

**Sister Leandra** Schaller had thought of being a sister ever since sixth grade. This rested quietly in her heart through many years of education. She had earned a Bachelor of Art in Biology from Fontbonne College in 1970; a Master of Science in Biology from Northern Arizona University in 1972; and a Ph.D. in Botany from University of Missouri in 1977.

It was while writing her dissertation she met one of our sisters who was campus minister. From that point her calling grew in earnest. She answered her calling and entered from St. Louis, Missouri to St. Anne's Convent in 1977, invested at Marycrest in 1978, took her first vows in 1980, and took her final vows in 1983.

From 1978 through 2013, Sister Leandra ministered at colleges and high schools in the Denver area which included Regis University, Front Range Community College, and Mullen High School. She taught mathematics and science. Through her time in teaching, she recognized that students needed additional support. Because of this, she dedicated opportunities of continuing education to courses in guidance and counseling. By 1991, Sister Leandra earned a Master of Art in Guidance and Counseling from Adams State College. She offered counseling locally through private practice from 1994 to 1995. She became National Board-Certified counselor and licensed as a professional counselor in 1995.

Sister Leandra became certified in Spiritual Direction from the Vincentian Institute in 1998. As well as teaching at Holy Family High School, she was a counselor from 1998 through 2013. She found all the ministries fulfilling and the people she worked with a blessing.

In 2015, Sister Leandra was called and has diligently served as a member of the Provincial Council through 2022. As time permitted from 2015 to 2019, she substitute taught and volunteered at St. Frances De Sales' School and from 2017 through 2018, she was a biology tutor at Front Range Community College.

Since 2018, Sister Leandra has been proud to serve as Spiritual Assistant for the local secular fraternity of **St. Francis of the Streets**. She is also a volunteer for the Holy Family parish and her hobbies include hiking, camping, reading and playing piano.

"My favorite part of religious life is the support of prayer, private and communal, and the sisters with whom I have had the privilege to journey."