

January 19, 2019

**Sister Mary Brian Overfield, SSND
Educator, administrator, parish minister**

Chatawa, Mississippi – Sister Mary Brian Overfield, died Sunday, January 12, 2019, in Chatawa, Mississippi. She was 89, and a former educator, administrator and parish minister.

The funeral Mass was celebrated January 17 at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi. Burial was at the Chatawa Cemetery.

Sister Mary Brian was born in Erie, Pennsylvania. She entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame candidature in 1946, was received into the congregation in 1948 and professed first vows in 1949.

After profession, Sister Mary Brian taught in the upper elementary grades in three Wisconsin schools. At the last school, Corpus Christi, Milwaukee, she was the eighth grade teacher, principal and administered its weekly program of religious education. During this time, Sister Mary Brian earned a master's degree in English and philosophy.

Because of her background in philosophy, Sister Mary Brian was called to be a substitute professor of philosophy at Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, where she taught for one year. She then left for Toronto, Ontario, Canada, where she earned a Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of Toronto. She returned to Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, where she taught for five years and was named head of the philosophy department.

In 1974, Sister Mary Brian was missioned to Phoenix as a director of religious education for Our Lady of the Valley parish. She next went to Abilene, Texas, where she served as pastoral associate for Holy Family parish. In 1992, she was called to be the administrator at St. Mary of the Pines in Chatawa, Mississippi. From 1997-2003, she served at St. Ann's in Midland, Texas, where she was responsible for the RCIA program, adult faith formation, home/hospital ministry, social concerns and other parish activities. Sister Mary Brian then retired to St. Mary of the Pines where she had served in prayer and presence.

Sister Mary Brian is survived by her sisters in community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, P.O. Box 227275, Dallas, TX 75222-7275 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.

