

2020 Jubilee

Sister Mary Gemma Therese Harvey, SSND

Sister Gemma Therese was born in Chicago. She made her first profession in Mequon, Wisconsin, in 1960. Her earliest decades in teaching and administration took her to Catholic grade schools across Wisconsin. Those assignments included: St. Frances Cabrini in West Bend from 1962 to 1966; St. Mary in De Pere, 1966 to 1969, St. Mary in Port Washington, 1969 to 1971; Mt. Calvary from 1971 to 1972, as an exchange teacher. Sister Gemma Theresa then taught for several years at St. Mary's, Menasha, Wisconsin, and then became principal there from 1972 through 1981. This was followed by assignments at St. Joseph in Oconto, from 1981 to 1985; St. John Nepomucene, Prairie du Chien, 1985 to 1986; St. Peter's, Port Washington, from 1986 to 1989; St. Charles, Harland, from 1989 to 1994; and St. John the Baptist, New Haven, Indiana, from 1994 to 1996. After 20 years serving as a principal, Sister Gemma Therese turned to pastoral ministries and religious education. Those assignments included: All Saints in Logansport, Indiana, from 1996 to 2000; St. Joseph in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, from 2000 to 2005; St. John the Baptist in Searles, Minnesota, from 2005 to 2006. Due to a declining need for pastoral associates, she then became a director of religious education; first at Sacred Heart, Shawano, Wisconsin, from 2006 to 2009, and secondly at St. Therese, Appleton, Wisconsin, from 2009 through 2010. Her final position as director of religious education was in Waupun, Wisconsin, from 2010 to 2019. After nine years, she retired to Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, in October 2019 to do volunteer work. Sister Gemma Therese graduated from Mount Mary College (now University) with a major in history and minors in chemistry and education. Subsequently, she earned a masters in history from DePaul University and a masters in pastoral theology from Loyola University, both in Chicago. In addition, she has a masters' equivalency in administration from Marquette University in Milwaukee.



A memory I have to share...

“New Perspectives in Moral Theology” was the topic of our fall in-service. Several images rose as I prepared, S. Jean emphasizing various encyclicals, Fr. Bernard speaking of the new emphases at the SSNDEC. Gratitude arose for such experiences!

Join us in celebrating our Jubilarian sisters.

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