Sister Mariel was born in Watertown, Wisconsin. She made first professed in 1950 in Milwaukee. Her many decades of ministry include serving as a musician, teacher, and consultant in faith formation. From 1949 to 1965, she served at three elementary schools as a musician at St. Joseph in Peoria, Illinois; St. Aloysius in West Allis, Wisconsin; and St. Peter in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Sister Mariel taught high school over the next 12 years, serving at Notre Dame High in Milwaukee, Columbus in Marshfield, Wisconsin, and St. Mary’s in New England, North Dakota. After two years in middle school teaching at Holy Angels in West Bend, Wisconsin. Sister Mariel turned to serving the dioceses as an educational and faith formation consultant. Her initial role was with the Diocese of Marquette, from 1979 to 1985. She then returned to St. Peter as director of religious education for eight years, followed by five years as liturgist at St. James parish in Belvidere, Illinois. She moved to the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio, where she served throughout the early 2000s. She continued there as a volunteer retreat house coordinator and retreat director. Sister Mariel also introduced the associate program while there. Back in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, in 2012, she continued to volunteer in a variety of roles and once again introduced the associate program there. Since 2018, Sister Mariel has resided at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, devoted to prayerful presence and volunteer ministry. In 1958, she earned a bachelor’s degree in music from Mount Mary College (now University) in Milwaukee. Later, she completed a master’s degree in music education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a master’s degree in Adult Christian Community Development from Regis University in Denver.

A memory I have to share...
How great God is! A life still being created! From music teacher to adult Christian community formation, from North Dakota to Ohio and all states in between, God be praised!

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