## Jubilee



First Profession August 2, 1954

## JUBILEE WISDOM

They all had the same focus to help all of us children and youth become the best persons we could be.

-Ann Vincent Siemer, SSND

## **Ann Vincent Siemer, SSND**



ister Ann Vincent served as a teacher for 31 years in St. Louis, Missouri; Jefferson City, Missouri; Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Belleville, Illinois; Burlington, Iowa; and Tulare, California. In Tulare, she also was a principal. Since 1985, she has been the director of religious education for St. Francis of Assisi in Teutopolis, Illinois. Sister Ann Vincent received a bachelor's in English from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis, a master's in elementary administration from St. Louis University and a master's in pastoral theology from St. Mary of the Woods in Indiana.

A blessing of these years I want to share is that I was able to remain healthy and active in ministry during these past 60 years and that I was able to enjoy my ministry as religious education director for 29 of those 60 years, along with 31 years as classroom teacher at various levels in different locations.

The wisdom I would like to share is the belief that I have come to understand, that all my earlier experiences in religious life have prepared me for the ministry I am currently and successfully involved in now as religious education director.

I had School Sisters of Note Dame as teachers during my grade school and high school years. I got to know their teaching strategies and to know them as a group. They all had the same focus to help all of us children and youth become the best persons we could be. This is what primarily directed me to Notre Dame. I also had the good example of religious commitment from my Dad's brother, who was a Brother of Mary, and my mother's four cousins: two Sisters of Loretto, one Society of the Sacred Heart and one School Sister of Notre Dame.

The time after Vatican II changes and the challenge to experience many changes in religious life, from changing from a monastic structured rule to an apostolic structured rule, was very meaningful for me, because we were able to develop ourselves and allow ourselves to be developed in a stronger spiritual way.

