



Society of the Holy Child Jesus  
AMERICAN PROVINCE

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**Margaret Naab, SHCJ**  
**May 16, 1921 – April 2, 2018**  
**Artist, Educator**

Rosemont, Pennsylvania – Margaret Naab, SHCJ, who was a Sister of the Holy Child Jesus for 75 years, died of heart failure on Monday, April 2, 2018. She was 96. Sister Margaret entered the Society in 1940, made her final vows in 1947, and became well known by the religious name Mother Mary Alacoque.

Throughout her 75 years as a Holy Child Sister, Sister Margaret lived fully and contributed generously. A gifted artist from a family of artists, she never believed that art should be a private subject. Seeing beauty everywhere, she taught art, studied it, encouraged young artists, and even opened an art studio at West Catholic Girls High School, her alma mater. From her studies and visits abroad, she returned with images to share with others, including audiences that extended beyond the Holy Child Sisters.



Sister Margaret had deep roots in Philadelphia, beginning with her early education at Saint Boniface School. As a teacher, she served at Saint Edward (1942, 1948-1950) and Saint James (1944-1947) schools, and West Catholic (1950-1967). She also taught at Saint Elizabeth (1942-1944) and Our Lady of Lourdes (1947-1948) schools in New York City, and School of the Holy Child (1967-1968) in Rye, NY.

In 1970, Sister Margaret was the first woman invited to teach at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, PA. She taught Christian Art in the Theology Division. For over two decades, she was an inspiration to young seminarians, who frequently kept in touch with her even after their ordination. In later years, her outreach included Saint Thomas of Villanova Parish, as well as the inner-city program for feeding the homeless at Old Saint Joseph Church. Sister Margaret received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Rosemont College in 1949 and a Master of Fine Arts from Catholic University of America in 1959. She also took several post graduate studies in art in several countries.

Sister Margaret, daughter of the late Frederick and Christine (Rodig) Naab, now joins her parents and seven siblings -- Walter Naab OSF, Frederick, Gerry, John, Marie Kathryn Naab, SHCJ, Beatrice, and Theresa Blaney – in eternal life. She is survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Family are invited to a prayer service of remembrance on Friday, April 6, at 4:00 p.m., and to the Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday, April 7, at 11:00 a.m., Holy Child Chapel, 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, PA, 19010. Preceding Mass, friends and family are welcome

*For this is our mission: to help others to believe that God lives and acts in them and in our world, and to rejoice in God's presence.*

to attend the wake at 10:00 a.m. Funeral arrangements are handled by Donohue Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to 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](http://www.shcj.org/american/donate).

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