

# Celebrating Lore

## 80 years

### Kathleen Tighe SL



**K**athleen Tighe SL was received into Loretto on April 25, 1944, and was known as Sister Venard. She followed the vocation call of four siblings who had entered Loretto: Lucina, Alice Eugene, Ann Virginia and Carolyn Mary. Another sister, Helen, would join the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Kathleen served in California, Colorado, Illinois and Missouri, teaching in various schools and serving as principal at Loretto Academy High School in Kansas City, Mo., and at Nerinx Hall High School in St. Louis. She earned a bachelor's degree in music, with a minor in piano, from Webster University, St. Louis, and a master's in education from DePaul University in Chicago.

In 1976, Kathleen took part in the Loretto Third World Experience, serving in Majuro in the Marshall Islands. She has served in senior citizen housing and as a creator of the Loretto Spirituality Network. She served on the Loretto staff, retiring in 2000 in Danville, Calif., where she and her housemate, Kay Lane SL, developed an extended Loretto community that prayed and celebrated together. Kathleen and Kay moved to Kentucky in 2013.

Kathleen resides at Loretto Living Center at the Motherhouse, where she loves to listen to classical music and read stories, particularly some of the classics. She said she loves “to hear a good story, and I love telling my stories about Loretto.”



The six Tighe sisters, their father and two brothers pose for a newspaper photo during a visit home in 1964.  
*Photo: Loretto Archives*

### It's Tighe time!

Kathleen is one of six daughters of Eugene and Alice (Weir) Tighe. Five of the Tighe sisters became Sisters of Loretto. Lucina entered in 1932, Alice Eugene in 1933, Ann Virginia in 1934, Carolyn in 1935 and Kathleen in 1944. They spent most of their careers serving at Loretto schools around the country.

Helen, the youngest, joined the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Kathleen's family's years of service to the Church and the world total 389 years and counting!

# ttto's jubilarians!

## 50 years

### Mary Bundy CoL

**M**ary Bundy CoL shares that lines from Robert Frost's poem "The Road Not Taken" popped into her thoughts on this 50-year anniversary:

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —  
I took the one less traveled by.  
And that has made all the difference.*

Mary was a temporarily-vowed sister until 1974. Co-membership had been introduced as a new way to belong to the Community and became one of the roads from which to choose. She could make final vows as a Sister of Loretto or become a co-member. Mary decided co-membership was the best fit. "I remained connected with the Community," she shares, "while I pursued nursing studies, began a career in public health nursing and raised my son." In time she was able to participate more actively on committees and in a Community Group.

Mary served as a public health nurse, bringing healthcare to migrant labor camps, into people's homes and to clinics for the uninsured. Fluent in Spanish, she worked with the immigrant population in Delaware.

"It has meant a lot to me to be a Community member for such a long time," Mary says. "A shared history is a great gift. Belonging to a community, wonderful companions/friends is my treasure."



Check out additional jubilarians — those celebrating their 65th and 70th anniversaries — on our [website](#). Starting in 2025, we will feature Loretto jubilarians in each issue of our magazine.

# 25 years

## Libby Comeaux CoL



When Libby Comeaux CoL became a co-member in 1999, she imagined it would mean "spending lots of time with elders, more or less sitting at their feet soaking up their spiritual wisdom and caring for them in one way or another. Instead they put me to work!"

Libby shares, "I have learned so much and shifted so many limiting beliefs by participating in the mission work of Loretto. Without the education I received by walking alongside these spiritual and activist mentors, I would never have developed capacities that lay dormant. The challenge to become a spiritually-mature member of a community of faith was just what I needed."

She adds, "It's been a whole lot of fun."

## JoAnn Gates CoL



"I'm sure I didn't imagine how involved in the Community I would eventually become," JoAnn Gates CoL shares about her initial steps to enter co-membership. "I know I didn't think that in just over three years I would be living at the Loretto Motherhouse, and while I probably hoped that some day I would work at Knobs Haven Retreat House, I'm sure I didn't think it would become a reality in just five years."

The relationships with "so many smart, wise, funny, gifted, strong, committed and — yes — quirky women and men" have meant a great deal to JoAnn during these years as a co-member.

"Loretto has stretched and challenged me in many and various ways, and I'm so grateful for the opportunities and individuals that have helped me become who I believe I am meant to be.

"Thank you, Loretto."

# Karen Knoll CoL



When Karen Knoll CoL's aunt, Margaret Rose Knoll SL (aka Sister Ann Mark) retired to Loretto Motherhouse, Karen began visiting the Motherhouse annually and found many like-minded friends. Thus began her road to co-membership.

“Belonging to Loretto opened my eyes and my heart to ways of being of service to others. They challenged me in many ways and provided me with the experience of living and working on the Navajo reservation, where I fell in love with New Mexico and the Native American people. The sharing I am currently able to do with the food pantry on the Jemez Pueblo and the soup kitchen at the Francis House Catholic Worker in Albuquerque would not be possible without the moral and financial support of the Loretto Community.”

Karen finds inspiration in *I Am the Way*, the Loretto Constitutions, article 20, “The basic desire to be united in love with God, with one another, with all people, and with all creation shapes this community of faith.”

# Alicia Zapata RSM CoL



Loretto co-membership, Alicia Zapata RSM CoL, says, has enriched her life. “Twenty-five years ago, I was looking for a mind-broadening experience. I was able to avail myself of that experience in attending the assemblies, reading the materials and other information that was made available and attending the Community Group discussion when possible. I found that those experiences opened new vistas for me and helped increase my desire for deeper learning. It has been both an intellectual and spiritual growth. Being a vowed member of the Sisters of Mercy and a Loretto co-member has enriched my life in a manner I could not have imagined 25 years ago.”

Alicia treasures the sense of belonging she has experienced as a Loretto member. “I have always been proud of my connection to Loretto and have felt that sense of belonging in a profound way. The Community has always been one of open arms.”