

# 2013 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 31, 1953

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*Others' joy is ours. Others' goodness is ours. Others' wholeness is ours.*

**-Louise Marie Benecke, SSND**



*-formerly S. Louis Marie*



School Sisters  
of Notre Dame  
Central Pacific Province

## Louise Marie Benecke, SSND

*60 Years*

**S**ister Louise Marie has served as a teacher, registered nurse, health care consultant, nurse practitioner and health care director in Missouri, Illinois, Louisiana, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. From 1979-81, she was a medical social worker for Catholic Relief Services in Yemen. She worked with immigrants at Migrant Whole Health Outreach in Kennett, Mo., from 2003-09, and in Douglas, Ariz., from 2010-12. She received a bachelor's in theology and sociology from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis, a bachelor's in nursing from Texas Women's University, a master's in nursing from St. Louis University, and her RN from Mercy School of Nursing in Louisiana.

### **A blessing of these years I want to share is God's calling**

by our international community to cross cultural holistic health ministry at home and abroad. Risk taking and living with our marginalized sisters and brothers in many parts of our world is a realized love — gift of oneness...for this we are sent!

### **The wisdom is how right and important it is to take time,**

ponder and celebrate our Jubilee. This sacred leisure space/time provides the precious moments to drink in one another's beauty. Others' joy is ours. Others' goodness is ours. Others' wholeness is ours. Fully present to one another, blessedness is shared. In this is Eucharistic oneness!

### **Moments of exultant joy of spiritual mothering**

were frequent in 24/7 health care ministry at our Home for Dependent Children. Assisting in development of the midwifery program on the Navajo reservation and affecting the first certified Navajo nurse midwife extends this joy to the present day.

### **Chosen and sent to continue**

Sister Rosita Lusch's Mother-Child Nutrition Education Program in Yemen enriched my mind-spirit as I continued implementing this program preparing Yemeni women as primary care workers...the first professional educational program for women in Yemen.

### **Fostering qualities of leadership with**

Noemi and the Women of George Papanicolaou Association of Agua Prieta, Mexico through counterpart professional/friendship relationships has given me treasured cause for deep thanksgiving as I experience their graced implementation of systemic change.

### **Our School Sisters of Notre Dame You Are Sent Constitution**

gives a Spirit-filled imperative to implementing Christ's mission... bringing fullness of life to all, especially women and children through our ministries of education. "Alert to rapidly evolving conditions in a changing society, we discern which world conditions we are called to address. We try to recognize who the poor are and what the urgent educational needs of our times are."