

2015 Jubilee



First Profession
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JUBILEE WISDOM

"I marvel at how the Spirit has translated our charism into each culture and language."

- Miriam Cecile Ross
SSND



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Miriam Cecile Ross, SSND

60 Years

Sister Miriam Cecile's music ministry began in the classroom at St. Peter and Paul in Milwaukee. In 1960, she accepted a professorship at Mount Mary University in Milwaukee, a ministry that lasted a full decade. She served as a vocations and formation director in Mequon, Wisconsin from 1971-1977. Following service to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, she turned her attention to spiritual direction, ministering in Milwaukee and Broadhead. She continues to serve in this capacity while residing in Milwaukee. She earned a bachelor's in piano from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee; a master's in music theory from the Chicago Conservatory College and a master's in Christian Spirituality from Mundelein College, also in Chicago.

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

I am from a small town in southern Wisconsin, but because SSND is a world community, the world has become my home. Through my second ministry of spiritual direction I have been able to visit and work with our sisters throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, Guam, and Japan. I marvel at how the Spirit has translated our charism into each culture and language. Our foundress, Theresa, has shown us how to find the wonder of unity in the diversity of the human family, and to honor creation everywhere.

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

If we believe, we ultimately come to know that Divine Love is infinitely greater than any darkness.

What was an especially meaningful time in your ministry?

My second ministry of spiritual direction, coming out of a rich year of study in Rome in 1970-71, has been a blessing in enabling me, amongst other things, to walk with people in their inner journey. This has allowed me to be witness to the wonders of Divine Love and grace in each life. My whole ministerial life has constantly left me humbled and in awe.

What drew you to the School Sisters of Notre Dame?

I attended public school in our hometown. During my senior year, a Latin teacher showed me her yearbook from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee. The center spread was a picture of two baby grands and a piano student in her formal. I ran home and announced to my mother, "This is where I am going to college." She answered with a typical ... "We'll see, dear." Despite our limited finances, I went to visit. With a beautiful welcoming smile, Sister Paulina happened to open the door for us to Caroline Hall. What rose up within me was, "I'm home." I came to Mount Mary as a piano major. Inspired by several SSND professors who were happy, prayerful women, I (unbeknownst to my parents) began the entrance process to SSND. They were at first strongly opposed. Consequently I spent another year at Mount Mary, entered at the age of 20, and here I am today!