

# **PRESS RELEASE-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Circles of Mercy Honors Local Senior Volunteer with Award**



***Photo Caption (Meister/Zazycki):  
Castleton NY resident Joan Meister (left) accepts the Sister Gail A. Rieth, RSM 2017 Volunteer Service Award from Richard S. Zazycki (right), Executive Director of Circles of Mercy, for her volunteer community service in Rensselaer.***

Circles of Mercy and the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community recently presented their annual ***Sister Gail A. Rieth, RSM Volunteer Service Award*** honoring local senior ***Joan Meister*** for her volunteer work assisting at Circles of Mercy in Rensselaer.

For the past 12½ years beginning in 2004, Mrs. Joan Meister who resides in Castleton has volunteered in Catherine's Closet at Circles of Mercy. During this time she has volunteered more than 1,300 hours. Joan enjoys her family, telling us that they "keep me busy" and she also loves her home parish of Holy Spirit in East Greenbush, where she attends daily mass and has been a member for almost 50 years. During her years of volunteering Joan has literally touched thousands of lives while performing the works of mercy. We are very happy to recognize her with our volunteer award and offer our sincere congratulations.

The volunteer awards were presented during the "A Taste of Mercy" annual fund raising gala recently held to celebrate "Catherine's Circle of Friends" and to benefit Circles of Mercy. Circles is an out-reach center for those in need, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community. It was established in 1997 in the City of Rensselaer and has a nineteen-year tradition of offering programs and services to provide hope, hospitality and empowerment to individuals living in and near the Rensselaer Community.

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