

2015 Jubilee



First Profession
July 17, 1955

JUBILEE WISDOM

"All of my desires came together in the SSND Order I already knew and loved."

- Therese Ann Zanmiller
SSND

Therese Ann Zanmiller, SSND

60 Years

Sister Therese Ann fulfilled her early years in ministry as a teacher at Catholic grade schools in the Minnesota communities of LaCrescent, Albertville, New Trier, St. Paul, Winona, St. Leo, Silver Lake and Minneapolis. In 1974, she accepted a seven-year assignment as an administrator in Strasburg, North Dakota, followed by a three-year post in Vermillion, Minnesota. In 1985, she was called to be coordinator for four years at Santa Catarina, a school in Nahuala, Guatemala. She returned to teaching in 1989 in St. Peter, Minnesota. She accepted an elementary school teaching assignment in 1995 at St. Raphael in Crystal, Minnesota, where she continues to volunteer part-time. Since 2012, she has also served as a part-time organist at a nursing home in New Hope. She received her bachelor's in education from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in counseling-guidance from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa.

A blessing of these years I want to share is ...

God has gifted me with a special relationship with Him these 60 years, enabling me to minister to children's spiritual and educational needs in many different schools in Minnesota, North Dakota and Guatemala during this time. For this I will forever be profoundly grateful!

The words of wisdom I would like to share ...

To give oneself to God, to surrender to His calls whatever they may be, takes one on an awesome, fulfilling life journey filled with God's love and presence.

What was an especially meaningful time in your ministry?

Hearing God's call at the age of 50 to volunteer in Guatemala because of a need there, even though I didn't know any Spanish! The year and a half of discernment including the opportunity to visit Guatemala in the GAP Program one summer; participate in a discernment program in St. Louis; the community's acceptance of me as coordinator of Colegio Santa Catarina, a school in the highlands of Guatemala; the opportunity to participate in a three-month Spanish language-immersion program in the Maryknoll Institute of Languages in Cochabamba, Bolivia; and finally, the opportunity to live and minister in Nahuala for four years, were especially meaningful times in my ministry.

What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?

From the time I was a toddler, I was impressed by the Sisters who passed our bay window each day waving to us on their way to church. They were always so happy, fun to be with and close to God. I wanted to be like them and also give my life to God.