

# 2013 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 31, 1963

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*Be present to the moment.  
It's all there is.  
Live it continuously!*

**-Frances Buschell, SSND**



*-formerly S. Francella Marie*

## Frances Buschell, SSND

*50 Years*

**S**ister Frances initially served in education as teacher of intermediate students and later as a director of religious education at parishes in Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. She was called to social justice work with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Sister Frances served as a chaplain at the Milwaukee County Jail and later with prison pastoral care for the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri. She received a bachelor's in history from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in religious studies from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In her retirement, Sister Frances has continued to offer her gifts through volunteer ministry with the elderly.

### **A blessing of these years I want to share is**

the growing, deepening realization of the incredible, all embracing love of God. Be it in a parish with children or adults, in jail or prison, on the streets, or with our sick and dying sisters – God's love for each and every person was apparent. The greatest challenge every day is to love as God does and to exclude no one from my heart.

### **The wisdom I would like to share is**

Be present to the moment. It's all there is. Live it continuously! These past three years living in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with all its natural beauty, the drama of each season has awakened in my a sense of awe and appreciation of the presence of God now – not in the past or the future – but in this holy moment. The first reading of the fifth Sunday of Lent from Isaiah 43:18-19 says: "Remember not the events of the past... See I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

### **My first mission was teaching 5th grade in Grand Rapids.**

Once a week the children and I went to John Ball Park to pray. We were on a hill on a sunny afternoon when the children became aware of the rainbow over us. They exclaimed, "The Lord God really is with us."

### **Reflecting about God's compassion and forgiveness**

during my ministry with prisoners, I recall a woman who shared how each day she spent in prison, her sense of shame and worthlessness deepened and it became her identity. Then one evening while celebrating liturgy, the priest came to her at Communion time and said, "The Body of Christ" and she responded, "Amen." At that moment, she realized God cherished her. She was God's beloved daughter.



School Sisters  
of Notre Dame  
Central Pacific Province