

1,060 years serving God

Congregation gathers to honor 18 Sisters of St. Joseph



Sister Viatora Solbach, left, and Sister Leo Frances Winbinger join in the prayer June 20.

Family, friends and the Sisters of St. Joseph packed the Nazareth Motherhouse's chapel on Saturday, June 5, to celebrate "jubilees" with 15 of the sisters.

In a special Mass in the morning, followed by an afternoon jubilee program, the sisters were among 18 honored this year for the anniversary of their entrance into the congregation.

Two of the sisters were honored in a separate celebration Sunday, June 20, at their home, Mount Joseph Senior Village in Concordia, while another sister will celebrate in Teresina, Brazil, where she lives and serves.

Together the 18 jubilarians represent 1,060 years of service to the congregation and to God, amply demonstrating the theme of this year's jubilee program, "Celebrating Abundant Gratitude."

Sister Chris Meyer served as emcee for the June 5 program. Sister Nancy Meade and Sister Lucy Schneider read tributes to each of the jubilarians, who were marking anniversaries rang-



Sister Joseleide da Silva Neves

ing from 25 years up to 80 years. Sisters Nancy and Lucy also wrote the new lyrics for two old songs performed by a choir of sisters, with Sister Nancy accompanying on the piano.

Each of the 15 jubilarians who were present received a gift bag hand made and decorated by Sister Loretta Clare Flax and Twila Younger.

Every year the Sisters of St. Joseph schedule our "Jubilee Day" immediately following our annual June Assembly so that most of the sisters in the United States "come home" to the Motherhouse in Concordia to attend.

About 130 sisters serve in Kansas and nine other states, and fewer than a dozen missed this year's celebration. There are also about 15 Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia who serve in Brazil.



Jubilarians Sister Mary Jean Assell, left, and Sister Veronica Ann Baxa carry offertory gifts to the altar as the special Mass begins in the Sacred Heart Chapel at the Nazareth Motherhouse Saturday, June 5.



The 2010 Jubilarians celebrating at the Motherhouse June 5: **STANDING**, from left: Sisters Rita Plante, Beth Stover, Veronica Ann Baxa, Betty Maschka, Therese Richstatter, Lila Marie Schmidt, Alice Marie Stalker, Jeanne McKenna, Rita Ann Mazanec, Jackie Kircher and Mary Jean Assell. **SEATED**, from Left: Sisters Celestine Ruder, Agnes Dreher, Marie Coleman and Liberata Pellerin.

Jubilarians: 'Celebrating abundant gratitude'

Here are all the 2010 Jubilarians, each listed with her hometown and where she lives today:

80th Jubilee (entered in 1930)

† Sister Agnes Dreher, Schoenchen, Kan.; Concordia.

75th Jubilee (entered in 1935)

† Sister Celestine Ruder, Antonino, Kan.; Concordia.

70th Jubilee (entered in 1940)

† Sister Liberata Pellerin, Lake Linden, Mich.; Concordia.
 † Sister Marie Coleman, St. Marys, Kan.; Concordia.
 † Sister Viatora Solbach, Clifton, Kan.; Concordia.

60th Jubilee (entered in 1950)

† Sister Rita Ann Mazanec, Colby, Kan.; Concordia.
 † Sister Jackie Kircher, Escanaba, Mich.; Concordia.

† Sister Lila Marie Schmidt, Pfeifer, Kan.; Concordia.

† Sister Therese Richstatter, Clay Center, Kan.; Concordia.

† Sister Alice Marie Stalker, Aurora, Ill.; Concordia.

† Sister Mary Jean Assell, Aurora, Ill.; Concordia.

† Sister Leo Frances Winbinger, Cuba, Kan.; Concordia.

50th Jubilee (entered in 1960)

† Sister Rita Plante, Juneau, Alaska; Silver City, N.M.

† Sister Jeanne McKenna, Kingman, Kan.; Topeka.

† Sister Veronica Ann Baxa, Cuba, Kan.; Minneapolis, Kan.

† Sister Betty Maschka, Ashton, Neb.; Plainville, Kan.

† Sister Beth Stover, Beloit, Kan.; Concordia.

25th Jubilee (entered in 1985)

† Sister Joseleide da Silva Neves, Aroeiras, Teresina, Piauí, Brazil; Teresina, Piauí, Brazil.



For more on the jubilarians and more photos from the Jubilee Mass and celebration, go to www.csjkansas.org/?p=5801