



Sister Geraldine Clifford is Ogalala Lakota born in Manderson, South Dakota, within the Pine Ridge Reservation. She graduated high school from the Holy Rosary Mission in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and entered as a Postulant at Marycrest convent in Denver, Colorado by 1950. She has served as a teacher, Director of Aspirants, Novice Director, Provincial Councilor, Provincial Minister, Director, Pastoral Minister, as well as a Counselor and Spiritual Director in six states.

She has a Bachelor of Art from Regis College in Denver, Colorado in 1960; a Master of Political Science for the Improvement of Instruction from St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1967; and a Master of Art in in Theology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. Sister Geraldine also has many post graduate hours related to Psychology, Counseling, New Testament and Spirituality, and Spiritual Counseling from Loyola, Fordham, Creighton, and St. Louis universities.

Sister Geraldine taught at St. Francis Mission in South Dakota; St. Agnes Academy and Marycrest Aspirant School in Alliance, Nebraska; Marycrest in Denver, Colorado; as well as for St. Louis University in Missouri and at Ogalala Lakota College in Kyle, South Dakota.

Sister Geraldine has been a Novice Director at Marycrest in Denver, Colorado from 1968 to 1970; as well as for the three North American provinces based out of Redwood City, California for most of 1970 and start of 1971; and in St. Louis, Missouri where she also was a Spiritual Director from 1971 to 1975 at the Institute of Religious Formation at St. Louis University. She also served as Novice Director at the Emmaus House, the old Winslow Estate house on the Marycrest property, from 1983 to 1985 in Denver, Colorado.

Geraldine served as Provincial Minister from 1975 to 1981.

Sister Geraldine was a Founder and Board Member for the building of the St. Francis Home for Children in Manderson, South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Reservaton from 1981 to 1983. She returned to serve as Director from 1985 until 1992 but continued as Director until its closing in 2018. For over thirty years, St. Francis Home served to foster children of the Lakota in need of shelter, care, and safety. She and her staff not only fed, clothed, and loved these children, but also supported their identity as Ogalala Lakota and mirrored the values of their culture.

She has ministered at the St. Francis and Holy Rosary Mission as well as the St. Agnes Parish in Manderson, South Dakota. She also has served as Counselor and Spiritual Director for the sisters at Marian Residence in Alliance, Nebraska.