



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world through education

2017 Jubilee

Celebrating 60 years
First Profession—8/3/1957

Sister Miriam Catherine Wesselmann, SSND

***Sister Miriam Catherine** Sister Miriam followed a call into teaching following her first profession in 1957. Her first assignment at St. Martin of Tours in the Belleville Diocese lasted eight years. She served at Quincy Illinois' Notre Dame High School through 1969, when she returned to St. Louis, spending 14 years at Rosati-Kain High School. Following a five-year assignment in high school administration in southern Missouri, she undertook the ministry of campus minister at St. Louis University. Sister Miriam served the congregation for three years as a North American councilor for SSND before serving for two years in Talofoto, Guam. Returning to St. Louis a final time in 1999, she served in counseling at Notre Dame High School through 2007. She has worked since that time in spiritual direction and pastoral ministries, including four years as executive director of the nonprofit Bridges Foundation. She holds a bachelor's in history from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis. Sister Miriam also earned three master's degrees: in history, education/guidance and spirituality, from St. Louis University, the University of Missouri in St. Louis and Holy Name College in California, respectively.*



A memory I have to share...

In July 1997, I embarked on a Continental Airlines flight heading west from St. Louis, Missouri. I marveled at the diversity of the terrain and environment below as the plane buzzed along. While we flew over the constantly changing waves from where the Pacific Ocean ended, I imagined the myriad forms of the Divine Creation living in harmony and sustaining each other in the water below. As we flew over the international date line, the sun seemed to be continuously saying goodbye to us, as we tried in vain to catch it. Some hours later, I awakened to a rumble of voices creating a sound of awe and wonder as our plane was descending. Looking out the window into the complete darkness below, I was amazed at what looked like a sparkling jewel in the shape of a peanut. My excitement heightened as our plane landed and I gathered my belongings. Shortly after, I was warmly greeted by three smiling Chamorro School Sisters of Notre Dame. I was filled with gratitude knowing that Guam, the island where the Pacific Oceans begins, would be my home for the next two years. The opportunity to live in a new and foreign culture expanded my mind and heart. It woke me up more and more to the Divine Mystery in all of creation, and will always remain a blessed memory for me.

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