

# 2025 Jubilee

SISTER KIERAN SAWYER

First Profession



July 12, 1955

*Celebrating 70 years*



In her early years of ministry **Sister Kieran Sawyer** held a series of teaching roles in communities throughout Wisconsin, including Milwaukee, Beaver Dam, Wauwatosa, Chippewa Falls, Hewitt and Marshfield. During this time she also earned a bachelor's degree from Mount Mary College (now University), in Milwaukee, and a master's degree in English from Marquette University in Milwaukee. In 1976 she closed the book on this chapter of her ministry and studied at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. where she focused on theology, religious studies and catechesis. In 1980 she worked with Sister Lucy Nigh, SSND to launch the TYME

OUT Youth Ministry Center at Notre Dame of the Lake in Mequon, Wisconsin, where she and her staff gave retreats to thousands of teens and preteens each year. "I loved teaching religion," she says. "I found great joy in encouraging my students to think deeply, and to share their truth and wisdom with one another and with their parents. I loved creating fun and engaging processes that would make such meaningful conversations happen." Her youth ministry programs, which were published by Ave Maria Press, include *Developing Faith*, *Confirming Faith*, *Sex and the Teenager* and several other books of youth ministry ideas. Sister Kieran retired from her long-term and impactful ministry at TYME OUT in 2007, and then embarked on a new venture, sharing her insights as a national author and lecturer at diocesan education conferences throughout the United States. Today she resides at Trinity Woods in Milwaukee, where she continues to promote her most recent publication, *Conversations about L.I.F.E.*, which she co-authored with Dr. Kathie Amidei. This program helps parents to talk with their own children, from pre-school through senior high, about how to develop loving relationships and avoid those that might be exploitative.

**Is there a special memory you would like to share as you celebrate your Jubilee?**

As I review 70 years as a School Sister of Notre Dame, I rejoice in the many, many friendships I have had -- with other sisters, with my students, and with the men and women who have supported my ministries over the years.

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

God loves YOU - the YOU you are and the YOU God is inviting you to be.

CELEBRATE OUR JUBILARIANS

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