

2014 Jubilee



First Profession
July 21, 1954

JUBILEE WISDOM

“Live with an attitude of gratitude.” Each day is a new beginning. I can begin again each day.

-Paulissa Jirik, SSND

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60 Years

Sister Paulissa's first years of ministry were spent teaching in the intermediate grades in schools in Minnesota, North Dakota and Iowa. After 19 years of formal classroom teaching, five of which were in catechetical schools, she moved into pastoral ministry. This led to ministry in the St. Paul/Minneapolis Archdiocesan marriage tribunal. After earning her master's degree in ministry, she continued on and acquired a Master of Jurisprudence Canon Law. She worked eight years as a canon lawyer at the marriage tribunal. Next Sister Paulissa crossed the ocean to do community service in the Generalate. She then was chaplain at St. Joseph Home for Children in Minneapolis. Today Sister Paulissa is a professional tutor at East Side Learning Center in St. Paul and a Eucharistic minister and visitor at Marian Center.

A blessing of my years is that I have had so many opportunities to grow on all levels of my life; spiritually, psychologically, emotionally, intellectually, socially and so much more. One of the highlights to grow spiritually was the opportunity to participate in a 30-day retreat. During those 30 days, I came to a deep inner conviction that I am unconditionally loved by God. That conviction set me on the path to internalize, appreciate and gratefully accept all the other blessings in my life. Now after 60 years as an SSND and 80 years of life, I continue to count my blessings. I look forward to a future full of hope in my ministry-filled retirement years – for LOVE CANNOT WAIT! I also know and trust that I will continue to be loved unconditionally now and forever.

The wisdom I would like to share is: “Live with an attitude of gratitude.” Each day is a new beginning. Any good I do is done by me by the grace of God. Any good I fail to do is made up by the mercy of God as long as I honestly acknowledge and own my negligence trusting that I am graciously forgiven. All is not lost. I can begin again each day.