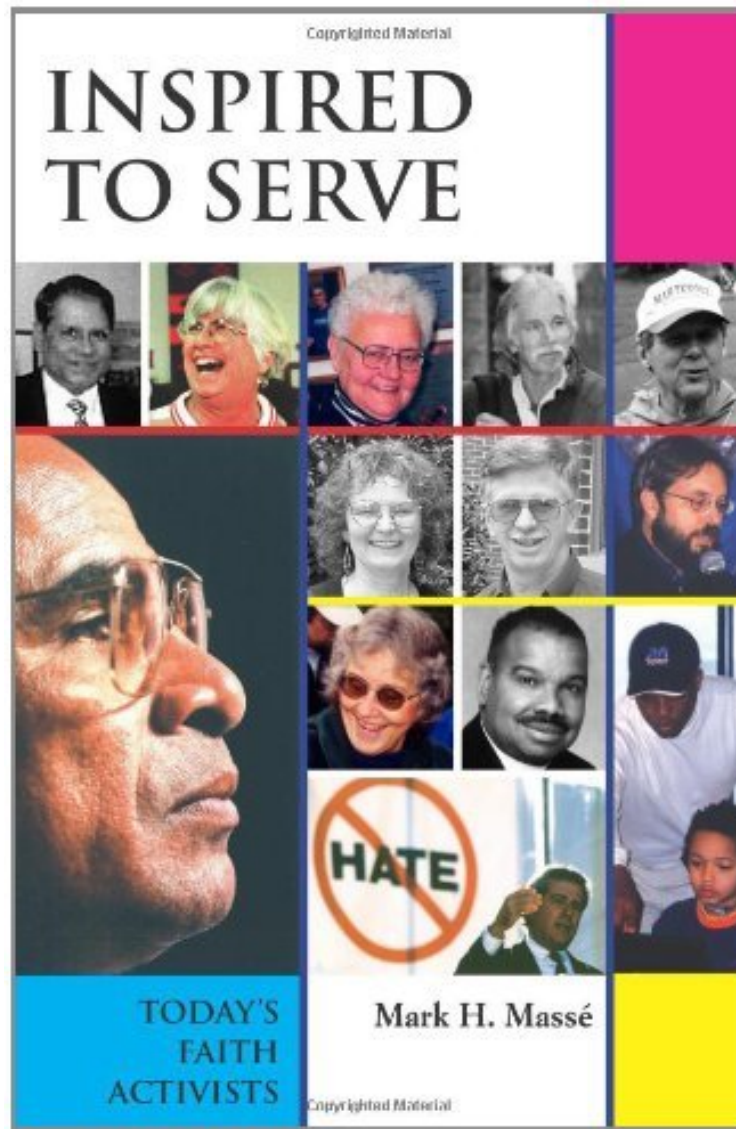


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## Inspired to Serve: Today's Faith Activists

Mark H. Masse

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**Mark H. Masse : Inspired to Serve: Today's Faith Activists** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inspired to Serve: Today's Faith Activists:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great serviceBy Lee Hubbellgreat service. Book in good condition and I received it in a short amount of time.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Profiles deeply religious contemporary men and womenBy Midwest Book ReviewInspired To Serve: Today's Faith Activists by Mark H. Masse (Associate Professor of Journalism, Ball State University) profiles deeply religious contemporary men and women who are actively working to change their communities, their society, and even the world. From an Irish American nun

working with migrants in central Florida, to a Muslim "messenger of good news" to an Islamic community in Texas, to a Jesuit priest working in a poor Portland neighborhood and more, the common themes of belief, hope, and personal sacrifice connect the stories of each individual, enhanced with notes and references. A small black-and-white photograph is included with each profile, in this inspirational and motivational anthology of real-life stories of spiritually-minded people who dare to make a difference.

"Never underestimate the good you can do," Rabbi Steve Foster tells his Denver congregation in Mark H. Mase's *Inspired to Serve*, and it is the book's message, as well." —Melissa Fay Greene, author of *Praying for Sheetrock, The Temple Bombing, and Last Man Out* "Anyone who wants to know more about how diverse religious organizations perform civic good works should read this excellent account." —John J. DiIulio, Jr., University of Pennsylvania "Powerful, real-life stories of people of faith serving and empowering the poor." —Ronald J. Sider, President, Evangelicals for Social Action Curious about what had happened to the social activism of the 1960s, and in response to the recent interest in "faith-based initiatives," Mark H. Mase set out to identify people who had continued their social activism in the context of a religious commitment to work in aid of the poor and the disenfranchised. The profiled activists include clergy, lay workers, and others, representing a mix of faiths, social issues, and geographic regions. They include a Jesuit priest working in a poor neighborhood in Portland, a Muslim "messenger of good news" to an Islamic community in Texas, an Irish American nun working with migrants and others in central Florida, a black Episcopalian minister on Chicago's Southside, and a "Dharma activist" in California. What sets these and other activists apart is the depth and breadth of their service, vision, and sacrifice. Many risk their reputations and careers, their health, even their lives in pursuit of social change. Mase discovers that these individuals share an unbending belief in the power, potential, and rewards of service to others, as they try to balance their secular and spiritual lives in the face of challenging work.

"... Mase's effort is an inspiring work on faith-driven activism." —Religious Studies (Religious Studies ) "Mase's strengths as a journalist will make this book valuable to those who want information about movers and shakers who embody the better angels of our nature. The lives of those he profiles challenge modern-day cynicism that individuals are powerless against the daunting web of complex problems and injustices within our communities" —NetAbout the Author Mark H. Mase is Associate Professor of Journalism at Ball State University. As a freelance writer for more than twenty-five years, he has authored articles, essays, and stories in international, national, and regional publications.