

Name of Jubilarian: Sister Carol Geels

Name of Birthplace/Hometown: Decatur, Indiana

Education, schools attended, and degrees received:

St. Joseph Grade School, &
Decatur Catholic High School, Decatur, Indiana
Marian University, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin – B.S. Education
Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin – M. Education
St. John University, Collegeville, Minnesota – Liturgical Music
Fordham University – Biblical Studies/Vocational Guidance
St. Mary's, Winona, Minnesota – Administration
University of Notre Dame – Development

Overview of positions held, locations, and dates where Sister Carol has ministered:

1949-1955, St. Patrick Fond du Lac, Wisconsin – Grade 1
1955-1958, St. Florian, Milwaukee, Wisconsin – Grade 2
1958-1962, St. Luke, Two Rivers, Wisconsin, - Grade 5, 7
1962-1966, Sacred Heart, Yonkers, New York – Grade 8
1966-1971, St. Mary Help of Christians, West Allis, Wisconsin – Principal, Grade 8
1971-1979, CSA Apostolic Councilor – Elementary Education
1979-1987, Two Rivers Catholic Central, Two Rivers, WI - Principal
1987-1994, St. Mary, Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania – Principal
1994-1999, CSA Local Coordinator Motherhouse
1999-2004, St. John Baptist, Jefferson – Music Teacher
2004-Present, Monroe Clinic, Monroe, Wisconsin - Volunteer

Thoughts on Religious Life:

I grew up in a loving family where joy and love of God, life, and people were very often expressed through music. In grades 1 through 12, especially important for me was that music: Band, Chorus, Performing Arts, and Liturgical Music was integral to the curriculum. My teachers, Sisters of St. Agnes, inspired me by their joyful spirit, creative teaching, and genuine love for all students and their families. Near the end of my senior year, Sister Fidelis asked me, "What are you going to do with your life – become a Sister of St. Agnes?" Seemingly, out of the blue, I answered, "Yes."

Through these 60 years as a Sister, there have been changes and challenges in religious life, our church, and our worship. I am indeed grateful that early in CSA's renewal, we were provided enormous opportunities for personal and communal growth, especially in biblical and liturgical renewal. More recently, new insights in Christology have brought a deeper understanding of Jesus' desire for justice for the poor and women and for care for the earth and the entire cosmos.

For me, all of life has been a joyful celebration of lending my gifts of teaching, administering, and providing liturgical worship service in harmony with other CSA joy-filled women. I truly believe that where there is joy, there is God! My name CAROL means joyful song: Jesus, you are the joyful music in my heart.