



Mary Catherine Marshall

August 30, 1955 - December 29, 2025

Mary Catherine Marshall, a woman of deep faith, quiet strength, and lifelong dedication

to Catholic education, passed away on December 29, 2025, surrounded by her family.

Born on August 30, 1955, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Mary Catherine was the beloved

daughter of Mary Juanita McGovern Marshall and Edward Dorman Marshall.

She was

the third of four daughters and grew up rooted in faith, family and service – values that

would guide her entire life.

In 1973, Mary Catherine entered the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Saint

Cecilia in Nashville, Tennessee. As a professed religious sister for 19 years, she served

the Church faithfully in numerous mission communities. While at the Motherhouse, she

shared her musical gifts as the community organist, enriching the prayer life of her

sisters. Her vocation was marked by devotion, humility, and a deep love for teaching

and forming young hearts in the faith.

Catholic education was always her calling. After leaving the religious community in 1992, Mary Catherine continued her mission as a lay educator and leader. She served at Maryvale Preparatory School in Maryland, later becoming principal at Saint Elizabeth's Catholic Elementary School in Baltimore City. She went on to make history as the first principal of Archbishop Borders Academy, where she established a dual-language program that became a model of inclusion and excellence.

In 2015, Mary Catherine brought her gifts to Florida, serving as principal of St. John Vianney Catholic School. There, she once again established a thriving dual-language program that continues to flourish today, reflecting her belief in dignity, access, and opportunity for all children. Following her retirement from St. John Vianney, she briefly served as principal of Holy Family Catholic School in Windermere. Her time there was cut short when she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, a cross she bore with faith, courage and grace.

Mary Catherine loved her Catholic faith and loved children deeply. She was a tireless advocate for the poor, the immigrant, the ostracized, the broken and God's little ones.

She lived the Gospel not loudly, but faithfully – through presence, compassion, and action. She welcomed everyone, made each person feel seen and valued, and had a rare gift for giving her full attention, especially to those who felt forgotten. In her calm and gentle way, she brought peace and the presence of God wherever she went.

She is survived by her three sisters, Susan (Paul) Vance, Becky (Kirk) Amerson and Anne (Michael) Sams. Her beloved nieces and nephews – Matt and Kelley Amerson, Peter and Tim Vance and Erin Rudolph. Her great nieces and nephews Caroline and Aly Cotton, Wyatt Vance, James Premo and Lorelei Rudolph, her great great niece and nephew Emma and Colton Brubach and her cherished Florida family, who held her close in prayer and love.

Mary Catherine lived a life of service, faith and love. She leaves behind a legacy written not only in schools and programs, but in the hearts changed, children uplifted, and souls drawn closer to God. May she now rest in the eternal peace she so freely shared with others.

Services can be livestreamed using the attached link: <https://youtube.com/live/x-5MsnqMlwU?feature=share>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home
9001 Orlando Ave
Maitland, FL 32751

Funeral Mass

JAN 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

San Pedro Spiritual Center
2400 Dike Rd
Winter Park, FL 32792

Tribute Wall

KE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kathy Erdely - January 01 at 12:27 AM

KE

“ *Condolences to her family and also to Henry. Cathy was such a beautiful soul. So many great memories spending the evening at Henry's with Cathy. She was a great friend of mom's. She made the best green bean casserole for holiday dinners. She will be greatly missed but will always remain in our hearts.*

Kathy Erdely - January 01 at 12:22 AM

CL

“ From the time cathy was in high school up through an including the last day in her life, she was always a leader, a prayer warrior, and a caring person for those who are weak are in need. During her growing up years, she had a mom and dad who belong to a group who were highly highly intelligent and yet humility and gentleness always prevailed in their home. Cathy was exactly the same way and one had no idea how extremely bright she was until you realized that projects that improve, the lives of others were taking place and we're beautifully orchestrated and put together with finesse. The world was a better place for Cathy Marshall and we are so grateful that she has gone to be with her heavenly father and so many students, family members and friends that she brought to the lap of the blessed mother and to her son.



chaplain Cathy Lewis - December 31, 2025 at 10:04 PM

SM

“ Sean, Danielle & Aaron Mundie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Catherine Marshall.

Sean, Danielle & Aaron Mundie - December 30, 2025 at 05:42 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Marshall.



December 30, 2025 at 05:42 PM