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CELEBRATE LA ROCHE!



**Mary Anne Rivera '94, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor (Retired)*  
Gannon University

Mary Anne Rivera '94, an award-winning Gannon University professor who is now retired, found meaning in her passion for God, theology and mankind.

Ms. Rivera enjoyed teaching students about God and the positive impact religion had on lives. Her teaching career began in 1980 when she served as a religious education teacher at her local parish, where she later

became the director of the religious education program.

At La Roche College she excelled in her classes and graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1994. Ms. Rivera later attended Duquesne University, where she earned her master's degree in education and a Doctor of Philosophy. She also obtained a Modern Language Oral Proficiency Certificate in Advanced Spanish and Reading Proficiency Certificates in English, French, Greek, Hebrew and Latin.

At Gannon University she was an associate professor in the Theology Department and was nominated as the director of pastoral studies. Ms. Rivera taught various theology courses, with Judaism, Christianity and Islam among her favorites.

Ms. Rivera's awards and honors include: the Bishop Donald W. Trautman's Feed My Sheep Award, the Department of Theology Graduate Student Award for Teaching Excellence, and La Roche's President's Award for Leadership and Scholarship.

In 2012 Ms. Rivera was diagnosed with a terminal illness and had to leave the profession she thoroughly enjoyed. Her loved ones describe her as a caring mother and wife who has a passion for learning, the art of teaching and her faith.

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