School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

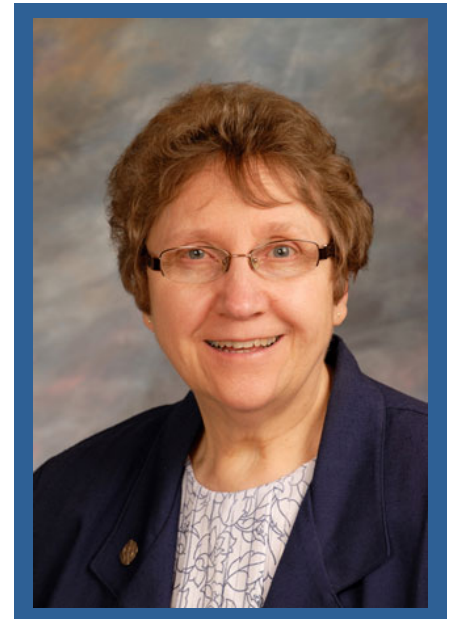Transforming the world through education

2018 Jubilee

Celebrating 50 years
First Profession—7/17/1968

Sister Chrisann Mortensen, SSND

Sister Chrisann taught elementary students at Catholic schools in the dioceses of Dubuque, Iowa, and Winona, Minnesota, following her first profession of vows in 1968. In 1976, she moved to North Dakota, serving five years as grade school administrator at St. Mary's, in the Diocese of Bismarck. Following a four-year teaching commitment in the archdiocese of Miami, Florida, Sister Chrisann returned to Minnesota for a two-year teaching assignment. In 1988, after receiving a professional certificate in pastoral ministry with the deaf from the National Catholic Office for the Deaf in Washington, D.C., she began her service to deaf youth and adults, in the Diocese of Kansas City, Kansas, as well as the archdiocese of Miami, Florida. She returned to the classroom in her home state of Minnesota in 1995, serving as administrator of Holy Cross Elementary School in Pearl Lake, a post she held through the year 2000. For the next eight years, she ministered in the Diocese of St. Cloud as a teacher, program director and consultant for persons with disabilities. Turning to congregational services in 2008, she served as one of the community leaders of Our Lady of Good Counsel through 2015, and relocated in 2016 to serve as community leader at St. Mary of the Pines in Chatawa, Mississippi. Sister Chrisann earned a bachelor's in elementary education from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee. She holds a master's in educational leadership from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota.

A memory I want to share...

After gradually learning to sign the liturgy over a period of a year by sitting in the pew next to a friend, deaf herself, my teacher in sign language thought I was ready to interpret Mass. I was glad I wore a skirt that day as my legs were shaking!

Join us in celebrating our Jubilarian sisters.
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