

# 2015 Jubilee



First Profession  
July 17, 1955

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*“Gratitude is wisdom ...  
I trust there is a reason for  
everything that happens.”*

- Marie Russell  
SSND

## Marie Russell, SSND

60 Years

*Sister Marie served the first 26 years of her ministry as an elementary school teacher in Waterloo, Iowa, and in the Minnesota towns of Searles, St. Paul, Mankato, Comfrey, Prior Lake, Shakopee and Loretto. From 1982-1984, she served as a nurse's aide in St. Cloud, then took time for renewal and additional studies in nursing. In 1985, she accepted an assignment as an LPN at Veteran's Hospital in Minneapolis, leaving there in 1987 to care for her aging parents in their home. From 1990-1994, she served the SSND community as a nurse at Mankato's Good Counsel Convent, then followed her call to Wilton, Connecticut, serving there through 1999. Following another five years serving at the Mankato convent, she worked as a hospitality staff member at St. Paul's Notre Dame Center. Since 2010, she has served as a companion nurse at Mankato's Good Counsel Convent. She received a bachelor's in education from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and earned her licensed practical nursing certification from South Dakota's Pierre School of Practical Nursing.*

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

Jubilee is a year of celebrating God's grace in which I was able to serve Christ in others — children and the elderly, for many years.

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

Gratitude is wisdom. I learned to thank God frequently for joys and disappointments because I trust there is a reason for everything that happens.

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

Was in 1994, when I accepted a nursing job out East in Wilton, Connecticut. It was an adventure that I loved.

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

God alone! Not any particular person drew me. I just had a very deep desire to give my whole life to God, and that was the way to do it.