

CSA JUBILARIAN 2016

Name of Jubilarian: Sharon Pollnow

Name of Birthplace/Hometown: Milwaukee, WI

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

Mother of Good Counsel Grade School, Milwaukee, WI
Messmer High School, Milwaukee, WI
Marian College, B.S. Education, Fond du Lac, WI
University of Minnesota, M.A. Education
University of Michigan, MSW Social Work
Lourdes University, Sylvania, OH, Spiritual Direction Certification
Grief & Trauma Specialist Certification

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:

1967-69 St. Mary's School, Mayville, WI – First Grade Teacher
1969-71 Holy Trinity School, Kewaskum, WI – First Grade Teacher
1971-78 St. Nicholas School, Evanston, IL – First Grade Teacher
1975-78 District Coordinator of CSA (IL)
1978-83 St. John the Evangelist School, Defiance, OH – Principal & Parish Staff Member
1979-83 Toledo Diocesan School Board Member – Bishops' Advisory Council
1983-88 St. Catherine of Sienna School, Toledo, OH – Principal & Parish Staff Member
1988-93 St. John the Baptist School, Toledo, OH – Principal & Parish Staff Member
1995 – 2009 Lourdes University, Sylvania, OH – Instructor
2009-13 CSA General Council Member, Fond du Lac, WI
1990-present Sophia Center, Sylvania, OH – Clinical Social Worker, Psycho-social Assessments, Counseling, Grief & Trauma Specialist
1990-present Spiritual Director

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

Blessed is the word that reverberates with every beat of my heart as I celebrate my 50th JUBILEE as a Sister of St. Agnes.

God's call to me to be a woman religious was so powerful and so clear. It was a call I didn't ask for or even initially desire. Having placed myself in the Hands of the Living God, I have not been disappointed—frightened and resistant at times—but what an amazing journey it has been!!!

These many years I have carried in my heart God's words from the prophet Micah, "All I ask of you is to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with God." As I have attempted to do this, I have received abundant blessings poured out and overflowing. I have been loved and have loved on this sacred journey.

The gratitude I feel for my family, friends, sisters, associates and partners in ministry—for all who have walked with me, companioned me, ministered with me—is immense and deep.

My ministries of teaching, of administration, of clinical social work, of community leadership, and of spiritual direction have been about the mission of Jesus.

Through the grace of God, I have had the awesome privilege of touching the lives of people, and of being touched and transformed by them.

God has been gracious to me beyond what I could ever have imagined when I vowed my life to God as a Sister of St. Agnes. I am **Blessed and Grateful**.