



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world through education

2017 Jubilee

Celebrating 60 years

First Profession—8/3/1957

Formerly Sister Marie Rosaire

Sister Barbara Geers, SSND

Sister Barbara taught Catholic grade school students throughout the Midwest during her first two decades of ministry following her first profession of vows. She continued teaching in the Diocese of Miami from 1977 through 1983, when she undertook caring for her elderly mother for five years. Sister Barbara returned to the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois, in 1989, serving as a pastoral associate in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, St. James and St. Gertrude. She then held a 10-year position as pastoral minister at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Springfield, Missouri. From 2007 through early 2016, Sister Barbara assisted in ministry to the elderly as an in-home caregiver and companion for CSJ Care Ministries and All Family Care, both in St. Louis. Her ministry continues today in volunteering at SSND's Anna House in Bridgeton and around St. Louis. She earned a bachelor's in theology from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis, and in 1994, a master's in pastoral studies from Loyola University of Chicago.



A memory I have to share...

I was living alone in South Miami teaching elementary school and caring for my mom. My provincial council from the former St. Louis Province suggested that I move to Madonna Convent and teach in the nearby elementary school, which was on the same property as Madonna Academy, a thriving and well-respected girls high school staffed by the School Sisters of Notre Dame from the former Baltimore Province. I moved to Madonna fearful of the unknown. At Madonna, we formed a community of 10 School Sisters of Notre Dame representing five different provinces: Baltimore, Wilton, Mankato, Milwaukee and St. Louis. Our ministries ranged from formal education, parish ministry and as a student at the university. Four of the 10 of us sisters were also caring for parents in the near geographical area. We lived as an interprovincial community, which seemed unusual in the 1980s. What I cherished most of all was how provincial boundaries did not hamper our ability to make one community. We were faithful to daily community prayer, local assemblies, and a weekend set aside for goal-setting, with time for relaxing and enjoying the beach. From my community at Madonna I learned so much about working hard, taking time for fun and relaxation, listening with an open mind and heart and being respectful with reverence for all. I remember each sister and hold them in high regard.

**Join us in celebrating our Jubilarian sisters.
Click the buttons below to:**