



Judith was born in Grand Rapids, Mich. When she was 3 years old, her father was transferred to Ann Arbor, Mich.

She attended St. Thomas the Apostle School and was introduced to the IHM community. Her only memory of her First Communion was continual rehearsal. Sister Judith laughs as she recalls that Monsignor Peak corrected her for making the sign of the cross using her left hand.

Her father's next transfer took the family to Lansing, Mich., and then to Detroit, where she graduated from Immaculata High School. In September 1955, she entered the IHM community. Upon completing her college courses, she began her teaching career. She taught in a variety of schools, including St. John Vianney in Highland Park, Mich.; St. Charles Borromeo in Detroit; and St. Raymond in Detroit. Later, when she was assigned to Chicago she ministered at St. Felicitas and at Immaculate Heart of Mary High School in Westchester, Ill.

After the Second Vatican Council, Judith felt called and was invited to pastoral ministry. She served in liturgy, adult formation and Christian service. Her first assignment was in the Diocese of Lansing, developing neighborhood churches (base communities). Later, she moved to Saginaw, where the diocese was experimenting with a five-parish team.

In a communication from the IHM community, she noticed a request for service in the missions. Judith gladly responded. She began her preparation by attending language school in Guatemala. In Puerto Rico, she ministered with the Oblate priests of Mary Immaculate from the Boston Province, continuing to serve in liturgy and Christian service.

Her brother-in-law died suddenly in 1980, so Judith spent that summer with her sister. She took a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education, beginning preparation for certification as a hospital chaplain.



When her father retired, her parents moved to Florida. In the middle '80s, her father developed Parkinson's disease and she moved to Florida. There, she continued parish ministry at St. Clement Parish in Plant City, Fla.



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Her parents' family physician advised them to return to Michigan to be near family, so Judith returned also.

At this time, there was an opening at Visitation House of Prayer Visitation in Monroe. Judith was accepted and began studying to become a spiritual director. Thus, in addition to being a board-certified hospital chaplain, she was now a certified spiritual director.

After 10 years at Visitation, Judith began to minister at the IHM Motherhouse in the Pastoral Care Department. In ensuing years, she became a member of the Motherhouse administrative team and director of the department. After retiring in 2013, she volunteers in a variety of ministries.

In summary of her years of IHM ministry, she realizes how much of her own assignments and choices mirror the transforming changes of the IHM community itself.