

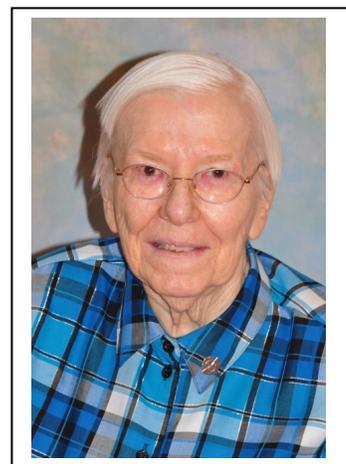
September 9th, 2019

**Sister Rose Elaine Kessler, SSND**  
**Teacher, administrator**

**Chatawa, Mississippi** – Sister Rose Elaine was born to eternal life on July 17, 2019 at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi. In her SSND ministry, she served as a teacher and a principal.

The funeral Mass was on Monday, July 22, 2019, at St. Teresa Church in Chatawa. Burial was in Chatawa Cemetery, Chatawa, Mississippi.

Sister Rose Elaine Kessler was born in New Orleans, on October 17, 1933 to Arthur (Pete) Kessler and Victoria Garish. She was baptized in Holy Trinity Church and given her grandmother's name, Helena. She grew up with two older sisters, Lucille and Elaine.



Early in Sister Rose Elaine's religious life, she served in her hometown of New Orleans and spent six years of ministry there. Following Profession in 1954, she taught elementary schools in Chalmette and Bogalusa, Louisiana. Sister Rose Elaine's next ministry was serving as principal of Good Counsel Elementary School, New Orleans, followed by a mission to Ponchatoula, Louisiana. Immaculate Conception School in Marrero, Louisiana welcomed her for two years. Then she returned to Good Counsel School for nine years. For 14 years, until the school closed, she taught Social Studies to secondary school students at Seton Academy in New Orleans. The next three years found her at St. Stephen Elementary School, New Orleans. One of her last ministries was serving as principal for a high school for pregnant teens at St. Gerard Majella in New Orleans. Sister Rose Elaine retired to St. Mary of the Pines in Chatawa, Mississippi, to reside in prayer and presence.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her two sisters, Lucille and Elaine. She is survived by her nephew, Joseph Iwanowski, and her niece, Vicky Broom. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, Mississippi, 39657, or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.