



# 2024 Woman of the Year

## RECENT HONOREES

2023 – Elizabeth Hansen  
2022 – Karen Cunningham  
2021 – Camille Devanney  
2020 – Ellen Kelly Tierney  
2019 - Carol Herrmann  
2018 - Ann Burke  
2017 - Maria Cronin  
2016 - Year of Mercy - The Guild Honored Mother Teresa of Calcutta  
2015 - Helen Jenko  
2014 - Janet Peters  
2013 - Val Curran  
2012 - Susan Barr  
2011 - Joanne LaPorte  
2010 - Susy Hoch, Liane Klingler  
2009 - Gwen Gregory-Conzelman  
2008 - Jeanie Rogalski  
2007 - Margaret Hartman  
2006 - Terry Swarthout  
2005 - Mary Lynn Furth  
2004 - Alice Valentine, Kay Weston  
2003 - Ann Considine

*Please consider nominating a woman who exemplify the virtues of faithfulness, humility, generosity, and compassion. These women are among us, our lifelong friends, members of the Guild. A woman who you have worked with, one who goes beyond the expectation, one who inspires you. Please allow her to inspire us with your nomination. The process is easy, fill out the form online or on paper and send it back by April 1<sup>st</sup>.*

## **BYLAWS ARTICLE X WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

Each year the Guild honors one of our members with the Woman of the Year Award at the Spring Mass & Luncheon. This award recognizes a member of the Guild who has shown exceptional service and dedication to the church and the community. It is given to a woman who is an inspiration for all of us as she models faithfulness to God and the virtues of humility, generosity, and compassion.

### **Section 1: Nominations**

The President shall send out a request for nominations to all Guild members at least three months in advance of the Spring Luncheon. Members will have at least a month to submit their nominations. Nominations must be submitted by the expressed deadline. Each year, considerations from the past year nominations may be considered again for nomination.

All nominations must be submitted to the Pastor for approval. Women available for nomination:

- Current members, Sustaining members, or past Guild members
- Current Executive Board members are EXEMPT from nomination.

### **Section 2: Voting**

The President shall create a Nomination Report that includes all the nominations submitted for all members to read and consider.

The President shall create a ballot from the nominations submitted to send to all members of the Guild. Each member of the Guild will have one vote, electronic or written submitted to the President of the Guild by a specific due date. Each of the Circles will have one vote towards the Woman of the year. Then the Circle members' votes will be tallied towards the Circle's vote. Each Circle regardless of membership size and total voting population will submit one vote from their majority votes. The Sustaining members' votes will be tallied as one vote for the Sustaining member pool.

The Woman of the Year honor will be bestowed upon the woman with the highest number of Circle votes.

**This will remain a highly confidential process to protect the dignity and grace of all women nominated.**

*Please email all questions Heather Kotlarz, President of the Guild  
[guildofstmary@churchofstmary.org](mailto:guildofstmary@churchofstmary.org)*

# WOMAN OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

## NOMINATIONS ARE DUE 4.1.2024

1. Who are you nominating? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How long has this nominee been a parishioner at the Church of St. Mary? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Nominee Circle, Sustaining, or Past Circle \_\_\_\_\_

4. Service to the Church of St. Mary Community.

Please indicate any service activities this woman has been involved in at the Church of St. Mary.

Check any/all that she has participated in or has been a leader.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guild Board Member                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Circle Leader (or other Circle position) | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator of Major Guild Event         | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Liturgy              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding Ministry                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Bible School           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bereavement Ministry                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art & Environment Ministry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoration                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Respect Life Ministry                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Council                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPREAD Catechist                         | <input type="checkbox"/> RCIA Team                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minister of Care                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy Committee               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eucharistic Minister                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Day of Service Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lector                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Soup Kitchen                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usher                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Pantry                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir/Bell Choir                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                          |

5. Would you like to elaborate on her participation in any of the activities mentioned above? Provide more elaboration on any of the activities mentioned above. What actions made her stand out to you?
6. Has this woman shown exceptional service in the community? Provide a few bullet statements to describe any other exceptional service this woman has given to our community. Include activities in our schools, local community, city of Chicago, state, nation, world, or Catholic Church, where this woman has made an impact. Include a list of the activities and briefly describe her involvement.

7. Nomination Summary

If you were to present the award to this nominee, what would be the speech introduction to the audience? Briefly describe how this candidate is a Model of Faithfulness (it is evident she is a faithful Catholic), or how she exhibits any of the virtues of Humility (not prideful, gives credit to God), Generosity (personal sacrifice), or Compassion (suffers with - comes to the aid)? If you feel you have already answered this in your comments above, you may skip this section.

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE PUBLICALLY SHARED WITH THE GUILD FOR MEMBERS TO  
THOUGHTFULLY CONSIDER AND VOTE FOR THE WOMAN OF THE YEAR.

**VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE IN APRIL.**