

Sister Harriet Schnurr, SSND - 60 Year Jubilee!



"Watching the evening sky change colours while I reflect on my experience of celebrating 60 years of being a School Sister of Notre Dame, I am amazed at God's constant love mysteriously working in and flowing through me at every transition in my life.

I am amazed at the call to a great variety of ministries – educating elementary and high school students; adult faith formation of lay ministers in the parish; Marriage Tribunal work; spiritual direction and retreat work; human trafficking work; SSND leadership at the local and provincial levels; work with our SSND associates...I am amazed at the many individuals, families and communities who have enriched me while I was continuing Christ's caring ministries of teaching and healing. I am also amazed at the various opportunities given for growth in my relationship with our loving Triune God, myself, others and our incredible universe.

Gems I have learned along the way include opening my heart to every call and allowing each to stretch me to become the beautiful creation God desires; and seeing daily all as gift. This has kept me receptive to the unsuspected calls and helped me maintain an attitude of gratitude. To know that suffering is a part of every life and that one often can find its meaning only in naked faith is another learning.

Eventually I realized that together we have a great power to transform our world! Bloom wherever you are planted. Be patient and compassionate with yourself and others in the 'becoming' process. Follow the star in your heart. Nourish creativity, friendship and compassion. Rejoice in the courage and fidelity of mentors like the amazing woman of our foundress, Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, whose example I treasure. Yes, contemplate, contemplate in our uncertain world to become women and men of hope, and peace for our future – a future that starts NOW."



Sister Harriet Schnurr was born in Walkerton, Ontario and professed first vows at Notre Dame Convent in Waterdown in the summer of 1959. She ministered as a teacher and administrator throughout Ontario for 15 years, earning a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1973 at the University of Waterloo. In 1978 she spent a year in Rome with the ARC program. On her return she took on leadership roles in Ontario, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and the Northwest Territories ministering in faith formation, marriage counseling, as a provincial councilor, in social justice and human trafficking, as an SSND Associate mentor, and in spiritual direction.

