

2015 Jubilee



First Profession
July 31, 1965

JUBILEE WISDOM

*"Most of all,
pray and trust
in God's will."*

- Paulette Tiefenbrunn
SSND

Paulette Tiefenbrunn, SSND

50 Years

Sister Paulette's earliest teaching post took her to East St. Louis, Illinois. Following five years at St. Philip School there, she was called to Fresno California, where she spent the next four years teaching middle school students and serving as associate principal. She returned to St. Louis to serve eight years in St. Aloysius School before being called back to the west coast. From 1984-2006, she held teaching and administrative posts in Fresno and Salinas. Following a yearlong sabbatical, she has served at Holy Rosary School in Houma, Louisiana, first as teacher and since 2011 as principal. She received a bachelor's in American studies from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master's in elementary education from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

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

A special blessing of my years as an SSND was being missioned to California. It was there that I experienced a variety of cultures, such as Mexican, Portuguese, Indian and Vietnamese. There, too, I witnessed the beauty of creation in the Pacific Ocean and mountains of the Sierra Nevada. But foremost, I was called to live the SSND charism in an area where SSNDs were not well known. The Sisters of California were a community of support, especially during our gatherings at Sunland.

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

Be open to what life gives you each day and be mindful of the gifts of each moment. Most of all, pray and trust in God's will.

An especially meaningful time in my ministry ...

I currently minister in a school for children with learning challenges. I feel this is where I was called to be throughout my years in education, helping those who are the poor, marginalized and forgotten. Forming community with parents, students and teachers is my major goal as I strive to enable each child to develop to their fullest potential, academically, spiritually and emotionally. Helping these children prepare for life is a very rewarding experience.

What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?

I attended Notre Dame High School in St. Louis, Missouri. The sisters there were women of faith who love life and valued education as the greatest gift they could give to the young women in their care. They were women of prayer who gave us the belief that we could accomplish anything we wanted. I wanted to be part of such a wonderful group.