

December 18, 2016

## OBITUARY – ANNE WILSON BATES

Anne Wilson Bates, 79, of New Haven and formerly of Greenwich, CT, passed away on Sunday, December 18, 2016, at Connecticut Hospice in Branford. Born in New York City, NY, on November 28, 1937, daughter of the late G. Wallace and Frances (Trump) Bates, she was raised in New York City, NY, St. Louis, MO, and Greenwich. After high school, Anne continued her education at Smith College in Northampton, MA, and graduated with a major in art and a minor in languages.

Anne's parents dedicated their lives and resources to helping others in their community and throughout the world, especially the poor and those who lacked work and the foundation for getting work or a place to live. Following in their footsteps, Anne entered the Regina Laudis Benedictine Community after graduating from Smith College and earned an associate degree in nursing, which put a formal title on what was already a quite apparent gift for nurturing. Her charitable spirit inspired her to a life of faith and service.

In 1982, she was first invited on a fact-finding mission to the Philippines by a Filipino sister. This spurred several more trips to the Philippines. This landmark time in the Philippines intensified her faith and created a thirst for more mission work. She became comfortable in the shoes of a justice and peace worker, and experienced for the first time the basic Christian Community approach to community building and development.

Back in the U.S, she attended the Maryknoll School of Theology and began to apply the scriptures in new ways to her vision of service. She later moved to Argentina and worked with a Maryknoll sister providing education in trades to street children and assisting in a shelter for abused women and children. She also travelled to the rural areas of Argentina installing solar panels for electricity and computers in schools so that children without books could learn to read. While in Argentina, she met a young Nigerian man, Emmanuel Ihemedu, who had trained for 10 years in a seminary. He had left the Seat of Wisdom Seminary in 1997 to join the reclusive, and largely monastery-bound, Marians of the Immaculate Conception in Argentina as he felt a calling to community life. Anne saw in him some talent that the young man might not even have seen in himself and contacted Bishop Peter Rosazza of the Archdiocese of Hartford requesting that the Archdiocese accept him as a seminarian. Rev. Emmanuel Ihemedu graduated from Mount Saint Mary's University & Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD in 2006 and is now serving as the Pastor of Saint Justin and Saint Michael Parishes in Hartford. Anne worked with Rev. Emmanuel through the charitable trust her father had established to make a difference in various parts of the world including in his home country of Nigeria. Anne's work there included digging wells for drinking water, medical missions, building a Marycare Health Center and providing scholarships, and aiding and assisting the poor. Her non-profit, Marycare, which she founded and had served as President until her passing, has not only done lifesaving work, it has educated people and built immense foundation for future good.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, December 22, 10 a.m., at St. Aedan Church, 112 Fountain St., New Haven. Private Burial will follow in Middle Patent Rural

Cemetery in Bedford, NY. At Anne's request, there will be no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, please honor Anne's life and legacy by touching hearts and changing lives. Keep her memory alive by supporting her work at Marycare, 230 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, CT 06112 or by visiting, [www.marycare.org](http://www.marycare.org). Carmon Windsor Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. For online condolences please visit, [www.carmonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carmonfuneralhome.com).