



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

2023 Jubilee

Sister Miriam Thomas Kessens, SSND

First Profession - July 31, 1963 | Celebrating 60 Years



Sister Miriam Thomas Kessens is originally from Fort Wayne, Indiana, and in 1963, she professed first vows in Mequon, Wisconsin. She began her ministry in 1965, teaching at St. Isidore in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1968, she received a bachelor's degree in biology from Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee. After three years at St. Isidore, Sister Miriam Thomas went to West Catholic High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. While there, she received a master's degree in education from St. Francis College (now University), Fort Wayne, Indiana. From 1976 to 1984, Sister Miriam Thomas ministered in Wisconsin schools, teaching at St. Mary (now Catholic Central High School) in Burlington, teaching and serving as principal at Spectrum Alternative High School, Milwaukee, and teaching at Lourdes High School, Oshkosh. Later in her ministry, she volunteered at Washington High School, Milwaukee; Holy Cross, Milwaukee; Notre Dame Health Care Center, Elm Grove, Wisconsin; and Havenwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Milwaukee. She was also a member of the clerical staff in the dental office at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, for five years. Since 2001, Sister Miriam Thomas has been residing in prayer, presence and service, first at Notre Dame of Elm Grove and now at Trinity Woods, Milwaukee.

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A memory I have to share...

A memorable moment was receiving my bachelor's in biology from Mount Mary College (now University) at the swimming pool at the Blue Heron Lodge in Michigan. Teaching biology in Michigan and Wisconsin, I truly enjoyed my sophomores. God and SSND have blessed me in many ways.

