

# 2021 Jubilee - Celebrating 70

*First Profession—8/2/1951*

*Formerly Alexis Marie*

## Sister Dorothy Venhaus, SSND

*Sister Dorothy is originally from Olpe, Kansas, and in 1951, made first profession in St. Louis. Her first teaching ministry was at St. Joseph, Cairo, Illinois, where she taught for six years. She received a bachelor's degree in music education in 1957 from the former Notre Dame College, St. Louis. That same year, she began teaching at St. Peter Grade School, Jefferson City, Missouri, remaining there until 1961. She then went to St. Mary, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and while teaching at St. Mary, she earned a master's degree in music education from the St. Louis Institute for Music. From 1965 to 1977, she taught at the former Notre Dame College, and from 1965 to 1982, she served as music director and liturgist at Sancta Maria in Ripa, St. Louis. During this time, she earned a doctorate in music education from Washington University in St. Louis. She served as music director and liturgist at St. Norbert, Florissant, Missouri, for three years, and then spent 14 years in Japan, teaching at Notre Dame Women's College, Kyoto. She returned to St. Louis in 1999 and spent much of the 2000s as music director at St. Francis De Sales and St. John Apostle and Evangelist. From 2007 to 2015, she was engaged in music ministry at St. Andrew, St. Louis, and during the same time period provided piano lessons and was liturgist and organist at Sancta Maria in Ripa. Sister Dorothy now serves in prayer and presence at Anna House, The Sarah Community, Bridgeton, Missouri.*



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

Closing our 1951 profession class retreat in Rome, Mother Georgianne asked each of us to choose one word from *You Are Sent* as a guide through the years. Mine was “whatever,” which has led me to saying “yes” to many seeming impossibilities, such as 14 years in Japan!

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