

## *Sister Madeline Keller, SSND - 40 Year Jubilee!*



*As I continue to serve as an educator and a counselor, I believe our SSND community crisscrosses the globe and this gladdens my heart!*

What holds great meaning for me these 40 years living as a School Sister of Notre Dame is how SSND internationality has enhanced and is intertwined with my ethnic German background. My connection with SSND started back at the beginning with my SSND education at St. Matthias School in Ridgewood, New York.

As a vowed member of SSND, I treasured being a participant in the Global Apostolic Awareness Program offered by SSND. In the early 1980s I spent four weeks in Guatemala. My feelings and thoughts upon later reflection were, "What a lovely people, what an exquisite country." Their daily struggle however, both saddened me and deepened my prayer. The Guatemalan people continue to be in my prayers.

A unique challenge I experienced some years ago happened when I was invited by the former Wilton Province to spend a month in Otwock, Poland teaching English to Polish SSNDs. I found it to be a unique experience because I knew no Polish! The superior of the house spoke German too though so that proved helpful because I did know German.

My gratitude for SSND deepened on my 25th Jubilee renewal in Italy and Germany. How wonderful it was to be able to visit my relatives in Neuotting, Germany. Rounding out my silver jubilee year was another special event - spending seven weeks in Peru at the invitation of Sister Jacci Glessner.

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