



CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Providing Help. Creating Hope.



Bonnie has called Rockland County home since 1959 when her parents relocated at that time from the Yorkville section of Manhattan to Orangeburg and became parishioners of St. Catharine's Church in Blauvelt. Bonnie later graduated from St. Clare's Hospital School of Nursing in New York City and worked at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. However it was at Tappan Zee High School where she first met Gerry and later, in 1969, they were married at St. Raymond's Church in the Bronx. They moved to Pearl River and raised 4 children: Brian, Kevin (married to Shannon), Brendan (married to Meghan) and Kerry Ann (married to Jeremy Stockwell). St. Anthony's in Nanuet became the center of their lives when their children were in the parish elementary school. Bonnie and Gerry now have 5 grandchildren: Mary Grace, Christian, Honorah, Kaelin and Molly. Bonnie is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Anthony's and once led a Girl Scout troop there that continued into the girl's high school years. Under her leadership, 6 of these girl scouts received their *Gold Award*, the highest award in Girl Scouting.

Bonnie began working for United Hospice of Rockland as a Per Diem nurse in 1989 and is presently the Assistant Director of this large, local, not-for-profit agency and directly in charge of its Palliative Care program as well as community outreach and education. She is Chair of the Ethics Committee and the Spiritual Care Committee. In addition to her R.N., she is *Board Certified* by the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Care. United Hospice of Rockland provides specialized care to people of all ages facing serious illness. The agency provides help in the last months of a person's life in the patient's home, local hospitals and most nursing homes and group homes in Rockland County. Support continues after a loved one's death through the agency's *Hope and Healing Center* for adults and the *Healing Hearts Program* for children. United Hospice of Rockland will begin providing residential care in early 2012 in the *Joe Raso Hospice Residence* currently under construction in New City.

Bonnie was the first-ever recipient of the New York State Hospice Association's *Clinical Service Award* and has been awarded for *Excellence in Nursing* by the Rockland County Nurse Recognition Committee. Additionally, she has been honored by the Good Counsel Homes, an agency that has several homes for pregnant women, including the home in Spring Valley that is the Cardinal Cooke Residence. In 2009, Bonnie was the recipient of an *Honorary Doctor of Science* degree by Dominican College in Orangeburg.

