



## Barbara Duffy Manis

March 26, 2020

Barbara Duffy Manis

April 21, 1937 - March 26, 2020

Barbara Duffy Manis entered into the peace and joy of the eternal light of our Lord on

March 26, 2020, after 82 years of following God's path here on earth.

Barbara answered the call to serve God by entering the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth Convent to become a nun right out of high school. After graduating with a degree in music as Sister Barbara Joseph, she went on to earn her Master's Degree in music from Notre Dame. She furthered her education by studying social studies at William Paterson University, earning another 30 credits..

Sister Barbara Joseph began her long career as an educator as music teacher starting at a parish in Jersey City, and other schools before transferring to Paramus Catholic.

When the Lord presented her with a fork in the road on life's journey, after 15 years as a nun, Sister Barbara Joseph made the difficult choice of leaving the religious life.

Barbara continued her career as an educator, teaching music and social studies in Fair Lawn before retiring in 2000. Over the span of her 40 plus year teaching career, Barbara influenced and inspired thousands of students with her passion for music.

She married the love of her life, Lt. Colonel Joseph Manis (USMC), on St. Valentine's Day, and was married for 37 years. They resided in Hillsdale for 35 years, where Barbara was a pillar of her faith community at the parish of St John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church for over 30 years. She held leadership positions in the life of St. John's, including four 2-year terms as Chair of the Pastoral Council, was a member of both St. John's Adult choir and the Liturgy and Intercessions Committees. She was Chair of the Readers Ministry and a reader herself. Barbara was active in two programs of the Archdiocese of Newark at St. John's; namely, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and the New Energies Transition Project. She completed an archdiocesan course called Christian Foundations for Ministry. As Chair of the Pastoral Council she organized the first Ministry Fair in conjunction with the Stewardship Council outreach. The Fair continued in the same format for a number of years. Barbara was also an active contributor in the Parish's 75th Anniversary celebrations.

Barbara would do an extraordinary job decorating their home at Christmas time and host extravagant dinner parties every New Years Day. One Christmas even a squirrel found the tree so irresistible that he decided to take up residence right inside it!

During the hot summer months, Barbara and Joe would host backyard barbecues poolside for family and friends. You could also always depend on an invitation to come over for a cool, refreshing dip in their pool on those scorching summer days.

Barbara and Joe shared the ordinary dinner preparation duties in the kitchen:

Joe cooked six nights a week, and Barbara one. Her favorite cooking implement was her Visa Card, so you could always depend on a midweek invitation to go out and dine with them.

Barbara's cats were always a fixture in their home. The most recent feline Sampson (aka Sammy) even resided with Barbara and Joe as they spent their last months living at The Atrium Assisted Living facility in Park Ridge. Barbara is planning to have Sammy's ashes interred with her.

Barbara's brothers, the Reverend Stephen F. Duffy, and John M Duffy, Capt (USAF), are predeceased. She is survived by her brother Peter, whose wife Ellen predeceased him, their three children, Michael, Thomas and Suzanne Duffy, and by cousins Kristine and Susan, children of her predeceased Aunt Inge, whom Barbara was very fond of. Her parents, Stephen M Duffy and Anita K Duffy predeceased her.

Barbara had unbridled enthusiasm for life. She was a passionate person with an excitable personality to match. She was dependable. She was fun. She touched the lives of countless of her students. She was committed to her friends and her faith. She loved her husband and her God. Barbara was blessed to have loyal, lifelong friends whom she cherished and loved dearly.

Many of you may not be able to personally honor Barbara with your physical presence next week as she is laid to rest, since there are extremely strict state-mandated guidelines in place, limiting admission to funeral homes to single digits.

Barbara's wake will be delivered via a live video-stream over the Internet at: 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM Tuesday, March 31, 2020, at the Volk Leber Funeral

Home's website:

<https://www.volkleberfuneralhome.com/>

At the direction of the Archdiocese of Newark, clergy are unable to enter the Funeral Home during the Corona Virus pandemic.

Internment and the Christian Rite of Committal will follow immediately after Barbara's wake at Maryrest Cemetery in Mahwah, however everyone, except for the funeral director, one clergy member and a single loved one, is not permitted at the cemetery.

The plan is also to "possibly" have a live video-stream of the committal via smartphone.

As soon as time permits, the Mass of Christian Burial will be scheduled at:  
St John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church  
69 Valley St, Hillsdale NJ 07642  
201-664-3131

If you are so inclined, Barbara's wishes were for charitable donations to be made to:

Sisters of Charity Development Fund  
PO BOX 476  
Convent Station NJ 07961-0476  
Thank you!

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

268 Kinderkamack Road  
Oradell, NJ

## Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall



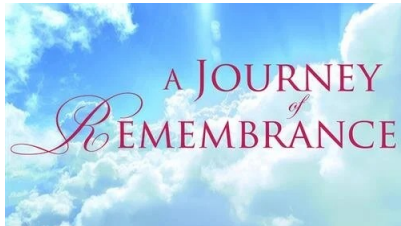
“ Volk Leber Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Barbara Duffy Manis



Volk Leber Funeral Home - March 31, 2020 at 09:13 AM



“ Volk Leber Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara Duffy Manis



Volk Leber Funeral Home - March 30, 2020 at 01:39 PM

GB

*My heart and spirit is with you and with Barbara as you remember her life, her fun times, and her faith in God and her friends at the St John the Baptist Memorial Service tomorrow in Hillsdale. I so wish I could be there! Barbara and I were lunch buddies for years -- we shared amazing belly laughs and cleansing tears together with relaxing Sundays in her Hillsdale kitchen or on her porch. They are times I truly cherish. Thank you to those who prepared the video and shared posts here. It's a real honor to read your comments and remember her. May her spirit stay with you always. Ginny B. (friend from Chestnut Ridge, NY)*

Ginny B. - October 22, 2020 at 02:29 PM



“ *Barbara Duffy Manis*

October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *Barbara Duffy Manis*

October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ *Barbara Duffy Manis*

August 30, 2022 at 02:48 PM



“ *I just saw online that Sister Barbara, my mentor at Paramus Catholic High School, passed away almost two years ago. I LOVED her. She was wonderful. I couldn't wait to enter her music class and participated proudly in her glee club all four years of high school. I remember sharing her sadness when her brother died in the car crash, and if my memory serves me correctly, shortly thereafter she decided to leave the convent...and our school. I was so sad that I would rush home each day and pray the rosary that she would change her mind. I lost contact with her and often wondered what she was doing. So happy to hear that she found her true love and enjoyed married life for many years.*

*I will never forget her beautiful smile, her kindness and the joy that she shared with us, not only in music class but in World History. She made the world light up for us! What a special teacher and person. May God bless her! Clare Cipriani Amoroso*

Clare AMoroso - February 12, 2022 at 04:56 PM

EM

“ I always remember Sr. Barbara at Paramus Catholic in 1966. I was in her music class. It was a new school. She was so nice and had a happy disposition.

Eileen (Hartmann) Maher - January 03, 2021 at 10:02 PM

MM

Sr.barbra, my nun in st. Mary high school, Jersey city. 1962/1966. Powerful, great concert director for glee club. Prayers were said .always remember her and that smile.

Mary donohue marquardt - February 21, 2021 at 09:21 PM

GB

“ Ginny B. lit a candle in memory of Barbara Duffy Manis



Ginny B. - October 22, 2020 at 02:15 PM

Jl

“ Barbara was my favorite cousin growing up. My father was Barbara's Uncle Jim, her father's older brother. Barbara was a few years older, but she was always very pleasant and much fun to be with. As we got a bit older, Barbara became a fabulous piano player, and she and my cousin Stephen, her older brother, would take turns at the piano leading everyone in a wide variety of songs that we would all sing as loudly as we could. I especially remember this at Christmas time when the whole family would get together at my Uncle Stephen's home in Teaneck, at my family's home in Roslyn, and, occasionally, at our Aunt Helen's home in Bayshore and we would all sing Christmas songs. Much of that stopped as Barbara entered the convent and my cousin Steve became a priest. And, of course, we all got older, went away to college, and then started our own careers and families. But the memories linger on. These were happy times for us all. With Barbara gone, I am now the oldest living member of the family. We will all miss you, Barbara, and never forget the happy memories you gave us.

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**James P Duffy III** - April 01, 2020 at 07:46 AM

CK

“ Whenever I saw Barbara in church she made me feel at home. She taught me to be a reader and I still remember her great advice. Her dedication and humor were a blessing to our community. She will be sorely missed.

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**Colette Killian** - March 31, 2020 at 10:58 AM

JR

“ Ms. Manis was a great teacher at Memorial Junior High School in Fair Lawn. I remember her passion for music.

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**John Reese** - March 31, 2020 at 09:43 AM

JM

“ 13 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Jeff Manis** - March 30, 2020 at 03:01 PM

PM

“ *Among the parishioners and staff members In the parish community of St. John the Baptist Church, Hillsdale, Barbara will be remembered as one who brought a Christ-like self-giving spirit to the many endeavors in which she was involved.*

*Whether as a participant or as a leader Barbara brought heart, resiliency, empathy, constancy, and always some fun. In the duration of my fifteen years as pastor I would number Barbara Duffy Manis as one who would always 'be there' with a smile, a willing spirit, and a helping hand. In Barbara faith came to life, and Love became incarnate.*

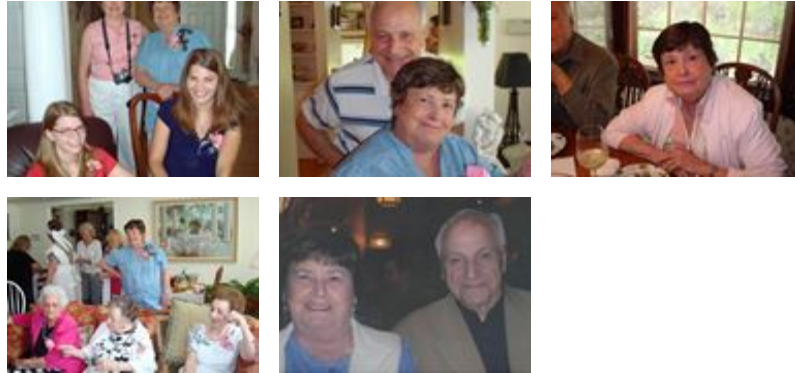
*Barbara, may the choirs of Angels receive you, May all the saints welcome you in the everlasting realm of God's life, love, and peace. Until in God We Meet Again, your friend always, Msgr. Philp Morris*

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**Philip D. Morris** - March 30, 2020 at 02:12 PM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Volk Leber Funeral Home** - March 30, 2020 at 01:34 PM

CH

“ *Sister Barbara Joseph led the Glee Club of St. Mary's when I was a freshman. She was always so happy and inspirational. We even recorded a record of one of our presentations. The Glee Club of St. Mary's was something everyone looked forward to and the hall was always filled to capacity. Rest in Peace, Sister. You are now singing with the angels!*

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**Claire Hatfield** - March 30, 2020 at 12:03 PM

SZ

“Barabara and I were in the same band. And some of my fondest memories were her sense of humor, her love of life, her incredible relationships with others and her deep love of God. Her talent with music was her gift of communicating her prayer with God as well as in her teaching with her students.



We all know the church is made up of its people. St. John's, Hillsdale, You have been blessed to have such a loving, caring, generous woman who gave tirelessly of herself to her community, your community. You now have an angel in heaven.

"Well done good and faithful servant".

Sr. Joann Bromley, S.C.  
Formerly Sr. Teresa Joseph  
Band of 1955

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**Sr. Joann Z=Bromley** - March 29, 2020 at 09:19 PM

RH

“Sister Barbara was one of my favorite teachers. I often think of how cheerful and encouraging she always was. We were blessed to have her at St. Mary's and I'm glad she went on to live a full life.



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**Rosemary Scott Halloran** - March 29, 2020 at 02:55 PM

SC

“My deepest sympathy to the Manis and Duffy families. For many years Barbara and I shared school, friendship and community. She was a wonderful friend and a marvelous musician. With love and prayers, Sister Mary Culhane

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**Sister Mary Culhane S. C.** - March 29, 2020 at 02:35 PM

RS

“ *Sister Barbara Joseph....Everyone at Saint Mary’s in Jersey City loved her, Personally I can never forget the memories Of Glee Club.....I still sing all our glee club songs, Sister Barbara has always been in my thoughts, she was the first person I ever met that actually rocked and rolled.....she gave everything she had*

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**Richie Slivocka** - March 29, 2020 at 02:01 PM

MW

“ *I taught with Barbara at Memorial School in Fair Lawn. She was just a joy. My prayers are with all of you.*

*Mary Wallace*

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**Mary Wallace** - March 29, 2020 at 09:56 AM

SS

*I have very fond memories of Barbara and the wonderful Duffy Family from our childhood days in Teaneck. May she Rest In Peace.*

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**Sister Eileen Clifford SC** - March 29, 2020 at 12:29 PM

SC

*I shared many happy moments with Barbara and the Duffy family. She was a friend a fellow classmate and a beautiful musician. My love and prayers to Peter and the Manis family.  
Sister Mary Culhane S. C.*

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**Sister Mary Culhane** - March 29, 2020 at 02:45 PM

JS

*Sister Barbara, I always remembered you. You were one of those special persons. You always urged me to do better. I remember around 1971 running into you at an affair at the Casino In the Park in Jersey City and of course I did not recognize you because you were by that time in "Civies" and you called out my full name and I looked into your face and said "Sister Barbara" to which you replied with all the dignity in the world "well not exactly". I'm so glad that you had a great life because you of all people deserved it. I am so sad that I cannot attend your final service. May GOD be with you always. JIM SHARROCK Class of 1964 St. Mary's High Jersey City.*

**James sharrock** - March 30, 2020 at 09:57 AM

RH

*I always had fond memories of Sr. Barbara (St. Mary's HS) she was a great teacher - demanding but always with a smile. I was so happy to hear she married a Marine - it sort of made it more personal. Marines always upon death take their new duty station guarding the streets and gates of Heaven - I know Barbara will be INSIDE greeting everyone with her beautiful smile. We'll all miss you - God Bless Rich Hyjack*

**Richard A Hyjack** - March 30, 2020 at 10:22 AM

MP

*I taught with Barbara at TJ for many years. Her energy and love of music coupled with her ability to connect with children always impressed all of us. May she Rest In Peace.*

**Marcella Pasetto** - March 30, 2020 at 11:53 AM

DK

*Debbie Kalinowski*

*My step-mom brought us such warm, loving strength and affection. When I needed wisdom and comfort Barbara was always there. Her prescience will always be with us, giving and full of joy. Love and miss you very much.*

**Debbie Kalinowski** - March 30, 2020 at 12:51 PM

BM

*Our deepest sympathy for her loss. May God Bless her soul*

**Basil Kasimis MD** - March 30, 2020 at 09:14 PM

HS

*My deepest sympathy to all whose lives were touched by this strong , intelligent woman. I only had the privilege of knowing Barb for a few short years but my life was truly enriched by getting to know her. Rest In Peace, Book club Barb! I will miss you.*

*Love, Hinda*

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**Hinda Sliclen** - April 08, 2020 at 09:50 AM

FB

*I taught at Memorial Junior High School in Fair Lawn with Barbara. She was such a passionate music teacher. I will always remember her with fond memories. We did a school camping trip together and had a memorable visit to my house after I had my daughter. She was honest and sincere, she also made me smile. She will be missed.*

*Fran Balint*

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**Frances Balint** - February 27, 2021 at 11:57 AM