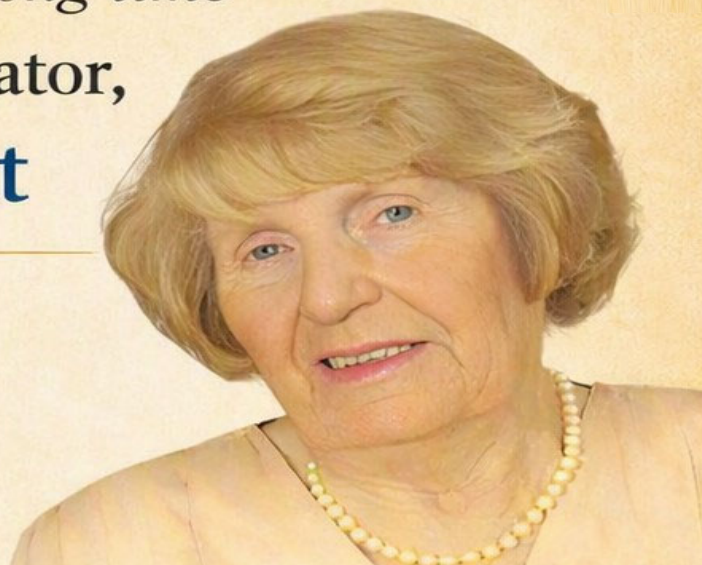


Funeral Services *for our long-time* **Christian Services Coordinator,** **Bridie McDermott**



Bridie, who served as the Christian Services Coordinator at St. Therese for over twenty-five years (beginning in January 1989), died on September 16, 2026, at the age of 92. Born in County Mayo, Ireland, Bridie immigrated to the United States at age 16 and met her husband John here, eventually settling in Alhambra. She never lost her charming Irish brogue.

Because our Parish was founded by the Irish Province of the Discalced Carmelite Friars, many Irish-born families settled in Alhambra and joined St. Therese. Bridie was one of the last two Irish-born parishioners in our community who had settled here many years ago; with her passing, Kitty Ellis is now the last.

Long before beginning her ministry in January of 1989, Bridie was already a beloved and familiar presence at St. Therese. She and John raised five children—all graduates of our School—and she was active in many of our Parish groups, often serving as a coordinator.

Bridie was hired by Fr. David Costello, the pastor at the time, order to establish our Christian Services program, which began with the distribution of groceries to those in need within and around our parish boundaries. Under her direction, the ministry grew, eventually providing lunch receptions for funerals, matching caretakers and housekeepers with parishioners seeking help (a sort of employment service), and assisting individuals with rent, utilities, and other urgent needs. Over the years, Bridie became a trusted and compassionate resource for countless people who relied on her kindness, generosity, and steady care.

**Bridie's funeral services will be held here at St. Therese on
Wednesday, October 7:**

Rosary: 10:00 a.m. Mass: 10:30 a.m. Followed by Burial at San Gabriel Cemetery.