

Sister Clara Beall, SSND - 60 Year Jubilee!



"One memory that is precious for me is my special CCD class in Bryantown. I had taught these children each Sunday for eight years and spoke to the pastor about Confirmation. He agreed.

The Bishop was told about these children when he arrived. He said he was going to test them. I pleaded that he wouldn't, feeling that they may get scared, but he did direct one question to a tall member of the class named Suzzie.

'Young lady, what are you going to do this evening?' She stood up shyly and said 'I'm going to say a grown-up yes to Jesus.'

The Bishop asked no more questions of them. I was happy about what she said. All went well."



Sister Clara entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame in the autumn of 1957 in Baltimore. She taught primary education and reading for 15 years, mostly in Baltimore City, and then at St. Mary's in Bryantown for a decade. In between she received her Bachelor of Arts in Education from Notre Dame of Maryland University, and a Master of Fine Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1979. Sister Clara then turned from educating children, to stimulating adult minds. In 1983, she brought art - and applied art - to the motherhouse in Baltimore, where she created the Hobby Room. For more than three decades, through crafts, she engaged the minds of retired and elderly sisters, many who had ministered for half a century or more in the classroom and in the community.

