Sister Benet was born in Norfolk, Virginia. She made her first profession in 1960 in St. Louis. Her earliest teaching years took her to Catholic grade schools around Missouri, including: Immaculate Conception in Jackson from 1962 through 1964; Sacred Heart in Poplar Bluff from 1964 to 1967; and Immaculate Conception in Loose Creek from 1967 through 1970. She taught for two years at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis, followed by five years at St. Joseph in Ridgway, Illinois. Her final three teaching roles, from 1977 to 1989, were completed at St. Aloysius in Tulare, California; St. Peter in St. Charles, Missouri; and Immaculate Conception in Dardenne, Missouri. Sister Benet served in congregational roles for two years, then ministered in pastoral care at Good Samaritan Hospital in Mount Vernon, Illinois, a post she held from 1991 through 2007. She continued in similar ministries at St. Mary’s Hospital in St. Louis for one year, followed by five years at St. John’s Health System in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her final ministry as hospital chaplain was completed at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Belleville, Illinois, in 2015. She continues to volunteer at the Catholic Urban Program and at St. Vincent de Paul in East St. Louis, Illinois. She forms community in Millstadt, Illinois. Sister Benet holds a bachelor’s degree in American Studies from the former Notre Dame College of St. Louis. She earned a master’s degree in elementary education from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

A memory I have to share...
My earliest memories of SSND began with sisters in a rural area. These years were exciting and challenging as a young sister. I will always be grateful for living in community, the importance of prayer and striving to be a dedicated teacher.

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