

2015 Jubilee



First Profession
July 31, 1965

JUBILEE WISDOM

“The world is big and there are many different ways to be and think and believe.”

- Andre Maureen Soet 
SSND



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Andre Maureen Soet , SSND

50 Years

Sister Andre Maureen’s first decade serving as a teacher were spent in the Missouri cities of St. Louis, Jefferson City and Linn. She accepted a position in elementary school administration from 1978-1985 in Jefferson City, followed by a short sabbatical. In 1986, she traveled to Japan, serving as a high school teacher and working for the congregation in Kyoto’s SSND regional office. She returned to teaching posts in St. Louis and Bandipur, Nepal, for a short time before being called back to Kyoto to resume her teaching and congregational ministries. Following a sabbatical in the U.S. in 2002, she returned to Nepal, where she has served as a full-time Catholic school teacher in Bandipur at both the elementary and high school levels. She received a bachelor’s in history from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master’s in religious studies from Mundelein College in Chicago.

A blessing of these years I want to share is ...

My life is so rich with blessings and my 50 years as an SSND is packed with countless blessings of companion sisters and lay ministry partners. But my special blessing, as I see it, has been the God given gift of adaptability. Closely connected to this is the openness to risk. And because of these two blessings I think I could hear God’s call to be a missionary. My life continues to be so enriched by the experiences of being a School Sister of Notre Dame in Japan and in Nepal.

The words of wisdom I would like to share ...

Having lived in a culture other than my much loved ‘home culture’ for over half of my 50 years as a sister, I would say that I have learned that the world is big and there are many different ways to be and think and believe. The bigger our world is, the closer we can get to the mind and heart and love of the God who thinks and creates it all.

An especially meaningful time in my ministry ...

During my formative, early years as a sister I was sent to Missouri’s Jefferson City diocese. The 13 years I spent there as teacher and principal were particularly wonderful and special in my life as a young sister. During my seven years as principal of St. Peters in Jefferson City, the possibility of relationships in a smaller diocese, with a wonderful bishop, families, priests, teachers and students was truly a special time in my growth and in finding my own potential.

What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?

Throughout my childhood I thought of being a teacher and I loved to play ‘teacher’ with nieces and nephews as I babysat. Meeting the School Sisters of Notre Dame at Rosati Kain High School in St. Louis was the needed spark that ignited the desire to become one of ‘them.’ It was the love and dedication of the well-prepared and inspiring sisters that communicated God’s call to me.