

LIBRARY

Mary Howard King

For as long as most of us can remember Anne Radojcsics has been our Saints' Library librarian. As I write this I am aware that my own little family has been at All Saints' for only 20 years, and the only church librarian I've ever known is Anne. For many of you that corporate memory is probably much longer. A few thoughts come to mind in thinking about this ministry of caring for our books and tapes (when that was still a technological offering). Certainly it IS a ministry when we consider how those books and tapes have fed us spiritually throughout the years.

The main thought that comes to mind is that being a librarian has truly been Anne's calling—in her vocation and in her life within our church family. We've all witnessed and experienced her love of books and the way she has shared that love with us. If you know Anne, then you know how her eyes light up and sparkle when she is talking about printed and published works. That light and sparkle has been contagious in encouraging us all to read and check out the works available to us through the Saints' library. What a gift is it to have that light and sparkle in relation to one's vocation!

What is it that we most like to do with gifts? We love to share our gifts for others' enjoyment, and that's exactly what Anne has done over the years. She has written "reviews" of new (and old) books and shared those thoughts with us through countless newsletters. She has created spaces that are inviting and warm and cozy so that these books could be shared with each other at church. She has organized these books so that we could check them out, take them home, and return them so that they could be shared with our families at home. She's even made sure that books that did not remain in our church library were donated to the Tupelo-Lee County Library so that these gifts of print could be shared with our larger community. She's a pretty good gift-giver!

The mission statement for our Saints' Library says "To minister and support each other by: providing print and non-print materials that support worship, fellowship, prayer, and study; searching for and acquiring materials to answer the needs of our communicants; and providing a warm, comfortable place to browse, study, and borrow materials. We could all agree that Anne has certainly maintained our library with this mission statement always in mind. For this, Anne, we are ever thankful for your kind encouragement to read more, incredible organizational skills in making that easier for us to do, and dedication to making our library at All Saints' a place of spiritual study and growth over the years. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Lovingly submitted,
Mary Howard King