



Sister Maria Pacelli Bernardo

Sister Maria Pacelli Bernardo entered the Congregation in 1941. Sister spent nearly 40 years as an educator. She taught at schools across New York State including Nazareth Academy and DeSales High School in Geneva, as well as Holy Rosary, Rochester; Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester; St. Joseph's Villa, Rochester; St. Michael, Penn Yan; St. Agnes, Avon; St. Mary, Canandaigua; St. Alphonsus, Auburn; St. Patrick, Corning; St. Mary, Dansville; St. Monica, Rochester; Holy Rosary, Rochester; St. Jerome, East Rochester; St. Joseph Convent & Infirmary, Rochester; and St. Philip Neri Parish, Rochester. She was also the Director of the Nazareth Academy Alumni Office. After her ministry in education, she found her work as a pastoral visitor quite fulfilling. She spent many hours visiting the Dunn Towers located next to St. Theodore's Church in Gates, St. Mary's Hospital (Unity), Rochester General Hospital and countless nursing homes in the area. Most recently, Sister Maria Pacelli found herself involved with the prayer ministry, telephone ministry to "shut-ins" and the sick and staying connected to seniors in our community.

On the celebration of her 75th Jubilee this year, she reflected on how her faith was nourished by her family orientation saying, "My parents were deeply spiritual and faithful parishioners of St. Anthony's Church in Rochester."