

# Introduction of Nan Claire Ross, OFS

Submitted February 1, 2026

I first learned about Our Blessed Mother from my Mom, Marilyn.

When I was just a child, I saw Mom with beads in her hands, and she was talking to someone. However, who was that someone? I asked Mom to whom she was talking and she said, "I'm talking to Mary." I said, "Who is Mary?" And my Mom answered, "She's a really nice lady!"

I consecrated myself to this "really nice lady" nearly 30 years ago on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, July 16, 1997, and since my consecration I have had a faith-filled life and one that I would never have imagined. In short, I left my successful secular job at a Big 10 University (At the time there were only 10 universities in the Big 10!), and have worked for parishes, dioceses, Catholic educational institutes, and EWTN.

At the parish where I made my consecration, I served as the coordinator for the Knights of the Immaculata and arranged monthly meetings, a pilgrimage to Marytown, and retreats. Additionally, I was the chief editor of three MI prayer books. And I received the St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe Knights of the Immaculata Award, which was an initiative of our pastor.

In 2010, I professed my promises to live the Gospel life as a Secular Franciscan.

Now retired, I would like to work for the Immaculata in a new way with the National Board of the MI by using my talents and gifts for the glory of God. I feel Blessed Mother is asking me to be a Council Member and I ask for your vote.

Thank you! I will keep you in my daily prayers before the Blessed Sacrament!