



## **2020 Jubilee**

### **Sister Marie Denice Houston, SSND**

*Sister Marie Denice was born in Freeburg, Missouri. She made her first profession in St. Louis in 1960. She devoted the first nine years of her active teaching ministry to students at St. Bernadette in St. Louis from 1961 through 1970. Following six years at Holy Family in Freeburg, Missouri, Sister Marie Denice relocated to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, where she taught students at St. Marianne de Paredes in Pico Rivera, California, through 1984. She returned to St. Louis, serving as postmistress for two years at Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis. She resumed her classroom ministry with two-year assignments at Sancta Maria in Ripa's Notre Dame Tutorial Center, St. Matthias in St. Louis, and St. Mary in Brussels, Illinois. Sister Marie Denice turned to tutoring and adult education around the St. Louis area, to which she devoted the next several years. She spent a year abroad, teaching at St. Theresa's Girls' Secondary School in Kisli, Kenya. Just prior to the early 2000s, she returned to classroom teaching at St. Bernadette. She then worked as a cook at Nazareth Living Center in St. Louis from 2000 through 2001 and at KinderCare Learning Center from 2001 to 2007. Since 2007, Sister Marie Denice served part-time as a receptionist at Notre Dame Tutorial Center for two years. She also ministered in congregational service at the liturgical fabric arts center at Sancta Maria in Ripa. In December 2019, she returned to minister in Africa, serving in Kenya. She completed a bachelor's degree in American Studies from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis. In 1975, she earned a master's degree in elementary education from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.*



#### **A memory I have to share...**

While in Kenya, Africa, I had the privilege to be invited to many students' homes, one stands out as memorable. In a hut made of sticks and mud, I was served tea made over three stones on an open fire. The simplicity and grace was astounding.

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