



Sister Ellen Galvin (formerly Sister Mark) – 60 Years

Sister Ellen Galvin, formerly Sister Mark, was born in Corning, NY and attended St. Mary's Church. Sister Ellen says her 60 years in religious life have been an exciting journey. "The adventure began with the Formation years – wearing different clothes, called by a new name and learning about prayer, vows and how to be a Sister and teacher," recalls Sister Ellen. "The stability of the early years of teaching and convent life were soon challenged by the new Spirit of the 2nd Vatican Council – we were called beyond our enclosures to embrace the needs of a wider world. New areas of service and ministry to the people were offered to us as well as new spiritual renewal programs to deepen our faith and prayer."

Sister Ellen says she felt the call to serve in schools and parishes. She taught at St. Alphonsus School in Auburn and St. Ambrose School in Rochester. She also ministered in religious education at St. Ambrose Parish and Holy Spirit Parish in Webster and was a Pastoral Associate at St. Thomas More in Rochester. She later spent eight years as a Coordinator for the SSJ Motherhouse and now assists with a variety of needed services at the Motherhouse as well as provides some outreach for those in need.

"My call to serve in schools and parishes has shaped and blessed my life beyond my expectations," reflects Sister Ellen. "The peoples' faith, support and generosity have nourished me, and I carry each of you in my heart. At each Eucharist, I will give thanks for the gift you have been to me."