



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sister Dorothy Hunt, SSND
Jan. 21, 1922 – Oct. 24, 2018



Baltimore - Sister Dorothy Hunt died peacefully early on the morning of Oct. 24 at Maria Health Care Center, Villa Assumpta, in Baltimore. She was a vowed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 74 years. After 32 years as a teacher and administrator in Baltimore and Pittsburgh, Sister Dorothy ministered in Nigeria for three and a half years and returned later as assistant postulate director. She continued varied ministry upon her return to the U.S.

Dorothy was baptized at St. Ann's Church, Baltimore, Md. on Feb. 12, 1922. She began first grade at St. Ann's School where she got "a fine start under the instruction of Sister Mary Alice, SSND." In May, 1930, Dorothy received her first Holy Communion at St. Ann's Church and retained "a vivid memory" of standing up and renewing her baptismal promises on that day.

After graduation from the Institute of Notre Dame, Dorothy entered the School Sister of Notre Dame on Aug. 28, 1941. During the candidature years, Dorothy learned about religious life and was prepared for her "future work" as a teacher by the normal school classes. She was received into the novitiate in the Motherhouse Chapel on Aisquith Street on July 8, 1943. She described the day as "a joyous occasion to receive the habit and a religious name." Her name in religion, Sister Mary George, made her convert father a very happy man. Sister Mary George professed her first vows on July 31, 1944.

Sister Mary George's first mission was Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in New York City. She was to teach grade four and play the organ for the children's Mass on Sunday. She quotes, "a little learning is a dangerous thing" to describe how piano lessons for two children ended up becoming thirty-two and consumed her after school and Saturday hours.

Sent to Baltimore, Sister George was a teacher of grades 3, 4 and 5 at St. Wenceslaus School (1946-1959). Sister became principal, eighth grade teacher, organist and local leader at St. Aloysius School, Reserve Twp., Pittsburgh, Penn. (1959-1965). She was the teacher of grades 7 and 8 at St. Andrew School, Baltimore (1965-66); principal and teacher of grades 7 and 8 at St. Mary's School, Bryantown, Md. (1966-72); principal at Sacred Heart of Jesus School, Baltimore (1972-74) and she remained principal after a consolidation of schools and a new name, Bishop John Neumann School, Baltimore (1974-76).

After 32 years as a teacher and administrator, Sister Dorothy took a position as the coordinator of religious education at St. Mark's parish, Fallston, Md. (1976-80). Dorothy tells in her autobiography that as she was meditating one January morning in 1980, it became "very clear that God had something else" for her to do. When she spoke to a provincial councilor, Dorothy was asked, "How would you feel about going to Nigeria?" Sister Dorothy called her three and a half years teaching and living in Nigeria as an experience that could fill a book and that "it was a reward for following Christ."

On her return to the United States, Dorothy became the director of religion education at Annunciation parish, Rosedale, Baltimore, Md. (1984-94). She spent the next six months on sabbatical with a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and several months at the Manna House of Prayer, Concordia, Kansas. Sister Dorothy went to Nigeria once again as assistant postulant director at Makurdi (1995-97). Back in the U.S., Dorothy gave community service at St. Pius X parish, Baltimore (1997-98) before many years of community service at Villa Assumpta (1998-2013).

Sister Dorothy's professional education included a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland (now University) in 1954 and a Master of Education degree from Loyola College (now University) in 1972.

She led schools at a time of integration and rapid change. Her serious, agile mind enabled Dorothy to be independent, organized and precise. Her many talents included sketches for a new house for the sisters in Africa. Her subtle sense of humor and teasing was accompanied by her warm and lovely smile. Dorothy led a rich, prayerful life in which she met challenges and joys with generosity. She loved the quiet of the little chapel in Maria Health Care Center.

A wake service was held in the chapel of Villa Assumpta on Mon., Oct. 29. The Christian liturgy of burial was celebrated there on Tuesday, Oct. 30 by Rev. John McCloskey, OFM Cap., chaplain of Villa Assumpta. He was assisted by the Rev. Mr. Herman Wilkins, deacon and dear friend of Sister Dorothy and the Rev. Mr. Tochi, deacon and student at St. Mary's Seminary. Interment followed at Villa Maria Cemetery,

Glen Arm Rd., Glen Arm, Md. Sister Dorothy is survived by her sister, Nancy McGinnis and many nieces and nephews.