

# 2025 Jubilee

## SISTER JOHN ANN ZETTELMAIER

First Profession  July 20, 1950

*Celebrating 75 years*



“As a candidate, I was sent to Superior, Wisconsin. There were eight sisters and I was the cook. I made meatloaf and noodles, way too much food for one meal. The next day, I took the leftovers and added scrambled eggs, and they ate heartily. This was the start of my 63-year career as a homemaker.” While **Sister John Ann Zettelmaier** stayed only one year in this first role at St. Francis Xavier in Superior, it was indeed the start of decades-long ministry spent taking care of others as a homemaker and cook. From 1950-1955, Sister John Ann served three locations in the Milwaukee area. First as homemaker for Messmer High

School and then St. Stephen, followed by a role in food service for the Motherhouse in Milwaukee. In 1955, she moved on to her next food service ministry, this time for St. Mary in Prairie du Chi, Wisconsin. From 1959 until 1965, she lived in Gary, Indiana, again sharing her care and skill as a homemaker at Saints Peter & Paul. This was followed by more than a decade in food service for Notre Dame of the Lake in Mequon, Wisconsin. 1976 brought her to a three year ministry in homemaking for West Catholic High School in Grand Rapids, Wisconsin and then another three years in food service for Notre Dame Health Care Center in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. Sister John Ann then embarked on what would be many years at Holy Assumption in West Allis, Wisconsin. Her first role at Holy Assumption was a full time cook, which she started in 1979, and held all the way until 2001. From there, she continued on at Holy Assumption for another 12 years, assisting as a convent homemaker and in part-time school ministry, and eventually on to various forms of volunteer parish ministry. She offered several years in prayer, presence and service while she lived at Notre Dame of Elm Grove and now continues this ministry at her current home in Trinity Woods, Wisconsin.

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

It takes motivation to keep going. No matter what field you go into - like teaching or homemaking - make the right intention. Feel motivated and do your best.

**What initially drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame or how did you know you wanted to be a SSND?**

After high school, I worked at the telephone company. I just had a strong feeling that I wanted to be a sister, so I went to Sister Mary Ann Rawolf who helped me get ready to enter the candidature in Chicago in 1947.

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