

Sr. Pauline Sauvageau, p.m.



*The
Will of God
will never take you
where the
Grace
of God
will not protect you.*



In my second year of college, my former spiritual director to whom I had confided my ambition to become a teaching religious Sister, called me to his office. He reminded me of my dream of consecrated life. I always admired my religious teachers. I wanted to be one like them. I was told by my ninth grade teacher to ask God to call me to religious life. When I went to college, I also dated. I was especially fond of a boy who, like me, was involved in a Catholic Youth Movement. In my second year of college, my former spiritual director called me to his office. He reminded me of my dream of consecrated life. He encouraged me to make a novena of Masses to discern God's will for me. At the end of my novena, I told Normand I was going to enter the convent. His response was, "I will be a religious also." But that did not happen for him. Later, Normand told me he was glad I had chosen One greater than he.

I did not complete my second year of college. Instead, I entered the novitiate that summer and I have never regretted that decision. These days were special times for me to fall more and more in love with Jesus, my chosen spouse.

After my profession, I taught Junior and Senior High students until I became a missionary in the Philippines. These were again days of great joy for me as I served mostly the poor people in their needs and in education.

After 11 beautiful years in the Philippines, I returned to the States and began pastoral ministry, until the age of 83. One of my great consolations was the grace of accompanying both of my parents on their journey to heaven.

Now, I am in the 65th year of Religious Life as a daughter of Blessed Marie Rivier in the Presentation of Mary. I am more fully aware of the advice given to me by my spiritual director when I was only 20. Yes, we can do good in the world, but a consecrated life is a total dedication of one's entire self to God. It is priceless.

