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Boys' Clothing Dept.—Main Floor

**THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH IN THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE AND THEIR WORK FOR 75 YEARS**

Third Installment Tells of the Founding of St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, The Coming of the First Sisters to the City, and Bishop McQuaid's Co-Operation.

(History of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Rochester, continued from last week.)

**Larger Building Bought**  
 In 1867, the house on South Street could not accommodate all the orphans for whom admission was sought, and the trustees decided to purchase a larger and more commodious building for the asylum. In April, an estate known as Hallstead Hall, located on West Buffalo Street, (now West Main), near St. Mary's Hospital, was bought for a moderate sum. The house had been occupied by wounded soldiers during the war, and when the Sisters took possession, there was much to be done by way of repairs and alterations suitable to the wants of such an institution.

It was on the 16th of April, 1867, that the saintly Bishop Timon was called to receive the reward of his labors. In 1868, the Diocese of Buffalo was divided, and the Episcopal See of Rochester was created, with the Right Reverend Bernard J. McQuaid, D.D., as its first Bishop. Immediately after taking possession of his see, the Bishop, who believed a Catholic education to be the right of every Catholic child, set about for a means to put his project into execution. Finding the rules and constitutions of the Sisters of St. Joseph adaptable to his actual needs, he chose that Sisterhood as the diocesan community for his various projects of diocesan education.

Sisters Open Novitiate Here  
 And so in the Autumn of the year

1868, we find the community at Rochester dissolving its affiliation with the old Mother House of Buffalo and opening its own central house and novitiate here, with Rev. Mother Stanislaus as Superior-General, and the Right Reverend Bishop McQuaid as ecclesiastical Superior. There were at this time two houses of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Diocese of Rochester: St. Mary's Academy in Canandaigua, and St. Mary's Asylum for Orphan Boys in Rochester. In the latter house the novitiate of the Sisterhood was temporarily located.

In November, 1870, the Sisters were placed in charge of St. Patrick's Academy and Girls' Orphanage in Frank Street, near the Cathedral. The Sisters soon found the building there wholly inadequate for its purpose, and in February, 1871, they purchased the well-built and spacious residence of Major Williams on the corner of Jay and Frank Streets for a convent and academy.

**Nazareth Academy Opened**  
 In September of 1871 Nazareth Academy was opened for the education of girls whose parents wished to have in addition to the regular branches of study, music, the languages and other accomplishments. The initial number, 60 pupils, was of course small, but year by year it continued to grow. In 1871 the school was incorporated, but it was not chartered under the Regents of the University of the State of New York until 1891.

The novitiate of the Sisterhood was established, with Nazareth as the Mother House, in 1871. The novices at this time were very young, the majority entering at 16 or 17 years of age, when it was quite impossible for them to have an extremely advanced education or the experience befitting teachers. The Normal School was, therefore, opened, the Bishop himself giving the lectures on Christian pedagogy, and teaching education; the late Reverend James F. O'Hara, the higher mathematics, and a professor from St. Andrew's Seminary, the Latin.

**Nazareth Had Able Artists**  
 Bishop McQuaid was keen in discerning the special gifts of individuals and had the higher instructors provided for their development. So it came about that early in its history, Nazareth had able artists who had the advantage of special technical training and of study of the masterpieces in reproduction, which the Bishop had brought from Rome, Florence, and other art centers. Music, also was cultivated with the same regard for technical excellence. "I have no gift for music myself," said the Bishop, "but I know its importance. When it is taught, let it be by Sisters with sufficient gift and training. Our musicians must not rest content with high performances of voice or instrument. They must know the technique of music."

When Bishop McQuaid took possession of his See, July, 1868, he found Catholic education poorly provided for outside of the select schools and orphan asylums. In the Spring of 1871, the Bishop called a meeting of the more wealthy gentlemen of the Cathedral and stated his desire for enlargement of the building on Brown Street. The school was then known as St. Patrick's Academy. Although the meeting was not an enthusiastic one, the Bishop was not undaunted, and immediately began the erection of three-story addition to the academy building. In September, 1871, the Sisters took charge of the girls and younger boys of the school, while the Christian Brothers continued the work with the advanced grades of boys.

**Field of Labor Widening**  
 Another school to come under the supervision of the Sisters at this time was the Immaculate Conception, which opened conjointly with the

**NAZARETH ACADEMY GIRLS RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN BODY IN THE SCHOOL HALL**

For the first time in the history of Nazareth Academy, the students of the Academy received Holy Communion in a body on the first Friday of the month, on Friday this week, and the Blessed Sacrament was in Exposition throughout the day. This special privilege was obtained for the school from the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, by the Students' Spiritual Council, and it is the first important work done by the Council for the general student body since the recent organization of the Council. Hereafter every first Friday will be observed in the same manner.

The Communion Mass was celebrated at 8 o'clock in the Auditorium of the Academy, and at the conclusion of the Mass breakfasts were served to the students in the Cafeteria. The students went to confession on the previous evening in their own parish churches. Classes were so arranged that groups of students were in constant adoration before

the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day. At 2:30 in the afternoon the Rev. Charles F. Shay, rector of the Cathedral, gave Benediction and preached a sermon that was most inspiring and helpful to the students.

The officers of the Students' Spiritual Council are as follows: President, Sara Maher; secretary, Frances Reynolds; treasurer, Mary Peters; counsellors, Betty Nash, Betty McNamara and Katherine Blind. The president acted for the Council in obtaining from Bishop O'Hern the great privilege of observing the first Friday of each month in the above manner.

**St. Nicholas Church Social On December 15**

On Sunday evening, December 15, from 7 to 10:30 o'clock, a social will be conducted in St. Nicholas' Church, corner Leo and Remington streets. Turkish coffee and Oriental sweets will be served. The proceeds of the social will be used to help furnish the parish house.

The Rev. Raphael Gedah is pastor of St. Nicholas' Church, which was erected a few months ago by the Syro-Melchites of the city. The congregation is not a large one, but the church does a great deal of splendid work for its people, and is well worthy of any assistance that can be given it by the Catholics of the city.

Father Gedah is hopeful that there will be a large crowd present at the social on the 15th, to enjoy the Turkish coffee and the Oriental sweets, and to help him in the excellent work he and his people are doing for the Syro-Melchites of Rochester and vicinity.

**St. Augustine's Rosary Supper December 10th**

Next Tuesday evening the Rosary Society of St. Augustine's Church will serve its annual supper in the school hall, beginning at 5:30, and continuing until everybody has been served. This annual supper always attracts capacity crowds for the ladies serve an unusually the supper at nominal cost, and give courteous attention to all patrons.

The supper is open to everybody, men, women and children, and a record crowd is expected to attend on Tuesday evening.

**To Present Play In Nurses' Home December 12-13**

Under the auspices of the Blessed Clet Unit there will be presented "The Divine Reward," a dramatization concerning the life of the Venerable Catherine Labouré, the Sister favored to receive from the Blessed Virgin the mission to spread the Miraculous Medal. The play will be under the direction of Miss Lochner, one of Rochester's favorite actors. He will also take a leading part in the play, together with Doris Finnegan, who is taking the role of the Venerable Sister Catherine.

Others taking part are Ethel Serca, Albin Luteski, Celia Bailey, Fred Kraus, Charles Foss, Doris Meiser, Mary Bailey, Magdalene Sheridan, Catherine Bailey, Helen Renais, Betty Miller, Dolores Knuth, Marion Schaefer, Jennie Marino, Lois Finnegan and Teresa Bogy.

The play will be put on at the Nurses' home of St. Mary's Hospital, Genesee Street, on the evenings of December 12th and 13th. Admission fifty cents.

**Genesee Institute Badly In Need Of Desk and Victrola**

Genesee Institute, a splendid welfare institution conducted by the Diocese of Rochester, is badly in need of an office desk and a Victrola. Frank J. Lyons, manager of the Institute, will be glad to call personally for either of these gifts. If the donors will call him on Stone 4839.

Genesee Institute does welfare work for boys and girls, and the Victrola is for the building maintained for girls. The office desk is for the office of the institution, and any good second-hand desk, or even a new one, will be welcomed. The institution is limited in its funds and must depend to some extent upon the generosity of its friends for supplies and equipment.

**Nazareth Hall Founded**

In May, 1884, the Community purchased the property on Lake Avenue, known as the Pritchard estate, which consisted of a magnificent stone residence, two tenement houses and 72 acres of ground. On the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, July 19, 1884, the house was solemnly blessed by the Bishop and was given the name of Nazareth Hall. This was the beginning of the present Nazareth Hall Academy for boys.

In 1889, at the request of the Hon. Thomas Raines, the Sisters began weekly religious instructions at the State Industrial School, then located on the present site of Exposition Park. When the school was removed to its new location, at Industry, the Sisters' connection with the institution was severed.

By 1890 the Rochester Community had grown from the original 12 members to 150, and the educational work entrusted to them included 20 parochial schools, two orphanages, one industrial school, and two private schools, Nazareth Academy for girls and Nazareth Hall for boys.

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no financial advantage in this arrangement, but the moral and intellectual gain was so great, inasmuch as it proved that the young parochial schools were not afraid to face the sternest competition with the old, well-equipped and well-financed public schools. Moreover, the State supervision, the State revisions and decisions on class work, lifted a great burden from the shoulders of priests and religious and effectively forestalled any possible accusation of "partiality."

**Sisters Sent Abroad to Study**  
 The Rochester Community was less than a decade organized when the Bishop put into effect his long-conceived plan of sending Sisters abroad for more efficient training. Accordingly several young religious were successfully sent to the famous normal school of Bruges, Belgium, conducted by the Ladies of St. Andre. Sisters were also sent to Germany and Italy for the study of languages, art and music.

In the December of 1880, the Bishop sent a distinguished visitor to Nazareth in the person of Lady Alice Seymour, a writer and former mistress of English to the children of the Archducal family of Austria. Later on the illustrious lady gave a course in vocal training and music to the Sisters. Lady Alice Seymour was the daughter of George Russell lives of New York and the niece of Bishop Ives, the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop in the United States to become a Catholic layman. A distinguished pianist, she had once played at a musical given by the Abbe Litzl in Vienna in such a manner as to receive the highest commendation. Her gift was known to the Bishop at Nazareth was that of the lady, the scholar and the true Christian gentlewoman.

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(To be Continued.)

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