

# ST. COLMAN PARISH STAFF TODAY

## SISTER LUCY DRAGONETTE



Sr. Lucy is quick to remind one that although her name may sound French it is, in fact, of Italian origin. In fact, both her parents were born in central Italy.

The Dragonettes lived for a while in the Chardon area. Eager for the bright lights of the big city, the family moved to the West Side of Cleveland. Sr. Lucy was the seventh child of nine. Her father worked a variety of jobs, including landscaping.

Sr. Lucy attended local elementary schools such as Halle, McKinley, and Hawthorne prior to entering West Tech High School. While at West Tech, Sr. Lucy took college prep courses, as well as several commercial courses to prepare for the business world. Upon graduation, she decided to enter the Sisters of St. Joseph, taking college level academics in preparation to be a teacher.

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## SISTER CAROL ENGLISH

Sr. Carol, a native Clevelander, tells us her mom's German-Bohemian heart was captured by a handsome Irishman and they were soon married. Sr. Carol was the first of three children born to Jack and Madeline English.

Her elementary education began at St. Rose's through the third grade. She later graduated from St. Colman's. While at St. Colman's she assisted in getting the parish newsletter, *The Jeep*, mailed out to the men and women of the parish serving in the armed forces.

Sr. Carol's high school years were spent at St. Joseph Academy. Sr. Carol entered the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, taking courses at old St. John's College in preparation for a teaching career. Eventually, she earned an MsEd from Case Western.

Our Lady of Angels (OLA) was her first teaching assignment. Later, she taught at St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Joseph in Strongsville and for six years was the principal at St. Rose's.

Her career took a twist when she was named Director of Apostolic Life for the CSJ congregation.

Her first assignment was right here at St. Colman's teaching 4th through the 8th grades for ten years. Her second assignment found her at St. Thomas Aquinas for twenty years. After a short stint at St. Wenceslaus in Maple Heights Sr. Lucy took a six-year assignment at the CSJ Motherhouse with the Administrative Team.

In 1973, she returned to St. Colman's in a teaching capacity, filling in as a substitute on an as-needed basis. Unfortunately, the diocese decided to close our elementary school in 1974. Sr. Lucy was instrumental in the establishment of a pre school program for 3-4 year olds that lasted over twenty years.

Sr. Lucy has provided over 70 years of service to the greater Cleveland community while a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

There is only one other Dragonette who has attained a degree of success comparable to Sr. Lucy's. Jessica Dragonette was a famous radio personality and singer from the 1920's to the 1940's. In fact, her name and star can be found on Hollywood and Vine with all the other luminaries. If there were stars in front of St. Colman's, Sr. Lucy would certainly be there.

While working at the motherhouse Sr. Carol resided at St. Colman's.

After several years she joined the staff here as an associate pastoral minister. When the school closed in 1974, Sr. Carol and Sr. Lucy opened and successfully operated the pre-school. Srs. Lucy and Carol were eventually named Co-Administrator to shepherd St. Colman through some tough times.

When Sr. Ann assumed her position as Parish Life Coordinator, Sr. Carol remained as a Pastoral Associate until June 2004. At that time both Srs. Carol and Lucy retired to the Motherhouse after many successful years in service to their congregation and to their Lord.

Many thanks for your service and dedication over the years.

