

in Ministry Today

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SUMMER 2009

Retirement Doesn't Always Mean Slowing Down ...

Life takes on a different shape when a sister retires from compensated ministry. Prayer is her primary ministry, whether she continues to live in the area where she ministered or moves to the Dominican Life Center in Adrian.

Normally, *In Ministry Today* focuses on the life-giving support given to outreach ministries through the Ministry Trust Fund. This issue, however, focuses on ways that the sisters in non-compensated ministry continue to use their gifts for others, living out the Congregation's Vision to "Seek Truth, Make Peace, Reverence Life." Their volunteer outreach ministry is amazing.

Thank you for your spirit of generosity, your friendship with the Adrian Dominican Sisters, and your care, concern and support, especially for the retired sisters.



Sister Geraldine (Gerry) Megel, OP

Retiring after an active life of ministry, Sister Geraldine Megel, OP (Madonna Leo) did not slow down but immediately sought out volunteer ministries in her new home, Raleigh, North Carolina. She spends most days until 2 p.m. at Catholic Parish Outreach, the state's third largest food pantry, where she interviews clients to determine their monthly needs.

Geraldine Megel, OP

Sister Gerry also volunteers at Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen: preparing meals, serving an average of 300 to 370 people per day, and helping to clean up. A caregiver for a local elderly woman, Sister Gerry calls in after a full day of service to see what, if anything, her client needs that day. "I love my work," she said. "It gives me a new hope in life."

Sister Frances Madigan, OP

For two days a week, Sister Frances Madigan (Frances Dennine) volunteers at Boynton Beach's Women's Circle Center, which assists women who are underserved, unemployed, disadvantaged, coming off welfare or choosing new career options. Blending the desires of the women with the needs of today, the Center offers a variety of practical classes.



These women have proudly completed a project – crocheted hats. Sister Frances has become integral to the dynamics of the Center.



With good health and energy, Sister Frances is shown at a Deanery meeting at which she gave a report.

Sister Frances also thoroughly enjoys serving as Spiritual Chair for the southern deanery of the Council of Catholic Women in the Archdiocese of Miami.

Sister Frances also joined an interfaith group, "Save Darfur Coalition," engaging in raising awareness via e-mails, and funds for this effort. "I have such a small part in all this but I find it fulfilling," she said.

Leave a Legacy

Retirement is not for the weak-hearted; nor is planned giving.

While one plans for the next phase of life, after years of hard work, sweat and tears to create substantial wealth, decisions for planned giving also need creativity.

Many retired people continue to use their time and talents to reach out to others in need as they volunteer in many areas. Likewise, if people are emotionally connected to a charitable organization, they tend to contribute financially to that group's outreach programs. This is where planned giving comes in. You can give a substantial gift by naming the Adrian Dominican Sisters as beneficiaries in your will.

Some suggestions for leaving a legacy are:

- A bequest in your will or trust
- Assets, including cash and securities
- Your life insurance policy
- Retirement plans

Your attorney or financial advisor can assist you in your estate plan.

For more information, contact Sister Janet M. Hudspeth, OP, in the Development Office at 586-776-4685 or e-mail her at DevOffAD@aol.com.



Sister Marilyn, on the right, visits parishioners, offering companionship and spiritual sustenance.

Sister Marilyn Uline, OP

Sister Marilyn Uline, OP (Mary Loretto) was very aware of the blending of three long-standing parishes in her McKinley Park neighborhood of South Chicago. Retired from her compensated ministry as pastoral assistant, becoming involved in forming a "new" Blessed Sacrament Parish was not only inviting but challenging and love-filled. Sister Marilyn serves on the parish staff, assisting with RCIA and visiting the homebound.

"The blending of parishes is a lot of work for the parish - but it brings new life to the area," Sister Marilyn says, "and it brings new life to me and I love it."

Sister Michael Thomas Watson, OP

Sister Michael Thomas brings heart and soul and an exuberant spirit to St. Rose Dominican Hospital in Henderson, Nevada. Her winning smile and easy laughter lighten the day for patients, staff, and visitors. Her volunteer duties include visiting patients, taking Communion to them, befriending the families, and giving a day in the gift shop. Sister Michael also tutors fifth-grade students at a nearby public school.

Her willingness to reach out to the staff, patients, friends and students—wrapped up in the Dominican spirit of truth and joy—is evident and admirable.



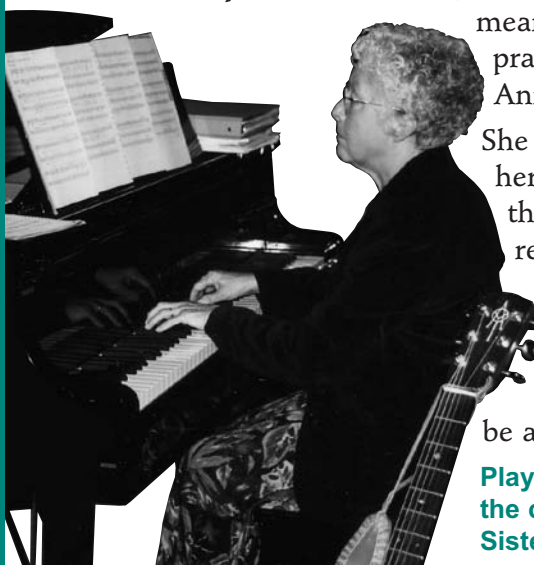
In addition to her volunteer work at St. Rose Dominican, Sister Michael volunteers at a nearby public school.

Sister Anne Cenci, OP

"After 58 years of teaching, being Director of Christian Formation and Education and pastoral associate, I am still in the process of learning what it means to be 'retired' and in the ministry of prayer and presence," laughed Sister Anne Cenci, OP (Rose Imelda).

She serves the three clustered parishes in her area of Saginaw, Michigan: playing the keyboard for liturgies and choir rehearsals; leading vigil and prayer services at funeral chapels and cemeteries; and visiting parishioners who are homebound or in hospitals. Her education and love for others led her to be a catechist for the mentally challenged.

Playing for liturgies and accompanying the choirs are all in a day's work for Sister Anne.



Development Office mail is always sent to the Adrian address. This is to inform you that our LOCAL address and phone number have changed to the following:

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