

SISTER LUCY MARIE GREEN, CDP
October 24, 1916 – September 23, 2018



Sister Lucy Marie Green, CDP, entered eternal life on Sunday, September 23, 2018, at the age of 101. She was the daughter of Frank Green and Theresa Matilda Juny. Born October 24, 1916 in Decatur, Texas, Mary Frances (her baptismal name) answered God's call to become a Sister of Divine Providence on September 8, 1936, and professed first vows on June 22, 1938. Throughout her life, and especially as a Sister of Divine Providence, Sister Lucy Marie loved music. She studied music, taught, directed, and performed professionally throughout her years at St. Martin Hall, Our Lady of the Lake College/University, and at McCullough Hall Nursing Center, where she resided since 2002.

Sister Lucy Marie began her association with Our Lady of the Lake when her mother insisted that she attend a Catholic college, though she could have gone to Texas Women's University or North Texas State since they were closer to her hometown. She entered Our Lady of the Lake College at the age of 15 and graduated in 1936 at the age of 19.

Sister Lucy Marie came to discern her vocation at a "wonderful retreat" during her senior year at OLLC where she read excerpts of the life of St. Therese of Lisieux, and took a walk to the congregation's cemetery where she meditated before the statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In an interview given for congregational records, Sister Lucy Marie told of her experience that day, "I stood in front of the Sacred Heart, and I looked up and he said aloud to me, 'I want you!'" She was told by the retreat master that that was her direct call to a vocation in religious life. "So when I told Sister Amabilis that I was going to enter the convent, she almost fainted!" recalled Sister Lucy Marie of the immediate reaction of Sister Amabilis, her principal piano instructor and advisor at the time, when learning of her intent. She was the first person she told of her desire to enter convent life, for she had not yet told her family.

Though she intended to join the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in St. Louis, MO, Sister Lucy Marie, encouraged by Sister Amabilis, spoke to her parents about joining the Sisters of Divine Providence instead. Her first mission was as a teacher at St. Martin Hall, which, she found "challenging" because she had never taught anyone before.

Throughout her life and ministries, Sister Lucy Marie surrounded herself with music: she received her Bachelor's degree in 1936 in music, with a major in piano, took advanced studies at Juilliard School of Music, Columbia University, New York City, NY, in 1946, and graduated cum laude from Chicago Musical College, Chicago, IL, in 1950. In addition, during the summer, she studied piano pedagogy at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, 1967-1968, 1970, and music literature and electronic music at SMU in 1975.

A musician extraordinaire, Sister Lucy Marie, was honored numerous times with various awards, including: National Piano Guild Hall of Fame, 1968; International Who's Who in Music, 1975, 1976; and Who's Who of American Women, 1975.

In 1976, Sister Lucy Marie was urged to apply for the position of Director of the Office of Alumni Affairs at OLLU, and served as its director from 1976-1985, and later as assistant director of that office for another three years. During those years in the Alumni Affairs office, with help from Sisters James Aloysius and Raymond, Sister Lucy Marie continued to practice and maintain her piano studio.

Sister Lucy Marie lost sight in one of her eyes and, as a result, would read music with only one eye. However, she was not permitted to continue teaching, which she loved. Even in her limited physical capacity, she continued playing the piano when she became a resident at McCullough Hall Nursing Center until she could not do so any more.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Theresa Green, sister, Mary Ann Green Jones and husband, J.B. Jones; her brother, Dr. Paul Martin Green and wife Frances Allene "Bo" Slaton Green. She is survived by numerous nieces, nephews and great grand nieces and nephews in Texas and throughout the United States, as well as her Sisters of Divine Providence.

The Rosary is Thursday, September 27, at 4:00 p.m. and the Wake is at 6:30 p.m. A Mass of Resurrection will be Friday, September 28, at 11:00 a.m. All services will be in Annunciation Chapel at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center.

In lieu of flowers, you may wish to make a memorial contribution to the Sisters of Divine Providence, 515 S.W. 24th Street, San Antonio, TX 78207-4619.