



## News Release

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### Benedictine Sister celebrates Golden Jubilee

**CLYDE, Mo.** - Upon celebrating her Golden Jubilee of professed vows, Benedictine Sister of Perpetual Adoration Sister Jacqueline Marie Steinbrenner, OSB recalls that she knew from an early age that the Church would play a pivotal role in her life.

“My parents set a marvelous example by their involvement in our parish,” the St. Louis native said. “They had a sense of pride and obligation to be involved and to support it with time, energy and hard work. It was done with joy and unassumingly.”



And it was during those younger years in St. Anthony’s parish that she developed a love for religious life. It was a desire that lurked in the back of her mind as she dove into teenage years full of dances and dating and sports and clubs.

“I remember enjoying myself at those activities and then coming home and feeling very empty,” Sister Jacqueline Marie said. “Something was missing. I wanted to give myself to God, and that’s all that seemed important to me.”

Drawn to the Apostolic works of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, she asked permission to enter before she even graduated high school. She studied education and taught in classrooms throughout the country.

She enjoyed her years in the classroom and the interaction with students but sensed, again, that something was missing.

“I felt my religious life was lacking the depth that I desired,” she said. “The need for more quiet, deeper prayer and community living was growing by leaps and bounds until I finally decided to do something.”

She made a private retreat during the summer of 1971, which took her back home to the Benedictine Sisters’ then-monastery in St. Louis. However, she had no thoughts of transferring at the time.

“I just needed to discern what was making my heart so restless,” she said. But while there, after experiencing the Divine Office and the community, she “was literally zonked by the Lord.”

So in 1974, exactly 20 years after making her entrance with the Franciscans, she transferred to the Benedictine Sisters.

“I’m so very happy that I held onto the Franciscan tradition while moving into Benedictine life,” Sister Jacqueline said. “I have experienced the best of two spiritualities, and I’m overjoyed to celebrate 50 years of God’s fidelity. Not mine but God’s.”

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