

Contribution from Ann Keegan nee Collins

I entered the Ladies of Mary in Castlecor on September 24th 1969. It was a big decision but one I have never regretted.

My nine years with the Ladies was a most positive and enjoyable experience.

Living and sharing with amazing women all of deep faith in their own way was a richness that has always stayed with me and I have no doubt that it helped me and my faith throughout my life.

I didn't always obey the rules, in fact, I broke Julia Costello's heart!

Sisters Agatha, Mary Kevin and Eucharria also come to mind. They were so caring understanding and human, and of course deeply spiritual. It was a delight for me to have had Eucharria at my son's First Communion and also to have her at my daughter's Christening. The contact with the DMJs continued and I was grateful that my daughter Anna was able to spend some months in Ghana with Monica in 2005, and I enjoyed a lovely few weeks there myself.

The bonds of friendship created during my time with the DMJs are extraordinary and many of my good friends today are DMJs or former DMJs.

I congratulate the DMJs on their wonderful work and wish all every blessing on this special anniversary and always.

Thank you for 40 years of friendship, prayer, generosity, hospitality, caring, understanding, dignity and laughter.