



Society of the Holy Child Jesus
AMERICAN PROVINCE

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Suzanne Snyder, SHCJ
(Mother Gregory Mary)
Teacher, Pastoral Care and Social Worker
February 20, 1936 – June 28, 2020

Rosemont, Pennsylvania – Suzanne Snyder, SHCJ, who was a Sister of the Holy Child Jesus for 64 years, died peacefully on Sunday, June 28, 2020. She was 84.

Sister Sue brought great compassion along with a wonderful sense of humor to all she was involved in throughout her life.

Sister Suzanne (Sue) was born in Buffalo, New York, but always considered herself a Californian, since she moved to the Golden State at the age of ten.



Sister Sue entered the Society of the Holy Child Jesus after graduating from Mayfield Senior School of the Holy Child Jesus in Pasadena, California. Her first two years of teaching were spent at Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit, New Jersey (1956-1958). In 1958, Sister Sue was missioned to the west coast, where she would remain for the next 57 years. She taught at Assumption School in Pasadena, California (1958-1960 and 1962-1964), as well as at Saint Charles School (1964-1966) and Holy Child Academy in Portland, Oregon (1966-1969). She returned to California to teach at her alma mater, Mayfield Senior School, for four years (1969-1973). Although Sr. Sue was a very effective teacher, her real passion was in working directly with marginalized persons. This led her into prison ministry for three years with Friends Outside followed by several years of pastoral work at MEND, a parish social service center in Pacoima, California.

In 1984, Sister Sue founded and directed the Social Service Center of Holy Cross Parish in Southcentral Los Angeles. Even while living with and caring for her aging mother, she worked part-time at the Center. After her mother's death in 1999, Sister Sue moved to San Diego, where a new ministry tugged at her heart. She became a Court Appointed Special Advocate, an arm of Voices for Children. She was enormously effective in her ministry with at-risk children.

Sister Sue returned to the east coast in 2014 to live in Rye, New York. Here she found many ways to help, in particular, reading each day to a Sister whose vision was impaired. In August 2016, Sister Sue moved to Holy Child Center in Rosemont, Pennsylvania, where she shared her fun-loving and generous spirit and her enthusiasm for sports with others.

Sister Sue earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles in 1964 and a Master of Arts in English in American Literature from the University of Portland, Oregon, in 1970.

She joins her parents Earl and Helen (Burns) Snyder and her brother, Greg, in eternal rest. She is survived by her sister, Carol, a Franciscan, and her brothers, Paul and John.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the Society of the Holy Child Jesus – American Province, 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, PA 19010, or make a gift online at www.shcj.org/american/donate.