



THE VIEW FROM THE BLUFF

APRIL 2020

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



Mother
Marie Daniel Hummel
1970-1980

Margaret Ann Hummel was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on St. Patrick's Day 1932, just a few minutes after her twin sister, Rose Marie. They were the fourth and fifth children of six born to Norbert Daniel Hummel and



Margaret Maloney Hummel, both Louisville natives. Margaret Ann attended St. Benedict's Parochial School in Louisville from 1938 to 1946. Upon graduation she and her twin sister attended Loretto High School in Louisville from 1946 to 1950. The twin sisters went on to attend Ursuline College in Louisville from which they graduated with bachelor of arts degrees in 1954. While Rose Marie married within a month of graduation, Margaret Ann entered the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy in Charleston, SC, in September 1954. On August 22, 1955, she received the habit and name of Sister Marie Daniel. She made her first vows on August 22, 1957 and her final vows on August 22, 1960.

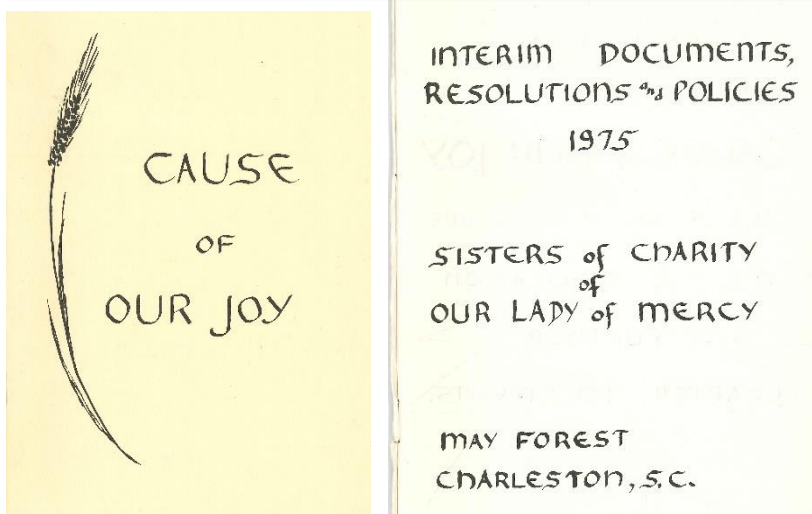


During the first year of her novitiate Sister Marie Daniel taught the 6th grade in Sacred Heart School in Charleston. Following her canonical year she taught at Bishop England High School, Charleston, from 1956 to 1959. For the next eleven years she served as teacher, Dean of Girls, Principal, Superior and Director of Saint Angela Academy, Aiken, SC. During summers she attended Villanova University, Villanova, PA, from which she received a MA degree in 1967.

On June 13, 1970 Sister Marie Daniel was elected Superior General of the OLM Community for a six-year term. Because she was only 38 years old, two years younger than the age stipulated by Canon Law, the Ordinary of the Diocese, Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefler, had to confirm her election before she took the oath of office. In 1976 the Community re-elected her for a four-year term. Mother Marie Daniel's ten years as General Superior coincided with the Holy See's call for all religious congregations to update their Constitutions and lives in accord with the documents of Vatican Council II and the revision of the Code of Canon Law. The directive challenged leadership to balance continuity with renewal. The following developments during Mother Marie Daniel's administration evidence her efforts and those of the Community to do so.



Srs. Mary Charles, Margareta, Mother Marie Daniel, Srs. Camilla, Stella Maris
1970 General Council



The creation of a more collegial government by the establishment of consultative bodies, notably a Senate and four Commissions facilitated communication between membership and leadership and to assisted the General Council upon request. Non-delegated General Chapters were held in 1976 and 1977. While awaiting the revision of the Code of Canon Law, the OLM Community produced an Interim Document, entitled Cause of Our Joy which

served as a Rule of Life to motivate and guide us.

Interaction between the OLMs and SCNs continued throughout Mother Marie Daniel's administration. However, in 1974 the OLM Community voted against a merger of the two communities but approved continued interaction



In 1975 Our Lady of Mount Virgin Convent, Middlesex, NJ, was designated the Center for Formation and Sister

Mary Joseph Ritter was appointed Formation Director.

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY of Charleston, South Carolina -- actively concerned and dedicated religious women listening as attentively as possible to the needs of their people, the Diocese, and the Church - defending, encouraging life ... always present to the situation and their people.

MAY FOREST MOTHERHOUSE ... a place of prayer, peace, and beauty ... opening its doors for a wider service to our Diocese, civic community, and the state ... for all our people of God.

"The May Forest Center of Spirituality merits the interest and participation of Priests and Sisters. The goals are directed toward spiritual renewal. May the vision become a reality, and may the work receive God's blessing."

Most Rev. Ernest L. Unterkoefler
Bishop of Charleston
January 16, 1976

**Dedication of
May Forest
Center of Spirituality
in the
American Bicentennial Year
March 21, 1976**

**"I Do Not Know Any System
More Favorable To The Security
Of Religious Rights And Of
Church Property Than That Of
The American Law."**

**Quote of John England,
First Bishop of Charleston
1820 - 1842**

**Founder of American
Religious Community of Sisters
Diocese of Charleston
1829**

To provide for the on-going education and formation of all members of the Congregation Mother Marie Daniel invited religious leaders and authorities in various disciplines to address the Community throughout her administration. The development of the Center of Spirituality at May Forest (the Motherhouse) began in 1975. A Lay Associate Program also began in 1975. The Program involves the OLM Community and Catholic lay women who are interested in enriching their personal relationship with God and ministering to the Church in a special way.

Developments in the Community's ministries of education and health care also evidenced continuity and change during Mother Marie Daniel's administration. In 1971 the General Council agreed to provide OLMs to staff St. Mary's parochial school in Aiken. However, the Community withdrew from Saint Andrew's parochial school in Myrtle Beach, SC, in 1973, and, from St. Michael's parish school in Gibbstown, NJ, in 1976. The Boarding Department of St. Angela Academy was discontinued in 1974. The Academy continued as a four-year co-ed day school staffed by religious and lay teachers. The OLM Community also continued to provide Sisters to serve in Bishop England High School, the Cathedral School in Charleston, Stella Maris School in Mt. Pleasant, St. Mary's, Greenville, St. Catherine's Kindergarten and St. Anne's School in Sumter, and, Our Lady of Mt. Virgin School in Middlesex. In 1975 the Community began a summer Volunteer Program providing educational and social activities for children living on James Island.

OLM SUMMER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

SPONSORED BY THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY FOR YOUNG WOMEN COLLEGE AGE & OLDER

OLM SUMMER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM - EXPLORE the dimensions of Christian community-in-service. EXPERIENCE a joyful and common search for the Lord in His people. DONATE time, energy, LOVE, & enthusiasm in a day camp program for young underprivileged children. SHARE in recreational activities, fun-learning projects, song fests, arts & crafts, games & contests. PARTICIPATE in prayer, liturgy, and community living for two weeks.

WHEN? The Program will begin Sunday, July 24, with orientation, sharing, and planning and will run through Sunday, August 7, departure date.

WHERE? May Forest, the home of the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy, just outside of Charleston, S.C. will be the location of the Program.

WHY? The Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy aim to provide a significant experience in service and ministry, as we share our values and goals with young, dedicated, Christian women.

COST? Volunteers are expected to take care of their own transportation to & from Charleston. They are asked to contribute \$15.00 registration fee. The Sisters will cover expenses of room & board. The Volunteers are responsible for their own personal & recreational costs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Sister Patricia Blaney, O.L.M.
OLM Summer Volunteer Program
P.O. Box 12410
Charleston, S.C. 29412
(803) 795-7570

OR:

Sister Mary Joseph Ritter, O.L.M.
OLM Summer Volunteer Program
610 Harris Avenue
Middlesex, N.J. 08846
(201) 356-3274





As General Superior Mother Marie Daniel was a member of the Board of Directors of St. Francis Xavier Hospital, Charleston, and, Divine Saviour Hospital in York, SC. She served on numerous committees in a decade during which both hospitals experienced significant development and expansion. Mother Marie Daniel also assigned Sisters to staff the Charleston Home for Children which operated under the supervision of the Diocesan Office of Catholic Charities, and, appointed two members of the Home's Board of Directors.

The OLM Community celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1979. Mother Marie Daniel and Council choose "Gifted for All the People of God" as the theme for the jubilee

year. The year long celebration began at the Motherhouse in January and was followed by regional celebrations in South Carolina and Middlesex, NJ. The Catholic Banner, the Diocesan newspaper, published a special supplement in April 1979 which included a history of the Congregation. The Community also celebrated Mother Marie Daniel's Silver Jubilee during the year.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATION
OUR LADY OF MOUNT VIRGIN CHURCH
commemorating the
150th JUBILEE
SISTERS OF CHARITY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY



Most Reverend George W. Ahr, S.T.D. Presiding

Middlesex, N. J.

September 23, 1979

At the end of her term in office Mother Marie Daniel was invited to spend a year in the Religious Leaders Program at Notre Dame University, a renewal program for individuals transitioning from congregational leadership. Following her year at Notre Dame, she returned to South Carolina. During 1981-1982 she taught at St. Angela Academy. At the end of academic year, she requested and received an Indult of Exclaustration from the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy. Returning to Louisville, she took a position with Bellarmine College. After three years' separation from the OLM Community she transferred to the Sisters of Loretto on July 1, 1985. On June 25, 1988, Sister Margaret Ann transferred her vows from the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy to the Sisters of Loretto. Sister Margaret Ann died at the Loretto Motherhouse, Nerinx, KY, on July 26, 2014.



Sr. Ann Billard offers Lenten program to Nativity Parish in John England Hall at the Motherhouse.



Aging... Our Personal Journey to Jerusalem
Lenten Day of Reflection for Older Adults
March 10, 2020
May Forest - John England Hall
Sr. Ann Billard, OLM, Ph.D.

9:45- 10:00	Introduction Opening prayer
10:00-10:45	Session 1: Let Go... Say "YES" to The Call to Radical Discipleship
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 -11:45	Session 2: A Way of Transformation: Spiritual Tasks of Aging
11:45- 11:50	Break
11:50- 12:15	Session 3: Reclaiming the Wonder: Tools for the Journey
12:15- 1:00	Lunch
1:00- 1:45	Session 4: Mission: Share the Legacy
1:45- 2:00	Evaluations - Closing






EARTH DAY 2020 THEME: CLIMATE ACTION

Every year the Earth Day Network, as organizers of the original Earth Day, selects an environmental priority to engage the global public.

The enormous challenges – but also the vast opportunities – of acting on climate change have distinguished the issue as the most pressing topic for the 50th anniversary year. At the end of 2020, nations will be expected to increase their national commitments to the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change, so the time is now for citizens to call for greater global ambition to tackle our climate crisis.

Climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life-support systems that make our world habitable. Unless every country in the world steps up – and steps up with urgency and ambition – we are consigning current and future generations to a dangerous future.

Earth Day 2020 will be far more than a day. It must be a historic moment when citizens of the world rise up in a united call for the creativity, innovation, ambition, and bravery that we need to meet our climate crisis and seize the enormous opportunities of a zero-carbon future.

The first Earth Day in 1970 mobilized millions of Americans for the protection of the planet. On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans — 10% of the U.S. population at the time — took to the street, college campuses, and hundreds of cities to protest environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward for our planet. The first Earth Day is credited with launching the modern environmental movement.

Earth Day is now recognized as the planet's largest civic event and it led to passage of landmark environmental laws in the United States, including the Clean Air, Clear Water and Endangered Species Acts. Many countries soon adopted similar laws, and in 2016, United Nations chose Earth Day as the day to sign the Paris climate agreement into force.

"Despite that amazing success and decades of environmental progress, we find ourselves facing an even more dire, almost existential, set of global environmental challenges, from loss of biodiversity to climate change to plastic pollution, that call for action at all levels of government," said Denis Hayes, the organizer of the first Earth Day in 1970 and Earth Day Network's Board Chair Emeritus.

"Progress has slowed, climate change impacts grow, and our adversaries have become better financed," said Earth Day Network president Kathleen Rogers. "We find ourselves today in a world facing global threats that demand a unified global response. For Earth Day 2020, we will build a new generation of environmentalist activists, engaging millions of people worldwide."

MARKING 50 YEARS OF ACTION FROM 1970 TO 2020 AND BEYOND

Our campaigns are intended to activate at least a billion people worldwide to meet Earth Day's 2020 theme of climate action:

- [EARTHRRISE](#), an intergenerational global movement for climate action that will mobilize millions around the world on April 22, 2020
- The [Great Global Cleanup](#), a worldwide campaign to remove billions of pieces of trash from neighborhoods, beaches, rivers, lakes, trails, and parks — reducing waste and plastic pollution, improving habitats, and preventing harm to wildlife and humans.
- [Earth Challenge](#) 2020, the largest-ever global citizen science initiative, which will arm everyday individuals with the tools they need to report on the health and wellbeing of the environment, from water quality, to air quality, to the species around them.
- [Foodprints for the Future](#), a collaboration with individuals, communities, and partners across all sectors to address one of the largest contributors to climate change facing us today: our food system
- [Artists for the Earth](#), a global campaign bringing artists from around the world in every discipline, using the power of their art to express our common humanity.

To build the largest, most diverse global mobilization in history in defense of the environment, we need your support.

Together, we can fight for a cleaner, safer, more just and sustainable world that protects and supports all of us.

April 22, 2020, is as a key moment for citizens, institutions and organizations everywhere to demonstrate our shared demand for bold, transformative change.

