

# 2015 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 31, 1965

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*"God is always faithful ...  
we don't need to understand  
His plan."*

**- Jeannette Fennewald  
SSND**

*- formerly S. James Marise*

## Jeannette Fennewald, SSND

## 50 Years

*Sister Jeannette's early years in ministry began as a middle school teacher in the Missouri cities of St. Louis, Poplar Bluff and West Alton. In 1973, she was called to St. Mary's School in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, teaching for two years and serving as an administrator for eight. She returned to the St. Louis area to serve in administration at Sts. Joachim and Ann School, a post she held through 1991. Sister Jeannette spent five years in Reedley, California, as both a middle school teacher and administrator of St. LaSalle School. She is now celebrating her 20th year of service as principal at Sacred Heart Grade School in Troy, Missouri. She holds a bachelor's in history from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master's in elementary education from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.*

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

Being open to where God is calling me and leading me. I have met and worked with many beautiful people and have had opportunities in my ministries that I would never have planned on my own. Throughout my years, many "non-job-descriptions" have enriched me.

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

God is always faithful and cares for us; we don't need to understand His plan.

### **An especially meaningful time in my ministry ...**

Two stand out. During the Flood of 1973, I was a first-time principal at Immaculate Conception in West Alton. Because the school and convent flooded, school closed for weeks; then we relocated to a school basement in Alton. The insecurity of the time and the flexibility demanded helped me grow. I experienced firsthand what some people go through many times in their lifetime. I also had the blessings of starting a new school in a new parish (Sts. Joachim and Ann in St. Charles). The challenge of bringing together 320+ students from 21 schools and faculty members who had never met each other called forth gifts I never knew I had. Everyone working together resulted in a parish and school in which people took ownership.

### **What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?**

I wanted to be a teacher and all of my teachers were School Sisters of Notre Dame.