



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Transforming the world through education

2019 Jubilee

Celebrating 60
First Profession—7/30/1959
Formerly Marie Ruth

Sister Lois Martens, SSND

Sister Lois Martens made her first profession in 1959 in St. Louis. Her decades of ministry across Missouri and Illinois have taken her to numerous schools and parishes. From 1962-1970, she taught high school at the Academy of Notre Dame in Belleville, Illinois, followed by six years at All Souls Grade School in St. Louis. In the late 1970s, she served the St. Louis province as coordinator of spiritual renewal while teaching part-time at Notre Dame High School. Moving to the diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri, Sister Lois served as pastoral assistant for two years at Sacred Heart Parish in Rich Fountain, Missouri, and as the first pastoral administrator at St. Michael Parish in Russellville, Missouri, for six years. In 1991, she returned to St. Louis to assist her elderly parents and also worked as a part-time nursing aide at Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis infirmary. From 1994 -2001, she served as parenting educator/house manager and then as director of Casa Guadalupe Family Growth Center, a shelter for victims of domestic violence in Ellington, Missouri. Beginning in 2002, Sister Lois began serving in the diocese of Springfield, Illinois. She worked part-time as the crime victim/witness advocate in the state's attorney's office in Robinson, Illinois; she also served as GED instructor and substitute teacher in the community of Newton, Illinois, where she resides. Since retiring in 2013, she continues to minister in a variety of volunteer services in the Newton area. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and later earned two masters' degrees; the first in secondary education from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois, and the second in adult christian community development from Regis College in Denver, Colorado.



A memory I have to share...

A wonderful memory of mine was supporting and assisting one of our guests at Casa Guadalupe through the labor and birth of her son. How profound it was to hold the newborn, Micah, in my arms!

Join us in celebrating our Jubilarian sisters.
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