

2012 Jubilee



First Profession
July 18, 1952

JUBILEE WISDOM

*I'm thankful for good health,
and the gift of music.*

-Irene Stanczyk, SSND

-formerly S. Raynald

Irene Stanczyk, SSND

60 Years

Sister Irene has served as a music educator and church musician for more than 60 years. Her first teaching position was in Chicago but the rest of her career has been at schools and parishes in the Wisconsin cities of Milwaukee, Kenosha and West Allis. Currently, she continues to be active with music education and ministry in the Milwaukee area.

Sister Irene loves teaching piano and violin to children and

cannot imagine retiring. Her career began in 1950, when as a candidate, she was sent to St. John Cantius in Chicago to teach kindergarten. Because her training was in music, she incorporated it into her educational plan. The children flourished! One highlight from her years as a school music teacher was the formation of both a marching band and string orchestra at SS. Cyril and Methodius in Milwaukee. The student-musicians were thrilled the year the school acquired uniforms.

She took on a leadership role in music education,

serving as president of the Milwaukee Area Piano Teachers Association (MAPTA) for 17 years. Today, Sister Irene offers private music lessons to children on Milwaukee's near south side. The students come from diverse cultural backgrounds, including Hispanic, Hmong and Vietnamese. Additionally, since 1984, she has served as organist each week for two Sunday Masses at the Veterans Administration Hospital. She loves to invite people to participate in the music ministry there.

A blessing of these years I want to share is...

Thankful for good health, and the gift of music, I'm still teaching piano and violin full time. Also, I'm playing the organ at the Veterans' Hospital every Sunday. I like to try different things. I joined the Wilson Park Recorder group. – I play the tenor recorder. We rehearse every Thursday. I'm so grateful for all these opportunities.