



Sisters of the Holy Family

Vocation . . . Answering A Call To Religious Life

The decision to answer a call to religious life is different for every woman.

One Sister of the Holy Family shares her own personal "vocation story."



Sister Laetitia Rossi

Being a Sister is my love. I never thought of being anything else.

I first became acquainted with the Sisters of the Holy Family when I

would go to St. Elizabeth's, the Sisters' Day Home in San Jose, to pick up my little sister. She was three years old and I was in 8th grade at the time. I fell in love with the Sisters at the Day Home. I just loved being there. I loved the atmosphere and the people, and I started spending most of my free time there. I would help out any way they would let me. Sister Laetitia O'Brien was in charge of the Day Home at that time and she told me that someday I would take her place.

When I had decided I wanted to become a Sister, my Dad had a hard time accepting it. He was Catholic and thought well of Sisters, he just didn't want to give me up. But one day he asked me to go with him to St. Patrick's in San

Jose. We walked in the church and he took my hand. Together we walked to the altar rail. He had tears in his eyes when he said, "Here she is God, take her if you want her." That was so special to me. I had known it was the right decision, but getting his blessing meant a lot.

I never had any regrets. Although I had first been drawn to the Sisters by the Day Homes, that was not the reason to enter. A woman makes a commitment to religious life for God, not for the job. Everything else follows. You don't know what the future will be. Although we can't know the future, God does. I feel when God called me 50 years ago He knew where I would be today. I don't worry about the future, I know God will continue to take care of us and I am happy that God still has things for me to do.