



Susan Ridley, OP



“Here I am Lord,
send me.” Isaiah 6:8

I was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan on September 14, 1938. My father, Howell Ridley, a southerner, married my mother, Gladys Boylon, a northerner. My parents, older sister, younger brother, and I grew up in Grand Rapids. From the age of five, Grand Rapids Dominicans have taught, inspired, and challenged me.

I attended Marywood Academy K–12 and received my BA and MA from Aquinas. I ministered as a Teacher, Elementary School Principal, Religious Education Coordinator, Pastoral Minister of Christian Service, Parish Social Action Coordinator, and Director of Christian Service for the Diocese of Kalamazoo (25 years). A priority in my diocesan ministry was to share the wisdom of Catholic Social Teaching and the Two Feet of Christian Service: Charity and Justice.



Group from Kalamazoo participating in the Annual March for Life in DC.

From 1987–2012, I interacted with staff members from Michigan Catholic Conference, Catholic Charities USA, Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Home Missions, and Catholic Relief Services, attending conferences, workshops, sponsoring special campaigns, and grant writing. It was my privilege to attend many marches and rallies in DC, Michigan, and Ohio for important social issues: hunger, homelessness, human trafficking, immigration reform, life, peace,

poverty. They have enlivened and filled me with hope, just like our Annual Dominican Days.

In this 60th jubilee year I give heartfelt thanks to God, my family, my community, and the people who have accompanied me on my journey.

60 years