

Sr. Rubi Arellano, SSV -Biography

**Sister Rubi Arellano, SSV** is a religious sister of the Congregation of **Sisters Servants of the Visitation**, an international missionary congregation given to the church by a pontifical decree of Saint John Paul the Great in 1978. The charism of the Sisters Servants of the Visitation congregation, founded by Sr. Maria Vincenza, in Assisi, Italy is to renew the visit of Our Lord to humanity through the Spirit of the Magnificat! Sr. Rubi entered this religious family at age nineteen in 1993 and made her first profession in 1996 after which she was assigned in Italy to pursue college studies at Padre Sommigliere Sacro Cuore University in Rome where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Primary Education. Upon graduation, Sr. Rubi began what extended to a thirteen-year assignment teaching at Scuola Materna Agostino Ramponi Parrocchiale in Bologna, Italy. During this time Sr. Rubi made perpetual vows of consecrated life on May 31, 2001. Sister Rubi recently celebrated twenty-five years of consecrated life on May 31, 2021.

In 2013 Sr. Rubi received the assignment to manage an SSV mission in the Philippines. She was transferred to **Mission Aid Bato, Borongan City Eastern Samar, Philippines to oversee the operation of the mission and its childcare facility, Ain Karim Children's Home.** As the local superior in Borongan, Sr. Rubi is also a spiritual Formator to the Junior Sisters and with her fellow sisters works to spread the *Smile of God* and bring hope to the people in the surrounding communities, especially the extremely poor and those most in need of assistance and companionship. Through outreach programs such as the Our Lady of the Visitation Youth Organization, spiritual formation of village children, Mothers Group, educational support for at-risk children, prison visits, and hospital ministry the SSV Sisters uplift the surrounding communities and accompany the poor. Ain Karim Children's Home is a home for special children: children with disabilities, neglected, abandoned, and other children needing special care and protection. The mission also is home to disadvantaged and vulnerable minors whose family are not capable of providing them with basic needs such as nutrition, clothing, and education. **Sr. Rubi perseveres to lead her SSV mission community and Ain Karim children** through the lingering difficult challenges caused by the pandemic and new challenges of food insecurity caused by the more recent development of war and inflation.

Sister Rubi made her first visit to the US in 2019 for the Missionary Cooperative Plan (MCP) visiting the Diocese of Buffalo New York. This was an historic event for the SSV Sisters as it was the first time an SSV Sister visited our country. Sister returns to the Chicago area to continue to share the joyful charism of the Sisters Servants of the Visitation in the spirit of the Magnificat! and to share her vocation as a missionary Sister.

