



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world through education

2017 Jubilee

Celebrating 70 years

First Profession—7/30/1947

Formerly Sister Paul Francis

Sister Mary Ann Huelsing, SSND

Sister Mary Ann began her first decade of teaching at Catholic grade schools around St. Louis and Jefferson City, Missouri, and Quincy, Illinois. She spent 12 years in Japan, as a high school teacher and administrator in four different schools throughout the Dioceses of Kyoto, Kobe and Nagoya. Returning to the Midwest in 1970, Sister Mary Ann continued ministering as a grade school and high school teacher through 1982. She turned to other ministries in St. Louis, serving in social services and volunteer ministries through the late 1980s, when she accepted a staff position at Maria Center in St. Louis. She then spent several years serving the Archdiocese of Dallas in the 1990s. Returning to St. Louis in 1996, Sister Mary Ann began serving in hospitality at the Caroline Conference Center before holding a local leadership position with the congregation from 1998 through 2003. She continued to serve as a volunteer around various places in St. Louis until January of 2017, when she moved to Veronica House to begin a ministry of prayer and presence. She holds a bachelor's in education from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis, and in 1979, she earned a master's in education from Western Illinois University.



A memory I have to share...

Among the many memories of my 70 years as an SSND, I choose to recall my three years in the training center for adult mentally challenged men and women in Dallas. Before choosing to live with us, they needed to be employed full-time, pay rent, and learn to live independently as their peers. The young men and women lived in separate rooms on either side of the center, set their own alarms, made their own breakfast and took public transportation to and from work. Divided into cooking groups, they provided supper for all. After menus were made out with one of us supervising over the weekend, I did the general shopping. Wednesday evenings we cleaned the entire house. Personal laundry would be done after work or on Saturdays. Several evenings were spent at the local YMCA swimming and/or in seasonal sports participation. Saturday mornings they went bowling and many did personal shopping in the afternoon. Sundays were church and at-home recreational times with each other. Excitement mounted when they were invited to move into their own apartments (across the veranda) and live independently. The program was a huge success for the individuals, as well as for parents and family.

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