

# 2014 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 21, 1954

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*My own plans were often interrupted by God's plan, Plan B, which was the better one every time.*

**-Mary Butzer, SSND**

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*-formerly S. Margaret Marie*

## Mary Butzer, SSND

*60 Years*

**Sister Mary** began her varied ministries as a primary and intermediate teacher in Minnesota and North Dakota schools. After earning her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees, she considered it a privilege to continue her education at Seattle University where she received a Masters in Pastoral Ministry. She was chaplain at Good Counsel Health Care and then moved into being a pastoral associate in Montevideo, Minnesota and later she became the pastoral minister at two parishes in Delano, Minnesota. In most recent years, Sister Mary has done volunteer work in St. Paul, Minnesota.

**A blessing of my life was being a middle child of 12** which gave me an appreciation for life unequalled by many others. By the time I was 18, I had experienced home community life a hundred fold. I entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame prepared for a life journey that would unfold far differently than I could imagine. I cherish many aspects of being an SSND. I think my parents and the congregation nourished every single God-given talent I ever possessed. I have been educated beyond my wildest dreams. My master's thesis at Seattle University, a 300-page memoir of seven SSNDs, was one of the most powerful experiences of my entire life. My family, friends, and community are constant gifts in my life.

**Looking back on my personal journey,** I know my own plans were often interrupted by God's plan, Plan B. Once I understood this amazing fact I grew to know God's plan was the better one every time. I decided this was the faith aspect I would eventually follow even if I did not understand it. I know everything became a wonderful life packet as I accepted Plan B. A sense of humor has carried me through many pieces of life. Many moments of spiritual and physical pain were relieved by beautiful, meaningful music as I, myself, played it on the piano and organ.