

CSA JUBILARIAN 2017

Name of Jubilarian: Marilyn Bever

Name of Birthplace/Hometown: Two Rivers, WI

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

St. Luke's Elementary School, Two Rivers, WI

St. Mary's Springs Academy High School, Fond du Lac, WI

Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI – BA Elementary Education/English

St. Meinrad School of Theology, St. Meinrad, IN – MA Religious Education

Prescott College, Prescott, AZ – MA Spirituality

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:

1967-68 St. Joseph School, Fond du Lac, WI – Grade 4
1968-74 Brother Dutton School, Beloit, WI – Grade 4
1974-80 Sacred Heart School, Yonkers, NY – Primary Grades
1980-81 St. Joseph Parish, Hays, KS – DRE
1981-85 Congregation of St. Agnes, Fond du Lac, WI – Vocation Director
1985-90 Sacred Heart Parish, Tucson, AZ – DRE
1990-94 Sacred Heart Parish, Fruita, CO – Parish Coordinator
1994-2000 St. Odelia Parish, Tucson, AZ – Director Adult Religious Formation
2000-02 Interfaith Theological Seminary, Tucson, AZ – Administrative Assistant
2002-07 Congregation of St. Agnes, Fond du Lac, WI – Director of Pre-Novitiate Formation
2002-13 Arizona Ecumenical Institute for Spiritual Directions, Phoenix, AZ – Director of Programs
2007-13 St. Louis the King Parish, Glendale, AZ – RCIA Director
2013-present WE ARE ONE FAMILY, Bisbee, AZ – Ministry on the Arizona border

Share a story about a time, an event, or an experience in your vowed life that affirms or speaks to your lifelong commitment as a vowed woman religious.

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 in religious life.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CELEBRATING JUBILEE IN CSA

Jubilee is a time for looking back in gratitude and looking forward in hope. My 50 years in CSA have held many blessings, and much that seems ordinary and inconsequential. So celebrating a jubilee is a time to remember both the dark and the light, to surrender the sorrows and the joys, but most of all to live in the present with consciousness and trust.

I have learned much as an elementary school teacher, director of parish religious education, vocation/formation minister for my congregation, director of adult religious and spiritual formation, pastor in a priest-less parish, director of a training program for spiritual directors, one-on-one spiritual companioning, and now a presence on the border. I recognize that my constant call in each of these diverse ministries is to be a seeker, seeking to know God, seeking to know myself, and seeking to be a presence of love and service to the people who entered my life.

My life as a Sister of St. Agnes has been enriching, challenging and a gift of God. I continue to experience my personal call to be who I am as a consecrated woman in community and a call to share my gifts of teaching,

facilitation, and collaboration, to provide space for the spiritual nurturance of others. This life is right for me, the way I am guided to live my baptismal call of discipleship.

Jubilee is my recommitment, my resounding YES to all that my life has been, is and will be.