

August 14, 2018

**Sister Veronica De Cleene, SSND
Teacher, principal, child care coordinator**

Elm Grove, Wisconsin – Sister Veronica (formerly Marie Christine) De Cleene, died at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, in Elm Grove, Wisconsin, on Monday, August 6, 2018. She was 84 and a former teacher, principal and child care coordinator.

The funeral Mass was celebrated August 11 at the Holy Family Chapel at Notre Dame of Elm Grove. Burial was at the Notre Dame of Elm Grove Cemetery.

Sister Veronica was born in De Pere, Wisconsin. She entered the congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1952. She professed first vows in 1954 and final vows in 1960.

In 1959, she earned a bachelor's degree in education from Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, and an M.A. in guidance and counseling from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, in 1973.

From 1955 to 1964, Sister Veronica taught primary grades at St. Boniface in Milwaukee. From there, she taught intermediate grades at St. Peter and Paul, St. John Nepomuc and St. Leo, all in Milwaukee. She served as principal at Leo Community School in Milwaukee from 1970 to 1975. Sister Veronica then went to northern Wisconsin where she served as principal and junior high teacher at St. Joseph in Oconto. From 1981-1982, she was a junior high teacher at Our Lady Help of Christians in Saginaw, Michigan, and then returned to Wisconsin in 1982 to teach junior high at Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary in Sun Prairie. In 1987, Sister Veronica served the Concord Community in Milwaukee in service ministries and worked as a staff secretary and teacher at Cardinal Stritch College, Milwaukee. Beginning in 1988, she served at Shade Tree in Milwaukee, first as an adult education teacher and then in 1989, as a child care coordinator. She became the coordinator of education and curriculum at Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Services in 1992 and served as a part-time teacher there from 2003 until 2009. Since 2007, Sister Veronica has served in prayer and presence and as a volunteer.

Sister Veronica is survived by her sisters, Judy Johanski, Joyce De Cleene, Alice Morrell, Helen Verhasselt, and Lorretta Verhasselt; and nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.

