



Of her inspiration to become a School Sister of Notre Dame (SSND), **Sister Katherine Braun** recalls, “I was teaching with School Sisters of Notre Dame at St. John School, when I felt a strong desire to live the life they lived.” From that realization, Sister Katherine has gone on to live a ministry devoted to education, religious education and pastoral ministry across the states of Missouri, Illinois and Iowa. Sister Katherine earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa, in 1971 and a master’s degree in theology from St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, Texas, in 1988. From 1976 until 1988, her ministry was focused in education, both as a primary level teacher and as a religion teacher. She served in St. Louis and Washington, Missouri, and communities across Illinois, including Nokomis, Belleville, Quincy, Grand Chain, Mound City and Ullin. From 1988-1990, she was a tutor at the Notre Dame Tutorial Center in St. Louis. Starting in 1990, her ministry focus evolved to that of director of religious education for St. Francis Solanus in Quincy, Illinois, a role she held for six years. From there, she relocated to Salix, Iowa, and managed the dual roles of director of religious education and pastoral ministry for St. Joseph Parish. She also had a brief stint as pastoral associate for St. Patrick Church in Ottumwa, Iowa, and St. Mary Magdalen in Bloomfield, Iowa. Since 1999, up through today, Sister Katherine continues her legacy as a devoted pastoral minister, working with parishioners at Divine Mercy Parish in Burlington and West Burlington, Iowa.

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Please share a brief reflection on a ministry experience that was especially meaningful to you and why.

I spent a month on a Native American Reservation in Arizona with another SSND who was ministering there. I experienced another culture, taught the children religious education and participated in liturgies. We traveled from village to village. Although I was there only briefly, it is a time I will always cherish.

What advice or words of wisdom would you want to impart to others?

Listen to your heart, for within is an “ear” attuned to God’s voice.

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School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province