

# 2015 Jubilee



First Profession  
August 9, 1945

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*"At age 70 I began to understand what the SPIRIT means to me."*

**- Mary Ann Sadowski  
SSND**

*- formerly S. Julia Ann*



**School Sisters  
of Notre Dame**  
Central Pacific Province

## Mary Ann Sadowski, SSND

70 Years

*Sister Mary Ann has served in music ministries for more than seven decades, as a music teacher, organist, professor and piano teacher. She served in five locations in Milwaukee and Chicago between 1943-1956. Beginning that year, she served for a decade as a high school music teacher in Chicago's Academy of Our Lady School. She was a professor at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee from 1966-1981, when she returned to ministering in Milwaukee grade schools and as an independent teacher through 1989. She served full-time at Milwaukee's Karnes Academy through 2010. Since that time, she has witnessed in prayer and presence at the SSND residence in Milwaukee and is also still serving as a piano teacher at a nearby senior center. She received a bachelor's in piano from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in music from the Wisconsin Conservatory, also in Milwaukee.*

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

How so much of my life from childhood on is now flowering: being a seeker; teaching music; the time I have to read books which are leading me on to a higher consciousness; making new friends; the many workshops I attended that were about music; the 30-year membership I have had in Edgar Cayce's Association for Research and Enlightenment, which brings me the teachings of great minds who see an evolving world; and the 15 years I spent teaching at Mount Mary, another place of great minds and learning.

### Words of wisdom I would like to share ...

Two quotes from Martin Buber are shaping my life now:

1. Solitude is the place of purification.
2. To be old can be glorious if one has not unlearned how to begin.

Also, from Edgar Cayce: The Spirit is the Life, the Mind is the Builder, the Physical is the Result. He also said that everyone must meet the cross, and I have met mine by having to see with only one eye for 40 years.

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

When I was hired at age 70 as the organist at St. John's Tower. At this time I began to understand what the SPIRIT means to me ... I am now living out a prophetic statement made to me by a Jesuit more than 50 years ago that the end time of my life might be the best.

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

I felt an urgency to follow my Notre Dame teachers from 1st grade on. The teacher was Sister Leoncya, and my friend of 54 years, Sister Austin Gersheski, who was my first piano teacher and who gave me many opportunities for public performance as I accompanied my mother, who was a singer. I rode the #14 bus to high school for four years, passing the old motherhouse on Milwaukee Street, and it became very familiar to me.