

2025 Jubilee

SISTER HELEN SETTERSTEN

First Profession



July 11, 1955

Celebrating 70 years



The ministry of **Sister Helen Settersten** has encompassed a multitude of roles that a dedicated educator might hold. She has been a teacher, administrator, teacher's aide and director of youth ministry for schools across the upper Midwest. She began teaching with a three-year assignment to St. Boniface in Milwaukee. From there, she took on a series of teaching roles for schools in Chicago, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Grand Rapids, Michigan. During this time, she earned a bachelor's degree in education from Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee. In 1967, she held dual roles of teacher and administrator for Sacred Heart in Warsaw, Indiana, a position she filled for nearly a decade. Along with her duties at Sacred Heart, she also achieved her master's degree from St. Francis College, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1969. After three years as an administrator for Holy Childhood in Harbor Springs, Michigan, she enjoyed a period of sabbatical and personal renewal. From 1980-1981, she divided her time between volunteer work and part-time teaching in the community of Freeport, Illinois. She then entered into a multi-purpose and multi-year ministry for St. Vincent de Paul in Shepherd, Michigan, serving on the secretarial staff and as a teachers aide from 1981-1985, and then evolving her role to full-time teacher from 1985-1989. With the conclusion of her time in Shepherd, she became director of religious education at Queen of Angels in Fort Wayne and then director of religious education and youth ministry for St. Joseph the Worker in Beal City, Michigan, for nearly a decade. From 2008-2017, she devoted herself to the care of family members in her hometown of Grand Rapids. During much of this time, she also served as a volunteer. In 2017, she was ministered to Notre Dame of Elm Grove in Elm Grove, Wisconsin, where she continued in her work of community service. Toward the end of 2021, she transferred to Trinity Woods in Milwaukee where she continues today in prayer, presence and service.

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

School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) has been a blessing in my life. My ministry has taken me to four states, large cities, towns and farm villages. I'm richer for having experienced many cultures, especially Native American. I am truly grateful for all SSND has been and is for me.

CELEBRATE OUR JUBILARIANS

Share a
Story

Send an
eCard

Honor a
Sister



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province