

Margaret Babcock was born in Detroit on March 1, 1929 to John and Anne Cameron Babcock; her brother, John, almost 2, was there to welcome her. The family was blessed with five more boys: James, Edward, Paul, Tim and Allen.

Margaret's mother came from a family of lumbermen who lived in Sault St. Marie in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. "My mother was a homemaker, kind and loving and busy with the young ones to care for," she says. Her father grew up in Bad Axe, Mich., about 100 miles north of Detroit. Her father's early education was in Bad Axe, but after the family moved to Detroit, he attended college and the University of Detroit Law School and became a busy lawyer.

Margaret's education began with the Dominican Sisters at St. Clare School, followed by two years at St. Mary Academy in Monroe, where she first met the IHM Sisters. The remainder of her education was with the IHMs at Blessed Sacrament School in Detroit. she entered the IHM Postulate in June 1947, shortly after graduating from high school, However, in September, her father called to say that Mom had died. Margaret knew that she was needed at home, so for three years she helped with the family while taking classes at Marygrove.

Margaret returned to Monroe in September 1950; she was received in August 1951 and given the name Sister Paul Therese. During her Novitiate, she completed her education, graduated from Marygrove and did her student teaching. In 1953, she began life in mission. For the next 23 years she was either a teacher or principal in IHM schools in Michigan: Fenton, Detroit, Redford, Monroe, Erie; and in Illinois at Immaculate Heart of Mary High School, Westchester.



In 1976, Margaret was asked to join the Motherhouse Team as assistant. In 1982, she was elected Provincial of the Motherhouse, where she was of service to the Motherhouse sisters until 1994, when she became a volunteer in the Creativity Center and in the Archives. From 1997 until 2011, Margaret and several IHMs lived in Southgate, where hospitality for returning missionaries and transportation to and from the airport was provided as a ministry to all IHMs.



Margaret moved to the Motherhouse in 2011. She is greatly appreciative of the quiet time for prayer as well as opportunities for retreats, workshops and lectures. Renewing friendships with classmates and teachers is a great pleasure.

When Margaret looks back, she enjoys many cherished memories of wonderful travel experiences. Going to Rome and the Holy Land with her brother, Tim, when he was on sabbatical, is a memory that is relived frequently, as is her trip to the British Isles and South Africa with good friend, Paula Schloff, IHM.

Now, as Margaret celebrates her 70<sup>th</sup>



Jubilee, she writes, "I thank God daily for the gifts of my faith, my family, my call to this IHM Congregation, each community group I have been privileged to live with and the wonderful companions I have always had."

Margaret Babcock