

Sister Mary Guth, SSND – 70 Year Jubilee!



"This was very fulfilling!"

I was the eldest of 13 children born in Macklin Saskatchewan. I was baptized Mary Magdalene.

My younger sister left for Waterdown in August 1952. On August 16, 1953, I followed Veronica, receiving my Bonnet on September 7, 1953.

I came to Waterdown by train with Sister Evelyn Volk. I remember noticing all the trees as I came into Ontario. Sister Evelyn told me that the farther away from home we got, the quieter I became. I remember feeling that that I missed Saskatchewan and my family.

My parents came to Waterdown from Saskatchewan our profession. After a few days, they returned proud and happy and willing to give more daughters to "God's service".

After Novitiate, I served in laundry at the Motherhouse before going to Preston, Ontario, where I cooked for 32 Sisters. I was also a cook in St. Agatha Village where I served Sisters, Staff and more than 40 youth.

This was very fulfilling! I knew I was meeting their needs and they depended on me. These are just a few of the places I was missioned to throughout my time as an SSND.

I was blessed to be able to travel a lot, which seemed like a dream come true. I moved from the west to the east of Canada, working in many areas of Ontario (especially St. Agatha).

I was in seven different countries. I traveled to England, and to Germany to visit our German Sisters and my parents' homeland. *Cont'd...*

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I traveled to Rome twice (once for six years, and the second time for two years). I spent several months in Japan where I remember good food and not being able to enter a house with your shoes on. From there I went to St Lucia in the Caribbean to visit Sister Jacinta, back to Little Falls, Minnesota to attend Holistic Growth Resources run by Franciscan Sisters. Finally, I returned to Canada to serve at the Motherhouse.

My six years at our SSND Generalate in Rome provided a tremendously enriching experience. My gratitude for this opportunity is difficult to articulate. Working there provided me with the chance to grasp and understand just a little better “unity in diversity”. Language may have been difficult at times, but in my mind and heart we were one.

If asked if I would recommend young women today consider becoming a Sister, I would answer immediately, “Oh yes”.

I am glad I entered. Through all whom I have met, and all that I have accomplished, “I have found a unique way of approaching the world, the Church, religious life, ministry and all reality.”

