

2025 Jubilee

SISTER MARIEL KREUZIGER

First Profession



July 21, 1950

Celebrating 75 years



Inspired by relatives and teachers who were School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND), **Sister Mariel Kreuziger** is an example of the impact of SSND as educators. Upon being professed, Sister Mariel served for 30 years as a music teacher in Illinois and Wisconsin parishes and high schools. During this period she received her bachelor's degree in music from Mount Mary College (now University) and master's from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. She also taught English and history in the high schools. In 1979, after receiving a master's degree in adult Christian community development from Regis University in Denver, Sister Mariel took on a new role as consultant for adult and family ministry in the Diocese of Marquette, Michigan. Sister Mariel returned as organist for St. James, Belvidere for five years to help this needy parish. From there, in 1998 she again took on diocesan work in southeast Ohio as a consultant in faith formation. While in that position she opened a retreat house in Coolville, Ohio where she served as family and retreat directress. Thirteen years later, in 2011, she returned to Wisconsin, and served in our associate program at Beaver Dam, finally retiring to Elm Grove and Trinity Woods. She continues her ministry of prayer, presence and volunteer services. She reminds us, "God had a dream, when He created you. Just listen and follow."

How did you know you wanted to be a SSND?

I always wanted to be a Sister, a teacher. Why? I had two aunts in the order, Sisters Mary Florence and Mary Ellen Stangler. Plus I had a number of relatives. And I received my grade school education from the School Sisters of Notre Dame at St. Henry in Watertown, Wisconsin. All these influenced me to follow in their footsteps. They all were prayerful women dedicated to serving God's people, and I wanted to follow.

Describe your experience as a SSND.

Life as a School Sister of Notre Dame has been enriching and surprising. I never dreamt I would be a music teacher, high school English teacher, director of family ministry in a diocesan office, open a retreat house and give retreats! All because my Sisters encouraged me and believed in me. Thanks. I am grateful.

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School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province