

# 175 SISTER PROFILES:

## Sister Mildred Schubert

**Sister Maryanne Fitzgerald**

Insightful, energizing, warm—these are the qualities that come to mind when we think of Sister Mildred Schubert. Mildred, better known to us as Millie, and her identical twin Marjorie, better known to us as Margie, were born on March 7, 1944 in Richmond Hill, NY. They have two older brothers and a younger sister. Millie and Margie grew up in St. James, Long Island, on the same block as Sister Julia Heslin!



**Sister Mildred Schubert**

Millie and Margie graduated from Seton Hall High School, Patchogue in June of 1961. That September they travelled to Halifax, Margie to enter the Congregation and Millie to start her freshman year at



CELEBRATING

# 175

YEARS OF JOYFUL WITNESS

1849 - 2024



**Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Convent, early 1970s**

**Back Row: Sisters Teresa Logue, Joan Holmberg, Claire Devine, Marie de Paul Paulin, Marie Kelly, Claire Francis Twohig, Katie Quinn and Therese Schnurr**

**Front Row: Sisters Maureen Bernius, Millie Schubert and Kathleen O'Donnell**

Mt. St. Vincent College, using the scholarship she had received. Millie soon followed in the footsteps of Margie (now Sister Mildred Thomas). Entering in the fall of 1962, Sister Millie was professed in

1965, with the religious name Sister Robert Thomas, and was missioned in 1967. Margie, Sister Mildred Thomas, was professed in 1964 and missioned in 1966. She ultimately followed



**Sister Millie with her twin Margie Kearney**

another path, leaving the Congregation in 1968 and later marrying. Margie is now a proud mother and grandmother.

For 14 years S. Millie served at St. Nicholas of Tolentine School, first as a teacher of grades 6, 7, and

8 then as the school psychologist. After next working as a psychological consultant for children in foster care placement, S. Millie spent 21 years as a school psychologist at St. Francis Preparatory High School located in the original Bishop Reilly High School.

S. Millie also had a private practice, providing psychotherapy for children, adolescents and adults—specializing in women’s issues, stress reduction and bereavement.



**Laurie Vanarken, one of Sister Millie’s students from St. Frances Prep, considers Sister Millie her “Second Mom”. They have stayed in touch all these years and still visit regularly.**

This professional background and these ministerial experiences, combined with those qualities mentioned at the outset—insightful, energizing and warm—were the perfect blend S. Millie shared with so many religious in her ministry as the Director of the Religious Consultation Service of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY for over 10 years. Through her leadership, the Religious Consultation Service provided referrals for religious seeking the support of a professional therapist when dealing with important personal issues.

S. Millie was the first contact for each religious seeking a referral—listening carefully and compassionately and then offering options for therapists to be contacted. Her guidance and support were essential to the flourishing of this ministry.



**Sisters Millie and Katie Quinn with Margie’s son Scott, S. Millie’s Godson**

Using her own professional education and training as a psychologist, S. Millie was an invaluable resource to many of the leadership teams of religious congregations serving in the diocese. S. Millie guided them through challenging personnel situations and assisted them in their interactions with individual religious and local communities as needs arose.

**S. Millie's ministry as the Director of the Religious Consultation Service rested in her person—her approach, her skills and her genuine caring for each person she encountered were the hallmarks of her ministry—"giving joyful witness to love: the love of God, of one another and of all persons" (*Constitutions 1*).**



**2012 -- Sister Millie received the Founders Award for her service to religious and clergy of the Rockville Centre Diocese, NY where she has been Director of the Consultation Service for Religious Personnel for the past 10 years. In 2005 she expanded the service to the nearby Brooklyn diocese.**

Many New York Sisters celebrated with S. Millie:

Back row: Sisters Susan Smolinsky, Kati Hamm, Mary Burns, Millie-guest of honour, Katie Quinn, Kathleen O'Donnell, Maryanne Fitzgerald, Mary Beth Moore, Frances Fahey, Anne Power and Mary Louise Brink

Front row: Sisters Maureen Elizabeth Burke, Joan Dawber, Barbara Lynch, Margaret Coppentrath, Barbara Buxton, Catherine O'Leary, Maureen Murphy and Noreen Cleary