

2013 Jubilee



First Profession
August 2, 1963

JUBILEE WISDOM

*Many moments of encounter
have revealed to me the
beauty of the human face
of God in abundant
richness and variety.*

-Joanne Hanrahan, SSND



-formerly S. James Maureen



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Joanne Hanrahan, SSND

50 Years

Sister Joanne served as a teacher for eight years in Missouri and Illinois, including five years at Notre Dame High School and one year at the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis. She spent 11 years in adult education. For seven years, she served as a program director at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland in Baltimore. From 1999-2007, she served two terms as provincial leader for the former St. Louis Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Since then, she has helped with the transition in the formation of the new Central Pacific Province, currently serving as coordinator for infrastructure for the province. She received her bachelor's in history from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis, a master's in history from Creighton University in Nebraska and a doctorate in American studies from St. Louis University.

A blessing of these years I want to share is

the abundance of extraordinary people, experiences and places that have enriched my life. Many moments of encounter have revealed to me the beauty of the human face of God in abundant richness and variety. I am blessed each day with the gift of life and the blessings of family, friends and those with whom I minister.

There is so much to learn by living life as it comes

and sharing that life with others on the journey. What starts as a challenge often becomes a blessing. What seems like so little at the time becomes a great abundance when shared. I have learned that by taking the chance, going the extra mile, trusting in wisdom beyond my own, having a faith and hope beyond the practical are paths to an authentic and graced life.

What drew me to SSND were the School Sisters

I had as teachers and mentors at Rosati-Kain High School in St. Louis. I experienced them as genuine, faith filled women who loved their life and work. They were dynamic, accomplished women in their teaching fields and challenged students to use their gifts and to be leaders. They encouraged learning and creativity and involved students in activities and projects that opened up a broader world. They went beyond a nine to five life. I saw a deep joy and commitment in these sisters.

Each ministry and place is unique and has special moments.

There are those graced moments when students' eyes light up in learning something or creating something unique. In working with groups, there are the wonderful bonds of being together on a common journey. It is sharing joys and sorrows, successes and struggles and knowing we are all ONE. In leadership ministry I found it a special privilege to work with councils to forward our mission and walk with sisters in many graced moments of their lives.

In many countries and countless ministries,

School Sisters make Christ visible by sharing their love, faith and hope. Our charism is present as each sister responds to the needs of today and works to bring about that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent.