

# Daughters of Mary, Mother of Our Savior



Newsletter © Vol. 40 No. 3

Saint Joseph's Novitiate

March 2023

*"I wish to become a religious because I feel that this is the best way to serve God in this life.  
It is a life totally devoted to Him and the surest way to attain Heaven."  
- Sister Mary Joseph's words on her application to the Daughters of Mary*

## FROM THE MOTHER GENERAL

Dear Friends of the Daughters of Mary,

After having suffered for over a year from cancer, our beloved Sister Mary Joseph passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 9, 2023. Sister died as she had lived - a faithful Spouse of Christ, a loving Daughter of Mary, and a devoted friend of St. Joseph.

### Sister's Life

Sister Mary Joseph (baptized Suzanne Patricia Collins) was born on May 28, 1966, in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Her father was a career Army officer who eventually retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Sister lived in Virginia with her parents, John and Edith, her brothers Richard and John, and her sister Cathy. When Sister was eleven years old, the family moved to California. In high school, she attended Holy Innocents, a traditional Catholic school in Walnut Creek, California.

After graduation, Sister entered the Daughters of Mary in September 1984. The congregation had just been founded in June of that year, so she was one of the first postulants to enter. On July 2, 1985, Sister received the habit and her religious name. She chose the name Joseph to honor the Saint to whom she had such great devotion.

Two years later Sister made first profession of vows and was assigned to our new foundation in Long Island, New York. During her three years there, Sister helped with domestic work at the convent, secretarial duties and teaching at St. Pius V School.

