

Sister Mary Katherine (Michael Andrew) grew up in Ann Arbor and was taught by the IHM Sisters at St. Thomas the Apostle School from second grade through high school. As a young child, she observed the connection the IHM Sisters had



After two years, she went to Gustine, California, to become principal and help reopen the parish elementary school. While in California, she began work on her doctorate in educational administration from the University of San Francisco.

with their students, their authenticity and accessibility. In high school, she attended vocation and retreat days, outwardly brushing aside her attraction to a religious vocation, but internally, the call was deepening. "I think I just sort of knew by my sophomore year," she says. Sister Mary Katherine entered the community right after high school.

After completing her dissertation, Sister Mary Katherine became an assistant professor in educational leadership at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. She later became the chairperson of the department and director

of the Murray Institute, an established institute that helped Catholic school teachers complete their master's degrees.

The IHM community embraced Vatican II's vision, so being in formation during those years provided a rich theological and spiritual grounding. She admired the women at the forefront of the changes, as well as those challenging the status quo. Remembering her own education with the IHM Sisters, Sister Mary Katherine envisioned teaching as an expression of ministry and a project worthy of a life's work. Her first teaching assignment was at St. Regis in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, followed by Immaculate Heart of Mary High School in Westchester, Illinois and then to St. Bede in Southfield, Michigan.



Sister Mary Katherine was elected to the 2000-2006 IHM Leadership Council. After her term of office, she took a sabbatical

year before joining the Education faculty at Marygrove College, where she served for 12 years. Currently, she is exploring a call to "itinerant discipleship," serving where needed and joining with others in envisioning an emerging future.

She left Michigan for Wyoming to minister as the director of teachers' aides at St. Stephen's Mission on the Wind River Reservation.



Her greatest joy since joining the community has been "just living. The community has gifted me with great, great opportunities. The journey I felt I wanted to make, I needed to make with others who were on the same journey."