

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
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**Sister Mary Martha Geipe, SSND,
longtime educator in Baltimore area, dies**

BALTIMORE — Sister Mary Martha Geipe, a longtime junior high teacher, principal and pastoral minister in the Baltimore metro area, died of a stroke on Dec. 20 at Maria Health Care Center. She was 88 years old and had been a professed member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame for 66 years.

Nancy Marie Geipe was born on Jan. 5, 1923, in Baltimore, to Anna Theresa (Croghan) and Joseph Norman Geipe. The fifth of 10 children, she attended grammar school at St. Agnes, Woodlawn, and the Institute of Notre Dame. She made her First Holy Communion and was confirmed at St. William of York Church in Baltimore.

In June 1941, she graduated from the Institute of Notre Dame and a year and a half later, in February 1943, she entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She was given the religious name Mary Martha and made her first vows in July 1945.

Sister Martha's first teaching assignments were in primary grades — at St. Leo in Irvington, N.J. (1945-48) and St. Jane Frances in Riviera Beach, Md. (1948-55). In 1955, she became a junior high teacher at St. Mary of the Assumption in Govans, and in 1960 she moved to St. Michael in Baltimore, where she also served as principal.

Sister Martha returned to St. Jane Frances in 1961 to teach and serve as principal (1961-67). She later taught junior high at St. Mary School in Annapolis (1967-72), St. Benedict in Baltimore (1972-74) and Madonna Elementary in Baltimore (1974-80). She spent four more years in service to the



schools, at Archbishop Keough High School in Baltimore (1980-84), before moving into pastoral ministry.

Sister Martha became pastoral ministry coordinator for St. Charles Borromeo Church in Pikesville in 1984 and remained in parish ministry there for 16 years. In 2000, she became a volunteer assisting the sisters of the former Baltimore Province of her congregation. She and her sibling, Sister Jane Frances Geipe, also an SSND, would serve as driver and companion to sisters living at Villa Assumpta and needing help getting to physician and other appointments. She continued in community service at Villa Assumpta until 2008 when she moved to Maria Health Care Center.

Sister Martha earned a bachelor's degree in education from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland in 1954 and a master's in education administration from Villanova University in 1968.

Sister Martha is survived by two brothers, Joseph and Larry Geipe; four sisters, Katherine Stump, Patricia Peach, Sister Jane Frances Geipe of Villa Assumpta, and Peggy Brinker; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Atlantic-Midwest Province, c/o Mission Advancement Office, 345 Belden Hill Road, Wilton, CT 06897.

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