



Society of the Holy Child Jesus
AMERICAN PROVINCE

1341 Montgomery Avenue
Rosemont, Pennsylvania 19010
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www.shcj.org/american

Dorothy Cunnion, SHCJ
February 6, 1927 – October 10, 2018
Educator, Administrator

Rosemont, Pennsylvania – Dorothy Cunnion, SHCJ, who was a Sister of the Holy Child Jesus for 70 years, died on October 10, 2018. She was 91.

Sister Dorothy was the seventh child of Helen (Delany) and Arthur Cunnion. After her mother died, Sister Dorothy's father remarried an old family friend, and three more children followed, bringing the total to ten – five boys and five girls. Sister Dorothy shared that she lived in a happy home and enjoyed the "city life."

When Sister Dorothy finished grade school, she followed her sisters to Saint Walburga Academy, where the Holy Child Sisters had taught. After high school, Sister Dorothy attended college for two years at Marymount College before entering the Society of the Holy Child Jesus in 1946.



Professed in 1949 with the religious name of Mother Mary Jerome, Sister Dorothy spent the next 18 years teaching: Saint Walburga Academy (1949-1952); Holy Child School at Rosemont in Rosemont (1952-1957); and Saints Peter and Paul School in Fleetwood, NY (1957-1967). Her administrative abilities were soon recognized, and she was called to be the principal at Our Lady of Lourdes School in New York City while serving on Provincial team in the Society's former New York Province (1967-1973). From 1973-1976, Sister Dorothy served in the Archdiocese of New York's superintendent of schools office and was the assistant superintendent for two of these years. Following her ministry in the Archdiocese, she worked at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in pastoral ministry for six years.

In 1982, Sister Dorothy was appointed the administrator of Holy Child Sisters' retirement community in Rye, NY. Her kindness and care brought comfort to Sisters. After six years at Rye, she served as business manager at Saint Elizabeth Parish in New York City from (1988-1990). Then Sister Dorothy returned to the ministry of the sick at Holy Child Center in Rosemont (1990-1999).

Her last "active" years were spent serving in the Sisters' community in Rye as treasurer. When the time came to close this retirement community, she was a "rock of support" to her fellow Sisters and embraced the move to Holy Child Center in Rosemont. Sister Dorothy felt her formation came full circle with her final years being in the place where her initial formation began 70 years ago.



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She earned a bachelor of science degree in education and a master of science degree in education at

Villanova University in 1953 and 1957, respectively.

She is survived by her sister Patricia Cunnion Smith of Long Island New York, and nephews and nieces.

Family and friends are invited to a prayer service of remembrance on Tuesday, October 16, at 4:00 p.m., and to the Mass of Christian Burial on Wednesday, October 17, at 11:00 a.m., Holy Child Chapel, 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, PA, 19010. Preceding Mass, friends, and family are welcome 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.