



## Sister Margaret Brennan

Sister Margaret (Peg) Brennan, formerly Sister Honora, spent two decades teaching at various places including St. Anne's, St. Mary's in Auburn, and Nazareth Academy. After teaching, Sister Margaret began her work as a friend and advocate for people who were poor, homeless, struggling, and discounted by society. First, through St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, then at St. Martin's Place and most recently as the Director of St. Joseph's Northside. Sister Margaret started the ministry in 2005 to help people in the northwest part of the city of Rochester dealing with serious issues like poverty, prostitution and drugs. She retired in 2018.

During her 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee celebration in 2017, Sister said of her work at Northside, "Of course, what I receive far outweighs anything I try to give. Our people amaze me every day by their resilience, good humor and spiritual depth."

Sister also shared how her upbringing influenced her life as a Sister of Saint Joseph. "I came from a big happy Irish family where education was valued, and creativity and critical thinking encouraged, where conversation at the dinner table was lively, funny and challenging (and often political)," she said. "I think that the give and take of growing up with seven siblings, of learning to respect each other's space and preferences, of counting on each other for support, and of rejoicing in each other's successes all prepared me for religious community life and readied me for mission."