

Obituary: Sr Mary Reidy



Mary Teresa Reidy was born on 16th December 1949 in Lancaster, UK. Her parents, Patrick and Catherine Reidy, were both from Ireland.

On finishing her secondary education, she entered the English Province of the Daughters of Jesus and did her novitiate in France. Following her profession on the 29th March 1970 she returned to England and trained as a nurse in St Mary's Hospital, London and worked for many years as a nurse. In 1980 she tried her vocation

here in Glencairn but returned to her own community after a few months.

Sr Mary did some further studies in Theology and Spiritual Direction and ministered for many years in St Beuno's Jesuit Retreat Centre in North Wales, using her skills in spiritual direction and her nursing skills. She left St Beuno's in 2005 to begin a period of discernment about her future. She visited Glencairn again in early 2007 and began the process of formal transfer on the 13th August 2007. She made her Solemn Profession in Glencairn on the 26th March 2012.

Sr Mary was a woman of magnanimous faith with a deep devotion to Our Lady. Small of stature but quick-minded and with outstanding generosity she served here as infirmarian for many years until her own health began to decline. She believed in simplicity and loved to declutter and clean. She had an amazing capacity for friendship and

people felt drawn to her listening ear, to her warm and compassionate heart and her continuing intercession for people's needs and intentions. She always remained very close to her siblings, Ann and Raymond.

Sr Mary was very well read, quite erudite and gave wise direction and counsel. She will be sadly missed but we hold lovely memories of her infectious laugh and gentle presence.

She was admitted to Cork University Hospital on Monday June 8th, was subsequently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died there on Thursday, July 16th, the feast of Our Lady of Mt Carmel.