

November 16, 2018

Sister Donna Fischer, SSND
Teacher, pastoral associate, spiritual director

Bridgeton, Missouri – Sister Philip Marie Link, SSND, died at Anna House at The Sarah Community in Bridgeton, Missouri, Wednesday, October 10, 2018. She was 83 and a former teacher, pastoral associate and spiritual director.

The funeral Mass was celebrated October 12 at Theresa Center, Sancta Maria in Ripa, St. Louis. Burial was in the Sancta Maria in Ripa Cemetery.

Sister Philip Marie was born in St. Louis. She entered the congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1952. She professed first vows in 1954 and final vows in 1960.



She received a bachelor's degree in English and speech from the former Notre Dame College, St. Louis, in 1965, and a master's degree in English from Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, in 1975.

Following first profession, Sister Donna was a classroom teacher for 27 years. She taught middle grades at St. Dominic, Breese, Illinois, for five years and at St. Peter Cathedral, Belleville, Illinois, for six years. After receiving her bachelor's degree, Sister Donna was missioned to Notre Dame High School, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, for five years; Helias High School in Jefferson City, Missouri, for four years; and Rosary High School, St. Louis, for seven years. Sister Donna served as a staff member for high school retreats at Pallotine Retreat Center for one year.

From 1982-1986, Sister Donna was co-director of the vocation office for the former St. Louis province. She ministered in religious education for adults at St. Mary Magdalen, St. Louis, for five years. She then served as pastoral associate at Sacred Heart Valley Park, Missouri. While serving the parish, Sister Donna coordinated the adult faith formation program, was a member of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Team, was an advocate in the annulment process and taught in the elementary school.

Sister Donna was a gentle woman, an excellent listener and spiritual companion to many. She was a role model for others. She manifested a heart that was compassionate, encouraging and supportive. May Sister Donna now rejoice in her new life with the God she loved and served so faithfully.

She is survived by a sister Clara Weppner of St. Peters, Missouri, and a brother Aloysius Fischer, Jr. of Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

Memorial contributions may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Resource Development, 320 E. Ripa, St. Louis, MO 63125 or online at <https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/give>.