

## Artwork

Cover: "San Damiano Cross" and "Jubilee"  
by Sister Carmel Jacobs, OSF

Sr. Bea Griffin's page: "Cry Jubilee to the Lord"  
by Sister Carmel Jacobs, OSF



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It is with joy and gratitude that the  
Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa,  
announce the Jubilees of

**Sister Beatrice Griffin**

*75 years*

**Sister Donna Burke**

**Sister Maria Zeimen**

*70 years*

**Sister Carmel Jacobs**

**Sister LaVern Olberding**

**Sister Barbara Rosener**

*60 years*

**Sister Janice Cebula**

**Sister Patricia Weldon**

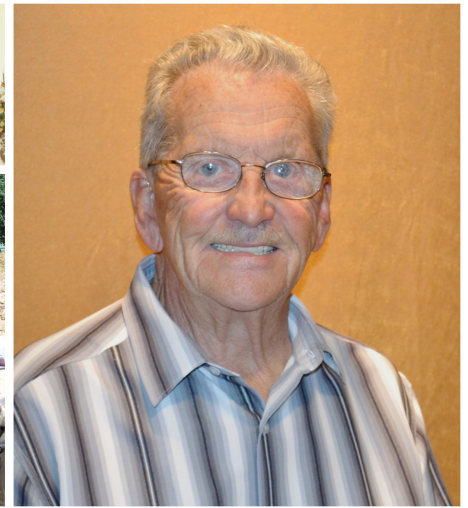
*50 years*

**Associate Robert Ketelsen**

*25 years*

*"Clinton Franciscans, chosen by  
God and bonded in community,  
are called to a life of service to  
others. As ministers, we serve  
willingly and give from the fullness  
of that which we have received."*

*- Constitutions and Directives,  
Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa*



### *Celebrating 25 years as an Associate...*

**Robert (Bob) Ketelsen** became acquainted with the Sisters in 1939 when he attended St. Patrick School in Clinton, Iowa, and had the sisters as teachers. "When I learned of the Associate Partnership Program, I knew I wanted to join. I have felt called to the community since kindergarten," he said.

Bob committed to living the gospel and Franciscan values in association with the Sisters of St. Francis on October 20, 1996.

As the owner of a travel agency outside of Chicago, Bob was instrumental in arranging pilgrimages to Assisi, Italy - birthplace of Saints Francis and Clare - for the sisters. He also arranged trips to Chulucanas, Peru, where the Sisters ministered since 1965. He, himself, visited Peru.

When it came time to retire from the travel agency in 1998, Bob offered his volunteer services at St. Mary's Mission on the Navajo Reservation in Tohatchi, New Mexico. He helped open, and later manage, the mission's halfway house for men struggling with substance abuse. He retired from St. Mary's Mission in the spring of 2015 after eighteen years of service.

Bob currently resides in DeKalb, Illinois, and is a Chicago region member of the Clinton Franciscan Associate Partnership.



### *Celebrating 50 years of religious life...*

Sister Patricia (Pat) Weldon has served as a teacher and principal in California, Illinois, and Iowa, including:

- St. Rose of Lima School, Denison, IA
- St. Patrick School, Perry, IA
- St. Kieran School, Chicago Heights, IL
- St. Kieran School, El Cajon, CA
- St. Michael Academy, San Diego, CA

Outside of education, she ministered as the Senior Services Coordinator at Catholic Charities in San Diego, California, where she managed social service needs for residents in diocesan housing units.

In 2003, she became the Director of Religious Education at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Chula Vista, California, later becoming pastoral director of the De Flores Center at St. Rose of Lima.

Sister Pat has served the congregation as a Council member. She currently serves as the Associate Partnership Coordinator for Clinton Franciscan Associates in the western region.

She resides in Spring Valley, California, and voluntarily ministers with the San Diego Catholic Worker.

*Be still and know that I am God.*

*- Psalm 46:10*



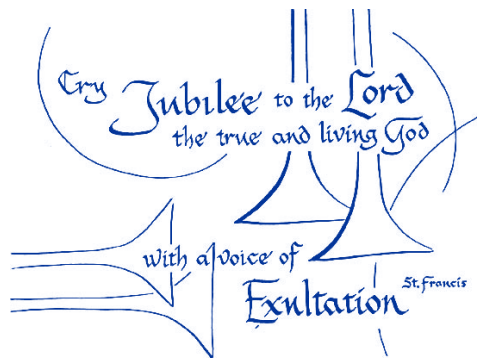
### *Celebrating 75 years of religious life...*

Sister Beatrice (Bea) Griffin has served as a teacher and principal in California and Illinois, including:

- St. Gerald School, Oak Lawn, IL
- St. Catherine of Alexandria School, Riverside, CA
- St. Kieran School, El Cajon, CA
- Christ the King School, Oildale, CA
- St. Hyacinth Academy, San Jacinto, CA
- Holy Rosary Academy, San Bernardino, CA

When Sister Griffin returned to Clinton, Iowa, in 2004, she served as the official driver for sisters who were unable to drive. She then became the Coordinator of Assisted Living, which involved visiting sisters at The Alverno and shopping for them.

Sister Griffin currently resides at The Canticle in Clinton.





### *Celebrating 70 years of religious life...*

Sister Donna Burke served thirty-three years as a teacher and principal in Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, and Missouri, including:

- St. Rita School, Cameron, MO
- St. Ann School, Vail, IA
- St. Columbkille School, Varina, IA
- St. Kieran School, Chicago Heights, IL
- Thorton Community College, South Holland, IL
- St. Patrick School, Maysville, KY
- St. Patrick School, Clinton, IA
- Seton School, Clinton, IA

Sister Donna was appointed Director of Vocation/Formation at Mount St. Clare Convent in 1989, and Director of the Associate Partnership Program. She relocated to Jesup, Iowa, in 1996 and accepted a position as Pastoral Associate at St. Athanasius Parish, where she served for twenty years until her "retirement" in 2016. She moved to Chicago, Illinois, for one year before returning to Clinton.

Currently residing at The Canticle in Clinton, she voluntarily ministers to the elderly through visits to members of Prince of Peace Parish who are in nursing homes, skilled care, or homebound.

*"Everything visible, without exception,  
is the outpouring of God."  
- Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM*



### *Celebrating 50 years of religious life...*

Sister Janice (Jan) Cebula initially served as a teacher in Iowa and Missouri, including:

- St. Justin the Martyr School, Sunset Hills, MO
- Sacred Heart School, Clinton, IA

Sister Jan ministered over two years with the Missouri Catholic Conference in Jefferson City, Missouri. Her call to be an advocate for persons marginalized by poverty and unjust systems led her to study law, earning a Juris Doctor degree. For the next twenty-three years she served as an attorney for Legal Aid of Western Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, and spent time at Holy Family House, a Catholic Worker house in Kansas City.

Additionally, she has served as the U.S. Liaison for *Global Sisters Report* in Kansas City.

Sister Jan has served in congregational leadership, including roles as Councilor, Vice President, and President. In her latest term, she has served as President since 2016 and was re-elected in May 2021 to serve an additional four years.

Sister Jan is a board member for *A Nun's Life* ministry and is a longtime advocate for social justice. She resides at The Canticle in Clinton.

*That all may be one. - Cf. John 17:21*



### *Celebrating 60 years of religious life...*

**Sister Barbara Rosener** served forty-three years as a teacher in California, Illinois, Iowa, and Kentucky, including:

- St. La Salle School, Reedley, CA
- St. Patrick School, Rochelle, IL
- St. Catherine of Alexandria School, Riverside, CA
- St. Francis de Paula School, Chicago, IL
- St. Patrick School, Maysville, KY
- St. Gerald School, Oak Lawn, IL
- Holy Cross School, Vail, IA
- St. Edmond School, Fort Dodge, IA

After retiring from teaching in 2006, Sister Barbara cared for sick and elderly persons for thirteen years. She worked in resident services at The Marian Home in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and later as a companion, caregiver, and housekeeper to elderly persons in private homes.

Sister Barbara currently resides in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and enjoys volunteering.

*“Dear God, I want to take a moment not to ask for anything but simply thank you for all I have.” - Anonymous*



### *Celebrating 70 years of religious life...*

**Sister Maria Zeimen** has served as a teacher and pastoral minister in Illinois and Iowa, including:

- St. Gerald School, Oak Lawn, IL
- Our Lady of Good Counsel School, Fonda, IA
- Mount St. Clare Academy & College, Clinton, IA
- St. Paul School & Parish, Macomb, IL
- Christ the King, Moline, IL

Sister Maria has served multiple terms as Vice President and President of the Sisters of St. Francis, helping lead the congregation in choosing active nonviolence as their mission. During her presidency, she also served as vice president and president of the U.S. Franciscan Federation.

She has ministered with eight L'Arche communities and, as Community Leader, helped in the founding of L'Arche Chicago. She also served as the Assistant Regional Coordinator for Central L'Arche USA.

Residing in Chicago, Sister Maria volunteers with VoteForward, Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants, and Garden Center Services. She helps with assistant and staff formation for L'Arche communities.

*“Love is the strongest force the world possesses and yet it is the humblest imaginable.” - Mahatma Gandhi*



### *Celebrating 60 years of religious life...*

Sister Carmel Jacobs has served as a teacher, specializing in art, in Arizona, Illinois, and Iowa, including:

- St. Patrick School, Clinton, IA
- Sacred Heart School, Clinton, IA
- St. Gerald School, Oak Lawn, IL
- Mount St. Clare College, Clinton, IA
- St. Gregory School, Phoenix, AZ

After teaching, Sister Carmel served twenty years assisting marginalized persons at St. Vincent de Paul Society, Phoenix, Arizona, in the Family Assistance and Special Ministries department until her "retirement" in November 2019.

Currently residing at The Canticle in Clinton, Sister Carmel continues to support the mission of active nonviolence and peacemaking through study, discussions, emails, and letters. Studying the history of racism has had a big impact and has connected her more to the suffering of many.

*"Not all of us can do great things,  
but we can do small things with  
great love." - Mother Teresa*



### *Celebrating 60 years of religious life...*

Sister LaVern Olberding has served as a teacher, religious education director, and campus minister in California, Iowa, Kentucky, and Nebraska, including:

- Danbury Catholic High School, Danbury, IA
- St. Ann School, Lexington, NE
- St. Kieran School, El Cajon, CA
- St. Patrick High School, Maysville, KY
- St. Anthony School & Parish, Manteca, CA
- University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
- St. George Parish, Louisville, KY
- Mount St. Clare Academy & College, Clinton, IA

She ministered as the pastoral care coordinator for Dismas Charities in Louisville, Kentucky. During that time, she co-founded the Micah 6:8 community for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

In 2012, she co-founded the Franciscan Peace Connection in La Mesa, California, an outreach ministry of the Sisters of St. Francis.

Sister LaVern currently resides in Lakeside, California, where she ministers as the director of the Franciscan Peace Connection, networks with numerous interfaith groups, and provides outreach to persons living on the margins.

*"Learn from the past and let it go. Live  
fully in the present. Welcome the future as  
it unfolds and evolves." - Anonymous*