

SISTER ROSE DONOHOE, CSJP, 80 years

Sister Rose Donohoe came to the Bellingham novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace in 1936 from her rural home in Leitrim. At her reception into the community in 1937 she was named Sister Columba after the great Irish missionary.

Sister Rose received a B.A. in Education from Holy Names College, Spokane, an M.S. in Library Science from Portland University and a M.Ed. in Administration from Seattle University.

Sister Rose was a teacher and a principal in many Catholic schools in the Seattle Archdiocese as well as schools in Oregon, California and British Columbia.



After many years in the classroom, Sister Rose moved to Tacoma in 1984 to begin a new career in parish ministry at All Saints in Puyallup and Visitation in Tacoma, where she led the ministry to the homebound. Her pastoral visits took her to nursing homes, hospitals, and homes of shut-in parishioners; everywhere she went, Rose brought her gentle smile and cheerful presence.

Since 2007 Sister Rose has lived with other senior Sisters at St. Mary-on-the-Lake, Bellevue. In November, 2014, she celebrated her 100th birthday and received "The Centenarian's Bounty," a national award made by Irish President Michael Higgins to Irish-born people who reach 100 years of age.

On her 70th Jubilee Sister Rose said, "I have enjoyed my 70 years as a sister immensely. I have enjoyed working with people, encouraging them, and I had fun doing it all!"