

Daughters of Mary, Mother of Our Savior



Newsletter © Vol. 33 No. 12

Saint Joseph's Novitiate

December 2016

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

FROM THE MOTHER GENERAL

Dear Friends of the Daughters of Mary,

On the Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 7, 2016, our dear Sister Maria Dolorosa passed away peacefully at our Motherhouse. Diagnosed with cancer in December 2012, Sister suffered with heroic resignation to God's Will. Her example of patience, peace, and joy during her illness was profoundly edifying. Though we are saddened by her death, it is our great hope that God is now rewarding her for her life of selfless sacrifice.

Sister's Life

Sister Maria Dolorosa was born on June 21, 1964, in Cincinnati, Ohio. With her devout parents, Gerald and Marian Shawhan, and her three sisters and three



brothers, she attended the Traditional Latin Mass. After graduating from Mother of Mercy High School in 1982, Sister attended college at the University of Cincinnati. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics, graduating *cum laude*.

In the fall of 1987, Sister entered our Congregation, where her younger sister, Sister Mary Elizabeth, was already a Novice. Sister Maria Dolorosa wrote on her application, "Since our goal in this life is to reach Heaven in the next life, I believe the way I will attain this is through the Religious Life."

Sister received the habit and her religious name on July 2, 1988. Two years later she made her first profession of vows. That fall, she began teaching at St. Pius V School on Long Island, NY. In 1994,



Sister Maria Dolorosa (third from the left) with her parents, brothers, and sisters.