

SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PARISH PROFILES

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Susan Redlinger

Growing up in San Diego with five siblings—including a twin sister—Susan Redlinger’s childhood was filled with music, backyard play, and a deep-rooted Catholic faith. By the age of four, she was playing piano by ear, and by seven, she had composed her first song—one that her dad thoughtfully typed up for her keeping. Her father’s passion for evangelization sparked her own love of sharing the faith, and both of her parents welcomed her company at daily Mass or their weekly Holy Hours, though her dad’s 2-4 AM slot was a bit harder to keep up with.

A deep love for the Eucharist, youth group, and the Steubenville Youth Conferences laid the foundation for a faith journey that led her to enter a Carmelite convent in her early twenties. While she grew in prayer and relationship with the Lord, she ultimately felt called elsewhere. Shortly after leaving Religious Life, she faced the loss of her brother, Thomas, to suicide. She found solace in prayer, music, and the support of her community as she navigated her grief.

In 2019, she earned her degree in Music Education, followed by her teaching license. A move to the Twin Cities in 2021 opened new doors, but it wasn’t until the summer of 2023 that she settled at St. Rose of Lima.

On August 23, 2023, the feast day of St. Rose of Lima, Susan stepped into the parish for her first day of work—an anniversary that now feels like a little divine nudge. Since that day, the parish has become a spiritual home where she “feels loved every day,” whether through her role as Director of Music, her weekly Holy Hour, her women’s small group, or one of many parish events she attends. One of her favorite memories was the celebration of St. Rose of Lima’s feast day in 2024, when she performed Gloria a ti Rosa bendita alongside a fellow musician and choir member’s wife from Lima, Peru—St. Rose’s own hometown.

One of Susan’s spiritual influences, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, said, “He cherishes simplicity.” At St. Rose, Susan finds love in the simple moments: a warm smile after Adoration, laughter during choir rehearsal, the beauty of daily Mass, and the fellowship of hospitality. “How beautiful that each of us are called to give our little yes, and that together, what a great YES we give to the Heart of Jesus!”

