

2013 Jubilee



First Profession
July 19, 1953

JUBILEE WISDOM

"Do whatever He tells you."

John 2:5

-Annabelle Theis, SSND



-formerly S. William Marie



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Annabelle Theis, SSND

60 years

Sister Annabelle spent her first 40 years as a professed religious in the teaching field. One exception during that time was eight months in CPE and pastoral care at Abbot Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This experience gave her a whole different view of working with children. She worked with students at the junior high level and also was the administrator in elementary schools 15 of those years. Sister Annabelle was the motherhouse administrator at Good Counsel for eight years. In 1993, she began 13 years of pastoral ministry at Nativity Parish in St. Paul, Minnesota. After four years working part-time as a receptionist at a funeral home in St. Paul, Sister Annabelle eased into retirement and moved to Good Counsel in 2010.

A blessing of these years I want to share is the grace of SSND

community life. I continue to be inspired and motivated by Sisters in community as together we are challenged daily to live out the Gospel values in *You Are Sent*.

A wisdom I want to share is that we find happiness in the integration

of shared prayer, community life and discerned ministry. In doing what the community asks, and ministering where we are sent, we will find joy and fulfillment.

A ministry experience that was very meaningful was journeying

with a faith-filled immigrant family. My SSND sister, Valeria, and I came to know and love these impoverished people and we became a strong moral support in their many needs. We were able to generate some meager funds, to provide some needed clothing and obtain school supplies for the children. As they struggled with learning in a new language, we became one-on-one tutors and helped bring forward their hidden talents. We also assisted in the children's sacramental preparations. It was awesome to witness the parents' faith, and to observe how they imparted Christian values to each child. Valeria and I were extremely blessed to have the opportunity to mentor and minister to them.

I was drawn to SSND through my close family connections to

the congregation for several generations. My great aunt, two aunts, and many of my first cousins are SSNDs, plus two of my blood sisters. I was educated by SSNDs both in grade and high school. Four girls in my immediate family are graduates of Good Counsel Academy.