

## **Sister Mary Susan Boyle, SC**

Entered eternal life on May 7, 2020

Sister Mary Susan Boyle was born in Newark, New Jersey to John and Susan Boyle. She was the youngest of 13 children. Susan's mother was not well so in her early years she was cared for by her older sister Margaret. Susan was 14 years of age when her mom died. She was officially incorporated into Margaret's home and family. Sister Susan entered our congregation in 1950 and quietly ministered as a Sister of Charity for 69 years.



One of her first missions was as a Circle Mother at St. Mary's Orphanage in Newark, NJ. When Sister Susan would go home to Margaret's for the holidays, Margaret would often invite some of the children for the holiday dinner. Sister Susan was known as the official chopper for these family celebrations. She chopped the onions, celery and anything else that required chopping. She loved her family and they loved her. She was affectionately called "Aunt Joan" and was sure to remember the birthdays of her many nieces and nephews. She took special joy in remembering grandnieces and nephews at their birth. She would get a special card and gift for the new arrival. She kept St. Joseph's Shrine in Sterling in business. In her later years, when she found it more difficult to get out and shop, the cards still came with "a little something" in the card for the birthday person.

Her band mates remember Susan's kindness and thoughtfulness. In their early years as Postulants, Susan was assigned to the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer. Everyday rain or shine she walked from the Novitiate down to the League House and back. One of her Band-mates recalls that for their 25th Anniversary, Susan arrived with Relics of Mother Seton for all of them. Whenever she could get to their reunions, she always arrived with a little present for each of them.

Through all her years, Susan remained very close to her sister Margaret and her ever enlarging family. Her nieces remember her love of shopping. When Margaret picked up her purse to go shopping, Susan was ready. After a variety of ministries Sister Susan returned to Convent to minister at the Sister Miriam Teresa League House. She ministered there for many years doing anything asked of her to assist in the Cause.

Sister Susan was always blessed with the support of her family. Two of her nieces "the Wednesday girls" visited her weekly and brought her and all the Sisters much joy. One of her nieces noted that even in the most confining of circumstances "this dear simple woman radiated Boundless Charity"

It was a great honor for Sister Susan, accompanied by her niece Kathleen, to attend the Beatification of Blessed Miriam Teresa at Sacred Heart Cathedral on October 4, 2014.

There must have been a wonderful reunion in heaven on May 7th when Sister Susan went home to God and was reunited with her parents, her siblings and Blessed Miriam Teresa.

Sister Susan was a quiet humble woman who loved her God, her Community and her family. May she Rest in Peace.

Sister Eileen Clifford, SC