

A Force for Good Throughout The World Sr. Grace Malonzo, D.W.

Called “A Force For Good Throughout The World,” Sister Grace Malonzo, D.W. an active member of The Gathering of Friends (an Intentional Eucharistic Community serving the Hampton Roads area in South-eastern Virginia), and an icon in the Portsmouth Virginia community for many years was recently honored for her lifetime of dedicated humanitarian service. The honor came from The City of Portsmouth Mayor, Kenny Wright and administrators of the Portsmouth Catholic Regional School. In recognizing her they proclaimed January 9, 2015 as "Sister Grace Malonzo's Service Appreciation Day" in the City of Portsmouth.

Born on February 13, 1935, Sr. Grace attended Portsmouth Public Schools and Saint Paul's High School (Class of 1953). She was professed as a Daughter of Wisdom on February 2, 1955, and this year, as she turns 80, she will celebrate 60 years of consecrated life. In 1965, she began her passion for missionary work and traveled to Malawi, Central East Africa, and the Philippines.

She returned to Portsmouth, VA in 1970, where she worked as a nurse at Maryview Hospital and the Naval Hospital. In 1977, she was asked to join the Pastoral Care Department of Maryview and studied to earn certification in the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. After a lifelong career of holding the hands of the sick, comforting their families, and responding to the needs of the poor throughout the world, Sr. Grace retired in 2004.

Since her retirement, she continues to reach out to those in need; you can find her delivering tray favors to patients, spending time with students, delivering eggs to the homeless and participating in one of her favorite charities, a feeding program in the Philippines.



Pictured with Sr. Grace is City of Portsmouth Mayor, Kenny Wright, Principal, Mary Ellen Paul, and Assistant Principal, Donna Henry of Portsmouth Catholic Regional School.