

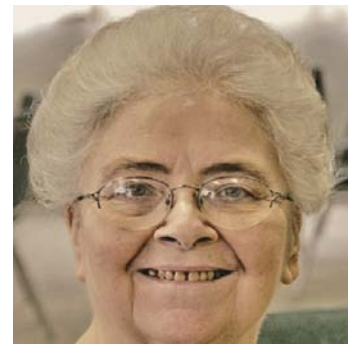
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 3, 2011

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
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**Sister Mary de Lourdes Monaghan, SSND,
teacher, minister to elderly, dies at age 72**

BALTIMORE, Md. --Sister Mary de Lourdes Monaghan, who taught elementary and junior high school grades for nearly 20 years before shifting to pastoral ministry and service to the elderly, died of hepatic encephalopathy on Nov. 30 at Maria Health Care Center in Baltimore. She was 72 years old and had been a professed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 52 years.



Bernadette Theresa Monaghan was born in Baltimore on July 7, 1939, the last of 10 children to James and Mary Elizabeth (Kammer) Monaghan. She first met the School Sisters of Notre Dame when she entered the first grade at St. Joseph's Monastery School in Irvington, where she would spend eight years. She went on to graduate from the Institute of Notre Dame in 1957.

In September of that year Bernadette followed in her sister Mary's footsteps when she entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She was given the religious name Mary de Lourdes and professed her first vows in July 1958.

Her first teaching assignments were in Baltimore City, at Fourteen Holy Martyrs School, where she taught from 1959 to 1964, and at St. Thomas Aquinas School (1964-65). After teaching for five years at Most Holy Name in Pittsburgh, Pa. (1965-70), Sister Mary de Lourdes returned to the Baltimore area where she would remain for the rest of her life.

After earning her bachelor's degree in education from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland in 1970, she taught at St. Patrick in Havre de Grace (1970-71), St. Jerome in Baltimore (1971-73), and Church of the Resurrection in Ellicott City (1973-77). In 1978, Sister Mary de Lourdes began serving in pastoral ministry at Baltimore parishes. She ministered at the Basilica of the Assumption (1978-1981) and St. Matthew (1982-84) before turning her attention to the elderly.

Her ministry to the elderly took her back to St. Thomas Aquinas for a year (1984-85), then to Seton Hill Manor Nursing Home, where she was assistant director of activities

(1985-88). In 1988, she became director of activities at Keswick's Carey House, where she remained for 10 years. In 1998, she was named assistant community representative at Maria Health Care Center, the nursing care facility for School Sisters of Notre Dame on the campus of Villa Assumpta. She was certified as an activities consultant by the National Certification Council for Activities Professionals and served at Maria Health Care until her retirement in 2005.

Sister de Lourdes is survived by a brother, Paul Monaghan of Baltimore, and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Atlantic-Midwest Province, Mission Advancement Office, 345 Belden Hill Road, Wilton, CT., 06897. (800) 993-7763.

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