

February 19, 2018

**Sister Dorothy Ann Balsler, SSND
Teacher, missionary and author**

Chatawa, Mississippi – Sister Dorothy Ann Balsler, SSND, died January 28, 2018, at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi. She was 90, and served as a teacher, missionary and was a published author.

The memorial mass was celebrated February 5 at St. Mary of the Pines, followed by burial at the Chatawa Cemetery.

Sister Dorothy Ann was born in McComb, Mississippi. She entered the congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1946 and professed final vows in 1949.

Sister Dorothy Ann taught elementary school in St. Louis, Baton Rouge and Marrero, Louisiana, Texas and Laurel, Mississippi. In 1971, she returned to Marrero, Louisiana to care for her father and later became the primary education coordinator for Immaculate Conception Elementary School. Her last teaching assignment in the United States was at Immaculate Conception School in Laurel, Mississippi. She also served as CCD coordinator at St. Francis of Assisi parish in Brookhaven, Mississippi.

Sister Dorothy Ann traveled to Ghana in 1985 where she helped establish schools and taught at Sunyani and Cape Coast before returning to St. Mary of the Pines in 1996.

After her return, she wrote a children's book entitled, "Bitsy Bee with the Allergy" and developed a nature walk through the woods of St. Mary's. She also served hospitalized sisters and the greater community.

Sister Dorothy Ann is survived by her sister, Beverly Gent and her brothers John (Virginia), Richard (Katie) and the Reverend Edward Balsler. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 3167 Old Highway 51 S, Osyka, MS 39657-7056 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.

