

2021 Jubilee - Celebrating 70

First Profession—8/2/1951

Formerly Donald Marie

Sister Ruth Cowie, SSND

Sister Ruth was born in St. Louis and began her ministry in 1949, teaching elementary students at Sacred Heart, DuQuoin, Illinois. She remained at Sacred Heart for one year before making first profession in St. Louis in 1951. That same year, she went to Christ the King School, Corpus Christi, Texas. After teaching for three years at Christ the King, Sister Ruth went on to St. Elizabeth, Alice, Texas, teaching there until 1955. She returned to St. Louis, teaching special education students at St. Mary's Special School. During this time, she earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the former Notre Dame College, St. Louis. She taught at St. Mary's until 1961, and then went back to Texas, teaching junior high students at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Houston; in 1962, she became the school's administrator. Sister Ruth received a master's degree in elementary education administration from Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, in 1966. She served as Our Lady of Mount Carmel's administrator until 1969, when she went to Redemptorist Junior High School, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to serve as administrator until 1977. From the late 1970s to 1980, she taught at St. Philip Neri, Metairie, Louisiana, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Dallas. From 1980 to 2011, Sister Ruth served as retreat director, first at Jesuit Spirituality Center, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, and then at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi. She was recently engaged in community service at St. Mary of the Pines and now resides in prayer and presence at Mother of Perpetual Help residence, St. Louis.



A memory I have to share...

My teaching career began in Texas, then St. Louis, then principal in Houston and Baton Rouge. In 1977, the Jesuit father invited me to give the spiritual exercises in Grand Coteau, Louisiana. It was an amazing retreat journey that ended in Chatawa, Mississippi.

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