

# 2015 Jubilee



First Profession  
August 1, 1955

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*"God is always present,  
loving and supporting us."*

**- Mary Alice Reitz  
SSND**

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*- formerly S. Josene*

## Mary Alice Reitz, SSND

*60 Years*

*Sister Mary Alice's first 20 years as a primary school teacher and secretary took her to the cities of Fort Madison, Iowa; Illmo, Missouri; Liberty, Texas; Brookhaven, Mississippi; New Orleans and San Antonio. Beginning in the mid 1970s, she began serving in pastoral ministry, working nine years in Texarkana, Texas, followed by one year in Casa Grande, Arizona. From 1987-2009, she worked as a housing/facility manager for several social service agencies in and around Dallas, then moved to St. Joseph Village in Coppell, where she continued a volunteer ministry in facility management. In 2014, she relocated to Chatawa, Mississippi, where she serves the congregation at St. Mary of the Pines. She received her bachelor's in education from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis and a master's in theology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio.*

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

I have been blessed by God in ever so many ways. Standing out, however, is the love and support I have received from my sisters in community, that have enabled me to grow spiritually and professionally. I shall always be grateful for the gift of community.

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

No matter what our circumstances may be, God is always present, loving and supporting us, along the paths that the Spirit leads us.

### **What was an especially meaningful time in your ministry?**

An especially meaningful time in my ministry were the years I spent living with intellectually disabled adults, providing for them the environment and opportunities to achieve their fullest potential and become independent and contributing adults. From them I learned what it means to love unconditionally and always to give my very best to whatever task was at hand. The gift I gave was returned a hundredfold!

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

I was drawn to the School Sisters of Notre Dame by the example of the sisters from whom I received my education. Their kindness, their joy, their dedication made a big impression on me. By their encouragement I began to discern my vocation, and with my parents' blessing, I entered the aspiranture at Ripa my junior high school year.