

April 25, 2010

198 years ago today, Mary Rhodes, Ann Havern and Christina Stuart began their religious life together not too far from this place. Since that time over 3,000 women have lived their lives founded upon a profound act of faith in the enduring love of God and a need to share this love.

We believe that Loretto came to be and comes to be through the creative Spirit of God, whose grace worked powerfully in our founders and continues to work in the community as a whole and in each of its members.

Today we celebrate 75 years of fidelity for Sister Barbara Croghan, living this same vowed life inspired by the creative Spirit of God.

We also celebrate with Sister Donna Mattingly as she publicly expresses her lifetime commitment as a member of the Sisters of Loretto.

The vocation to be a Sister of Loretto shows itself in a spirit of courage and generosity, marked by trust in God, ingenuity and self-reliance, made firm by a personal response to God through the church. We continue to work for justice and act for peace because the gospel urges us.

I invite Donna to share a few words, then profess her vows and then we will sign the covenant of commitment.

Donna

I present to you Sister Donna Mattingly.

Now I invite Sister Barbara to renew her vows, with the same spirit of generosity she professed them 75 years ago:

Barbara -- all join in the final prayer

I am grateful for each of you today – and pray with confidence that you will continue to be held gently in God’s hand.

Cathy Mueller SL
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