

# 2013 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 19, 1953

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*“Act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God.”*

*-Micah 6:13*

**-Joanna Illg, SSND**



## Joanna Illg, SSND

*60 Years*

**S**ister Joanna taught for 18 years in intermediate grades, junior high, and was an elementary school principal. She taught mathematics in high school, served two terms on the Provincial Council and was the Provincial Treasurer. She served as a Parish Administrator before becoming the SSND General Treasurer in Rome. Other positions included serving as the accountant at the East Side Learning Center in St. Paul, Minnesota, and the administrator of the Interprovincial Retirement Fund.

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

living through the collapse of communism in Europe during 1990-91, which coincided with the years that I was serving as the General Treasurer in Rome. I was privileged to visit East Berlin and each of our five East European Provinces, all of which had been under communist domination for 40+ years. Along with the General Council, I assisted in providing funds for the renovation of their abandoned buildings and their places of ministry. To be with the Sisters and hear their stories of evacuation, imprisonment, suffering, and countless forms of oppression during this post war period was a blessing beyond description. I observed first hand, the holiness, fidelity and valor of our Sisters, who without question, are the Saints of our Congregation!

### **A ministry experience I treasure**

was a series of workshops for the finance personnel of both women's and men's congregations in East Europe, as they were emerging from 40 years of communist oppression. Together with other General Treasurers in Rome, I helped to design materials in basic accounting, simple banking procedures, and ordinary business principles. Using translators for several languages, Father Alfons Keuter, OMI from Germany and Father Patsy Cunning, CSSR from Ireland and I taught the three day course at our SSND Provincial House in Budapest, Hungary. Several months later, we did a follow-up workshop for the same group, at our Generalate in Rome. It was very beneficial for the participants, and a life-changing experience for me.

### **The special heritage of the School Sisters of Notre Dame**

is the congregation's internationality. From the earliest years after foundation, the SSNDs extended into other countries and continents. Blessed Theresa struggled for and succeeded in retaining unity amid diversity. Today this is our precious heritage gift.



School Sisters  
of Notre Dame  
Central Pacific Province