

2013 Jubilee



First Profession
July 31, 1963

JUBILEE WISDOM

To love and be loved is what matters now and in eternity.

-Sandra Peterson, SSND



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50 Years

Sister Sandra served in Wisconsin for all years of her ministry. She taught primary level grades for 17 years at St. Peter and Paul in Wisconsin Rapids, Holy Angels in West Bend and St. Stanislaus in Berlin. Sister Sandra coordinated religious education and pastoral ministry at St. Peter in Oconto and St. Joseph in Wautoma. She served as pastoral associate at St. Joseph in Sturgeon Bay; St. Rose in Clintonville and St. Mary in Bear Creek. She is currently pastoral associate at St. Nicholas Parish in Freedom. Sister Sandra earned a bachelor's in social studies from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in education from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee.

The School Sisters of Notre Dame blessed my life as my teachers at St. Nicholas School in Freedom, Wis. They inspired me to follow their dedicated life style.

In autumn of 2008, my mother needed help to stay in her home after suffering a broken hip. I was blessed to be given permission to be her caregiver. While I was home, I attended Mass at St. Nick's and volunteered to be a second grade catechist. Soon I was also helping as a minister of the Eucharist.

After my mother's death in 2011, I began serving as pastoral associate. I am finding great joy in giving back to the parish where I was baptized, made my First Communion, and was confirmed. Some of my former classmates are also involved in the parish. My office is in the former convent and I can feel the spiritual presence of the many SSNDs who went before me.

The wisdom I would like to share is from a young boy and a bishop. I recall a time when the children were gathered in St. Joseph Church, Wautoma, Wis. Our pastor was interacting with the boys and girls asking various questions, when a young boy raised his hand and said, "It all boils down to love!" Enough said. Bishop Robert Morneau tells of a poster he has on his wall that states: "The main thing is to know the main thing and to keep the main thing the main thing." Certainly the main thing is relationships.

"Love and relationships" —

Isn't that the same message Jesus gave when he was asked what is the greatest commandment? The years have a way of teaching what is of lasting importance. To love and be loved is what matters now and in eternity.



School Sisters
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