

2014 Jubilee



First Profession
August 2, 1954

JUBILEE WISDOM

Do not be too afraid of the future. You may “grow into” something you never dreamed you would really like.

-Rose Bast, SSND

-formerly S. Eileen Marie



School Sisters
of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Rose Bast, SSND

60 Years

Sister Rose has served as an educator for all 60 years of her life as a woman religious. Following her first vows, she was missioned as an elementary teacher to St. John the Baptist in Burlington, Iowa and St. Augustine in Breese, Illinois. She was called to teach at Sacred Heart High School in New Orleans for three years prior to five years of graduate studies. Upon completing her graduate degrees, she taught for 11 years at Notre Dame College in St. Louis and for 30 years at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee. Sister Rose earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Notre Dame College in St. Louis; she went to the University of Oklahoma-Norman for graduate studies, earning a master's degree in zoology and a doctorate in zoology. Since 2007, she has been serving as an adjunct faculty member at Avila University in Kansas City, Missouri, and by her prayer and presence.

A blessing of the years... Besides the spiritual and educational opportunities along with much community support, there have been many spin-offs that I have experienced. One truly does not realize how the three vows of religious life can alter your life! In 1961, I was given the “obedience” (assignment) to study, full-time, at the University of Oklahoma. The chair of my department asked me to tutor a foreign student. The student and I kept in contact over the years, mainly via Christmas cards. My international education became greatly expanded in 2008 when, in response to my Christmas letter's description of a course I'd be teaching for the 2008 spring semester. The former foreign student, now retired, contacted me that she'd found a Princess Cruise around the tip of South America that she wanted to take, during one of my open times, but needed a companion. Would I go with her, all expenses paid? How can one say “no” to such an educational gift? Is God giving me all of my rewards in this life? I hope not!

The wisdom I would like share... Do not be too afraid of the future. You may “grow into” something you never dreamed you would really like. When my academic advisor put biology into my first semester schedule, my response was, “Do I have to?” I was a math major, in my college studies, until just after I taught general science at Sacred Heart High School in New Orleans. After two years, the principal wanted me to do the biology – five sections per day! So, I changed my major that spring because I could complete the biology major that summer and be super-prepared for the fall. Teaching biology was as much fun as the general science.

I was drawn to SSND because the congregation was always connected to teaching.