

SERVANT OF THE WEEK—MARY GORMAN



Mary Gorman is a retired reading specialist elementary teacher who now lists her occupation as mother and grandmother. She lost her husband Carl five years ago, but treasures her four daughters and five grandchildren. She's been a member of OLV for 40 years. Through the years, volunteering has been an important part of life. She was a Girl Scout leader, volunteered in the schools and now volunteers at City Hospital Resource Center. At OLV she served as a substitute PSR teacher, then got involved with a group of parents whose children attended Catholic schools to become the chairperson of the first "OLV Craft Show" to help cover some of the Catholic education expenses. She got her entire family in this activity. For over 20 years, Mary has continued to lead the event that

has evolved into our current Holiday Bazaar sponsored by the Women's Guild with the money going to support parish needs. Mary said, "I enjoy working with people who love God and want to serve Him by helping others. It is a way to help offer funeral dinners to our parish community, to purchase items for our church, and make donations to many charities." Mary serves on the Women's Guild board, and spends many hours inviting more donations of crafts and gift baskets for the OLV table. In recent years, Mary has been willing to help in other areas of parish need. She has given her time for Palm Braiding, and come to help decorate the church for Christmas. Mary said, "attending mass is a special privilege for me." Her special OLV memories go back to the time when her children were young and participating in the Children's Choir on Christmas Eve, and the May Crowning. More recently, her good experience revolved around her deepest sadness. "When my family was planning Carl's funeral Mass, we were so grateful for the love and caring shown by Fr. John and the staff. We also appreciated the wonderful luncheon served by the Women's Guild. The even sent lunch with my nephew who had to leave right after the funeral because he was in the military and had to fly back to California."