

2016 Jubilee



First Profession
July 14, 1966

Marie Rose Van Deurzen, SSND

50 Years

Sister Marie Rose served as a junior high teacher for nine years following her first profession of vows in 1966. After this ministry, she served as a combination of a teacher, principal, and director of religious education for the next 12 years. She spent six years at St. Matthew in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in one role as a director of religious education. During the next 11 years, Sister Marie Rose served as pastoral associate in two small rural parishes, and currently serves as a pastoral minister for the School Sisters of Notre Dame at Elm Grove. She holds a bachelor's in mathematics and history from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in religious education from St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota.

An experience I would like to share...

As I review my life and look back over my past 50 years, my life has been devoted to teaching and sharing faith. During my early years as teacher and principal, I found myself accepting the challenges of a variety of church ministries. I have always been invited to do more pastorally, such as processing marriage annulments, leading prayer services, entertaining with my accordion and ministering as retreat director. During my training in spiritual direction, I met with men and women with whom I journeyed as their guide and mentor. During my time in Manawa and Weyauwega, Wisconsin, some people took steps to become SSND associates. Even though I moved from the area, we look forward to our monthly meetings and continue to grow and share mutual gifts. We come with open minds, attentive ears, and listening hearts!

Currently, I am privileged to serve as pastoral minister and as part of the leadership team for our sisters at Elm Grove. This ministry has given me many opportunities to respond with a loving and compassionate heart, and to share our spirituality, wisdom and compassion with one another. In the course of these 50 years, I have had the privilege of enriching my life through travel and life experience in other cultures. I am deeply grateful for the ongoing love and support from God, my family, community, and those I've served through the years. A special blessing and memory of these 50 years has been living in community with the sisters, engaging with personalities. The women and men with whom I ministered inspired and encouraged me with their faithfulness, friendship, love, and support. Throughout my life, my faith helped me to reach out to those in need. I trust and believe that with and in Jesus everything is possible.



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province