

Sister Maureen Stout, OSF

Professed 1961

"Blessed are those who endure in peace, for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned." St. Francis of Assisi



Throughout her 65 years as a professed sister of St. Francis, Sr. Maureen Stout desired to live and share the Gospel. She strove to live as sister with all of creation and to be loving, compassionate, gentle, peaceful, and kind.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Sr. Maureen grew up in Newark, Delaware, where she lived with her parents, Richard and Julia Cecilia, and her three brothers. She was a member of Holy Angels Parish and a graduate of St. Elizabeth High School. She entered the congregation in 1958 and professed her first vows in 1961. Sr. Maureen earned her BA in English from Our Lady of Angels College (now Neumann University), and her master's in education from the University of Delaware. Reflecting recently on her life as a Sister of St. Francis, Sr. Maureen wrote, "Chosen by God, loved unconditionally, and called to live the Gospel, I have tried to bring peace, joy, hope, and love to all those who have crossed my path."

Beginning her ministry in elementary education, Sr. Maureen taught first, second, and fifth grade—six years in total—at St. Bernadette School in Silver Spring, Maryland. Her next assignment was at St. Ann in Wilmington, Delaware, where she taught one year of second grade and one year of fifth grade. Sr. Maureen next moved to Baltimore where she taught for one year at St. Katherine School and one year at The Catholic High School of Baltimore.

Sr. Maureen returned to the Diocese of Wilmington where she ministered for an additional 49 years. She loved teaching, especially Language Arts. Her ministry included teaching seventh and eighth grade for three years at St. Anthony School and for six years at St. John the Beloved. Next, she taught seventh and eighth grade for 10 years at Immaculate Conception School in Elkton, Maryland. In 1990, Sr. Maureen moved to Corpus Christi Convent in Wilmington, Delaware, which would be her home for the next 35 years. She taught for 21 of those years at Corpus Christi School, first as a classroom teacher and then as a reading specialist, and an additional two years at All Saints Catholic School. Sr. Maureen retired from full-time teaching but continued to volunteer at All Saints for seven more years, for a grand total of 59 years in education ministry! Since 2020 she has served in volunteer ministry at Assisi House.

Sr. Grace Andrew Jeffery shared, "I lived with Maureen three different times. One thing that always stood out for me is that she never had an unkind word to say about or to anyone. She treated everyone with respect and love, especially our elderly sisters, and she always exhibited patience. She had a quiet and gentle spirit, but she also had a wonderful sense of humor." Sr. Joan Dew, who lived with Sr. Maureen for many years, agreed and said, "She was a wonderful friend and would often join me on visits to my family. When we arrived, my young niece would greet me and then say 'Maureen. You be green,' because she knew that Maureen would join her in a game of Candyland." Sr. Joan also emphasized Maureen's thoughtfulness and sense of humor, explaining that it wasn't unusual to find a piece of candy on your pillow at night—like in a hotel—courtesy of Maureen.

In her free time, Sr. Maureen loved reading and doing word problems, and was always ready for a game of cards. She also enjoyed computer games. After learning of her passing, many shared their memories and prayers on Facebook echoing her gentleness and goodness, including Sara Marks who shared, "Mo was an incredible human being who made my life so much better because of her love and friendship. She will be greatly missed!"

Sr. Maureen's life was a living testament to the Franciscan values she held dear: peace, joy, hope, and love. She lived what she taught, and taught what she lived—that every person deserves to be treated with dignity, that a small act of kindness matters, and that a life of service is a life well lived. May she now rest in the eternal peace she so faithfully brought to others, held in the unconditional love of the God who chose her and whom she served so well.

*All services will be held in Assisi House on Friday, October 17, 2025, and will be livestreamed.
A Christian Wake Service will be held at 9:30 A.M. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 A.M.
Internment of ashes will be at a later date in Our Lady of Angels Cemetery.*