



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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Office of Religious

Date: November 25, 2019
To: All Clergy, Religious Sisters, Principals, and Parish Staff
From: Sr. Karla Felix-Rivera, VDMF
Subject: Death Notices and Prayers

*“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and
let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.”*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,


We join the Sisters of Mercy and the Sisters of the Holy Family in praying for the eternal repose of two well-known sisters in our Diocese, Sr. Bridget Mary Flynn, RSM, and Sr. Mercedes Braga, SHF.

Please open the attached PDF file which includes a few words written by their community members. It is evident that their lives touched many and their love bore much fruit in our diocese.

I thank Sr. Susan McCarthy, RSM, and Sr. Mary Carton, SHF, for writing these notices.

Thank you for your prayers for these dear sisters who now live the purpose of their consecration in full: to be fully united to Christ and love Him with all their being.

Blessings to you,
Your sister,
Sr. Karla Felix-Rivera, VDMF, JCL



**“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and
let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.”**

Sister Bridget Mary Flynn, RSM

Sister Bridget Mary Flynn, a sister of mercy for 65 years, died on October 22 at Mercy Convent, Auburn after a lingering illness. Passionate, energetic, an educator, a woman of the Church are some of the images that describe Bridget Mary. She ministered in the Diocese of Sacramento as a high school teacher at St. Joseph Academy, Bishop Armstrong High School, St. Francis HS, Mercy High, Carmichael, and Bishop Manogue where she served as principal. She was dedicated to uplifting young women through education. Excellence, innovation and critical thinking were hallmarks of her educational philosophy. In 1980 she was awarded a Fulbright grant to study the secondary school curriculum and administration used in the French system. For her Master's thesis in history, she translated The Religious History in the French Revolution up to 1792 from French into English.


She was invited by Bishop Francis Quinn to serve as the first woman chancellor for the diocese in 1987. To this position she brought her skills and native talent for finances, administration and strategic thinking. It was while convening a diocesan meeting that she was stricken with an intracranial hemorrhage deep within the brain from which she never fully recovered.

Bridget is fondly remembered for her spirit of life, play and beauty. She had a deep appreciation for 'beauty' in all its forms – nature, a poem, a person, music. She loved tending to roses and other flowers in the convent gardens; this provided a contemplative time out for her.

A vigil service and Mass were celebrated for the repose of her soul on October 28 and 29 at Our Lady of Mercy, Auburn.

Sister Mercedes Braga, SHF

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sr. Mercedes Braga, SHF who died in her sleep November 5, 2019.



Sr. Mercedes worked in the Diocese many times over the last 50 years, including Walnut Grove, Shasta, Sacramento, Jackson, Sutter Creek, El Dorado Hills, Elk Grove. She was a parish and family catechist, family visitor, diocesan director, RCIA leader, volunteer at Wellspring, and presenter of Life Transitions workshops. She was one who could challenge, entertain, listen, and share her love of God every moment of her life.

We thank God for the gift of her life and all she gave to us and to the Church.

