

Sr. Catherine Mary Kane, OSF
September 9, 1938 – January 29, 2026

Sister Catherine Mary Kane was born and named Susanne Rose Kane on September 9, 1938, in Phoenixville, PA and peacefully entered eternal rest on January 29, 2026, at St. Elizabeth Motherhouse in Allegany, NY. She was the daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Foley) Kane.

Sister Catherine Mary Kane transferred to the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany on June 13, 1980, and professed her final religious vows as an Allegany Franciscan on October 4, 1983. Prior to this transfer, Catherine had been a faithful vowed member in the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) in Immaculata, PA in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for 24 years. Catherine continued to joyfully live her call as a Franciscan Women Religious for an additional 45 years reflecting God’s love and mercy to all with whom she came in contact.

She graduated from St. Ann School in Phoenixville, PA in 1952 and Hallahan Catholic High School in Philadelphia, PA in 1956. She received her BA in Latin from Immaculata College in 1971 and her MA in Religious Studies from St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia, PA in 1978.

Her main ministry was in the field of education on all levels – elementary, high school and adult training in schools in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. In 1994, Catherine used her Religious Studies background and became a Director of Religious Education (DRE) and Pastoral Associate in parishes in the Diocese of Camden.

Catherine was always deeply involved in her ministry; however, she found opportunities to volunteer in whatever “down time” she had. She could be seen assisting the homeless at St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia or helping the women at The Dwelling Place in New York City. While in South Jersey, she participated in the Diocesan Prison Ministry Program and spent many Saturdays providing holistic retreat experiences for the women in the parishes where she served. She devoted many hours volunteering in the Marriage Tribunal for the Diocese of Camden in her quiet, unassuming manner. She was a multi-talented woman with a big Franciscan heart!

She retired in 2016 in Millville, NJ and used this free time to provide outreach to the poor and marginalized in the local area, as well as spoil her feline friends ... “Lady Clare” and “Glory Be”! In 2021, Sister was warmly welcomed home to St. Elizabeth Motherhouse where she renewed friendships with her bandmates. Catherine was an avid reader and a lover of animals, so she was often seen in the library signing out a new book or traveling to the SPCA in Hinsdale, NY to spend the afternoon caring for the abandoned animals. She was a true follower of St. Francis!

Sister Catherine is predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Catherine Kane. She is survived by her brother Joseph and his wife, Mariellen, and her cousin, Sr. Doris Kane, IHM.

Catherine requested that there would not be a wake or a eulogy. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 10:30 AM in the Chapel of St. Elizabeth Motherhouse. In accordance with her requests, she will be cremated following the Mass and interment of her cremains will be in St. Bonaventure Cemetery at a future date.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Letro-McIntosh-Spink Funeral Home, Inc., 646 East State Street, Olean, NY 14760.

Rest in Peace, Catherine!