2025 Jubilee

SISTER NANCY CAROL TRAEGER

First Profession July 12, 1955



Celebrating 70 years



Sister Nancy Carol Traeger began an immediate series of teaching assignments upon professing as a School Sister of Notre Dame (SSND). From 1956 until 1979, she could be found teaching elementary and intermediate levels for schools across the upper-Midwest, including in the communities of Madison, Mount Calvary, Butler, Marshfield, West Allis, Green Bay, and West Bend, Wisconsin as well as Kickapoo, Illinois. The summer of 1979 launched her into a new chapter of ministry as she began a series of roles in pastoral ministry and community service, including working as an administrator for a

women's shelter. In 1988-1989 she undertook a time of personal renewal, then served one year in community service at the Motherhouse in Milwaukee. For much of the 1990s, she revisited her role as a pastoral minister and then, in 1998, worked in adult education and faith formation for Holy Redeemer Parish in Marshall, Minnesota. She recalls, "My work as a pastoral associate was special as I worked with adults and children in the RCIA process. One adage I tried to live by was, 'Don't get in God's way.' God was already working in their lives. We were all on a journey together." She completed her ministry with Holy Redeemer in 2005. For the next few years, she pulled from her extensive experience as an educator and served as a volunteer tutor for such organizations as the Dominican Center for Women in Milwaukee and Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Services. From 2011 to 2021, she was a part-time volunteer coordinator for Notre Dame of Elm Grove Resource Center in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. In 2021, she moved to Trinity Woods in Wisconsin and keeps busy as the volunteer coordinator of the onsite library.

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

My favorite: There is a reason for everything. There are no accidents.

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

In 1981, I took part in GAAP (Global Apostolic Awareness Program) in Honduras. It was one of the most special times of my life as I learned so much from the beautiful and joyful people. I can still see the times I was privileged to visit a hospital, prison, banana plantation and the small, humble home of a generous woman who shared the beans she had just picked.

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