

# 2012 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 18, 1952

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*What a reality: the incredible beauty of God's relationship with humans, and the marvel of how we respond to that grace.*

-Elizabeth Marie Hoell, SSND



School Sisters  
of Notre Dame  
Central Pacific Province

## Elizabeth Marie Hoell, SSND

60 Years

**S**ister Elizabeth Marie served as a musician and teacher at parishes in Gary, Indiana; Marshfield, Milwaukee, Green Bay, Madison, and Butler, Wisconsin. Her work in formation, spiritual and retreat direction, SSND leadership, and pastoral care included ministry in Saginaw, Michigan at Queen of Angels Retreat House and St. Helen and in Wisconsin at the Motherhouse, Mequon; St. Francis de Sales College and Seminary, Milwaukee; Sacred Heart School of Theology, Hales Corners; Notre Dame of Elm Grove; and in Talofoto, Guam at the Notre Dame Regional House. Recently, she retired from full time to volunteer ministry.

### Prior to leaving home in 1947,

my image of religious life was of a group of sisters, teachers, with a set style of life: prayer, morning and evening, teaching in a classroom all day, correcting papers and preparing for the next day in the evening, probably cleaning house on Saturday: all quite predictable and orderly. The actuality of the Call proved quite different.

### Never did I dream of the excitement

and joy which lay ahead of me. After 20 years teaching music, being parish organist, having the great joy of being involved in beauty in a variety of music programs, including preparing a thesis recital for a master degree; this all screeched to a halt with a telephone call from my Provincial Superior.

### Would I consider formation ministry?

It would include some time for preparation. This took me to Rome for a year, studying Scriptures and theology, and taking many opportunities later for on-going education, including a Master of Arts in Christian Spirituality. My life has been filled with incredible beauty – people earnest in their God-life: five years as postulant director, 13 years in seminary formation, a term on the provincial council, pastoral ministry at NDEG, two years with our sisters on Guam, and more than 50 times directing retreats at the Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh, Wis. and other locations. In my retirement now, I marvel at the depth relationship with God of our sisters in the Retreat in Everyday Life (The 19th Annotation of St. Ignatius) and in spiritual direction.

### We never know where God's love will call us,

but one thing is certain. If God has called us to something, no matter what it is, God will *always* be there to sustain us, and to grace us super-abundantly. Ephesians 3:16-19 proves itself true: God gives us the power through His Spirit, for our hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in our hearts ... until knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, we are filled with the utter fullness of God. (paraphrase)

### What a reality: the incredible beauty of God's

relationship with humans, and the marvel of how we respond to that grace.