

**October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015: Sister Carol Ann Mause, speaking with Professor Mary Ellen Lennon at the Convent of the Sister of St. Francis, Oldenburg.**

Abbreviations

SCA: Sister Carol Ann Mause

MEL: Mary Ellen Lennon

This is Mary Ellen Lennon in Oldenburg, Indiana, at the Sisters of St. Francis Convent. I am so pleased to be here on October 20th, 2015, with Sister Carol Ann Mause. Thank you, Sister. Would you like to introduce yourself?

SCA: Again as she said my name is Sister Carol Ann Mause. I'm from Cincinnati, Ohio. And I've been a sister of Saint Francis from Oldenburg for fifty-three years. And it's a pleasure to have this opportunity to do this today, for this project for the archives. I think it's just a wonderful idea. I have two younger sisters, and I can remember way back in fifth grade is when I kind of began to think about possibly becoming a Sister, way back in fifth grade. But when it got time after eighth grade I could have come to our aspirancy here at Oldenburg, and my parents said if you really want to go to the convent you got a stay here and go to high school here in the city first, and then after that if you still feel like that's what you want to do, that's fine. Well, then we got into high school and we were having a very good time, doing all the things that teenagers do in high school. And I can remember somebody saying to me, so one of my teachers from high school, I went to Seton High School in Cincinnati, and we had the Sisters of Charity. And so she asked me one day at my senior year, Carol Ann, what are you going to do when you graduate? And my first thought was, should I tell her the truth, what I'm thinking about or should I lie to her? And I thought no no no you can't lie to her you got to be honest, tell her the truth. So I said I'm contemplating going to the convent. Well we kind of thought maybe, and I thought, now what does that mean? And she said, so were you thinking about going? And I hesitated and I said, I want to be an Oldenburg Franciscan, because from fifth to the eighth grade I had the Sisters of Saint Francis in Oldenburg for grade school, and I just fell in love with the Sisters that were there, and how helpful and kind they always were. Well, that didn't sit too well with our, my homeroom teacher. She said, we need to talk about this, and I thought, all right. She said how soon can we do this? I said, I guess after school, but let me call my mom so she knows why I'm not coming home right away. So the more she talked the more I knew God was telling me being a Sister of Charity is not my calling. My calling is to be an Oldenburg Franciscan.

So I went home that night Mom said, what's going on here? So I told mom and dad what was going on, and they said, so what are you going to do? And I said, well if I go anywhere it's Oldenburg. And so, I sat down that night and I wrote my letter to send to Oldenburg, took it back to school the next morning which I never should have done, and asked her to please read the letter to see if it was all right. And that didn't sit very well. And after that was like they kind of forgot that I was even a student there, they that

weren't very nice but that's alright. We weathered the storm, and—. But I can remember the night before because I was fighting it. Do I really want to do this, do I'd not want to do this because I was having a very good time dating and all that good stuff that seniors do in high school. And I can remember the night before I left for the convent, I went to the Elder football game, and my friends from high school say, Carol Ann, we thought you were going to the convent. I said, oh yeah, I am but that's tomorrow. Be back home in two weeks. And they're howling up there in the stands. And so we afterwards went to the dance afterwards dancing having a good time. Our system pastor come up to me and he goes, Carol Ann, yes Father, I thought you were going to the convent. Oh father, I am but that's tomorrow. And he said, do you think you're gonna last? Then I go, no I'll probably be home in two weeks.

Once I got here, I knew God was telling me this is where I needed to be. And many people have asked me, have you ever been sorry that you chose to do what you did, and I said no. Because, when I think about all the students and all the families that I've met and how they've touched my life and how I've touched their life, I couldn't ask for anything better. So it's been just, you know every day has not been peachy creamy, but you know everybody has bumps them along the road somehow. So, it's been just it's been a really good thing. So I've been here at the motherhouse now because I had to have ankle surgery, and so I've been here like about three and a half months. So I'm in the process of getting ready to be able to go back to Cincinnati. And now I'm looking for a job to do because I was a Principal at Saint Nicholas in Sunman, Indiana, and I couldn't miss the first more than the first quarter of the school year, so we had to give that up. But we're going to get out there because I really do miss not being with the children and with people. And so I know God has something special and planned for me to do, I don't know for sure what it's going to be, but God has always been there for me and the good times and the bad times. And each day when I get up in the morning or when I go to bed at night I say, thanks God, for another day. In fact, they have a bracelet that says "each day is a gift from God". And I have another one that says, it says "a true friend reaches for your hand, it touches your heart". So those are two really special things that I keep remembering that because you know, sometimes especially when things get a little bumpy it's so nice to know you have somebody, Sister friends and other friends, that you can count on to get you through those those rough spots. So it's just just wonderful to be able to have that opportunity to share. And since I've been here at Oldenburg these three and a half months there's a Carmelite Sister that's right across the hall from me, and so I kind of take care of her you might want to say, to make sure she doesn't go down the wrong hallway so the beep doesn't go off, because she we don't want her to wander away. So, and it's been a joy to be have that opportunity to as they say, quote quote, take care of her. So it's been really nice. So I'm gonna miss her and she does not do that I'm going to be going home in a few days. So I'm not sure yet but God will help me through to make sure I say the right things to her so that she's okay with my not being here. So anyhow, but it's been it's been really good. Yesterday I had my former secretary and her three children came to see me after school yesterday, so. It was wonderful seeing seeing them and asking them how everybody is and you know, how the teachers are, the kids are, and stuff. So it's it's nice

to have that opportunity to still have that relationship with people in the past. So this is great.

MEL: Sister, I'm interested in you as a teenager, deciding to become a Sister.

SCA: Well, let me tell you. It wasn't easy because as I said earlier, I was having a very good time. In fact I was dating the same person from seventh grade all the way through high school. And I can, and I was battling back and forth. Is this what God wants me to do, is this not what God wants me to do? What does he want me to do? And I can remember one day I ran into the boy I was dating, his mother and she said, what did you think about Jerry and I go, what are you talking about? And she said, well you to talk on the phone all the time. I said, yeah we do. And I said so what are you talking about? I say, Marla just tell me because I'm not sure what you're talking about. He's gonna go to seminary. And then I started laughing like crazy and she goes, what's the matter why are you laughing? I said, I'm not laughing because that's what he wants to do, but I'm gonna go to the convent. Well, I mean I thought it was, you're kidding. He ended up not staying, but then I said, and we still do to each other once in a while yeah, so it's it's really really neat. But I did, I had a hard time because I was having a good time, and I you know, is this what I, does God want me to stay here and get married and have a family, or does God want me to go to the convent and and help many people and do whatever I need to help others?

So I know God made the right, God always makes the right choice for what I need to do. So, but and sometimes and my thing is today, not too many places do they even talk about vocations, because I can remember when I was the Diocese of Evansville I called down to the diocese and I said, so when does the vocation director come around and talk to the students about vocations? Oh we don't have anybody to do that. And I go, what? We don't have anybody that does that. And I said well I tell you what, I said, I'm President of Sister Senate for the whole Diocese of Evansville, so I'm gonna take it upon myself and the rest of our group our committee to get that going. So I got that started back again in the Diocese of Evansville because I don't feel like there's enough, I don't think anywhere where they come out and talk about vocations to the students. Like, I could talk, I mean I've talked many a time to our the kids where I was principal or or teacher about the convent or the priesthood or being single or married, whatever. But it's, you know it can't always be just from somebody that never—they need to get other input from other people. So I was really happy that I had that opportunity to get that started. So I'm hoping, I don't know if that's still going on or not, but at least I did have it going for a while, so that was great.

MEL: Would you like to talk about your first days in Oldenburg, as a young woman. You were eighteen?

SCA: I was eighteen, yes. Well number one, I most of all most of my class ended on September the 8th. I ended on September the 9th, because my family had a small independent grocery store and the September 8th was a Saturday. And they couldn't close the grocery store, so I got the okay to come the day later. So even though I came

just one day later, and the rest of my classmates kind of started it getting to know each other a little bit, and here I come and it's like, oh my, you know. They kinda knew a little bit what was going on, what was happening, what we you know, what we did when, whatever. So it took a little time to get used to the routine because then the routine was altogether different than what it is now, because when I entered we all wore the long habit and stuff. Everything, you know, the long veil, the long habit. And so it took time to get used to all that to begin with. So but, yeah. But but once you got into the routine you know again I knew I was where God wanted me to be. So I knew that's why I needed to stay.

MEL: Did you, did they give you the habit here, or—

SCA: Yes, they do they give you the habit. After your postulant year then when you get, we got the white veil and then the regular long habit that the professed Sisters wore. And then we were a novice for two years, and then we made first profession for three years, and after those three years then you made final vows. And I always, people always teased me, well you get six years to decide if this is what you want to do or not, you know. Once you get married, you're married. This way you get six whole years to decide. And I said, yeah if you don't know by six years that this is what you God really wants you to do, something's wrong. So I mean I, I knew that it was the right thing. And I think people even some of our Sisters say to me, have you ever been sorry that you did what you did? Are you ever sorry that you entered or that you stayed? And I go, no. Yeah, I battled because of I wasn't sure that's what God wanted me really to do, but once I got here and got into it, then I knew I was at the right spot.

MEL: What were your early days like in that first year?

SCA: Well, well back in those days we were only allowed visitors once a month. And we were not allowed to go home, so that was altogether different. And so you always look forward to that first Sunday of the month, that's when you could have visitors. Everybody couldn't wait 'til the family got to come and see and to see how you were doing, and see how they were doing. And my youngest sister when I was only, she was only three years old. So that was really hard because I couldn't remember the first Sunday that they got to come visit after I entered, she said, who is that? And that broke my heart, I thought, oh my gosh, I've only been gone a month and she forgets who I am. So then then once I got talking to her, this oh, Carol but you look so different. You know, I said, yes honey, I do but it's okay, you know. But yeah, so that's one of the things that really stands out in my mind that, she'd forgotten in a short amount of time who I was, you know. And my mom said, she asks about you every day, where's Carol at, where's Carol? And then she comes to see and she says, who is that? So that was a little different to, that she forgot that fast who I was, you know. So yeah, so it was it was different.

And then after when I was a second-year novice, I went out to teach, okay. And so I was teaching one of our Sisters, young Sisters, Brother and Sister while I was on mission, and they thought I was a professed Sister because when you went out to teach

you wore the black veil. So at Christmas time, we had to come back to Oldenburg to go back to the novitiate. And so, remember their sister's Sister said to me, the families coming so you're going to have to hide and make sure that my brother and sisters don't see that you're you're a novice, because they're gonna wonder what's going on. So I tried my best, and all of a sudden we we met. And so, and I said, don't you dare go back to school and tell those kids that I am not a professed Sister, that I'm only a novice. So that was so funny, and it and his sister's sister said, don't you dare tell anybody when you get back to school or you're going to deal with me. So yeah, in those days it was kind of hard to distinguish to know you know, are they a real sister, meeting a professed Sister, or are they still in, a novice. So yeah, so that was a little unique.

MEL: I think I want to understand that a little bit more, Sister. So, you're a novice for how—

SCA: Two years. Well, back in those days it was, now it's different now than now. Back then your first two years you were a postulant, and then after that then you were invested as a novice for two years. And that's when you got your religious name. My religious name was Sister Rosarita. And then after your two years of being a novice then you made first profession for three years. So after six full years, that's when you made final vows. And our class, we were the first ones that were able to go back to our baptismal name, and so I talked about it with my family and they said, we don't call your Sister Rosarita, you might as well go back. So I did go back to my baptismal name which is Carol Ann. When I went back on mission after being here in the summer, the students my students thought that they had a new teacher because I had a different name. So I said, up in August after being here in the summer, and they go Sister Rosarita, I go, no boys and girls. My name is Sister Carol Ann. You're Sister Carol Ann, how did that happen? So I'd explain it to them, because at that time I was teaching first, second and third grade. So I'd explained to them, it was not easy. I went back to my baptismal name up when I was baptized, that's what the name that my parents gave me. Well then it made sense but they thought, oh Sister Rosarita's not coming back, you know. I said, no I am here but I'm not Sister Rosarita. So that was something different.

MEL: Did you know you wanted to be a teacher?

SCA: No, not really. That was the furthest thing from my mind. And, and I'm I should have known that this our Sisters were teachers because we had all Sisters at our school, so I should have known that. But that really wasn't, didn't enter my mind that I was gonna be a teacher. So and I'm happy that I've had the opportunity. I've taught everything from grades one through eight. I've been an elementary principal and high school principal, so I've done the whole gamut, so. It's been a pleasure to have that opportunity to kind of see where kids are at different stages in their life. In fact, now being here I've been part of adopt-assist. We adopt some of the students up at the Academy. And I have four freshman girls, and so it was kind of nice so I've been trying to give them, trying to give them some hints as to you know, what to start thinking about being now in high school. In fact I was principal at our academy at Oldenburg, several years back. And so I always tell the students in high school, if you don't know what you

really want to major in, once you finish with high school, and your parents say you still have to go to college, then take whatever classes you'd have to take no matter what your degree is going to be in, so you don't waste your time and their money. And so, and that a lot of the kids are really thankful that I give them that advice, and they say that's really helped them. I said sometimes you need a whole extra year to decide what your field wants to be. So I said, don't just jump into something because this is what your parents want you to do. Your parents want you to be happy, so make sure you get into whatever field that makes you happy, that's going to make you comfortable. So that you know you don't waste, waste your life and be miserable.

MEL: Your first job was teaching the elementary—

SCA: My first job was teaching, I was in a three-room schoolhouse. Portage Des Sioux, Missouri. It was wonderful, it's two blocks away from the Mississippi River. And it was wonderful until the Mississippi River would be up on our backyard. Then you knew the water's really high. And so the first two years there I had first and second. And then the next five years I had first, second, and third. And then I was transferred to Indiana. And then I was sent back to Portage Des Sioux, Missouri. I taught sixth, seventh, and eighth grade and was principal. And I can remember one day, his name was Greg [unintelligible] raised his hand he goes, Sister? I said, yes Greg, and he goes, you know what? I said, what Greg? By this time he was in eighth grade. You work so hard in trying to teach me how to cut and paste, he said, you work so hard and I still can't do it right. And I said, Greg that's alright, as long as you keep trying that's the main thing. Just keep trying. He said, I keep thinking, as much time as you took and how much patience you had and I still can't do it good. I said, it's all right. It's all right. So yeah, those are some of my memories of being being there and have taught these kids. I said to these kids, you know do you realize I've had you six out of your eight years in grade school I've taught you? If you don't know something, it's my fault. Anyway, no it's not your fault, it's ours if we didn't learn it. So it was it was wonderful, I love that, it was my first love to say the least, yeah.

MEL: When you were teaching, I'm interested—did you live with Sisters?

SCA: Yes, back in the beginning, yes. We all had convents to live in, which was wonderful because we've said this many a time, whoever thought there wouldn't be convents around anymore for people to live in. And there aren't any, where you know, we've been forced to have to live by ourselves, or in an apartment somewhere because a lot of us— I was the last sister principal in our community. So when I left from St. Nicholas in Sunman in the spring, now there's nobody in our community that's a principal anymore. Yeah, so I'm the last one, last of the Mohicans, as they say.

MEL: Would you describe some of your memories of living with Sisters in convents, at the beginning?

SCA: Well, my first place, there were only three of us at my first place. And two of the three of us was our first year teaching, so we would go to the principal at night and say,

okay now it's your turn to didn't show us how to teach this lesson. It took until we got used 'till we got used to doing it ourselves we'd say, alright this is what we're teaching tomorrow, give me some hints. And she would laugh and laugh and laugh. And—

MEL: You lived with the Principal?

SCA: Oh yeah, yeah. Oh yeah, the three of us all lived together in the convent.

MEL: So two teachers and one Principal?

SCA: Yeah, two to Sister teachers and in one principal, Sister Principal. Yeah, so this the three of us. And and we would laugh, we go, well we've made it through another day, you know. And then eventually, you know, after a couple weeks we were fine, but just to get into it being brand new and and everything it was, yeah. We felt sorry for her that she had triple duty to help us along, but it worked out really well, yeah. And then I've been one place I was at Cincinnati, Our Lady of Victory, there were like twelve of us in the house so that was a big school. And you know, we had all different ages and, but it was a good, it was a good mixture of Sisters, so it was it was good.

MEL: And you cooked together?

SCA: Oh, well. One, one—most of the places where I was we all took turns cooking. But then when I was at Lady of Victory there were twelve of us and we had one of our Sisters that was there she was the cook. So that was nice, you know, gave us extra time they knew what we needed to do it for school for the next day and stuff, so yeah. So but yeah, but those were those were the good old days. I can remember my first week. My first week of teaching was my week to cook. So I can remember you know, hurry and making sure because in those days you prayed at five, the office at five, and right after that then it was time for supper. So I was working like crazy, I was here at the first week of school and I'm exhausted because it's the first week and you know, and then having to cook on top of which I love to cook, but it's like. So I made some apple crisp, and I got it out of the oven just as we got getting getting ready to eat the rest of the meal. And so one of the other Sisters, bless her heart, said let me put it out on the on the side porch, let it cool off. I said well thanks, that's great. And so while we're in the midst of eating the side doorbell rang. So she went and said Carol Ann, Rosarita, she called me Rosy-Red. She said one of your first graders is out here because he forgets what he's supposed to do for homework. So I went out, opened the the screen door, put my foot down. I looked down and right in the middle of the apple crisp was my shoe. And I'm trying, those days you were told you don't smile until Christmas. So then, you know, yeah. You weren't supposed to smile until Christmas. So here I am trying to hold back laughing like crazy because my shoe's full of bought apple crisp. So I hopped back in, and I go, you fool why did you put it right up? Well I didn't expect you to put your foot into it. I said, but you put it right outside the door. Well the next day at school, what did we have for dessert in the cafeteria, but apple crisp. Well this little first grader and his sister was in eighth grade, I walk in and they're all going, does anything look familiar? And it's like, oh yeah, the apple crisp but I'm not stepping in it this time. So that was one

of the funniest things that happened my first week of teaching. So we had some good times.

MEL: Was that in Missouri? Your first job?

SCA: Yes, it was in Missouri. My first job in Missouri, at Portage Des Sioux, right on the Mississippi, yes.

MEL: And why aren't you supposed to laugh or smile until Christmas?

SCA: The reason we were told not to smile before Christmas is so that the kids knew what you said, you meant business. Otherwise if you're trying to laughing about everything, kids wouldn't pay any attention to you. So it's like I you know, for me that's hard to do because I like to smile a lot, and it's like, how am I gonna do this this? This isn't gonna work. But you know, so that's why it was like, I had to hold it in so that I wouldn't laugh in front of this first grader and his eighth grade sister.

MEL: They didn't seem too scared of you the next day, though?

SCA: Oh no, no no, no they weren't. So because the eighth grade girl naturally told all the junior high kids what I what had happened the night before so, it's like oh well, I said see everybody does silly things and that was one of them.

MEL: Did you have a favorite grade that you taught, or you loved teaching all the grades?

SCA: It was for me at first it was hard moving from teaching first, second, and third, to go right to sixth, seventh, and eighth. That didn't, I missed that gap in between. But then eventually I ended up with in teaching everything from one day so then you know it was fine, yeah. But there was a gap there and then because I wasn't even thirty years old when they asked me to be a principal. And I can remember saying that Reverend Mother, you need to make me a promise. What's that, she said. And I can't believe I said this to Reverend Mother, I said, if I really would number one, don't like teaching sixth seventh or eighth grade, or I really don't think I'm doing a good job being a principal, they gotta let me out of it. So she said, I understand, she said, that'll be fine, you know.

Well once I got into it and did it I knew, again, I said this is what you need to do. So then we were fine.

MEL: Did you, if you were to describe how your current life has changed over the years, how would you describe it?

SCA: Ah, it's changed a whole lot because you know, as as a teenager you don't think about praying a whole lot. But then entering the convent and you know you know, you pray the office several times a day. And you know we always say the prayer before and



after meals, we say the Angelus, that it just becomes part of you because you know, that's part of being a religious Sister. And again realizing you don't have to always be in church to pray, you can go outside and you have nature be your prayer for the day. Or you can be on the boat on the Mississippi River like some people where I was in Missouri, they had boats so they would call us and say, would you like a boat ride today? And all that was wonderful. So I said sure, so we you know, go down to the river and get on the boat and take a boat ride down the Mississippi River, it was wonderful. So yeah, so your prayer life really increases and deepens the more that you're in the convent, yeah. Because you realize not only the significance but the power of prayer, because like with with our community as somebody has somebody that we need have people pray for, we have a special thing on our bulletin board, you can write the request for people to pray for so-and-so, who's having whatever kind of surgery. And sometimes the email goes out, prayers are asked for so-and-so, so to get all the Sisters praying. And it's amazing the power of prayer, how great it works.

So people call me and say, could you call—and ask them to put this on their prayer list? Because I've done that before and I take, but I always say to people first, is it okay if I call Oldenburg and ask to put it on the our prayer list? Yeah. Because I won't do it unless I get their okay, because some people sometimes don't want others to know. So with that just the power prayer it's amazing what what happens, and how that works.

MEL: Sister, I'm interested in Vatican II. How did that affect your life?

SCA: Well, naturally I was in the long habit. And I can remember going from the long habit, making the our long habit to our short habit. And I can remember saying or I was in Missouri, Portage Des Sioux, it's like I can't walk across the street looking like this, because we this short skirt, shorter skirt, and the black blouse with a white collar and the little black little black veil. And I can remember we called the Pastor across the street, we said, we've got our new habits on, how about coming up—but why don't you come over here, we go, oh no, we can't do that. So, and so he came over, he said, it does look nice. Well, thank you. So then Mass for Sunday, so it's like, oh my we're all going, what are we gonna do? So we gotta go to church so we went over to church, and the Pastor god bless his heart he goes at the end of mass, I guess you've noticed that the Sisters have now wearing their shortened habits. And I'm asking you a favor, please do not stare at them when they come out of church. Wow, well it's like, thanks a lot buddy.

So we all decided to stay in church, everybody would be gone. Well, no, wrong. And so everybody's out there you know, to tell us how nice we looked. I can remember his name was Craig [unintelligible], he was my second my second grader, and he goes, he's looking down at the ground talking to me, and I said Craig, why are you looking down at the ground? Well, Father said we're not allowed to look at you. I said, Craig it's alright, it's alright. But that was yeah, was not easy to go from the long to the short, you know. And now, and I always say, you can tell a sister a mile away. You can tell that they are, without having to have the habit on, yeah.

MEL: Do you remember what you thought of that change at the time? I knew you were nervous about going to church. But what did you think of the reason?

SCA: Well the, and there's big reasons, the big reason was back in the early times of the church, the women all wore those long outfits. Now women don't wear clothes like that. And so that was a reason for the change. Yeah, which made sense, you know. Got to get with the times, so that's, yeah.

MEL: Were there other changes in Vatican II that was surprising to you, or became meaningful to you?

SCA: One thing I thought was the best thing, the nicest thing, was the opportunity to have the priests facing the people, and not having their backs to the people. Because you know, as a child it's like, what's he doing up there, you know. Why did he always have his back to us? So it was you know, to me was refreshing that we could actually see the priest, face to face, and that we knew what he really was doing at the altar. And so that was that was just really nice. And then especially going back to English, you know. In my day we had learned all the Latin you know, all the servers had to know all the Latin, we had to know all the Latin responses at Mass because in those days you went to Mass every day. And so we had to know the Latin, but it was much nicer to be able to speak, speak it in English, so. That was much nicer.

MEL: To end, Sister, do you have any, would you like to speak about any of your friendships with other Sisters, over the years, or any people you'd like to talk about?

SCA: Well a lot of the people, some a lot of the Sisters that I lived with, we're still very good friends and we do things together. Which is nice it's not that just just because you live with them it's going to end because you're not living with them anymore. No, you know that that friendship in fact that since most of us all live by ourself, in Cincinnati we have a support group and we get together every so often. And then once a month between our Sisters and some of our associates in Cincinnati, we get together once a month and go to LaRosa's just to kind of keep in contact with each other, since we live by ourselves. Because we don't want to lose the opportunity to keep that closeness together. So that works out really that works out really well.

MEL: Would you describe one of those dinners?

SCA: Well, when you go to LaRosa's this depends on what you want to eat, you know. Everybody gets, orders what they want. We don't meet until like five-thirty, so that people can come right from work and go there instead of going home and then you have to come back out again. So that just works out really well, and everybody gets to eat whatever you know, whatever they want. And then we all get, since we're all senior citizens we always get the senior citizen discount, which is nice. So it works out really well. And it's just nice to kind of keep up with each other, and though you know, what's

happening in their life and they know what's happening in your life. And we said you know, we might say well we need prayers for this or prayers for that or this person, or what have you, and that kind of makes it really nice, yeah.

MEL: Are they all Franciscan Sisters?

SCA: Yes. And then some them are associates, gather for that too, so it's it's nice because we have really close relationship with our associates in Cincinnati, yeah. It is nice.

MEL: Thank you, Sister. Is there is there any other person you'd like to remember or talk about?

SCA: Um, I guess one of the priests that I worked with a whole lot. Well for six years when I was at Bridgetown. He now is in Texas, at Amarillo, Texas and so he's not a priest in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati anymore, but he's now a priest in the Diocese of Amarillo. And and still now every you know, we call each other or email each other back and forth just to keep that. Because we worked very very well together, and it was like, oh, how could you do that, you know. And he his homilies were outstanding, and everybody was saying, that's Amarillo's gain and our loss, definitely. That he's, you know, all of everybody said that. That's their gain and our loss that he's going down to Texas. But, so it's nice, you know. He'll call along, and I can always tell by tone of his voice. All right what's going on now, what do we need to talk about? And he goes, you can always tell when I need some advice. Uh-huh. So we give him the advice and he goes, well thanks. Then the next time how's it going? Oh thanks for that advice, it worked out real well. And vice versa, vice versa, with my being you know here at Oldenburg for over three months now getting my ankle back in shape I can walk again. Yeah, then he kind of helped me through some of that hard time with that, too. So it's just a nice you know, it's just on the phone and you know emails and stuff. It's just nice people that friendship together.

MEL: It was hard to be here for three months away from Cincinnati?

SCA: Oh, well yeah because I couldn't get up putting any weight on my right foot for over three months. So that was hard, because I was I called myself Hop-along and my walker Cassidy. So we were Hop-along Cassidy as we were hop down the hall on my left foot. So yeah it was hard it's hard been hard being away from my home with Cincinnati, that long. So I'll be anxious to get back there, yeah.

MEL: Well thank you so much for your time today, Sister.

SCA: Not a problem, thank you for asking me.