



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world through education

2018 Jubilee

Celebrating 70 years
First Profession—7/29/1948

Sister Colleen Hennessey, SSND

Sister Colleen has served in education at nearly every level and capacity throughout her 60+ years in active ministry: elementary and secondary teacher, principal, university professor, diocesan superintendent, president and consultant. Her earliest years took her to the Archdiocese of St. Louis, where she served at St. Francis Borgia and St. Gabriel the Archangel schools. After her time at St. Gabriel the Archangel, she served as a high school teacher of math and science at Redemptorist High School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She moved to the deep South, teaching and serving as principal at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Houston. From 1961-1967, she supervised the education department of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Following advanced studies in New Mexico, Sister Colleen served as a professor and education department chair at the University of Dallas for five years. She then accepted a role as superintendent of education for the Diocese of Galveston-Houston — a post that lasted 26 years, concluding in 1998. She served as an educational consultant and as president of St. Michael Special School in New Orleans for three years in the early 2000s. From 2007-2011, Sister Colleen devoted time in pastoral ministry as an extraordinary minister for the homebound of St. Angela Merici parish in Metairie, Louisiana. She continues her volunteer work there, and resides in prayer and phone ministry in community in Metairie, Louisiana, while residing at Gatehouse Apartments. Sister Colleen holds a bachelor's degree in education from Webster College in St. Louis. In 1960, she completed a master's degree in elementary education administration at Chicago's DePaul University. She holds a doctorate degree in education-administration from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



A memory I want to share...

Immediately after profession, I began wondering where I would be sent for my first mission experience. I did not have to wait long. I was assigned to teach at St Francis Borgia in Washington, Missouri.

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