

2013 Jubilee



First Profession
July 29, 1943

JUBILEE WISDOM

God is in charge.

**-Mary Peter
Eberhardy, SSND**



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Mary Peter Eberhardy, SSND

70 Years

Sister Mary Peter served for 54 years in elementary education as a teacher of intermediate and junior high students and as a principal. Her Wisconsin schools included: St. Leo, Milwaukee; St Peter and Paul, Wisconsin Rapids; Our Lady of Peace, Marshfield; St. John the Baptist, Marshfield; St. Mary Burlington; St. Agnes, Butler; St. Aloysius and Holy Assumption, West Allis; Notre Dame, Chippewa Falls; and St. John Nepomucene, Prairie du Chien. In Chicago, she taught at All Saints and St. Margaret of Scotland. She retired from the classroom in 1997 and began volunteer ministry with Havenwood Nursing & Rehabilitation Center and St. Mary's Nursing Home in Milwaukee. Sister Mary Peter received a bachelor's in history and English from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in education from DePaul University in Chicago. In 2007, she joined the Notre Dame of Elm Grove community where she serves through her prayer and presence.

As a teacher of lower grades,

I marveled at the students' level of learning. Their memories were keen and interest in life was progressive.

On one vigil of the Three Kings, a first grader was curious

about the arrival of the kings. He entered a darkened church and lit a match to find his way to the crib. With burning fingers, he dropped the match on the straw and all was aglow. Fortunately, someone passed the church, noticed the fire, and informed the pastor. A priest and two sisters went to check on the Blessed Sacrament and heard the crackling pines. The smoke was so intense the priest could hardly see to get to the tabernacle. I swung my shawl to clear the smoke and the priest was able to reach the tabernacle. To this day, I cherish the thought of assisting in the rescue of the Blessed Sacrament.

In Chicago, I had a class of 26, all boys,

many of whom were altar boys. Being in charge of the altar boys necessitated many meetings with the pastor. Those not desiring to be altar boys needed supervision and all wanted to be in charge to report the "talkers." I pointed to the crucifix and said, "He is in charge." There was not a sound. The teacher next door occasionally checked on the students and was amazed that all were occupied with their assignments. Later, when she inquired how this was possible, I merely told her that I pointed to the crucifix and said that he was in charge. These are tangible evidences of God's blessing.

I have been blessed to experience God's blessings

as a School Sister of Notre Dame.