

Sisters of St. Joseph Seek Vocations For Service In Diocese

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester gladly welcome apostolic young women into their ranks. The call goes out for many, many more Sisters of St. Joseph to assist in extending the frontiers of the Kingdom of Christ. Girls and young women who feel called to this apostolic community are invited to communicate with: Reverend Mother Rose Miriam, S.S.J., Nazareth Motherhouse, Brighton Station, Rochester 10, N. Y.

No American diocese could carry on its many works of Christian charity and education without the invaluable aid of the religious communities of women. The Diocese of Rochester is fortunate in being served by 1500 Sisters belonging to fifteen societies. One of these, the Sisters of Mercy, belongs in an altogether special way to "the Home Front" since its entire membership is employed within the diocese.

The community possessing the largest number of houses within the diocese is the Sisters of St. Joseph. This particular community needs no introduction to the people of the Diocese of Rochester. As the familiar habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph is known and loved by all. Not only do these Sisters carry on their work of education and charity throughout the Rochester areas but they are also to be

found in the neighboring diocese of Syracuse as well as in the deep south in the diocese of Mobile.

45 Schools

At the present time the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose Motherhouse is located in Pittsford, conduct 45 parochial schools in the Rochester diocese, one in Syracuse and one in the diocese of Mobile. Beside the vitally important work of staffing the many parish schools the Sisters have established and conduct the following institutions in the diocese of Rochester and Mobile: Nazareth College for the higher education of women, Nazareth Academy, St. Agnes High School, DeSales High School, Geneva, Nazareth Hall, Nazareth Model School, St. Joseph's Villa, St. Ann Home for the Aged, St. Joseph Hospital, Elmira, Good Samaritan Hospital, Selma, Alabama. To staff these various institutions there are at present 800 Sisters affiliated with the Rochester Motherhouse.

The first foundation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the United States was made at Carondelet, a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri. From the original band sent from France by Mother Fontbonne, the Second Foundress of the community, in 1836 the congregation has grown until it now embraces five provinces in the United



St. Joseph Sisters walking from Mother House Chapel following solemn ceremonies marking their reception as members of the St. Joseph Community.

States plus 23 independent Motherhouses, including the Rochester community. The total membership in the United States is about 15,000.

Diocesan Nuns

The early history of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester antedates the actual establishment of the diocese, which took place in 1868. Towards the close of the Civil War, Bishop Timon of Buffalo

whose jurisdiction then included the city of Rochester, sent three sisters of the Buffalo community to Rochester to open an asylum for soldiers' orphans.

Following the division of the diocese of Buffalo and the establishment of that of Rochester, which the Right Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, D.D. was first bishop, the Sisters of St. Joseph in the diocese were established as a diocesan com-

munity of episcopal jurisdiction of which Mother Stanislaus Leary was first Superior.

From an original band of three, these Sisters have increased to 800 members who have given lavishly to the educational and charitable program of the diocese. For the better part of a century they have labored courageously and sacrifically for the Catholic youth of the Diocese of Rochester.

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