

2024 Jubilee

First Profession • August 1, 1964 Celebrating 60 years

SISTER CLARA ESKER, SSND

Sister Clara Esker was born in Teutopolis, Illinois, and professed first vows in 1964 in St. Louis. That same year, she began studies at the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in history in 1966. Sister Clara then began a long teaching career, teaching in schools in Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, and California. She first taught at St. Mary, Fort Madison, Iowa (1966-67) and then moved to St. Louis, where she taught at Holy Angels, East St. Louis, Illinois (1967-69); St. Martin of Tours, St. Louis (1969-73) and St. Francis Solanus, Quincy, Illinois (1973-75). From 1975-83, she taught at Cardinal Stritch in Keokuk, Iowa. During this time, Sister also earned a Master of Arts in social science in 1977 from Clarke College (now University), Dubuque, Iowa. After a period of community service and sabbatical in 1983-1984, Sister Clara moved to California, teaching school at Our Lady of Mercy School, Merced, California (1984-90); St. Rita, San Diego, California (1990-96); Santa Isable, Los Angeles (1996-99) and then Moreland-Notre Dame Elementary, Watsonville, California (1999-2017) where she also served as the director of the Learning Center (1999-2017) and as a substitute teacher (2017-23), until she retired. In 2023, Sister Clara moved to Teutopolis, Illinois, where she currently lives and is serving in prayer and presence.

A memory I have to share....

I appreciate everything SSND and the community have done for me. I love being a SSND.

