

2012 Jubilee



First Profession
July 23, 1942

JUBILEE WISDOM

*Have an open heart
and mind to show love, joy,
and graciousness to the
people you meet.*

**-Cecile Marie
Lubniewska, SSND**

Cecile Marie Lubniewska, SSND

70 Years

Sister Cecile Marie served as a church musician, teacher and principal for 44 years. Her first position in music ministry was at St. Stanislaus Parish in Berlin, Wisconsin. She next spent ten years at St. Hyacinth in Fort Wayne, Indiana where she held the dual roles of musician and teacher. Her ministry assignments at St. John Kanty in Milwaukee and St. Casimir in Kenosha, Wisconsin were the triple roles of principal, teacher and church musician. In 1986, Sister Cecile Marie moved into ministry roles in the SSND community. She was an aide to the sisters living in the retirement community at Visitation in Elm Grove, Wisconsin and also was called to be a local leader at the convent. Today, as a member of the Notre Dame of Elm community, she continues to serve through prayer and presence.

Jubilee is a year of celebrating God's call, fidelity and grace.

Seventy blessed years! I am grateful for the opportunity to praise, love, sing, educate – to use my talents and share the gifts I have been blessed with. I was blessed with very cooperative choirs during my many years of parish organ work which I loved. A recent blessing has been hearing from pupils after 50 years, with some telling me how I have been a grace in their lives, influencing their response to a religious vocation or to service as a dedicated church organist.

It was a blessing to have been the youngest in almost every convent, which helped me learn from the senior Sisters, who shared their love of God and their spirit of dedicated service. In my “senior years” it has been a blessing to share my gifts, joys and prayer with homebound people in my work at Interfaith.

The wisdom I would like to share is...

Have an open heart and mind to show love, joy, and graciousness to people you meet. Make every day, every moment count. Learn to adjust to every situation and go out of your way to help others. You will find happiness! Make these priorities in your life: the Blessed Sacrament, and reading/praying the Bible.

God has been very good to me, especially in the love of a devoted family to whom I have always been known as “Auntie Sister.” Young and old have been helping “Auntie Sister” to celebrate her Jubilee. It has been my pleasure to be a church organist for 43 years and thus help people to sing God's praises.

My first assignment was unexpected –

I was assigned to the classroom. I taught grades 3-4 and then 5-6. With the grace of God I loved these years. I learned along with the students and we all enjoyed the experience. My whole life has been a time of learning, whether formally at Mount Mary College and Marquette University or in the many situations where I simply had to learn by adjusting to new ministries and new situations.

For more than 10 years I was fortunate to assist weekly with delivering sandwiches Outreach, Covenant House, Casa Maria and Outpost.

What a pleasant surprise!

One year I was chosen by radio station WOKY for the “sweetheart of the day.” An article written by a pupil won me this honor. I received a dozen roses, selected my favorite song, “Spanish Eyes” which was played during the day, and a cake treat. It was a great honor.



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province