

Canticle of Mary

My soul proclaims the Lord, my God.
My spirit sings God's praise,
Who looks on me and lifts me up,
That Gladness fill my days.

All nations will now share my joy.
For Gifts God has outpoured.
This lowly one has been made great
I magnify the Lord.

For those who fear the Holy One:
God's mercy will not die,
Whose strong right arm puts down the
proud, and lifts the lowly high.

God fills the hungry with good things,
and sends the rich away.
The promise made to Abraham and
Sarah, is filled to endless day.

Then, let all nations praise our God,
The Father and the Son,
The Spirit blest who lives in us,
While endless ages run.



**“Life’s journey is to
God’s eternal Day . . .
For in Life and in death,
We belong to the Lord!”**



SR. ANNE M. RICHARDS, FMM
M. OF St Paul of the Passion
Born: Feb. 28, 1926
Entered: Sept 17, 1944
Novitiate: Mar. 19, 1945
First Vows: Mar. 19, 1947
Final Vows: Mar. 19, 1950
Born to Eternal Life: 3.16.2010

Early Years

Little is known about Anne before she entered the Institute of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary at North Providence at age 18.

God's Call

Since Anne was born in Boston, we conjecture that she may have met the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary at St. Clement's Eucharistic Shrine

Missionary Life

After pronouncing her first vows, Sr. Anne was sent for studies joining other students in St. Clement's Community in Boston. Like other students who were studying, she was sent during summer break to Camp St. Helene in the Catskill Mountains serving as a counselor.

July 1950, she was sent to St. Helen's in Rome for preparation for her mission. After pronouncing her final vows, March 1951, she was sent in mission Kobe, Japan. She served as an English Teacher in Kaisei School.

From 1954 to 1964, she served as principal and teacher in Stella Maris International School in Tokyo.

Her next mission sending was to the Philippines to study at Ateneo de Manila where she received an MA in

Education. After completing her studies she served as an English Teacher at O.L. of Loreto College, Principal / Teacher – Stella Maris International School in Manila.

In 1966, she was sent to Holy Family Novitiate in North Providence where she served as Novice Directress until 1971. These were the challenging years of post Vatican Council II during which there were many changes in the formation of young religious,

After completing her term as Novice Directress in 1972, Sr. Anne returned to teaching at Espiritu Santo School in Fall River, MA.

Sr. Anne was sent to Manhattan, NY in 1974 where she served as the Directress of Divine Providence Child Care Shelter and then as the Principal of St. Joseph Elementary School.

From 1977 to 1982, she served as the Local Coordinator of Divine Providence Community at 45th St. Manhattan, NY.

Ever the intrepid, disponsible missionary, Sr. Anne was sent in mission to Japan again in 1982. She taught English in Kobe Kaisei College.

She was an English Language Resource Person for Tokyo Metropolitan Public School Tokyo, Japan from 1990 to 1995.

Back in the United States, Sr. Anne continued to share her teaching expertise as an ESL Teacher in an After School Program at St. Peter's School, Cambridge, MA. She was a member of Visitation Convent.

Sr. Anne's final years were spent in Rhode Island. She served as Assistant Coordinator of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary Office for Facilities & Properties in North Providence. From 2001 to 2004, she served as the Local Coordinator of Trinity Community in North Providence.

From 2006 to her death, she was in St. Antoine's Residence and belonged to Ein Karim Community.

Throughout her years of suffering she remained courageous, alert and interested in others.

Here is what one of her former students wrote recently.

"She (Sr. Anne) means very much to me since I had her when Stella Maris opened in my 7th grade. I have caused her much headaches but she persisted in insisting nothing less than my best efforts in everything. I am sure that I have not reached the goal she saw in me but I am still trying. Please let her know that I am thinking of her and that I love her dearly for what she has been to me. ."