Remembering Mary King, IHM  
Feb. 5, 1942 – May 15, 2015

Sister Mary King wished to convey her deep gratitude to her family, IHM Sisters and friends who gave her companionship, love, support and prayer throughout her lifetime and in her illness. Mary said she was overwhelmed by the kindness and generous support of her students, parents, administration and faculty at Our Lady Star of the Sea School. Gospel values were certainly proclaimed to Mary during her illness by this outstanding outreach and support.

The Story of Mary
This reflection is taken from Mary's page in the IHM Book of Life. The theme of my life is taken from the hymn, “The Summons.”

The following summarizes my thoughts and life pattern.

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name
Will you go where you don't know
AND NEVER BE THE SAME….

Birth through graduation: I was born on February 5, 1942, the second of a set of twins, being baptized five days later. I attended St. Matthew's and Dominican High, graduating June of 1960. My most memorable experience during this period was the death of my dear father. I was in the eighth grade. Years flow by…

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME…

I entered Religious life in September of 1960. It was difficult to separate from my mom and twin sister Rose. But from my earliest years I had always dreamed of being a NUN. My Dad and I often talked about this. He must have been smiling the day I entered.…

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME…

Religious life has been a most rewarding experience for me. I was assigned to St. Joseph School, Erie, Michigan for one year. I was well prepared as a first-year teacher, thanks to my excellent education and formation at the IHM Motherhouse.
In Emmett, Michigan I enjoyed not only classroom teaching but also the wide open spaces of the vast farmlands. Most of all I appreciated the wonderful welcoming spirit the people shared with me from the first day I arrived. I taught at Our Lady of Mt Carmel School for five years.

My 26 years at Holy Trinity School in Detroit was a great experience which I have treasured. It was a time of challenge and blessings. Because of the strong community and faculty we were able to solve the problems by remembering the good times we shared together.

For the past 17 years, I taught at Our Lady Star of the Sea School in Grosse Pointe Woods. My wonderful teaching partner, Joette Liamini, and I shared rewarding experiences with our third grade students and many adventures and challenges together in and out of the school environment.

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME…

In and onto my senior years and retirement, hopefully I will live as fruitful a life as my mother did (she was in her 90's and still alert and vibrant).

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME…

God's plan was not for retirement and a long life but the challenge of a serious diagnosis of cancer. Mary accepted her illness with peace and serenity, never complaining. Her outreach to others continued through letters, phone calls, prayers for others facing difficulties. Her faith in God and her readiness to let go are inspirations.

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME?
YES, LORD I WILL!

Mary, your loving, dedicated and blessed ministry in education and your outreach to so many others in good times and bad times have come to a wonderful fulfillment! You, especially, and "those who instruct others unto justice shall shine like stars forever" (Daniel 12). Mary, you are truly a star! May you rest and rejoice in the peace and starlight of God!

Written by Mary King, IHM and Sharon Carolin, IHM Associate
Delivered by Judith O’Brien, IHM
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