



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

2023 Jubilee

Sister Catherine Bertrand, SSND

First Profession - August 4, 1973 | Celebrating 50 Years



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A memory I have to share...

I am grateful to have been shaped and enriched not only by our SSND life and mission, but also by the charism of religious life embodied in the many women and men religious who have impacted my life.



Sister Catherine Bertrand was born in Redwood Falls, Minnesota, and in 1973, she professed first vows in Mankato, Minnesota. That same year, she went to Shakopee, Minnesota, where she taught at Shakopee Area Catholic School, served as a pastoral minister at St. Mark and St. Mary and was engaged in prison ministry throughout the area. In 1975, Sister Catherine received a bachelor's degree in behavioral science from Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee. She remained in Shakopee for three years and then went to the Academy at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Mankato, where she taught for three years and served as residence director for two years. From there, she went to Fitzgerald Middle School, Mankato, teaching there from 1979 until 1982. She then served as a pastoral minister at Holy Trinity Cathedral in New Ulm, Minnesota, until 1984. From 1984 to 1989, Sister Catherine served as director of vocations for the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) former Mankato Province. During that time, she received a master's degree in pastoral ministry from Boston College, Newton, Massachusetts, in 1985. She was the associate director of vocations for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis from 1989 to 1993. In 1992, she became the executive director of the National Religious Vocation

Conference, Chicago, where she remained until 2002. Sister Catherine became provincial leader for the former SSND Mankato Province in 2003, and completed her term in 2009. Since 2010, she has been a facilitator, presenter and consultant, offering her expertise to organizations nationally and internationally.