

2024 Jubilee

First Profession • July 13, 1954
Celebrating 70 years



SISTER RITA CLARE SWENARSKI, SSND

Sister Rita Clare Swenarski was born in Milwaukee, and professed first vows in 1954 in Milwaukee. She was a teacher at St. Adalbert School, Grand Rapids, Michigan (1955-66). Sister Rita Clare earned a Bachelor of Science in education and English at Mount Mary College (now University) in Milwaukee, in 1962. She then taught at St. Casimir School, Milwaukee (1966-69); while earning a Master of Education in guidance counseling from Marquette University, Milwaukee, in 1970. Sister Rita Clare served as an elementary school principal and full time Grade 8 teacher at St. Casimir School in Milwaukee (1970-76); St. Mary School in Elm Grove, Wisconsin (1976-86); principal and religious educator at St. Bruno School and Parish, Dousman, Wisconsin (1986-87); and principal at Montini Catholic School, McHenry, Illinois (1987-89). Sister Rita Clare returned to the classroom as a teacher at Holy Assumption School in West Allis, Wisconsin (1989-94); briefly returning to serving as principal at Our Lady Queen of Peace School, Milwaukee (1994-96); then returning to the classroom as a junior high teacher at St. Alexander School in Milwaukee (1996-2002); and at Blessed Sacrament School in Milwaukee (2002-08). Sister Rita Clare then tutored students in literacy, GED preparation, and English as a Second Language at Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Service, Milwaukee (2008-22); and at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School (2017-21). Sister Rita Clare currently serves in prayer and presence in at Trinity Woods, Milwaukee.

A memory I have to share....

I have an extravagant affection for teaching. Summer vacations were opportunities to participate in SSND transformative programs. Going to Rome, Poland, Honduras, Standing Rock Reservation, North Dakota and the United Nations were awesome. I truly love being a SSND!

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