

Excerpts from What It Means To Be A Teresan

By Ann Patterson Gibson '69

I remember, I think it was when we dedicated the Tea House, that my college friend **Fran Bowler Edstrom '67** gave a short talk and said “We came as girls, left as women, and come back again as girls.”

In 1948 part of CST’s mission statement said, “*This college endeavors to instill in women the conviction that every gift, particularly the gift of intelligence, and every opportunity we have in common life, is of no value unless it is shared. For as Saint Francis once said, ‘one has just as much learning as he puts into action.’ The student that is educated in the Franciscan spirit will give all she has possessed for the glory of God and the good of her being.*”

In the 1960’s the statement included, “*The college aims to turn out apostolic women thoroughly trained in every part of secular learning. Militants to uphold the ideal of Christianity in society today.*” It was committed to the Christian vision of reality and aiding young women in their personal search for truth, creating an environment in which to care.

“What did you learn at Saint Teresa’s? How did it affect your life?”

Ann Gibson volunteers at the Tea House and serves as the Vice-President of the CSTea House, Inc. board. Ann works as the Director of Counseling Services and Women's Programs Coordinator at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.