

Notre Dame Nuns, St. Joseph's Commercial School Set Anniversary Celebrations Oct. 17 to 23



MEMBERS OF FACULTY of St. Joseph's Commercial School, Rochester, marking its 10th Anniversary together with the Centenary of the coming of the School Sisters of Notre Dame to Rochester, Oct. 17 to 23. Standing (from left) Redemptorist Fathers, Very Rev. Gerald J. Whelan, C.S.S.R., and Rev. John J. Crowell, C.S.S.R.; seated (from left) Sister M. Cyril, S.S.N.D.; Sister Herbert Marie, S.S.N.D.; Sister Mary Johanna, S.S.N.D.; Sister Francis Borgia, S.S.N.D. (Advance Graphic Photo Service).



Two hundred students at St. Joseph's Commercial School, Franklin St., Rochester, will mark the Golden Anniversary of their school at special ceremonies this coming week. Notre Dame Sisters who conduct the school are also observing at this time the Centennial Jubilee of their coming to Rochester.

Nuns Pioneered In City Schools

Over seventy-five School Sisters of Notre Dame in seven Rochester area parishes will mark their community's centennial of service in the diocese Oct. 23, 1954.

When Rochester was still an infant city, the School Sisters of Notre Dame came here to begin their devoted and outstanding work of teaching the children in the first parochial schools of this area. In October of 1854, the Redemptorist Fathers at St. Joseph's Church invited these nuns to assist them in the spiritual development of their parish. Reverend Mother Caroline, foundress of the Notre Dame community in America, brought two Sisters to Rochester and began classes for 18 girls on Oct. 17, 1854.

The Rochester area was still at that time under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Buffalo and he came on the feast of the Immaculate Conception to dedicate the Sisters' Convent Chapel and encourage them in their pioneering apostolate.

Succeeding years noted a steadily increasing enrollment. By 1861, 762 children attended the school. In addition to the school at St. Joseph's, the Notre Dame Sisters were also teaching

in other parishes of the city, such as Holy Family, Holy Redeemer, and St. Peter and Paul's. Highest registration at St. Joseph's came in 1867 when the total reached 1,058. Hudson Ave. and Elmwood Ave. were at that time country roads but the city was rapidly expanding into these areas. New parishes relieved the busy downtown parish, and school enrollments declined gradually.

From 1861 until 1900, the Brothers of Mary from Dayton, Ohio, conducted the boys' classes at the school, while the nuns instructed the girls.

In 1861, work was begun to build an orphanage on Andrews St. and was twice enlarged and each time soon filled to capacity. This orphanage continued to care for neglected and needy children until 1938, when the group of 18 children was transferred to the St. Joseph's Villa on Dewey Ave.

OUTSTANDING NUNS who are remembered for their educational and civic leadership are Sister M. Petra who came to St. Joseph's in 1893 and Sister M. Ludolph in 1899.

At the turn of the century, the

Business School Started To Aid Working Teenagers

St. Joseph's Commercial School, Rochester, this Sunday observes its fiftieth year of providing a business education permeated with Christian principles. Organized at the turn of the century, when many elementary school graduates could afford neither the time nor money for a four-year high school course, St. Joseph's offered a brief introductory course in basic commercial subjects. It was at first established simply as a Commercial Department of St. Joseph's parish school, under the direction of Sister M. Perfecta. Until about ten years ago, boys as well as girls attended it, but increased enrollments and limited facilities necessitated making it an all-girl school.

Eighteen students enrolled in the first class in 1904, and now nearly a hundred are graduated each year.

St. Joseph's Commercial School in Rochester was one of the first attempts at a business education in this area. In 1904, most grade school graduates immediately began the task of trying to make a living in the highly competitive business world. Those who had some training were obviously more likely to succeed, but there were few schools with any courses adapted to such a

need. Courses in shorthand, book-keeping, typing, commercial law, business English, etc., were offered at St. Joseph's for one year.

As State and Federal Laws restricted employment of minors, and required longer schooling, St. Joseph's extended its courses to include two years.

Succeeding Sister Perfecta was Sister Mary Jude who continued to teach business subjects at Malden, Mass.

In 1910, Sister Ludolph was appointed to St. Joseph's and she is well remembered by many business men and office workers of the city to this day. In addition to the regular class subjects, she also directed dramatic performances, oratorical contests, and deepened the spiritual program at the school. She also developed a keener business acumen in the students and continued as a teacher until 1951, despite the inevitable weakness that comes with age.

Sister Francis Borgia came to the faculty in 1951 and Sister Mary Edward in 1946. Another teacher, Sister Edward also came in 1946 to assist in the ever increasing enrollment.

At this time, the school was refurnished, new lights installed, and the latest automatic office equipment purchased.

COURIER-JOURNAL
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St. Mary Guild, Fairport, To Mark 10th Anniversary

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will be guest of honor and principal speaker at the 10th anniversary banquet of St. Mary Guild, Church of the Assumption, Fairport, Oct. 20. The affair will be held at 7 p.m. at Hotel Rochester.

Joining Bishop Kearney and guests will be the Rev. James T. Wood, pastor-emeritus, who was pastor of the church when the Guild was organized; the Rev. Leonard A. Kelly, pastor; and the Rev. Vincent P. Collins, assistant pastor.

THE GUILD also will honor the five priests, who have served as advisors in its church work projects. They include: The Rev. Edward P. Dempsey, first spiritual advisor; the Rev. John J. Neich, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Auburn; 1st Lt. Joseph Natale, chaplain of the 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, N. C.; the Rev. Nicholas Alletto, assistant pastor of St. Anthony Church, Elmira; and the Rev. Ignatius St. George, assistant pastor of Holy Apostles Church, Rochester.

Founded by Miss Anne Gliden to promote the welfare of the parish and assist in church activities, the Guild has increased its membership rolls in the past 10 years from 50 to 228. Present with Mrs. Beth Afterdick and officers include: president, Mrs. Mrs. Ada Smith as cochairman.

Walter Phillips, vicepresident, Mrs. John Delaney and Mrs. Frank Pittman; secretary, Mrs. Earl Graham; and treasurer, Mrs. Arthur Dailey.

Mrs. Arthur Keefe has been named banquet chairman. Her aides are: program, Mrs. Edward Cary; tickets, Mrs. Charles Kenney and Mrs. Colin Murray; and transportation, Mrs. John Kenney and Mr. Donald Walzer.

Tureen Supper Set By Rosary Society

St. Jerome Parish Rosary Society will hold a tureen supper on Thursday, Oct. 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All women of the parish are invited and asked to bring her own table service and a dish to pass.

A program appropriate to the Marian Year has been planned. Cochairmen are Mrs. E. J. O'Brien and Mrs. T. Mancuso. The monthly Communion breakfast membership rolls will be held Sunday, Oct. 24, years from 50 to 228. Present with Mrs. Beth Afterdick and officers include: president, Mrs. Mrs. Ada Smith as cochairman.

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