

Cecile (Ceil) Darcy, CSJ Associate



Cecile Darcy, fondly called Ceil, is a woman of deep faith. She was educated through her first eight grades by the Sisters of St. Joseph. She and her sister first realized that they were both poor and loved when a sister beckoned and took them aside to give them some tea and pound cake because the sisters were concerned about limited provisions with eleven children at home.

Over and over, love was shared as Ceil grew up, married, and began to raise her own five children. The family tradition of Catholic education continued with her children attending St. William School in Dorchester where the CSJ presence was a constant. As her family grew, Ceil became a volunteer at Bingo which helped to support the school. She remained a volunteer there for 30 years!

Ceil had a good friend, a former CSJ, who encouraged her to participate in the CSJ Associate Program following the death of her son. She became an associate in 1995, and this experience has both helped her in her grieving and also strengthened the link to CSJs for her.

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Experiencing the deaths of other family members or friends, Ceil has found herself quickly surrounded by CSJs and CSJ Associates who have reached out to her. Ceil remarked: “If I turn in any direction, whether during a difficult time in my life or a joyful time, I will encounter a CSJ or a familiar face of an associate.”

Praying with sisters and associates and spending time with them at St. Joseph Retreat Center in Cohasset deepens her faith life and strengthens her lifelong link with the CSJs. Among them, she finds “peace without worrying.”

Ceil has been a volunteer in the Office of Mission Advancement for 14 years. She credits her commitment to volunteer service throughout her lifetime to her association with the CSJs. She has adapted to a variety of roles within the office and is always ready and willing to assist with any number of different tasks. Ceil is one of many volunteers for whom we are so thankful! †