

2024 Jubilee

First Profession • July 13, 1954

Celebrating 70 years

SISTER SYLVIA HECHT, SSND

Sister Sylvia Hecht was born on a farm in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, in 1934, and professed first vows in 1954 in Milwaukee. She taught at St. Stephen School in Stevens Point, Wisconsin (1955-1959), and at St. Elizabeth School in Milwaukee (1959-1969). In 1963, Sister Sylvia received a Bachelor of Science in Education with a minor in social studies from Mount Mary College (now University) in Milwaukee. Sister Sylvia taught at Harambee Community School, Milwaukee, (1969-1975) before serving as Co-Principal and special education teacher at St. Anne School (1975-81) Milwaukee. In 1979, Sister Sylvia received an Elementary Teacher Learning Disability License from the State of Wisconsin. In 1982, Sister Sylvia founded Shade Tree Women and Family Center in Milwaukee, remaining there until 1994. She returned to teaching primary and special education at St. Jerome's School in Columbus, Wisconsin (1995-2005). In 2005, Sister Sylvia became a caregiver at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Calvary, Wisconsin. In 2009, she became the co-director of Rising Stars Volunteer Tutors in Milwaukee and then the director in 2010. Since 2014, Sister Sylvia has dedicated herself to prayer, presence and service in Milwaukee.

A memory I have to share....

Being a School Sister of Notre Dame gave me the opportunity to experience a multicultural community in Milwaukee. It was a gift and a giving. They shared friendship and African American culture, and I offered education and family support and the gift of who I am.

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