



## Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB

June 25, 1924 - March 21, 2013

Surrounded by her Benedictine Sisters, Sister Jeannette Murray, OSB, died on Thursday, March 21, 2013, the feast of the Passing of Saint Benedict, at Saint Gertrude Monastery in Ridgely, MD.

She was born in Wilmington, DE, to the late Marcella and John Murray on June 25, 1924, and was predeceased by her parents, her three sisters, Dorothy Kinley, Catherine Hersh and Jane Hollingsworth and one brother Rev. John Murray, OSFS.

A graduate of Wilmington High School, Sister Jeannette entered the Benedictine Sisters in 1943. She later earned a B.A. in History from Seton Hall University and an M.A in Special Education from Cardinal Stritch College. During her early professional career, she taught and/or was principal at various parochial schools in Delaware and New Jersey. Her love for “special children” took her to the Benedictine School for Exceptional Children in 1960. There she served in various roles: educator, dorm mother and fund-raiser. For many years, she was the Directress and retired in 2012.

Sister was a pioneer in providing services to children and adults with special needs at a time when there were few public or private options nor were there legal protections in place to insure their educational rights. As a charismatic leader and change agent, Sister Jeannette loved going to the General Assembly of Maryland and advocating to the legislators for bond bills for “her kids.” She was fond of saying, “if your challenge is too big, then your God is

too small.”

Under her guidance, many diverse and innovative programs were initiated. In 1980, she founded the first of many community homes for adults in Maryland and Delaware. As she neared retirement, she continued her dream and vision for the final phase of programming for adults with disabilities, that of senior living homes. This would be her final piece of a complete and total program for the disabled across their lifespan.

She served her Benedictine Sisters in the role of Prioress from 1968 to 1980. During her administration, the community built a new monastery and met the challenges and changes introduced by the Second Vatican Council.

Sister Jeannette will be remembered for her strong faith, her sense of humor, her belief in dignity for all, her love of her Benedictine community, special children and adults and everything Irish. Her strong spiritual beliefs were the basis and support for all of her life's endeavors and achievements. Over the course of her professional career, Sister was active on countless boards and commissions. She was also the recipient of many awards and citations. Two of her most cherished were the honorary Doctorate from Saint Anselm's College in Manchester, NH, and her certificate as an honorary Maryland State Trooper.

In addition to her Benedictine Sisters, she is survived by several nieces and nephews, many cousins both here and in Ireland and her special cousin, Rob Blakely and his children Maureen and Robert, Jr

A Mass of Resurrection will be held in the Benedictine School Gym at 7 PM on Monday, March 25 and is open to the public. The Sister's will be receiving friends and relatives on Monday, March 25, from 2 PM to 6 PM at the Benedictine School Recreation Center.

As per Sister Jeannette's request, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Benedictine Sisters' Retirement Fund, 14259 Benedictine Lane, Ridgely, MD, 21660.



# Cemetery Details

## St. Gertrude Monastery

Ridgely, MD

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 25. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

St. Gertrude's Priory  
Ridgely, MD 21660

## Service

MAR 25. 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Gertrude's Priory  
Ridgely, MD 21660

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*

October 08, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ *Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*

October 06, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ *Hard to believe that it has been 4 years since the late great Sr Jeannette Murray died*



**anonymous** - March 12, 2017 at 02:40 PM



“ *Janis Perron-Hanwell lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



**Janis Perron-Hanwell** - March 30, 2013 at 11:48 AM



“ Theresa Wells-Baker lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



Theresa Wells-Baker - March 26, 2013 at 08:55 PM

BZ

“ Bill And Connie Zaruba lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



Bill and Connie Zaruba - March 26, 2013 at 04:55 PM

BZ

*Rest in peace, Sister Jeannette. You will be greatly missed. Bill and Connie Zaruba*

Bill and Connie Zaruba - March 26, 2013 at 04:56 PM

JA

“ I will miss Sister Jeaneeye alot. She is going to be missed alot.



Julie armitano - March 26, 2013 at 12:43 AM

KH

“ *Kiesha Hynson lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



**Kiesha Hynson** - March 25, 2013 at 10:41 AM

TD

“ *Tina Marie Derr lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



**Tina Marie Derr** - March 25, 2013 at 08:27 AM

TD

*Tina Derr*

**Tina Marie Derr** - March 25, 2013 at 08:37 AM

MM

“ *She was a real inspiration to me lam sure God has a special place for My prayers are with her Benedictine Sisters and her family*



**mary miller** - March 24, 2013 at 08:46 PM

CO

“ *Connie lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Connie** - March 24, 2013 at 08:29 PM

JB

“ *Jim & Susan Baynum lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Jim & Susan Baynum** - March 24, 2013 at 08:19 PM

VW

“ *Vernon Wilson lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Vernon Wilson** - March 24, 2013 at 03:37 PM

GC

“ *Very sad to hear of Sr Jeannette's passing. I have many fond memories of her. With all that she accomplished in her life and all the good she did, I know she is resting in glorious peace.*

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**Gail Ebling Crum** - March 24, 2013 at 09:45 AM

BE

“ Beverly lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



Beverly - March 23, 2013 at 11:04 PM

TK

“ Tina Kirby lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



Tina Kirby - March 23, 2013 at 08:42 PM

Ginger O'Keefe

“ Ginger O'Keefe lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



Ginger O'Keefe - March 23, 2013 at 07:36 PM

BJ

“ We will miss you Sister, Benedictine will not be the same without her. Nobody can ever fill your shoes. You are with GOD my sweet Sister.



Becky Jarboe - March 23, 2013 at 07:12 PM

CP

“ Carlton And Connie Pippin lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



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**Carlton and Connie Pippin** - March 23, 2013 at 06:28 PM

CP

*May your legacy live on in the spirit in which you carried it all of these years. You will be dearly missed and our memories of you dearly treasured.*

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**Carlton and Connie Pippin** - March 23, 2013 at 06:32 PM

EM

“ Ellen McLoughlin lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



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**Ellen McLoughlin** - March 23, 2013 at 05:08 PM

JM

“ Janet & Dan Matarese lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



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**Janet & Dan Matarese** - March 23, 2013 at 12:37 PM

RS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. I did a lot of work for Sister Jeanette at the Benedictine School while I worked at Higgins and Spencer. She was one FANTASTIC lady one I will never forget.



Richard Smith - March 23, 2013 at 11:06 AM

JM

“ Sister Jeannette Murray is dear to my heart..... I love her deeply and very sad to read she passed onto eternal life. Seven years as a day student my son benefited from her special needs program. The love son & mother received from Sister Jeannette and her staff carries with me til this very day. I am grateful for her generosity and the work she gave to God's children while on Earth. I pray she did not suffer and is happy in the kingdom of heaven. God Bless Sister Jeannette, may she and her family know she will always be remembered.



Joeli McCambridge - March 23, 2013 at 10:35 AM

PS

“ A true women a God. Thank you Sister for all you did to make life better for our children.

Patti Saylor - March 23, 2013 at 09:50 AM

PS

“ Patti Saylor lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



Patti Saylor - March 23, 2013 at 09:49 AM

FR

“ *Sister Jeanette, you will be missed. You were always there for so many, we will never forget your kindness. I know this is just the beginning for you Carry On.....*

**Fred, Betty & Heather Ruhe** - March 23, 2013 at 08:46 AM

JS

“ *Sister Jeanette, May you be rewarded in heaven for all the wonderful deeds you have done and the many people you have helped here on earth.*

**Joe and Connie Shortall** - March 23, 2013 at 07:57 AM

TV

“ *Tommy & Mary Vendemia lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



**Tommy & Mary Vendemia** - March 22, 2013 at 09:41 PM

JV

“ *Joe Vendemia lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



**Joe Vendemia** - March 22, 2013 at 09:39 PM

KM

“ *Kathy Marinucci lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**kathy marinucci** - March 22, 2013 at 09:36 PM

LS

“ *Laurie Schmitt lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Laurie Schmitt** - March 22, 2013 at 09:21 PM

NM

“ *Nancy Lynch Morris lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Nancy lynch morris** - March 22, 2013 at 07:43 PM

MH

“ *Marzetta Hilton-Bey lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Marzetta Hilton-Bey** - March 22, 2013 at 07:35 PM



“ *Melissa Nichols lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Melissa Nichols** - March 22, 2013 at 06:08 PM



“ *Melissa Nichols lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Melissa Nichols** - March 22, 2013 at 06:07 PM



“ *Stacey Hickey lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Stacey Hickey** - March 22, 2013 at 05:13 PM



“ *Dominic Marinucci lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB*



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**Dominic Marinucci** - March 22, 2013 at 04:25 PM



Dominic  
Marinucci

“ *Sister, I will remember you. May you RIP*



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**Dominic Marinucci** - March 22, 2013 at 04:24 PM

KE

“ *I Have Known Sister Jeannette Since I Was 16 Years Old And I Will Be 45 Years Old In April And I Was Very Sad To Hear of The Passing of A Very Special Person & I Knew Her As A Wonderful Person And She Always Told Me I Have Good Mom & Dad To Me Sister Jeannette Was More To Me As Just A Good Friend And Mentor & She Made Me To Be The Man I Am Today. I Remember The First Time I Met Her She Told My Parents You Have A Very Special Young Man Right. Sr. Jeannette Ment Alot To The Parents, The Kids And The Young Adults In The Benedictine Open Community Program To Me She Was Anmazing Person To The Benedictine Community and I Truely Know Benedictine Will Not Be The Same Without Our Good And Irish Lady Sister Jeannette Murray. My Sympathy & Condolences Go Out To The Sisters & Benedictine Community. We Truely Lost A Very Special Friend And Now She Is With Our Heavenly Father In Heaven. I Have Always Had A Very Special Spot In My Heart For Sister Jeannette And I Will Miss Her Terribly. There Wont Be One Like Loving Our Sr. Jeannette. Her Tribute To These Kids Are Wonderful*

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**Kevin** - March 22, 2013 at 04:15 PM

SQ

“ Sara And David Quinn lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



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**Sara and David Quinn** - March 22, 2013 at 04:09 PM

DB

“ Dianne Blevins lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



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**dianne blevins** - March 22, 2013 at 03:59 PM

KE

“ Kevin lit a candle in memory of Sr. Jeanette Murray OSB



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**Kevin** - March 22, 2013 at 03:53 PM

DB

*god bless you i love you .*

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**dianne blevins** - March 22, 2013 at 03:58 PM