

CSA JUBILARIAN 2016

Name of Jubilarian: Mary Martin Voglewede

Name of Birthplace/Hometown: Decatur, IN

Education: Schools/colleges/universities attended and degrees received:

St. Joseph Elementary, Decatur, IN – Grades 1-8
Decatur Catholic High, Decatur, IN – Grades 9-12
Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI – B.S. Education
Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI – CNA
Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI – M.Ed.

Please name the places where you have ministered; if possible, list years. If you were a teacher, please name the parish or school, location, dates, and grade levels taught:

1956-58 St. Mary's, Fond du Lac, WI – Grade 6
1958-60 St. Florian's, Milwaukee, WI – Grade 6
1960-67 St. Mark's, Two Rivers, WI – Grade 6
1967-69 St. Nicholas, Evanston, IL – Departmental 7th & 8th Grades
1969-72 St. Mary's, Nanty Glo, PA – Principal & 7th Grade
1972-77 St. Luke's & TRCCS (Consolidation), Two Rivers, WI – Departmental 6th & 8th Grades
1977-78 Immaculate Conception, Elmhurst, IL – Grades 7 & 8
1978-82 St. Mary's, Eden, WI – Grades 6 & 8
1982-83 St. Mary's, Altoona, PA – Grade 6
1985-87 CSA Retirement Home, Decatur, IN
1987-91 Unity House, Chicago, IL – Neighborhood Outreach
1992-2002 L'Arche, Mobile, AL – House parent to severe mentally and physically challenged adults
2004 Sojourner Truth House, Gary, IN – homeless and at-risk women and children
2004-05 Sabbatical/Retired

Please provide a statement of 150 to 250 words using as your focus any or all of the following:

When I was young, it was considered heroic to leave home, give up possessions, and give oneself totally to God. In my idealism of seeking the best to give in life, I gratefully and blindly accepted God's call to join a group of women I admired, and who believed in me. Just like marriage or single pursuits, I was surprised and challenged by the demands of my chosen vocation as they unfolded. Conformity, silence, and structure were very hard—but they were part of the package. Love and Beloved triumphed to celebrate 25 years.

Then Vatican II sent the next heroic mandate to the whole church, but to the religious first. Authenticity of life, social needs, and institutional structures were challenged. The new call went forth. My sisters and I accepted, moved out of convent security, away from institutional life, and into simple dress. We went to the outreaches to the poor and the marginal. We pioneered new ministries that separated us from our sister co-workers, friends, and families. Long years of continuous change and transition to mainstream life required high energy, deeper love, indeed, and a new theology, recommitment, and many tears.

But, the fruit is—that we are living the mission of Jesus—with Jesus—as His instruments of peace and non-violence— through courageous endeavors and outrageous hope. It is very clear to me that I have "come this far by Faith—leaning on the Lord."

"What is it you plan to do with your one, wild, precious life?" ~~Mary Oliver