

## *Sister Ann Carmen Barone, OSF*

Sister Ann Carmen Barone expresses her unabashed love for life in everything she does; whether it is in helping Lourdes College students understand the history and connectedness of the campus grounds or in preparing liturgy for her fellow Sylvania Franciscans in Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel.

She wears two hats. One as the Vice President for Mission and Ministry for Lourdes College and the other as Director of Liturgy for the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio. In her college position she has the opportunity to help students become aware of God's presence in their lives. In her liturgical function she helps her community and guests celebrate through song and prayer.

"There is a vortex of energy on these 89 acres," she said. "People don't come here by accident and that includes the students. We help them understand how their values, hopes and energy impact people around them. We introduce them to the idea of working together and serving those in need because that is part of being a good Christian. Our goal is to challenge them and engage them in the creative process. We teach them ownership and pride so they can take what they learn back into their world because we need people committed to Jesus in all walks of life."

Working together to create something that is bigger than the individual is a core component of being a Sylvania Franciscan. Sister Ann Carmen said praying together shows us who we are and how we can grow together. She recently celebrated 25 years as the Director of Liturgy for the community. She has prepared the readings and music for more than 6,000 services in Queen of Peace Chapel ranging from a Christmas Eve service that draws more than 500 people or funeral liturgy where the life of a community member is celebrated to daily Mass for 40 or 50.

"Liturgy and prayer are essential to being Franciscan," said Sister Ann Carmen. "Our chapel is a living, breathing place. It is where we come together as a community of believers to express what is in our hearts. Prayer and song fill us with energy to express our spiritual dimension and share it with the people we meet."

Sister Ann Carmen said one of the gifts of being a Sylvania Franciscan is getting to live life as an example of God's love and she uses the energy of the Motherhouse grounds to teach that lesson every day.



*Sister Ann Carmen Barone*

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*Lord, grant  
that I might not  
so much seek to be  
loved as to love.*

*— St. Francis of Assisi*

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