



ARCHDIOCESE OF AGAÑA

Sister Francis Marie Blas who served God for 75 years
as a Sister of Mercy passes away at age 91

The Sisters of Mercy on Guam and the family of Sister Francis Marie Blas, RSM are gathering in prayer as they mourn the death of the dear religious sister who passed into eternal life on March 13, 2025. She was 91.

Sister Francis Marie was the fourth of 13 children born to Atanacio Albino Blas and Concepcion Lujan Toves Blas. “Cecilia Maria” was born on December 19, 1933, in Hagatña, Guam.

She served our Lord faithfully as a Sister of Mercy for 75 years. Cecilia and her companions began their journey with the Sisters of Mercy on July 2, 1950, her entrance date in the Mercy Community. She took on the name Sister Francis Marie at her Reception on August 14, 1951. Upon making her Perpetual Profession of Vows on August 15, 1959, she chose her motto “All for Thee, O Sacred Heart of Jesus.”

Sister Francis Marie received her B.A. in Education in 1977 from the University of Guam. She spent a year of spiritual renewal from 1992–93 at Wholistic Growth Resources in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Sister served as a teacher for 10 years at Santa Barbara School in Dededo, another 10 years at Cathedral Grade School in Hagatña, prior to its merger with Bishop Baumgartner Catholic School; three years at San Francisco de Borja School in Rota and a shorter time at St. Anthony School in Tamuning. Sister also ministered to youngsters at Infant of Prague Nursery in Tai for a number of years. She also taught CCD in Asan, Hagatña, Dededo, Inarajan, Mongmong, Toto, Tamuning, Tumon, Piti, Maina, Yigo, Rota and Wake Island. Most recently, she was engaged in Prayer Ministry while residing at the Mercy Care Center in Oka, Tamuning.



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Sister Francis Marie had a very inviting and warm smile that made her eyes sparkle as she welcomed others into her heart. She overcame being shy and quiet when she was at the helm in the care of her young students. Her students remember her fondly and express gratitude for her discipline and education she imparted in their training of life-long skills. She enjoyed doing word puzzles, playing cards, and practicing her harmonica.

A prayerful person, Sister Francis Marie was rarely seen without her rosary beads in her hands. She knelt or sat for long periods of time in the chapel, honoring and praising her God, and saying her favorite novenas. She loved her Sisters in community, working with the little children in the schools, and treasured her prayer life.

Sister Francis Marie was a Sister of Mercy for 75 years. She returns to our loving Creator as the Universal Church celebrates the Jubilee Year of Hope. May Jesus receive her soul and present her to the God she served so faithfully and with so much love throughout all her religious life!

Funerary schedule:

The Novena of Masses and Rosaries is being held at St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church March 13 – 21, 2025. Rosary, followed by the Stations of the Cross begins at 5:15 p.m.. Weekday Mass is at 6 p.m.

Last respects may be paid on Wednesday, March 26 at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica in Hagatña, Guam. Visitation is from 8:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. in the Conference Center; Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30am in the main church of the Cathedral-Basilica. Interment will be at Pigo Cemetery on Thursday, March 27, at 11 a.m.

Sent on behalf of the Sisters of Mercy by Tony C. Diaz, Archdiocese of Agaña, Director of Communications, (671) 562-0065, tony.diaz@archagana.org