



August, 2015

Dear Friend,

90 years. \$65,000. 1947. Acts of love and service too numerous to count.

Numbers never tell the whole story, but when it comes to the lifetime of service that Sr. Joan Marie Sariti has given, the numbers pack a wallop.

Sr. Joan Marie celebrated her 90th birthday this year and in 2017 will celebrate 70 years as a Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. During that time she served first in education and then for decades in nursing. Throughout her religious life she has had a connection to Cabrini Retreat Center developing an abiding interest in the ministry. She has served as a volunteer here since 1995.

"It is such a beautiful place – the grounds, the chapel. We have all different kinds of groups there, but it is particularly good for high school retreats. It is an oasis for young people, and they are the future."

Sr. Joan Marie exemplifies the gift of service. From rescuing a baby left in a lagoon (see a photo of baby *Moses* and Sr. Joan Marie at www.cabrinicenter.org), to serving as Sacristan or filling salt and pepper shakers at the Retreat Center, no job is too big or too small. Sister knows that everything adds up and her efforts, practical and spiritual, have made a tremendous impact.

"I'm way ahead of Pope Francis in saving the earth."

Starting in 1984, Sr. Joan Marie began recycling aluminum cans and donating the proceeds to various MSC missions and other charities. Many call her the "Can Can Girl." Through her "green" recycling activities a total of \$65,000 has been contributed to missions across the globe. Thanks to her creative fundraising efforts, the Retreat Center has been the beneficiary of a \$1,000.00 annual contribution from her "can fund." She is an example to each of us of what one person can do.

"Cabrini Retreat Center gives youth a prayerful atmosphere, a good program, a place to get away from the busyness of life and focus on what really matters. But many can't afford to come here, so we have to help."

Will you help too? Please consider a gift to Cabrini Retreat Center to help us continue our mission. A gift of:

\$1,000.00 will match Sr. Joan Marie's can collection efforts for one year.

\$ 500.00 will cover the annual cost of all Chapel needs – wine, hosts, candles etc.

\$ _____ a gift in whatever amount is within your means will help us in our ministry.

Please give prayerful consideration to your decision and offer a donation as a measure of gratitude for the many blessings in your life.

With gratitude,

Sr. Grace Water, MSC
Mission Integration Director

Nancy A. Golen
Executive Director

P.S. Sr. Joan Marie says *"We are here to help others. That's what Mother Cabrini did."* Please join us by making a gift online at www.cabrinicenter.org click on **Donate Now** or send a check in the enclosed envelope. Thank you!

Cabrini Retreat Center, Inc. is a 501 c 3 Religious Charity.
Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.