

*Celebrating* THE *Life* OF

# *Frances M. Marks*

OCTOBER 1, 1927 – JULY 20, 2025

**Services At:**

Assumption Catholic Church - Morris, Minnesota  
Friday - July 25, 2025 - 10:30 a.m.

**Officiating Clergy:**

Father Todd Schneider  
Father Alan Wielinski  
Father Lucho Palomino

**Musicians:**

Linda & Ken Hodgson

**Reader:**

Jacque Novotny

**Pallbearers:**

Byron White, Roger Baier, Wayne Novotny  
Doc Theisen, Derek Villars, Ron Binsfeld

**Interment:**

Calvary Cemetery  
Morris, Minnesota

I'm proud of them - these hands of mine;  
So **MANY** things they've done.  
They've planted flowers, and pulled the weeds,  
and worked out in the sun.  
They've kneaded bread and cooked the meals  
More times than I can say.  
They've washed a ton of clothes,  
I guess, and put them all away.  
They've *soothed*  
a small child's fevered brow & rubbed an aching head.  
And when the evening shadows fell,  
They put the brood to bed.  
They've borne the bite of winter's cold  
And felt the warmth of spring.  
And on the finger long ago was put a wedding ring.  
And when **MY JOURNEY** here is over,  
I still shall *be thankful*  
That these old work - worn hands of mine  
Have done so much for me.

**Frances “Fran” Marion Torrey** was born on October 1, 1927 in Drayton, North Dakota, the daughter of James and Mary Edna (Bellamy) Torrey. She grew up on a wheat and sheep farm in the Red River Valley north of Grand Forks.

Fran graduated from St. Benedicts College with a teaching degree and later received her Master’s Degree. She began her career teaching for several years in Minnesota and South Dakota. Eventually she accepted a teaching position in Graceville where she taught high school business and English for 26 years.

While teaching in Milroy, a fellow teacher, Jake Marks, caught her eye and on August 23, 1952, the couple married in Tyler, Minnesota. They were blessed with three children, Janae, Paul and Kathy.

Fran has been active in all of the communities in which she lived. Since being in Morris, she has been a faithful member of Assumption Catholic Church, where she volunteered preparing the bulletin and any other tasks that needed to be done. Being a high energy and social person, volunteering has allowed her to connect with many people and create many friendships.

She enjoyed reading, playing bridge, socializing and of course, anything sweet. She especially enjoyed spending time together with her family.

Fran died Sunday, July 20, 2025, at Divine Providence in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. She was 97 years old.

Survivors include her three children, Janae (Paul) Theisen of Sleepy Eye, Paul (Paula) Marks of Bloomington and Kathy (Byron) Marks White of Olympia, WA; grandchildren, Michelle (Derek) Villars, Phillip “Doc” (Jolene) Theisen and McKayla Theisen and great-grandchildren, Jacob Theisen, Grant Villars, Thomas Theisen and Brianna Villars. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Mary Edna; husband, Jake; siblings, Mary Edna Torrey, Howard Torrey, Evelyn Baier and Leroy Torrey; grand son-in-law, Chuck Fiedler and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Fr. William Marks, Donald (Mary) Marks, Mary (Leif) Roland, Margaret (Clarence) Frost, Ray (Evelyn) Marks, John Marks and Aloysius Marks.



*Please use this QR Code to access Fran’s online guestbook and tribute video.*

**Pedersen**  
Funeral & Cremation Service

I N L O V I N G  
*Memory*

