

## Five Joliet Franciscan Sisters Celebrate Jubilee



From left: Sisters Mary Jean Morris, Patricia Skowronski, Judith Kurry, Margaret Noser and Joanne Marusa

This past weekend, five Sisters of St. Francis of May Immaculate (Joliet Franciscan Sisters) celebrated their jubilee at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet, IL.

In her welcome comments, Sister Dolores Zemont, Congregation President, said that although this is a very small group of Sisters celebrating their jubilee, combined, these sisters have 300 years of ministerial commitment working in areas of education and healthcare. “They came (to the congregation) at different times in the history of our country and congregation – from pre-World War II to pre-Vatican II... we are in awe at all they have done and continue to do,” said Sr. Dolores. “They have made a difference! And I wonder how many lives would be different had they not encountered Sisters Judith, Mary Jean, Joanne, Pat and Margaret.”

Sister Judith Kurry, celebrating her 80th Jubilee, served as a pre-school and grade school teacher for most of her 80 years of ministry. Her most recent position was at the Franciscan Learning Center. She lives at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home where she continues to pray for both school aged children and their parents.

60th year Jubilarian, Sister Mary Jean Morris began in the field of education, then spent numerous years in congregation service. She served as a counselor in the early 1980s, then as president from 1992-2000. Sr. Mary Jean then spent the next 10 years working among the Glenmary Missionaries in Mississippi before returning to Joliet to once again assist in congregation service.

Also celebrating her 60th Jubilee, Sister Joanne Marusa. Sr. Joanne also spent time in the education field and served as a principal for many years. She taught and directed programs for newly arrived migrants to the United States before serving in congregational service as general secretary from 1992-2000.



Sister Mary Jean Morris gives the reflection during the Mass



Sister Patricia Skowronski, celebrating 50 years, began her ministry in education then moved into health care ministry. She served many years as a medical technician. Today, Sister Patricia assists in helping the Sisters in residence at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home.

50th year Jubilarian, Sister Margaret Noser, spent many years helping the poor of Appalachia. She then went to Brazil and has spent over forty years ministering there. She has served in many areas of Brazil, helping the very poor work toward better conditions for themselves and others. She has also served as the formation director and regional superior for the Joliet Franciscan Sisters living in Brazil.

Jubilarians and their Coordinators. From Top Left: Sisters Judith and Sandi; Clarita and Mary Jean; Nadine and Joanne. Bottom: Sisters Mary Jean and Patricia; Margaret and Dolores.

