



**Sister Mary Bruce Wright, SSND**  
**February 10, 1937 – March 1, 2019**



**CHICAGO** - After two years of valiant struggle with cancer, Sister Mary Bruce Wright, SSND died at Resurrection Life Center in Chicago on March 1. She was a vowed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 62 years.

Patricia Ann was born in Chicago on February 10, 1937, the first child of Wallace and Evenlyn Blendow Wright, both native Chicagoans. Patricia was baptized at St. Michael Church in Chicago. She attended St. Bonaventure Grade School and then St. Michael High School, where she first met the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

In 1955, Patricia entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Milwaukee and was received into the novitiate there in 1956, given the name Sister Mary Bruce. Her profession was in Milwaukee in 1957, and her final vows at the new motherhouse in Mequon, Wisconsin in 1963.

Sister Mary Bruce taught intermediate grades at St. Charles Borromeo in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; at Ss. Peter and Paul, Milwaukee; at St. Rosalie in Harwood Heights, Illinois; and at St. Paul in Chicago. In 1964, she received a B.S. degree in Education from Mt. Mary College, Milwaukee, and in 1977 a M.A. in Religious Studies from Mundelein College, Chicago.

She became an administrator at St. Paul, and later at St. Margaret of Scotland, also in Chicago, after teaching junior high at St. Margaret for several years.

In 1997, Sister Mary Bruce became medical payments coordinator for the Chicago Province, and eventually for the Chicago area of the Atlantic-Midwest Province, a position in which she excelled, as she had in education.

Sister Bruce was an outdoor person who loved nature and dogs. She loved Chicago's sport teams: Cubs, Bears, Blackhawks, Bulls. She followed their schedules religiously and watched their games. Bowling, however, was her favorite pastime.

Hospitality was one of the many qualities that Sister Bruce possessed. At the Academy of Our Lady, she welcomed each overnight guest with a "welcome" posted on their door. These signs were always carefully and thoughtfully designed to match either the seasons or something of interest to that particular guest.

Sister Mary Bruce retired in 2017, the year of her 60th Jubilee as an SSND. On that occasion she wrote, "When I entered SSND in 1955 my intent was to be a teacher. I was trained in the fine aspects of education—what to do in the classroom, the how-tos, and all the ins and outs of educating for the future. Over the years I ministered to an agricultural community in Wisconsin; a middle class university; a blue collar community; a migrant Hispanic group; and an African American community in Illinois. Connecting with these people and cultures have truly been blessings. The past 60 years have indeed been years of many blessings."

Visitation was held at RLC and at Mater Christi Church in North Riverside, Illinois on March 11. The wake service and Mass of Christian Burial were held that same day at Mater Christi. Interment was on March 12 at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Alsip, Illinois.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Atlantic Midwest Province, c/o Development Office, 345 Belden Hill Road, Wilton, Conn. 06897 or online: [www.amssnd.org](http://www.amssnd.org)