

# 2015 Jubilee



First Profession  
August 2, 1940

## JUBILEE WISDOM

*"I hated Saturdays,  
Sundays and free days  
when I couldn't teach!"*

**- Irene Kalapinski  
SSND**

*- formerly S. Maxine*

## Irene Kalapinski, SSND

75 Years

*Sister Irene's years of ministry include teaching primary grades in numerous cities throughout the 1940s and 1950s ... from St. Louis, Farmington and Rich Fountain, Missouri; to Belleville and Quincy, Illinois; and on to Baton Rouge, Louisiana (twice!), and Corpus Christi, Texas. From 1960-1963, she served in Fort Madison, Iowa, followed by a six-year teaching post at St. Henry School in Belleville. Her final era of teaching took her back to St. Louis and Washington, Missouri, where she taught middle grades from 1970-1983. She served the SSND congregation as an occupational aide from 1983-1990, followed by a decade of service as postmistress at the former St. Louis Province motherhouse. Since 2000, she has lived and ministered to the community in St. Louis as an artist and in a variety of volunteer ministries. She moved to Veronica House in Bridgeton in 2014. She received a bachelor's in art from the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis.*

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

Preparing children for the reception of First Communion, and teaching art full-time at St. Gabriel the Archangel School in St. Louis.

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

I have had limited vision for 22 years, but I have continued completing art projects by using my sense of touch. Use the gifts God has given and extend those still available to you.

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

I loved teaching. I hated Saturdays, Sundays and free days when I couldn't teach!

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

From early childhood I always announced: "I am going to be a sister." I attended several schools, meeting different orders of sisters. After graduation from 8th grade my parents said I needed to experience the world. About four years later my mother met an SSND and told her that is what I wanted to be. Here I am!