



Sister Timothy Anne Daly, CSJ
November 20, 1937 - March 10, 2022

Elizabeth Anne Daly was born into a loving Irish family in San Francisco on November 20, 1937. Her mother, Margaret Kiely, was born in Butte, Montana; she and her brothers and sisters all settled in San Francisco, so the children “always had someone to play with.” Her father, Timothy Joseph Daly, grew up in County Cork, Ireland. In later years, Betty and her sister made regular trips to Ireland to spend part of their summers with their Daly family.

Their brother Gene was the oldest of the three, and her sister Mary was just a year older than Betty was. All three attended Star of the Sea school. Betty described herself as a “thirteen-year Star.” She described her parents as very active in the parish so the girls “often got to accompany the Sisters to Clement Street, or go with our Dad to ‘fix’ something at the parish. Star was important for us, both for our schooling, but also for some of our social life. Many things happened in the parish to get us together—or something Irish was happening.”

Betty had wanted to be a sister for a long time, and was first attracted to the Holy Family Community. But after her sister Mary entered the Sisters of St. Joseph, taking the name of Sr. Stephen Elizabeth, Betty was encouraged to enter that community so she could be closer to her sister. “A very special highlight has been having my own sister in community to share my life in a very special way.”

Betty entered the community on September 15, 1955, received the habit and her religious name, Sr. Timothy Anne, on March 19, 1956. When the Daly sisters were still very young in the community, their mother died. Timothy Anne was still a novice, going to make her first vows in just six months, and Sr. Stephen Elizabeth was teaching first grade at Our Lady of Victory School in Fresno. “My mother died at an early age, and my dad died ten years later. I can say it was difficult not to have them with me for the special events of my life. But I feel blessed that I had my sister in religion, and that I had so many friends from places where I taught who became a part of my family for me.”

Sr. Timothy Anne made her first profession in Mount St. Mary's College chapel on March 19, 1958, and final profession in St. Mary's House of Studies chapel on August 6, 1963. Her first mission was as first grade teacher at St. Lawrence Martyr School in Redondo Beach. Then she moved on to St. Thomas the Apostle in San Francisco, Most Precious Blood in Concord, and back to Los Angeles at St. Jerome's. "My journey has taken me from the beach area, Los Angeles, Fresno, to the Bay Area, and to Pasco, Washington." She loved Washington because she had never lived where snow was part of the seasons.

In 1974, Timothy Anne began the first of her three assignments as school principal at St. Theresa School in Fresno. After a year teaching in Los Angeles at Transfiguration, she began another term as principal, this time at St. Patrick's in Pasco. Then to Our Lady Queen of Angels in Newport Beach, St. Jarlath's in Oakland, and finally for ten years as principal at Christ the King School in Pleasant Hill.

Wherever she went, Tim made a difference. As she moved from school after school, she left lasting friends who stayed on as part of her life. "Many years, many students, many friends—who could ask for more?"

When she ended her ten years at Christ the King, students and parents, her pastor and parishioners, and civic leaders all voiced their appreciation with a gathering of hundreds of people to honor her. The mayor declared a "Sister Timothy Anne Day"; the Pleasant Hill Police Department recognized her support of the D.A.R.E Program and at the end of the speeches, and a dozen white doves were released to show the community's gratitude.

But there was more teaching to come. When she left Christ the King, she moved to Livermore and became a teacher at St. Michael School where she stayed for fourteen years, sharing community with the Dominican sisters. By now, she had taught for 53 years, and was ready to take on just one more mission, serving as religion coordinator at St. Francis of Assisi in Concord.

Her many years as teacher and administrator were not enough to keep Timothy Anne busy. She spent many happy hours doing crafts. Her Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls became prized collectors' items in parish and community fundraisers. Over the years, she created over 175 sets of the dolls. In addition, she loved to read, almost anything she could lay her hands on.

In many ways, Timothy Anne was a happy traveler. Wherever she was missioned, she made time in her life for her friends, her family in San Francisco and vacations including time for the casinos. She and a little band of friends traveled all over the country every year for the NCEA meetings. The Los Angeles Religious Education Conference was always on her agenda. And always, every other summer, she and Mary were part of the family in Ireland.

February 2013, Sr. Timothy Anne finally began to slow down. She came to Carondelet Center in semi-retirement to volunteer with memory care sisters in Holy Family Community. She celebrated her 60th Jubilee in 2016.

Even during this time of memory decline, with Sr. Stephen's encouragement she kept up with her travel and visiting for many years, coming to Pasco as late as May 2019 for a celebration at Lourdes hospital.

However, as she gradually slowed down, she herself eventually became one of the memory care sisters. Stephen's death took its toll on her and her physical decline became more evident following her death.

In July 2021, she moved to St. John of God Retirement Home for care that is more extensive and enjoyed the support and attention of the Vitas Hospice staff for many years. During her final days, the lessening of restrictions allowed many friends to visit and say goodbye. She died peacefully on March 10 in the early hours of the morning. Rest in peace, dear Timothy and may God continue to hold you in the palm of his hand.

~ Sister Mary Williams, CSJ