

2013 Jubilee



First Profession
July 19, 1953

JUBILEE WISDOM

*Be in constant readiness
to accept and grow into
the changes within the
international, provincial and
local communities.*

-M. Petrann Sieben, SSND



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60 years

Sister M. Petrann was called and sent to be a primary teacher in schools in her home state of Minnesota. She crossed the border into South Dakota for only two years of her 49 in the classroom. Four of those years she began spending time in Ceramic Haven at Good Counsel just helping out. Since 2002, Sister Petrann has worked full-time in Ceramic Haven using her creativity producing and selling attractive ceramic pieces.

The blessings of these years I want to share are an appreciation for the annual retreats and community living in various sizes of communities. I was privileged to receive an excellent education that prepared me to teach the children not only the basic skills, but also values in faith, self-confidence, and personal development.

An especially meaningful experience I treasure was the Rome Renewal Program for Silver Jubilarians. The heritage trip to Munich and Neunburg vorm Wald, and other places special to Blessed Theresa deeply impressed me. The extended trips to Switzerland and Austria hold additional meaningful and enriching memories.

An SSND who inspired me was our dear deceased Sister Giovanni Gourhan. I taught with her at Guadalupe Area Project in West St. Paul. Her dedication to those who were poor, shunned, or disadvantaged was a deep inspiration. She was committed to providing high school courses and graduation opportunities to those with many needs. She welcomed students with histories of chemical dependencies and challenged them to make better life choices. I was both privileged and blessed to be able to work with her.

A ministry dear to my heart is continuing the work of Sister Irene Federspiel who developed a personal hobby into a successful ministry in ceramics. Ceramic Haven grew into not only making ceramic items, but also the restoration of statues for churches, schools and private homes. After years of Sister Irene's mentoring, and eventual decline in health, I am privileged to carry on this treasured ministry.