

2015 Jubilee



First Profession
August 1, 1955

JUBILEE WISDOM

*"The excitement of who
I am in love with
affects everything."*

- Jane Marie Hotze
SSND

Jane Marie Hotze, SSND

60 Years

Sister Jane Marie's first 11 years in ministry were spent teaching high school in Belleville, Illinois. In 1968, she was assigned to Mater Dei High School in Breese, Illinois, where she stayed through 1972. She then began a new path, serving eight years in St. Louis as an administrator at SSND's Villa Gesu retirement home. She returned to education as a principal in Effingham, Illinois, through 1991, when she was called to serve as development director for the Effingham Catholic Schools. Following an eight-year post as a provincial councilor in St. Louis and a year's sabbatical, she has served full-time in parish ministry at St. Anthony of Padua in Effingham. She received her bachelor's in English from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis; a master's in drama from Marquette University in Milwaukee and a master's in geriatrics administration from North Texas State University in Denton, Texas.

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

I found God and fell in love in a quite absolute, final way. God's fidelity through the years has been tremendous. The excitement of who I am in love with affects everything. It decides what will get me out of bed in the morning, what I will do with my evenings, how I spend my weekends, what I read, whom I know, what breaks my heart, what amazes me with joy and gratitude. Celebrating 25, 40, 50, and now 60 years — each year gets better, for love decides everything. It's been a terrific journey ... a tremendous opportunity for ministry, education, travel, family, people — all such gift. The journey and the story of life continues. I am so grateful for health, and each day is new, filled with joy, excitement, miracles, surprises, gifts and graces. How can it all be? It is! It happens with Jesus.

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

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. Remember the Lord in everything you do and He will show you the right way. Proverbs 3-5

What was an especially meaningful time in your ministry?

Being present to our sick and retired sisters at Villa Gesu, as administrator and eight years later as principal at St. Anthony High School in Effingham, was especially challenging and meaningful. The last 12 years as pastoral associate to the wisdom men and women (elderly) and families at St. Anthony has been great for a lady past 65.

Maturing in the realities of life through the Pre-Vatican II days, 50 years of the "tugging" of the Holy Spirit and the Vatican Council, and the journey of the contemplative years of NOW have been energized by God's love, grace and goodness. God's faithfulness and mine have journeyed 60 wonderful years together.

What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?

They were my teachers in elementary and high school. I admired them very much — great educators and I wanted to be one of them. No regrets!