

August 7, 2018

Sister M. Fides Bourgeois, SSND
Special education teacher

Chatawa, Mississippi – Sister M. Fides Bourgeois, died Friday, July 13, 2018, in Chatawa, Mississippi. She was 91, and a former special education teacher.

The funeral Mass was celebrated July 16 at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi. Burial was at St. Mary of the Pines Cemetery.

Sister Fides was born in Ponchatoula, Louisiana. She professed first vows in 1948.

Sister Fides taught children and youth ages six to 16 in metropolitan New Orleans, in Lake Charles and in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She later became certified in special education from Southeastern University in Hammond, Louisiana. In the 1990s, Sister Fides was recognized for her outstanding contributions to Catholic education in the area. She was highly regarded by her students, fellow teachers and administrators.

During the early 2000s, Sister Fides was active in the programs of St. Joseph Cathedral Parish in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Because of her extraordinary service with the parish, she was given the Bishop's Day Award in 2007.

Sister Fides retired to St. Mary of the Pines in 2012. There she helped keep the dining room tidy and supplied, responded to those in need of help, assisted in the library, attended community prayer and events, served in liturgies and continued being an educator. She enjoyed reading and tutoring students.

Sister Mary is survived by her sisters in community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, P.O. Box 227275, Dallas, TX 75222-7275 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.

