

EXPERIENCE RECORD

Sister Eileen Ann Kelley

NAME: Sister Eileen Ann (Claire Kelley).....

DATE OF PROFESSION: Jan. 23, '48...

MISSION	LOCATION	GRADE OR SUBJECTS	DATE	SUCCESS	SUPERIOR
St. Angela	Chicago	5-6	1948-49		S. Fr. Lucile
St. Angela	Chicago	5	1949-50		S. Fr. Lucile
St. Angela	Chicago	5	1950-51		S. Fr. Lucile
St. Joan of Arc	Indianapolis	4-5	1951-52		S. Marcella
Second Novitiate			Aug. 1952		M. M. Helene
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Indianapolis	5, 6	1953-56		S. Mary Eileen
St. Mary	Richmond	5-Principal	1956-57		S. Eileen Ann
St. Patrick	Stoneham	8-Principal	1957-63		S. Eileen Ann
Dunblane	Wash. D.C.	8, 7-Prin.	1963-66		S. Robert
		8, 7 "	1966-67		S. Marian Thomas
St. Patrick	Terre Haute	1/2 day 8-Principal	1967-68		S. Mildred Celeste
		Principal	1968-70		
St. Raphael Provincial House	Fall River	Elem. Sch. Coor.	1970- Jan. '71		
" " " "	" "	2nd Council. Jan.	1971- 76		S. Anna Rose
Generalate, SMW		Secretary Gen.	1976-		

MINISTRY RECORD

Name Sister Eileen Ann Kelley

Date of Birth 8/14/26

Date of Entrance 7/22/45

Year	Ministry	Description	Institution and Location
1978-81	Secretary General		St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN
1981- 86	General Secretary		" " " " " "
1986- 87	Sabbatical/Student		Emmanuel College, Boston, Mass.
1987-	Principal	Holy Redeemer School	College Park, MD

(over)

Commentary
Sister Eileen Ann Kelley
October 17, 2012

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter

*May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of God who called us by his own glory and goodness. Thus we have received through these things his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world, and may become participants of the divine nature. For this very reason you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, knowledge, self control, endurance and godliness... For if these things are yours and are increasing among you they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **The word of God.***

I see these words of Peter to the early Church lived in the life of Sister Eileen Ann, as we look back on her life and ministry as a Sister of Providence. All those who knew her saw her as a woman of deep faith and prayer.

Mary Clare Kelley one of five children was born to Joseph Edward Kelley and Evelyn Susannah Kennedy, both of whom were born in Prince Edward Island, Canada. She had three sisters: Jane, Eileen, and our own Sister Evelyn, and one brother, Father John Kelley. Evelyn and John as well as both parents are deceased. Mary Clare was born in Everett, Massachusetts on August 14, 1926. She attended Cheverus elementary and high school in Malden, Massachusetts, graduating in 1944. A year later on July 22, 1945 Mary Clare entered the Sisters of Providence at Maryhurst in Rockville, Maryland. In 1946 she came to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods to complete her novitiate. She professed first vow in 1948 and perpetual vows in 1953.

Sister Eileen Ann served as teacher or school principal for 33 years in Indiana, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. For seven of those years she was both principal and teacher. In 1970 Eileen Ann was named as Elementary School Coordinator for the St. Raphael Province. After a year and half in that position she was elected 2nd Councilor for St. Raphael Province. In 1976, she was elected Secretary General of the Congregation. After a year of study at Emmanuel College in Boston, Sister Eileen Ann returned to the role of principal in College Park, Maryland. In 1991, Sister Eileen Ann came to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods to become Congregation Archivist; this was her last active ministry as well as her first volunteer ministry when she retired in 2005.

We can see that Eileen Ann served in many ways, but now let's take a little deeper look into the person herself. In every one of these ministries we can see the dedication she brought in being the best she could be. Her dedication and hard work have influenced many persons, evidenced here today by the presence of at least one student and faculty members, who had to travel a great distance to be here. Sister Judith has often said how much what she learned when on Sister Eileen Ann's staff has helped her in her work as teacher and as Director of Woods Day Care/Pre School.

In Sister Eileen Ann's file I found a letter from some parents written to Sister Mary Catherine Guiler, the Provincial of St. Raphael Province, at the time that Eileen Ann was preparing to come to the Archives. The letter was imploring that Sister Eileen Ann be allowed to stay in College Park as principal. I quote: "Not only have we grown to love and respect Sister Eileen Ann, but she has brought our school into the mainstream of modern education and our program has excelled since her arrival four years ago." The letter went on to say that they understood that needs of the Congregation must be met. I would like to mention that many of the parents at this location are teachers at the University of Maryland, so they are good evaluators of the type of education their children were getting.

We also know as Sisters of Providence the professional expertise Eileen Ann brought to her work. Sister brought a great deal of organization to the Archives, and kept us on our toes about what should be sent in. I would like to say that after checking her file while working on this commentary, she certainly practiced what she preached.

When Sister Eileen Ann moved to Lourdes Hall, she served her sisters as co-chair of the Resident Council.

Enough about work! What about fun?

Sunday afternoons found Sister Eileen Ann in front of the TV cheering for her beloved Patriots or Red Sox. Almost everyday, Eileen Ann played cards with Sister Helen Delores. In Sister Eileen Ann's room we found a book of cartoons and jokes that had been cut from newspapers and books. We all knew that she had a great sense of humor, but still I wondered if she had made the book. Today, I happened to look at the back of the book and saw it was from Burlington, N.C. This was another sign of Eileen Ann's love of Sister Evelyn, who obviously had put it together.

I feel a little like the evangelist who said that there are many other things I could say about Eileen Ann, but she would want us to get on with our lives at this time. I would like to end with words from the Communion Hymn we sang shortly after learning about Sister Eileen Ann's death on Saturday morning. It sums up much about how she lived her life:

"We walk by faith, and not by sight:
No gracious words we hear
Of him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe him near."

Written by Sister Mary Ann Phelan