

2016 Jubilee



First Profession
July 31, 1946

Philip Marie Link, SSND

70 Years

Sister Philip Marie served as an elementary and junior high school teacher following her first profession of vows in 1946. She taught for 56 years and during that time, also served as an administrator for 19 years at schools in Missouri and Illinois. She then tutored for two years and served in ministry to the homebound in Springfield, Illinois for 14 years. Sister Philip Marie currently ministers in prayer and presence at Veronica House in Bridgeton, Missouri. She holds a bachelor's in education from Loyola University in New Orleans and a master's in education from St. Louis University in St. Louis.

Experience I would like to share...

My 70 years as an SSND have always been God's gift to me, filled with many blessings. Even some difficult experiences were blessings. They helped me face and correct my mistakes and weaknesses. As an elementary teacher, my chief concern and desire was to meet and help the needs of each child, given the different backgrounds, abilities, personalities and responsibility training. The years that I was principal gave me opportunities to foster an atmosphere of understanding and patience for each person and to work together and share ideas. Together, we would try to know each child and train them in self-confidence, respect for others and responsibility. I believe that good teachers make a difference. If we endeavor to help our students grow in their faith commitment and personal relationship with Jesus, we must together show the way by our teaching and as role models. After 56 years of teaching, I was asked to do parish ministry to the elderly, ill and homebound people who had started our parish and school. I loved visiting all the people in their homes or nursing homes. I brought them Holy Communion and kept them updated on parish activities – happy times for me because I know it brought them joy and a sense of belonging and caring. After 12 years, I retired and now live at Veronica House, an assisted living home. It is a very happy, helpful place to be, and I have many opportunities to minister by prayer and presence. My 70 years have been filled with God's presence working through me, as I love and help His people.