Sister Mary Earle Doohan was born on April 25, 1928 in New Brunswick, Canada. She was the second child of four children to parents Mary Cathleen from Stanley, New Brunswick and T. Earle Doohan, from Bar Harbor, Maine. She was baptized at St. Dunstan Fredericton in New Brunswick two weeks later.

In 1937, the Doohan family immigrated to Malden, Massachusetts, where Agnes was enrolled at Immaculate Conception School run by SSND. In her autobiography, Sister Mary Earle reflected, “Every year of school made my love for the School Sisters of Notre Dame grow more and more.” She entered the congregation in August 1946 in Malden and professed first vows two years later in Baltimore.

Sister Mary Earle ministered for 60 years, primarily in Baltimore City as a teacher, guidance counselor, director of student affairs, director of admissions, alumnae moderator and reunion leadership. Sister Mary Earle received her Bachelor of Science in Education from the College of Notre Dame in 1956. She ministers in prayer and presence and currently resides at Villa Notre Dame in Wilton, Connecticut.