

Sister Helen Noonan

“Being a CSJ is very deep inside of me, and I’m very proud to say I am a Sister of Saint Joseph, it’s in my very being.”



From the time she was a young girl, Helen Noonan knew she wanted to become a sister. Sister Helen was born in Brighton and moved soon after that to Jamaica Plain, where she attended St. Thomas Aquinas School and then Mount St. Joseph Academy in Brighton. She came from a home where reaching out in service to the dear neighbor was evident, especially from her mother. Also, she was inspired by the sisters who had such great love for their students. She entered the novitiate at the age of 17.

Sister's first assignment was three months at the Gate of Heaven School in South Boston. After first vows, she was missioned to St. Joseph in Wakefield, where she taught 58-second graders. During her years of teaching, she was always assigned to the North Shore region of Boston and continued teaching as a primary teacher.

The next assignment took Sister Helen to a Montessori School in Haverhill, where, after two years, she became the Principal. While serving as Principal, she earned her Masters of Education at Salem State College, earned a Certificate for Montessori Education, and continued to teach in the classroom. After eight years in Haverhill, Sister Helen came to Walnut Park Montessori in Newton to teach before becoming a Principal at Our Lady Help of Christians School in Newton. Her next stop was at Holy Name School in West Roxbury, where she remained for the next 20 years teaching third grade and becoming involved in the Chapter 1 program, providing supplementary reading and math instruction.

For the past 11 years, while Sister Helen has been retired from formal teaching, she volunteers in The Literacy Connection, makes weekly visits to the Oncology Unit at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, and is on the Transportation Committee for the Congregation. One of her greatest joys is her weekly visits to Franciscan Hospital to hold and rock infants in the ICU.



Sister Helen loves the Boston Red Sox and has always been a loyal fan! She enjoys reading - especially mysteries, knitting, and walking, where she enjoys the delights of nature, especially near the ocean.

“Being a CSJ, I’ve had many experiences, both educational and spiritual that I would never have had in another vocation. I love people, especially children. It does not matter who they are, or where they are from, or what their beliefs are, I am happy to be involved in the ever-widening circle of connecting neighbor with neighbor and neighbor with God!”