

Sister Marie Melton, RSM

Sister Marie Melton, 84, former dean of St. John's University libraries, died Dec. 21, 2010 at Maria Regina Residence in Brentwood. Formerly Sister Mary Thaddeus, she was a Sister of Mercy of the Americas Mid-Atlantic Community.

Sister Marie grew up in St. Patrick's Parish in Bay Shore and graduated from St. Patrick's School and Seton Hall High School in Patchogue. She entered the novitiate in Syosset in 1944 and made her final vows in 1950. She was a Sister of Mercy for 67 years.



She taught in several schools in the Brooklyn Diocese and was the librarian at Bishop McDonnell High School in Brooklyn, Mater Christi High School in Queens and St. John's University in Jamaica, Queens.

In 1972 she was appointed associate director of libraries at St. John's University, then director and finally dean of the university libraries. Though she retired in 1997 she continued as a library consultant in the Brooklyn, Rockville Centre and New York dioceses until 2003. She retired to the Convent of Mercy in Brooklyn and then to Maria Regina Residence.

Sister Marie held two master's degrees — in library science from Pratt Institute and in education from St. John's University — and earned a doctorate in education at St. John's. She also received an honorary degree of Doctor of Pedagogy from St. John's.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church in Bay Shore on Dec. 28, followed by interment at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Bay Shore. She is survived by her nieces and nephews.