



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

2022 Jubilee

Sister Mary Dietz, SSND

First Profession - January 9, 1972 | Celebrating 50 Years



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Sister

A memory I have to share...

On my 29th birthday I enjoyed dinner and a movie aboard a plane bound for Sierra Leone, West Africa. My childhood dream came true. The one-way ticket to missionary service transformed my perspective in everything. Thank you SSND.

Sister Mary Dietz was born in St. Louis, and professed first vows there in 1972. She received a bachelor's degree in English from the former Notre Dame College, St. Louis. Sister Mary spent the early years of her ministry teaching at Immaculate Conception, Dardenne Prairie, Missouri; St. Louis, Nokomis, Illinois; and St. Mary, Cape Girardeau, Missouri. In 1979 she went to Sierra Leone, West Africa, where she taught for two years at Yengema Secondary School, Yengema. After returning to the United States, Sister Mary served in pastoral ministry from 1981 to 1983 in two Belleville, Illinois, parishes: St. Henry and St. Mary. She then returned to the classroom, teaching at Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Louis until 1986. During the next two years, she studied while serving as a teaching assistant at St. Louis University, St. Louis, receiving a master's degree in English in 1988. She also served as an editor for "News for You," a School Sisters of Notre Dame congregational publication; audited St. Peter Parish in St. Charles, Missouri; and filled in during a staffing shortage at Our Lady's Retreat House, St. Louis. After graduation, Sister Mary directed the Notre Dame Missions development office, St. Louis, and for a short period, taught at Notre Dame Elementary School, Bandipur, Nepal. From 1992 to 1996 she taught at Helias High School, Jefferson City, Missouri, and then became director of religious education and pastoral associate at St. Mary, Carlyle, Illinois. She taught for three years at Mater Dei High School, Breese, Illinois, before moving to

California in 2003. From 2003 to 2007 she was the associate director of the mission

office for the Diocese of San Diego, and from 2007 to 2008 director of the mission office for the Diocese of Orange, California. Upon her return to San Diego, she joined the faculty at Ashford University and ITT Technical College. Sister Mary currently ministers as archivist for the Sisters of Nazareth and in a variety of other ministries throughout the San Diego area.

