

Mary and her husband Michael moved from Chicago to Hilton Head in 2012. Shortly after they moved here, their daughters, Megan and Margi, decided to move here also.

Mary thought that all of her mission work was done and that all of her energy would be focused on being a grandmother. But God had other plans for her. In 2015, she was asked to replace the assistant manager of our Thrift Shop. Mary accepted the position and spent 3 ½ years there working with many wonderful volunteers, including her husband.

Attending daily Mass became her passion. At the Tuesday and Thursday Daily Mass she volunteered to Cantor. The Woman of St. Francis, President was open for the 2019-2020 term and Mary graciously volunteered. In 2019, while attending the Marian Eucharistic Conference, she discovered the Communal First Saturday Devotions booth. She bought the instructor's book for starting the devotion at our parish. At the same conference, she kept passing a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and she asked her "what do you want from me?" After several passings by, she called to her saying, "Take me home." In January of 2020, Mary started the First Saturday Devotions that Our Lady of Fatima insisted be followed for the salvation of the world. She had no idea that 6 years later, this ministry would flower with so many parishioners joining us in prayers of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. That same year, Fr. Max started the Divine Mercy Holy Hour in the Family Center. After the Church renovation, we took a small break and began again on March 11, 2021.

When Fr. Ray arrived, he asked if we could start Eucharistic processions on Corpus Christi Sundays and King of the Universe. Mary found a canopy online, donated it, and ordered poles donated by Women of St. Francis. They have continued each feast day since. Mary is also a weekday lector on Thursday mornings, helps keep up the WOSF Prayer Garden, helps with hosting the Small Youth Group dinners, helps with OCIA Sundays and Tuesday nights, leads the Our Lady of Perpetual Help novenas on Mondays after 8:30 Mass, and Act of Reparation to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Fridays after the Mass. She prays the 4th decade of the rosary before daily Masses. She volunteers with the Life Care Center Bingo group when available. In 2023, she formed the Adoration Chapel Committee with hopes that our church can eventually build a separate Adoration Chapel. In the meantime, she is busy rebuilding the current Perpetual Adoration Program. Mary has served as President and past President of WOSF after being secretary twice and just gave up Spirituality Chair of Women of St. Francis this past year. She is currently involved in the new Seven Sisters Apostolate as Anchoress for Father Ray's seven sisters. She is grateful for all the opportunities St. Francis has given her to share her faith with those around her and that her two daughters, Megan and Margi have joined her in giving of their time and talent to the Small Youth Group and Women's Bible studies. She and Michael love calling St. Francis our home! She is honored to receive this award.