



Today, Sisters of Mercy, through Mercy International Association, use their resources to respond to issues of global poverty demonstrated in the massive displacement of persons worldwide.

Sister Sheila Carney, RSM - Biography

Sister Sheila Carney, RSM is a member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. During her 50 years of membership she has served her community and the local and national church in a wide variety of positions from teaching in elementary school to serving in regional and national leadership.

From 1967 - 1974, Sister Sheila taught English and Language Arts in elementary and secondary schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and served as Principal of Saint Clare in Clairton, Pa. Following a year of theological studies in Rome, she was appointed Director of Incorporation for the Pittsburgh Sisters of Mercy, a ministry in which she served for seven years. After completing a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa., she was hired to teach in the seminary and college at Saint Vincent.

In 1987, Sister Sheila was elected President of the Pittsburgh Sisters of Mercy and after nine years in that position enjoyed three years as a resource person, travelling the Mercy world offering retreats and conferences on the community's history and spirituality. During this time, she also served as Acting President of Holy Cross Health Ministries and as Acting Vice President of Mission Services at Holy Cross Hospital, both in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Elected in 1999, she served for six years on the leadership team of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas based in Silver Spring, Maryland. Following sabbatical time, Sister Sheila joined the staff of Carlow University, her alma mater, as Special Assistant to the President for Mercy Heritage, a position she has held for ten years.

In addition to the professional positions listed above, Sister Sheila has served on the Boards of The Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, Holy Cross Hospital, Holy Cross Health Ministries and Holy Cross Foundation and Carlow University. She was the founding chair of the Board of Well of Mercy in North Carolina and chaired the Members of both Eastern Mercy Health System and the Conference for Mercy Higher Education. Currently, she is a member of the Board of McAuley Ministries and serves as Vice Postulator for the Cause for the Canonization of Catherine McAuley.

Sister Sheila is an internationally known speaker and retreat director. She is the co-author Praying with Catherine McAuley and author of numerous articles which have appeared in books and periodicals, including the MAST Journal and Downside Review. She is an avid knitter and reader and enjoys singing.

Sister Sheila is a native of Pittsburgh. She is a graduate of Our Lady of Mercy Academy and Mount Mercy College - now Carlow University - and Saint Vincent Seminary. She did additional studies at the National University of Ireland, the ARC Program in Rome and Duquesne University.