

CSA ASSOCIATE JUBILARIAN 2016

Name of Jubilarian: Jan Parker

Birthplace/Hometown: Huntington, Indiana

Education:

St. Mary's Grade School and Huntington Catholic High School, Huntington, Indiana
B.S. Elementary Education Saint Francis College Fort Wayne, Indiana
M.A. Pastoral Studies College of St. Thomas Saint Paul, Minnesota
M.S. Library and Information Science University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Wellness Training in Healing and Transformation, CAPACITAR, Inc., Milwaukee, WI
Accredited T'ai Chi Chih® Teacher Aston, PA

Current Ministries:

Teaching T'ai Chi Chih® classes and Wellness Practices at retreat centers, service and healthcare organizations, schools, and churches
Volunteering at LOVE in the Name of Christ Food Pantry and Parkview Huntington Hospital

Past Places of Ministry:

Victory Noll Center, Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, Huntington, IN ~ Director
Co-Director of CSA Associate Relationship and Assistant in Justice and Peace Office
Marian University, Fond du Lac, WI ~ Reference Librarian
St. Lawrence Seminary, Mt. Calvary, WI ~ Spiritual Life Team and Library Manager
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN, Office of Religious Education, ~ Director of Media Center and Executive Secretary, Diocesan Pastoral Council

- * **Share a story about a time, an event, or an experience in your life that affirms or speaks to your commitment as a CSA associate.**
- * **Share what it means to you to be celebrating jubilee in CSA and in the global Church.**
- * **Share a poem, a prayer, a reflection that has captured for you, the story of your journey as an associate.**

Poet Mary Oliver wrote, "What is it that you plan to do with your one wild and precious life." Part of that wild and precious life has been as a CSA associate for 25 years. When I moved to Fond du Lac to work at St. Lawrence Seminary, I learned more about the congregation and their ministries. I became more aware of my heart-felt connection to the charism, values, and documents that guide the congregation. And so I answered God's call and became an associate in order to deepen that relationship with CSA. I had the privilege to serve in a variety of ministries where I met and worked with many wonderful people and experienced opportunities to expand my vision. Those opportunities included working with an organization of associates and sisters from various congregations called Midwest Kindred Spirits; serving as the first CSA associate to be Co-Director of the Associate Relationship; being a Board Member of North American Conference of Associates and Religious (NACAR); and helping initiate the CSA Associate Vision Circle. Currently, I am enjoying teaching classes that combine wellness and spirituality. I also am a caregiver for my mom. All of these opportunities have given me a deeper appreciation for the CSA Associate Relationship and a

broader perspective of the universal church and the blessings of collaborating with others to serve humanity and the cosmos. The associate relationship has been a gift and continues to call me ever deeper into a commitment of service. I am very grateful.