

2015 Jubilee



First Profession
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JUBILEE WISDOM

*“Stay faithful to prayer
and Eucharist.”*

**- Barbara Marie McInturff
SSND**



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Barbara Marie McInturff, SSND

60 Years

Sister Barbara Marie's first two decades in ministry were spent in teaching and administration in the St. Louis Catholic elementary schools of St. Wenceslaus, St. William and Notre Dame. In 1975, she began an 11-year ministry working with adolescent girls at a center in Dittmer, Missouri, teaching concurrently in House Springs for the first several years. Turning to administration, she worked as treasurer and a staff member in the SSND community's finance office in St. Louis from 1987-2001. Following a period of personal renewal, she dedicated nearly ten years as finance director at Notre Dame High School in St. Louis, recently moving to part-time, volunteer status. She continues to live in St. Louis, ministering in spiritual direction, as well. She received a bachelor's in history from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master's in elementary administration from St. Louis University.

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

One especially meaningful blessing was to actually be in the room where Mother Theresa Gerhardinger died ... also to be in the school and church where she prayed and taught. I recall meeting and hearing stories of SSNDs from around the world. One sister lived during the Communist takeover. I learned that she worked in a factory and put her life in jeopardy by going to Mass every day, asking someone to cover for her if she did not return in time for the roll call. Since then, I have tried to be at Mass daily.

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

Stay faithful to prayer and Eucharist. I live in a complex with the poor. I can be an example of life and prayer. I can be supportive by helping and sharing with the women and men who live here. I see this as one of the missions of Mother Theresa.

An especially meaningful time in my ministry ...

Were those years spent providing a home for abused and neglected teenage girls. We were blessed with many graces in providing them a safe home and education. It helped me realize how blessed my home and family were.

What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?

I was taught by SSNDs in elementary and high school. In elementary school I was very involved with helping the sisters, working in the church and convent. Prayer was important to me, even as a teenager. The sisters were good examples of caring and prayer.