister Joan never let go of the Cross. She clutched it, and it led her into her heavenly home, to her Divine Spouse on March 12, 2026.

Sister Joan Henry's mortal remains are on the grounds of Saint Lucy Convent, Medstead, England.



Sister Maria Sanfilippo, MPF



✱ **Ravanusa AG**

June 24, 1934

✠ **Rome**

April 11, 2026

Sister Maria Sanfilippo was born in Ravanusa, Sicily, on June 24, 1934. She entered the Pontifical Institute of the Maestre Pie Filippini on October 3, 1950, received the religious habit on September 14, 1952, and consecrated herself forever to the Lord, professing her Oblation on September 4, 1955.

Sister Maria lived her apostolate in the communities of Spoleto (PG), Rome-Via Sangemini, Rome-Via Caboto, Montesano Salentino (LE), Aliminusa (PA), Minervino di Lecce (LE), Bari-Santo Spirito, Otranto (LE), Montemaggiore Belsito (PA), Aliminusa (PA), Teggiano (SA), L'Aquila, Rome-Via dell'Orso, and Rome-Via M.Fani. She spent the last ten years marked by various health difficulties in the community of Rome-Via Sangemini.

Sister Maria was strongly devoted to the children in the preschool and the children and young people in the Parish, assisting those attending catechism classes to receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation, and those preparing to serve as altar servers in liturgical celebrations. She instilled in them love for the Lord, obedience to His Word, and respect for places dedicated to prayer.

Friendly in her relationships, Sister Maria welcomed everyone with a smile, and knew how to intervene with kindness and frankness, clarifying, correcting, and reassuring those she served. She followed the children for whom she cared for with a loving and caring gaze. Attentive to their growth, she guided them toward good, with a vision of their future. Sister Maria was even able to instill confidence in their parents, supporting them in difficulties and exhorting them with patience. Words of encouragement and understanding were shared on every level.

Faithful in her life of consecration, Sister Maria was an example in the community. She dedicated time to listening to the Word, which she loved to discuss with her fellow sisters. Because of her deep devotion to Our Lady and Saint Joseph, families were entrusted to the Virgin Mary, and a great devotion to Saint Joseph was instilled. She brought her own and the intentions of others to them. Sister Maria took every situation to heart. As a worker of mercy, she showed a special interest in the lonely and suffering, visiting them and assuring each of her closeness and prayers.

After retiring from teaching in the various communities where she was assigned, Sister Maria continued to work as a doorkeeper, cook, and nursery school assistant, devoting herself as much as she could to helping the elderly and sick sisters.

When Sister Maria herself was most severely tested, she found prompt attention and loving care from her sisters. She completed her earthly journey on April 11, 2026. The risen Lord welcomed her into the glorious light of his Kingdom.

It was moving that upon hearing the news of her passing, those who met her many years ago, as children, teenagers, and adults, sent expressions of profound gratitude. Her presence, her simple and concrete commitment remain imprinted in their hearts.

Sister Maria Sanfilippo's mortal remains rest in the Institute's tomb in the Flaminio Cemetery (Prima Porta) in Rome.



Sister Roseann Fernandez, MPF

✿ Newark, New Jersey

November 27, 1942

✠ Rio Rancho, New Mexico

April 14, 2026

Sister Roseann Fernandez, passed away on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. She was 83 years of age.

Born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, on November 27, 1942, Sister Roseann entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on November 30, 1957. She received the religious habit on August 31, 1959, and made her Oblation on August 26, 1962. Sister Roseann graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth in Convent Station, New Jersey, earning a BS degree in Elementary Education. In 2002, Sister Roseann earned the Catholic Educators Award from the Diocese of Trenton.

In her 66 years of religious life, Sister Roseann ministered in a variety of ways, among them: classroom teacher, Principal, and Parish Director of Religious Education. She gave service in the (arch)dioceses of Albuquerque, Camden, Metuchen, Newark, Paterson, and Trenton. Sister Roseann also served as local convent superior.

Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop Emeritus of Paterson, was the principal celebrant for Sister Roseann's Mass of Christian Burial offered on Friday, April 24, 2026, in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh. The Eucharistic Liturgy was concelebrated by Monsignor Thomas N. Gervasio, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Trenton, who also served as homilist. Reverend Daniel F. Swift and Reverend Joseph Ferraro also concelebrated.

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy to the Sisters in the Province of Saint Lucy, shared, "Sister Roseann entered as a young Junior, and I vividly recall those days we shared together. In many ways Sister Roseann never lost that childlike simplicity of heart. There was something very genuine and uncomplicated about her life, a transparency that immediately made it comfortable to be in her company. ... One memory that stands out clearly is a song Sister Roseann would be asked to sing whenever there was an event and the Juniors were asked to perform, *'I Saw You Crying in the Chapel.'* It was a song she learned from home. She sang it so confidently. ... However, I never paid any attention to the lyrics of the song, until this week. I realized something prophetic in that song for her life. Prayer was at the center of Sister Roseann's life. She had an ardent love for the Mass, a deep devotion to daily Eucharistic Adoration, and praying the rosary. And the lyrics of her song: *'In that plain and simple chapel where humble people go to pray.'* These words describe her life. She was prayerful, simple, sincere and joyful. She focused on what matters most, God and people. She found joy in the Lord, in her mission, the people she served and, in the community, she loved, discovering as the song says, *'I know the meaning of contentment now.'* But Sister Roseann was not only prayerful; she was also deeply joyful in very human and endearing ways. She loved being with others, loved conversation, loved laughter, and is known for the ecards she would send on every occasion. There was a lightness about her that made people feel at home. Whether through her singing, her cooking, her crocheting, or simply her presence, she created spaces of warmth and welcome. ... In her own original way, she drew people together, much like the chapel in that song, *'where people are of one accord.'* In her presence, people felt comfortable. ... Sisters, the secret of Sister Roseann's life is that she lived her life simply. The Chapel was her lifeline. She prayed, she trusted, she loved. ... And may we, inspired by her example, continue the journey, until we, too, are gathered together in that place where joy never ends."

In his homily Monsignor Thomas N. Gervasio remarked, “Many years ago, at the age of fifteen, Roseann Fernandez left her hometown of Newark for the hills of Morristown and Villa Walsh, where in a few years she made her religious profession as a Religious Teacher Filippini. Over the years she would take on the responsibilities of Teacher, Principal, Director of Religious Education, and Convent Superior, ministries carried out in every diocese of New Jersey until she ventured west to Rio Rancho, New Mexico where she ministered for the last 18 years.

It was when I was appointed pastor of my home parish, Saint Joachim in Trenton, that our paths crossed. What did I find?... a vivacious, fun-loving Principal. Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati said, ‘As long as faith gives me strength, I will always be joyful.’ Sister Roseann could have said the same. Joy and laughter seemed to make their way into every day. On the more challenging days it was very much needed! ... Our Lord assures us, ‘This is the Will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him, may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day.’ Death is not the last word! Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. And for this we give thanks as we commend Sister Roseann to his love and mercy, to him who called out to her on Tuesday last: ‘*Veni Sponsa Christi*. Arise, make haste my love, my dove, my beautiful one and come. The winter is over and gone; the flowers have appeared in our land, the time for singing has come.’”

Sister Roseann Fernandez’s mortal remains were laid to rest in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.



Sister Angelina Del Vecchio, MPF



✻ **Montclair, New Jersey** **July 18, 1927**

✠ **Morristown, NJ** **May 8, 2026**

Sister Angelina Del Vecchio, MPF died peacefully in the early morning of Friday, May 8, 2026. She was 98 years of age and resided in Saint Joseph Health Center, Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey.

Born into a large and loving family in Montclair, New Jersey, Sister Angelina entered the Religious Teachers Filippini June 26, 1943. She received the religious habit on June 18, 1944, and made her Perpetual Oblation on August 31, 1947. At the undergraduate level, Sister Angelina studied Elementary Education, earning a BS degree from the College of Saint Elizabeth in Convent Station, New Jersey. She was awarded a MA in Education from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. She also renewed her education through attendance at workshops, conferences, and seminars.

In her 82 years of religious life, Sister Angelina faithfully ministered as a Classroom Teacher, Principal, Catechist, and Director of Religious Education in the (arch)dioceses of Cleveland, Hartford, Newark, Paterson, and Philadelphia. She was also appointed local convent Superior. Sister Angelina served as Director of Religious Education at Holy Family Parish, Nutley, New Jersey, from 1984 to

2013. In 1997 Sister Angelina was the recipient of the Jubilee Medal *Pro Meritis* for distinguished service within the Archdiocese of Newark. Sister Angelina lived in Holy Family Convent until 2023, when, due to declining health, she took up residence in Saint Joseph Hall.

Most Rev. Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop Emeritus of Paterson, was the principal celebrant of the Mass of Christian Burial, held at Saint Lucy Chapel, Villa Walsh, on Thursday, May 14, 2026.

In his homily, Bishop Serratelli remarked, *“Growing up in a strong, hard-working, loving family, Sister Angelina dedicated herself to helping others be part of God’s family. In five dioceses, most especially the Archdiocese of Newark, Sister Angelina taught the faith not just by words, but by her example, her pleasant presence, her interest in the good of others, and her constant smile. By proclamation in March 2023, the town of Nutley publicly recognized her more than 40 years of service to Holy Family Church and honored her. But it was not worldly acclaim that kept her working; it was her love of the Lord whom she knew one day would come and take her to himself. ... May the Risen Lord forgive whatever failings she may have had and awaken her to the glory of God’s presence.”*

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy to the Sisters of the Province wrote, *“When someone lives 98 years, they leave behind a long history. Sister Angelina’s is far too rich to fully recount. Yet, Sister Angelina’s life can be summed up simply: She faithfully lived the gifts bestowed on her at Baptism, gifts of faith, hope, and love. These gifts were the foundation of her long life. They inspired her vocation and sustained the promises of her Oblation and her ministry as teacher, principal, director of religious education, and local Superior. They were gifts she generously shared in community and in service to others throughout her life. ... Her love for ministry was unmistakable. She was always present and supportive at parish events, even during her retirement years. Her religious witness, her love of being among the people, her faithful presence at daily Mass despite declining eyesight, and countless other quiet acts of devotion spoke clearly of the depth of her faith. In recognition of her many good works and faithful service, the parish honored Sister Angelina at Holy Family’s Annual Gala Dinner. What a beautiful conclusion this was for her after many years of faithful service. ... Today we entrust Sister Angelina to the Lord whom she loved and served faithfully. We do this in gratitude for the seeds of faith that she planted, the love she shared, and with the hope she embraced, these gifts of her Baptism that inspired her Mission. May these gifts now be fulfilled in the joy of eternal life. And may she hear those longed-for words: ‘Well done, good and faithful servant.’”*

Sister Angelina Del Vecchio’s mortal remains were interred in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.



Sister Petra Rocchi, MPF



✱ **Piansano, VT**

November 4, 1946

✠ **Volto Santo, Rome**

June 4, 2026

Sister Petra Rocchi, born in Piansano, Viterbo, on November 4, 1946, joined the Maestre Pie Filippini of the Diocesan Institute on November 7, 1957. On November 13, 1963, she received the religious habit and made her Oblation in the hands of His Excellency Msgr. Luigi Boccadoro, Bishop of the Diocese of Montefiascone.

Sister Petra earned a diploma in elementary school teaching, and after joining the Pontifical Institute earned a degree in literature and a diploma for teaching religion in elementary, middle, and high school.

After completing her initial training in Montefiascone, she served in various locations, and in some she even returned: Rome-Via Caboto, Rome-Via delle Fornaci, Rome-Via Sangemini, Nettuno-Via Matteotti RM, Frascati RM, Rome-Via Trevignano Romano, Rome-Generalate.

Passionate about education, Sister Petra devoted all her energy, both mentally and emotionally, first as a teacher and then as principal in various schools. She devoted herself unwaveringly to the education of the children, and at the same time to their families, with whom she maintained a deep relationship of collaboration and respect. Her former students, with affection and gratitude, remember her kindness and consideration to them, her constant smile, and the steadfastness with which she guided and advised them.

Sister Petra's last assignment in the Italian Province of the Sacred Heart, she supervised and guided the formation of teachers, both professionally and spiritually. She encouraged them to journey together toward essential goals and prepared monthly reflections for their shared commitment.

At various times, she served as local superior, provincial councilor, and legal representative within the Institute. Each role was carried out with dedication, competence, and precision. When elected a member of the Provincial and General Chapters, she was always appointed the role of Secretary. The sisters appreciated her ability to listen and synthesize together with her discretion and fidelity.

Attentive and available, Sister Petra loved to get involved in various activities and always sought to make concrete contributions. She was simple, cordial, and affable in her manner and made everyone feel welcome and at ease. She treated everyone with sincerity and respect, sometimes even using a subtle streak of good-natured irony.

From a young age, Sister Petra had health problems, but she never gave them much importance. Only recently, plagued by excruciating pain, did she undergo medical research to find a possible treatment. Unfortunately, this was not possible. Therefore, having acknowledged the severity of her illness, she serenely surrendered herself into the arms of the Lord Jesus, her Spouse, whom she loved and to whom she had entrusted her life.

Sister Petra's final days were spent at Volto Santo, where she was cared for and accompanied by the prayerful presence of her sisters, near and far. On the evening of June 4, 2026, she left this earth to enter the peace and joy of eternity.

Sister Petra Rocchi's mortal remains rest in the family tomb in the cemetery of Piansano (VT), her hometown.

Sister Lorraine Chaudron, MPF



✿ Jersey City, New Jersey July 6, 1933

✝ Morristown, NJ June 20, 2026

Sister Lorraine Chaudron, MPF, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 20, 2026, at Saint Joseph Health Center, Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey. She was 92 years of age.

Born on July 6, 1933 in Jersey City, New Jersey, Sister Lorraine entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on October 2, 1950. She received the religious habit on September 2, 1951 and professed her Perpetual Oblation on August 22, 1954. Sister Lorraine earned her B.S. and M.A. degrees in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey.

In her 74 years of religious life, Sister Lorraine served as classroom teacher and catechist in the (arch)dioceses of Hartford, Metuchen, Newark, Pittsburgh, and Providence. She also was asked to serve as local convent Superior. Sister Lorraine's most enduring legacy was forged at Saint Peter School in Torrington, Connecticut, where she served faithfully for 26 years, longer than any other single location. During the years 1979 to 1988 and 1989 to 2006 she blessed the parish and school communities with her outstanding teaching and joyful, fun-loving spirit. Though her most recent years were marked by declining health, Sister Lorraine still emanated the joy of the Lord. In 2022, she took up residence at Saint Joseph Hall at Villa Walsh.

Reverend John Rossi, pastor of Saint Bridget University Parish in Glassboro, New Jersey, offered the Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, June 25, 2026, in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh. Reverend Ronald Sordillo concelebrated.

In his homily, Reverend John Rossi shared, *"We are all gathered here today ... with many different relationships we have with Sister Lorraine, and, ultimately, when we gather in this beautiful chapel of Saint Lucy, we call to mind the most fundamental relationship in Sister Lorraine's life, her relationship with our loving God. ... In Sister Lorraine, we have a living embodiment of someone who always lived in the joy of the Lord. ... Sister Lorraine just had that deep joy in and of the Lord, the joy that nothing, and no one, could take away. ... On her funeral booklet is printed this quote that Sister Lorraine loved, 'Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God.' In Sister Lorraine, we have a living sermon of Christian joy."*

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, General Superior, in her letter of sympathy to the Sisters of the Province wrote, *"Joy best characterizes Sister Lorraine's presence. ... Joy, a precious gift that springs from the experience of God's love, rather than from anything material. It endures even amid trials and suffering. Those who knew Sister Lorraine well also know that no one escapes the Cross. Her life, also included losses and disappointments but never overshadowed the joys and blessings that marked her life. The source of Sister Lorraine's joy was deeply rooted in her relationship with God and in her devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the name of her Investiture Group. Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary was very strong among the members of her Group, and one could easily point out its members because of this devotion and their closeness. ... Throughout her years of religious life, Sister Lorraine embraced both the spirituality and mission of our community with fidelity and love. She devoted many years to teaching and was greatly loved by her students. She often made the 'my favorite teacher' list, one of the greatest tributes that can be offered to an educator, for it speaks not only of what she taught,*

but of who she was. ... What impressed me most was Sister Lorraine's simple and faithful life of prayer. During one of my visitations, ... after visiting the school, I then went to the convent where Sister Lorraine was since she no longer was able to assist at the school. I asked her how she filled her day alone at home. With simplicity and conviction, she replied, 'Since I am no longer able to help at school, I spend my day in the Chapel praying, especially for Sister Annette. Sister Annette carries our mission forward at the school, and this is how I can still help.' ... Sisters, let us give thanks for the gift of Sister Lorraine's life. As we commend her to the Lord, may we also carry forward the joy she shared so generously with others.'

Sister Lorraine Chaudron's mortal remains were laid to rest in Ave Maria Cemetery at Villa Walsh.

