

## Associates William and Catherine Powell Celebrate 25 Years of Service

### By William and Catherine Powers

Where did the years go? It is almost like the blinking of one's eye the passage of time. Yet the happenings in those years could fill a book or two. We went through the good times and the bad; sickness and good health!



One thing remained constant though: Wisdom walked alongside--- holding us up--picking us up---rejoicing with us and crying with us!

We remember the first gathering of Daughters of Wisdom that we were invited to by Sister Claire Sullivan. It was almost like one's own family greeting us. We were welcomed with open arms by one and all present. And that welcome just deepened through the years. Sisters we had not met before seemed to know all about us like flesh and blood sisters.

Our Wisdom Circle at the Convent in Coram was and is a spiritual haven on a monthly basis. Sisters Claire, Laura, Theresa, Marie Immaculata led us in prayer and offered hospitality on a regular basis.

Twenty-five years ago Bill was diagnosed with colon cancer, and the following year the cancer moved to his liver. What a consolation knowing that Sisters around the world were praying for Bill's healing! "WISDOM EVER PRESENT."

Bill has been privileged as Deacon to witness the weddings of all but two of our nine children. Holy Wisdom danced at all the wedding parties.

Since 1990- 16 of our 21 grandchildren, have been born and two and one-half great grandchildren. Oh, the beauty of new life, uttered Wisdom.

Our lives within the church community of Infant Jesus have been busy for 31 years, guided by the compassionate heart of Wisdom as we ministered to all the grieving families at wake prayers and committals. Bill has baptized countless babies, witnessed weddings and was present as Deacon at almost all of our liturgical celebrations during the Easter triduum and Christmas celebrations.

Our Daughter in-law Christine has been very sick for over ten years, yet our spiritual support has given us strength beyond telling, thanks to faithful WISDOM.

"Behold I am with you all days, even to the end of time." These words of our Lord take on a new meaning these days as we are halfway through our eighth decade of life. Life has indeed changed for us as our bodies slow their former pace. We want to keep the rhythm of the old days but cannot. It makes us a little sad to be not so involved as in the "good old days" But one thing holds true and will never change: Holy Wisdom promised and He will do it—to be with us every step of our way!

This has brought us to a very peaceful place at this time in our lives!

ALL PRAISE TO OUR WISDOM GOD.