



## 2016 WALKS OF LIFE HONOREE

### Sister Margaret M. Gorman SND

As provincial superior of the Chardon province of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Sister Margaret M. Gorman oversees the welfare of 303 nuns in Northeast Ohio, Florida and North Carolina.

About a third of these nuns are educators, mainly at Notre Dame Elementary School, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin High School, Julie Billiart School and Notre Dame College. Others are pastoral ministers, directors of religious education or pastoral care givers, ministering to the sick and the elderly.

Sister Margaret was born in Washington, D.C., the first of five children of Frank and Barbara Gorman. At the time, her father was serving as a lawyer in the U.S. Department of Labor during the Truman administration. Her father had graduated from John Carroll University and Western Reserve Law School so the family returned to Cleveland in the early 1950s because her father felt he had a better chance of practicing law where he was better known.

Sister Margaret grew up in St. Clare Parish in Lyndhurst and graduated from Regina High School in 1966. After high school, she said, the idealism prevalent in the '60s made her think of joining the convent as the Catholic equivalent of joining the Peace Corps, which President John F. Kennedy had established just a few years earlier.

She later received master's degrees in history from the University of Minnesota and in theology from Graduate Theological Union, a consortium of nine independent Catholic and Protestant seminaries in Berkeley, California. She taught social studies and religion in Ohio, Florida and South Carolina before becoming vice president of administration and executive vice president of Notre Dame College. She also served as president and principal of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin High School. She was provincial treasurer of her order before taking her present position in July of 2011.

She has said that her main job today, like that of the other Notre Dame nuns, is to help people get closer to God.

2016 Walks of Life Award of the Irish American Archives Society, Cleveland OH.