



SR. BRENDAN DODD,sm.
18. XII.1931 – 06.VII. 2023.

Sr. Brendan, formally Mary Dodd, was born on the 18 December 1931, in Ballindoon, Boyle, Co Sligo. Her parents were Edward and Kathleen Dodd and she had four sisters and three brothers.

She attended the local Primary school in Clonagh, Ballindoon and later the Marist Convent Secondary school in Carrick on Shannon. She made her first profession in 1952.

Sr. Brendan chose Primary school teaching as her career and continued her education in Carysfort Teacher Training College in Dublin.

In 1952 she began her teaching career in Carrick on Shannon and two years later was transferred to spend five years as a teacher in Tubbercurry.

In 1959 the Marist Sisters were invited to start a new Primary school in Sundrive Road, Dublin, and here Brendan became one of the founder members of the new school, which is still thriving today with a Marist Sister in charge.

After four years, Brendan spent some years teaching in Carrick on Shannon, Charlestown and finished her teaching career in Tubbercurry in June 1997.

Brendan loved teaching. She had a great sense of humour and enjoyed the children. Past pupils recalled times she had laughed heartily while correcting their behaviour at her speech and drama classes or football coaching. A multi-talented lady, Brendan trained beautiful choirs who greatly enhanced the weekly Sunday Liturgies and the festive occasions in the parish. Brendan was also a gifted artist and left a beautiful treasury to her beloved nieces and nephews who visited her regularly. Brendan herself had a great love for all her family and was particularly caring and devoted to her sister who had additional needs.

Following her retirement from teaching, Brendan took up parish work in Belfast for five years and enjoyed the North of Ireland. She had no hesitation staying in the North and moving to Newry for six years where she joined a Marist team of Fathers and Sisters engaged in Parish work.

She returned to Charlestown in 2008 and in 2013 she settled down in Tubbercurry as organiser of the Health Centre. This gave her new life, energy and an outlet for her joyful spirit. She loved playing cards and Bingo with the elderly people who came for relaxation, a meal or singsong.

Brendan herself enjoyed the week of the Drama festival in Tubbercurry when drama groups came from all over Ireland to perform. She never missed a night of drama and enjoyed meeting the local people. She loved following all the football matches on television and was a great fan of Country and Western music.

Marist spirituality was very dear to Brendan's heart. The Sisters had Marist Laity groups in the local areas but for adults only. So Brendan launched out and formed a group for teenagers in another parish where the Sisters formally went for Children of Mary meetings. Parents greatly welcomed and supported this venture.

During her Marist lifetime, Brendan held many posts of responsibility including Principal teacher in Sundrive Road, Dublin, Principal of the Primary school in Tubbercurry and she also served as the Irish Provincial, from '83 –'89.

Sr. Brendan lived life to the full and shared all her talents generously even in her declining years.

On the 6 July 2023, surrounded by her family and Marist Sisters, she went to her eternal reward. Following her funeral mass, she was laid to rest in the convent cemetery in Tubbercurry.

*"We must be ready to go forward in joyful hope.
Courageously accepting the cross,
knowing that it is the way to life and resurrection".
(Marist Constitutions)*



Written by Mary Richardson.