

## St. Andrew's History Spans Colorful Years

### Founded in Stable in 1870, Seminary Opens Million-Dollar School

St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary currently moving into its fifth home in eighty years of invaluable service to the Diocese of Rochester, was started by a Bishop who was once an orphan boy, and held its first classes in a stable.

The colorful history of this important diocesan institution is clear evidence of the truth of the old adage, "great oaks from little acorns grow."

Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, founder of the Diocese of Rochester, opened St. Andrew's Seminary with twelve students on September 15, 1870.

FINDING A PLACE for this infant school had posed a problem but the enterprising Bishop solved it by ordering the stable for horses in the rear of his own house on Frank Street to be renovated for classroom use.

This transformed stable was not very imposing, but the orphan-boy Bishop was proud of it. He had a seminary of his own.

Within ten years Bishop McQuaid was able to build a small new seminary building to which an extra wing was later added. This second structure, also erected in the rear of the Bishop's House was a decidedly humble affair according to present day standards.

THE DIOCESE was growing rapidly and in 1884 a new seminary building was erected on Frank Street (now known as Plymouth Avenue North) and adjacent to the Bishop's House.

This red-brick building, best known to the present generation of diocesan priests, also passed from the scene when all the Cathedral properties, including the seminary, were sold to the Eastman Kodak Company in the Spring of 1937.

That September St. Andrew's was established at the corner of Plymouth Avenue North and Brown Street in the old Catholic High School which following the establishment of Aquinas Institute on Dewey Avenue has become St. Patrick's parochial school.

DETAILS OF the early history of St. Andrew's are somewhat shrouded in the mists of time but an interesting bit of information reveals that the first school was originally called St. Patrick's Seminary, and this apparently because it was situated in the shadow of the diocesan Cathedral of St. Patrick.

Early official records also refer to it as the "Latin School" and "The Catholic Classical School."

The designation however, of St. Andrew's Seminary appears in the Catholic Directory of 1890, indicating that the choice of Christ's First Apostle as the Patron of the little Seminary was made some time during the first decade of the school's existence.

In making his decision to place his Minor Seminary under the spiritual protection of St. Andrew, Bishop McQuaid was presumably influenced by the fact that St. Justus, founder of the famous Diocese of Rochester, England, had dedicated his Cathedral under the patronage of St. Andrew.

This suggests that the Bishop wished to establish a relationship between his young Diocese of Rochester in America and the Old World Diocese of Rochester, which is honored in history by the deeds of St. Justus and St. John Fisher.

THE SOURCE OF Bishop McQuaid's determination to establish at any cost a preparatory seminary for the training of his priests can be found in the wise recommendations of the Council of Trent.

Some could and some did, question the necessity of having a preparatory or minor seminary; but the Bishop of Rochester was on solid ground and could confound his critics with these authoritative directions from the Council of Trent:

"The age of youth unless, it be rightly trained, is prone to follow after the pleasures of the world; and unless it

### Program for Dedication

Following is the program for the four-day dedication ceremonies of the new St. Andrew's Seminary building:

Wednesday, Nov. 29

8 A. M. — Consecration of Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel and Altar by His Excellency Bishop Kearney. A relic of St. Andrew will be placed in the marble altar stone at the time of consecration.

Thursday, Nov. 30

10 A. M. — Pontifical Mass of Dedication. His Excellency Bishop Kearney will be celebrant and will preach the sermon. His Excellency Bishop Walter A. Foery of Syracuse and priests of Rochester and Syracuse Diocese will be present. A luncheon for the clergy will follow.

Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 1-3  
Afternoons — Public Inspection of new Seminary Building.

St. Andrew's Seminary is located on Buffalo Road, on the west side of Rochester. The property is on the north side of the road, approximately three miles west of St. Mary's Hospital, about half way between the Barge Canal and Howard Road. A new 16-foot-wide macadam roadway into the Seminary property has been installed, lighted by mercury lamps, and there is ample parking space on the grounds.

be formed from its tender years, unto piety and religion, before habits and vice have taken possession of the whole man, it never will perfectly, and without the great help of Almighty God, percut and well nigh special severe in ecclesiastical discipline."

Even the establishment of the Minor Seminary under his own watchful eye and almost on the doorstep of his Cathedral was not a decision of personal whim or fancy on the part of the first Bishop of Rochester.

"WE MUCH PREFER," he writes, "that the young candidates for the Theological Seminary should receive their preparatory training under our eye and care, and with all the advantages to be derived from participating in the religious services and functions of our Cathedral."

In this the Bishop was only reflecting the mind of the Church herself who suggests that schools for the educating of boys and young men in the service of the altar be set up in close proximity to Cathedral Churches.

The first rector of St. Andrew's Seminary was Monsignor Hippolyte DeRogge,



ST. ANDREW'S SEMINARY READY FOR DEDICATION ON THURSDAY, NOV. 30, WILL PROVIDE SIX-YEAR COURSE OF STUDIES FOR 225 STUDENTS

distinguished churchman and Chancellor of the Diocese in those early days.

This distinguished churchman devoted his time and talents to the young institution and contributed most generously to its upkeep and improvement from his own personal funds.

HE WAS succeeded by another Chancellor of the Diocese, Monsignor Michael J. Nolan, who held the rector-

ship of St. Andrew's from 1905 until his retirement in 1929. The personal holiness of his own life has borne immeasurable fruit in the priestly lives of the young men whom he trained and guided.

The high standards of priestly life fostered by Monsignor Nolan are to this day one of the richest traditions in the history of the little seminary.

Monsignor Nolan was succeeded by the Rev. Francis Luddy, a member of the facul-

ty and now pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Rochester.

An experienced educator, Father Luddy set himself to the task of improving the academic standards of the seminary so that its students might receive the best that modern scholarship can provide.

UNDER HIS supervision modern libraries and laboratories were installed and the course of studies was separated.

(Continued on Page 20)



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