

# Sister Catherine Manning, SSND – 80 Year Jubilee!



[Sister Catherine's 75th Jubilee](#)

Click link to see her 75th Reflection!  
(Sr. Celeste Reinhart on Left)

## "It was a great privilege..."

Sister Catherine was featured in a story celebrating Baltimore jubilarians in the [March 18, 2024 issue of the Catholic Review](#). (click underlined link to go to story)  
Story excerpts follow:

Sister Catherine Manning said it was her family upbringing that stirred her vocation. She chose the School Sisters of Notre Dame, the order that taught her at St. Joseph Monastery in Baltimore.

"Religion was very important in my family," she said, pointing out that she also had a brother who became a Franciscan missionary priest and later a bishop in Bolivia.

"We were very close," she said. "Whatever he did, I did. I still remember the talks we used to have."

She noted that that was probably the reason she chose Sister Clarasita as her religious name when she first entered.

"I wanted something Franciscan," she laughed, "and that's certainly Franciscan."

Sister Catherine, [who turned 100](#) (click underlined link to see photos!) in December, has explored almost every avenue of teaching, starting with elementary school in Brooklyn, New York.

"I spent 10 years at St. Saviour's in Brooklyn," she said, and while she loved what she was doing, she didn't feel very adequate.

"I wasn't very good when I first went out to teach," she admits. "Back then, there were 60 kids in a class. That was hard back then when I was starting out."

She returned to Baltimore in the mid-1950s and taught at St. Matthew School in Northwood, and then moved on to teach the aspirants and postulants for the order. After a brief period of teaching secondary school in Frederick, she was on mission at Villa Assumpta, at Manresa Retreat Center and at Villa Maria in Glen Arm.

Her longest mission, however, was a 40-year stay at St. Dominic in Hamilton, where she served as a pastoral minister and pastoral volunteer.

"It was a great privilege," she said. "People look forward to the visit of Jesus and it's a comfort to be able to provide him. You know, priests are overworked, and they can't get to everybody in the parish who would like to receive holy Communion, so it was a blessing that I was able to do it, both for me and for them."