

2025 Jubilee

SISTER MARIE GRELLINGER

First Profession



August 9, 1945

Celebrating 80 years



Sister Marie Grellinger is the only 80-year Jubilarian from the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) Central Pacific Province in 2025. Her many years of education-focused ministry span locations and roles. She was a high school teacher, librarian and tutor across the U.S. and into Africa. Her earlier ministries included: St. Alphonsus in Chicago; Sacred Heart in Laurium, Michigan; Central Catholic in Fort Wayne, Indiana and Marinette Catholic in Marinette, Wisconsin. Throughout the 1970s, Sister Marie continued to serve as a teacher and librarian around Milwaukee, including two college-level teaching positions and

then a seven-year post at Spectrum Alternative High School, which she once recalled, “were the most productive, meaningful and satisfying years of my life.” She was a tutor for Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Services in Milwaukee before leaving Wisconsin and the U.S. to undertake a ministry in Kenya. Her introduction to teaching in Kenya was a brief assignment at St. Francis High School in Kisii. She then moved to St. Francis Teacher Training College in Nyabururu, where she instructed from late 1983 until the summer of 1986. Upon her departure from Africa, she opened a new chapter in her ministry, focusing on pastoral care for nursing home residents, first in Poteau, Missouri and then Sallisaw, Oklahoma. From 1988 until 1997, she remained in Oklahoma and held several roles with Charities Helping Center in Sallisaw, including pastoral ministry, social work and case work. She headed north again in 1997, and served in various volunteer ministries in Milwaukee. Starting in 2001, she was a senior aide for Interfaith, Inc. in Milwaukee until her retirement in 2005. She continued to volunteer in locations throughout Milwaukee up until 2015, including a five-year tutoring position with Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Services, where she had ministered once before. Since the second half of 2015, she resides in prayer and presence at Our Lady of the Angels in Greenfield, Wisconsin.

Share a brief reflection on a ministry experience that was especially meaningful to you.

My most memorable experiences are both in Kenya and Oklahoma where I helped distribute food and clothing for mostly women and children. It was a very good experience. The people were a lot of fun to work with, especially the children.

CELEBRATE OUR JUBILARIANS

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School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province