



School Sisters of Notre Dame News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sister Carol Jean Dust Begins Term on SSND General Council

Sister Carol Jean Dust, SSND, has been installed as a general councilor of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, an international congregation representing 3,700 women religious worldwide. The installation ceremony took place January 20, 2008, at the congregation's Generalate in Rome, Italy.

Sister Carol Jean is one of seven members of the new General Council, which was elected to a five-year term at the congregation's 22nd General Chapter in Sao Leopoldo, Brazil, in October 2007. She is a member of the St. Louis Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

Most recently, Sister Carol Jean was coordinator of religious education and a member of the parish pastoral leadership team at All Saints School in St. Peters, Mo.

Father Don Wester, the pastor of All Saints Parish, was the main celebrant at the liturgy in Rome. He was in Germany visiting his brother, which made it possible for him to participate in the installation ceremony.

"At the moment of my election, I could only be awed by the mystery of God's action in my life," Sister Carol Jean said. "The scripture quote I selected from the presider at the election was from Genesis 12:2, 'I will bless you and you will be a blessing.'"

"I can only recognize that I am here at this point of my journey of God's call because I have been blessed by so many faithful mentors in my life: family, friends, religious congregation and all with whom I have ministered or who have ministered to me. Yes, I *am* deeply blessed," Sister Carol Jean said.

Originally from Effingham, Ill., Sister Carol Jean is the daughter of Leonard and Mildred Dust. She attended St. Anthony Parish elementary school in Effingham and Notre Dame High School in St. Louis, Mo. She professed her final vows as a School Sister of Notre Dame

in 1977. She earned a bachelor's of science and mathematics from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master's in theological studies with a concentration in world mission from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, Ill.

Sister Carol Jean was a secondary and elementary teacher for many years in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. She also was an administrator and teacher at the Instituto Notre Dame, an SSND secondary school, in Honduras as well as worked in formation with temporary professed sisters in Honduras.

Other members of the new General Council are General Superior Sister Mary Maher, from the Atlantic-Midwest Province; Sister Katherine DuVal, Mankato Province; Sister M. Irene Ksiazak, Poland; Sister Maureen McGoey, Canada; Sister M. Dominca Michalke, Germany; and Sister Marcela Rockenbach, Brazil.

During 2008, the worldwide congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame is celebrating the 175th anniversary of its founding by Blessed Mother Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger in Germany. Also, the St. Louis Province is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its first mission in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. The School Sisters of Notre Dame continue in the mission of Jesus, "that all be One," working for the transformation of the world through education.

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