LAST WEEK'S PAID CIRCULATION 48,745

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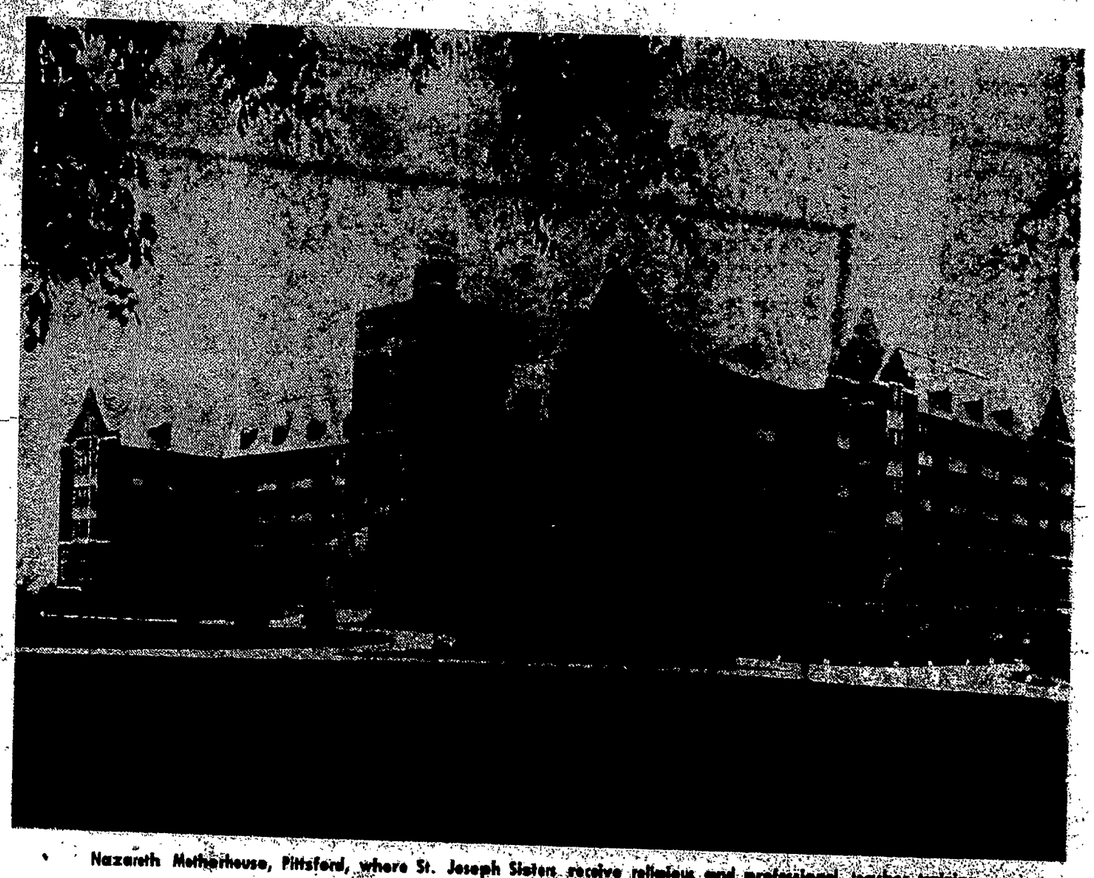
St. Joseph Sisters 100 Years In Area

Diocesan Sisterhood Was Organized At Canandaigua In 1854,

Congregation Will Observe Century Of Labor On Next December 8th



Nazareth Motherhouse, Pittsford, where St. Joseph Sisters receive religious and professional teacher training.

A CENTURY IN review! The very sound of the phrase suggests at once color, action, work, sacrifice, and loyalty. It is against such a background that on December 8th of this year the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Diocese of Rochester will commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of their advent to this region of New York State which now embraces the See of Rochester. This Congregation is the living epitome of Diocesan history as is evident from the fact that it antedates the foundation of the Diocese itself.

Challenged by the events which have transpired within a century, the casual observer may be tempted to ask in all sincerity, "How did it happen?"

If the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph has been blessed and made prosperous, it is by no mere accident. Rather, it is the result of a long and steady growth from roots which run deep into blessed soil.

It was on the feast of the great St. Teresa in the year 1650 that the first small band of the Sisters of Saint Joseph received from the hands of their venerable founders, Monsignor de Maupas and Father John Medaille, the habit which has become so familiar to us in the Rochester Diocese.

Father Medaille had met a number of zealous women while engaged in the apostolate of preaching. These were eager to devote themselves to the religious life, while at the same time they shared his own wish for an active order which would devote itself to the welfare and service of humanity.

The desire to form such a congregation which would replace the service of the Visitation Sisters who had now embraced enclosure led Monsignor de Maupas to enter eagerly into the proposed plans of Father Medaille.

Thus the three vows of religion became the foundation stones of this new community, while the practice of humility and charity would produce the spirit characterizing the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

After the first Sisters had been received, they were entrusted with the care of the orphanage of LePuy, their place of foundation. Other establishments followed rapidly and today everywhere the Sisters of Saint Joseph are engaged in the instruction of youth, the care of the sick and aged, and in procuring for their neighbor all the spiritual and temporal helps of which he stands in need.

Early in the history of the Congregation, the Sisters of Saint Joseph were called upon to manifest a courage born of a strong faith. From the time of the French Revolution in 1790 down to the present mission efforts, these Sisters have exposed themselves to hardships with a bravery that the fainthearted might call rashness.

The history of the Congregation in the United States dates back to the year 1836 when Bishop Rosati of St. Louis asked Mother St. John Fontbonne, who was then the Superior General in Lyons, to send missionaries to America.

Complying with this request, the first Sisters arrived in the winter of 1836 on the Feast of the Annunciation. They were greeted in New Orleans by Father John Timon who was later to become Bishop Timon of Buffalo, New York, under whom the first Sisters of Saint Joseph came to Canandaigua.

This city was then within the Diocese of Buffalo.

THE beginning of the work of the Sisters of Saint Joseph at Canandaigua in 1854 was the first of a series of steps by which the Congregation has become identified with the growth of the Rochester Diocese. As we view the present areas of their labor, our imaginations behold a period in which this entire area was a country land, sparsely populated by Catholics.

The Sisters' first efforts in Canandaigua resulted in the opening of a boarding school for girls, an orphanage, and a community novitiate. In addition, they conducted a free school for children who would otherwise be deprived of Catholic education.

New candidates presented themselves and in 1857, three received the habit — the first Sisters of Saint Joseph to receive the habit in New York State. Among these aspirants to religious life was one who was later to figure largely in the history of the Congregation. This was Mother Stanislaus Leary who became the first General Superior of the Sisters of Saint Joseph when the Congregation became formally identified with the newly-erected Diocese of Rochester in 1868.

It was at the request of Bishop McQuaid that these Sisters undertook to devote themselves fully to the needs of the Church in his Diocese. From that time on, the variety of their labors in this Diocese has been in full accord with the primitive spirit of their founders—to labor in the instruction of children, to care for the sick, to render every service implied by the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Many guideposts along the century are represented by dates in the history of the Rochester Congregation. To many Catholics who have come under their benevolent guidance and care, some of these dates must stand out as a light and an inspiration:

The opening in Rochester of the first Nazareth Convent and Academy on Jay and Frank Streets, which is now Plymouth Avenue North, was in 1871. Simultaneous events of that same year included the establishment of a parochial school system marked by the opening also in Rochester of the Cathedral and the Immaculate Conception Schools. From that period on, the Sisters were called upon to meet the teaching needs of newly erected schools.

1882 marks the beginning of the superiorship of Reverend Mother Agnes Hines at which time the Sisters of Saint Joseph were staffing twelve parochial schools. Three orphan asylums and the Home of Industry begun by Mother Hieronymo were under Community leadership. Nazareth Hall for boys followed in two years.

By 1893 Rochester was celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the erection of the Diocese of Rochester, and the Sisters of Saint Joseph were now engaged in many of the thirty-four parochial schools.

ADAPTING itself to local need, in 1906 the Sisters of Saint Joseph opened Nazareth Normal School for the training of Sister-teachers. Since that time, religious from many sections of the United States and Canada have received their teacher education under the direction of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

In 1906, the opening of St. Ann's Home for the Aged which presently houses some two hundred guests was an additional field of endeavor for the Community.

1908 marks the beginnings of St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira, New York, under the auspices of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. At the present time, St. Joseph's ranks as a modern and fully-equipped hospital and school of nursing. This same year witnessed the opening of the New Nazareth Hall Academy for Boys in Rochester.

By 1912 there was need for a high school in Geneva. De Sales High School was opened and has since been staffed by Sisters of Saint Joseph. A similar need in Elmira was met by the Sisters who have served Elmira Catholic High School since its beginning.

In 1921 Mother Sylvester was elected third General Superior of the Congregation. Under her leadership was built the new Nazareth Motherhouse in Pittsford. There were sixty-five parochial schools in the Diocese of Rochester by the close of the year 1922. Besides these, diocesan history records three high schools, three academies for young women, a private school for boys, and two seminaries.

The foundation of Nazareth College in 1924 on the Rouse property located at 981 Lake Avenue marked Rochester's first Catholic college. The present beautiful buildings in Pittsford were completed in 1942.

THE year 1930 saw Mother Rose Miriam elected fourth General Superior of the Congregation. Under her guidance the Selma mission in Alabama began in 1940. At the present time, there are nine Sisters in Selma whose missionary activities include teaching, nursing and catechetical instruction.

Mother Rose Miriam supervised the erection of the new Nazareth College buildings which include the three main buildings and Medaille Residence Hall. Within the same term, Saint Agnes High School was opened and was fully accredited in 1944. With the expansion of Nazareth Academy, the new wing was dedicated in 1940. Meanwhile the needs of the parochial schools were being met consistently.

1950 recalls the celebration of the Tercentenary of the foundation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph at LePuy in France. The story of three centuries was depicted at home and abroad. Community representatives attended the celebration at LePuy, while parishes and diocesan institutions portrayed the colorful events in the history of the Congregation as it has unfolded in the Diocese of Rochester.

REVEREND Mother Helene was elected the 8th General Superior of the Congregation in 1951. Under her leadership, the new Saint Agnes High School seems to complete a cycle in which we find symbolized the singular courage which was manifested by those early Daughters of Saint Joseph whose sole ambition was to care for God's children.

As the Congregation looks down from its pyramid of years, it turns but momentarily to evaluate the events of a completed century knowing that the remembrance of the past might well be its teacher of the future. In retrospect, it pauses to say of its brave past, "He that is mighty hath done great things to me."

Realizing that anniversaries lend themselves both to retrospect and to forecast, the Sisters of Saint Joseph look forward to plan still greater things which they pray may be accomplished in the same simple spirit of humility and charity.

Propagation Of Faith Report

Diocese Donated $282,549.70 To Missions In 1953

Catholics of the Diocese of Rochester provided $282,549.70 in funds for support of the Church's worldwide mission apostolate during 1953, according to the annual report of Monsignor John S. Randall, diocesan director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. In the year 1952, diocesan contributions to the missions totalled $264,700.24.

Monsignor Randall issued the 1953 Propagation of the Faith report on the eve of the 1954 annual Mission Collection which will be taken this Sunday (Oct. 24) in all churches of the diocese. He also pointed out that Mission Sunday contributions last year amounted to $73,502.50.

In a letter to the people of the diocese, His Excellency Bishop Kearney cited generosity to the Missions as "one of our finest traditions." The letter, read in all churches last Sunday, appealed for "spiritual and material help" for the modern apostles who serve the Church in mission areas.

THE BISHOP specifically requested a Mission Sunday contribution "twice as large as last year" as a tribute to the Mother of God during this year especially dedicated to her.

The Mission Sunday collection and other monetary gifts received during the year by the Propagation of the Faith Society are divided three ways, Monsignor Randall explained. He said that 51 percent of each dollar goes to foreign missions, 40 percent to home missions, and 9 percent to the Catholic Near-East.

MEMBERSHIPS in this Society are received on Mission Sunday. The Society has been termed the Pope's "Community Chest" for worldwide mission activities. Members receive Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's monthly illustrated magazine Mission.

Besides the Mission Sunday contributions, the 1953 report by Monsignor Randall also includes specially designated gifts amounting to $60,772.78. A total of $63,867.84 was realized through the Missionary Plan. This program allows each parish to give one collection each year to some one missionary society. The report also includes $17,502.50 provided through wills, and $21,554.55 in Mass Stipends distributed to missionary priests.

Children in the schools raised $26,583.19 through the Holy Childhood Association. Miscellaneous income amounted to $169.78.

MISSION REPORT

Details of the 1953 receipts and expenditures of the Diocesan Office of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith will be found in a special Mission Sunday supplement published with this issue of the Courier-Journal.

Mission Sunday Appeal — Oct. 24

My Dear People:

May I, once again, appeal to your generosity on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and its world-wide program of service.

Every day of the week some young man or woman in a missionary organization of our Church leaves home and country to carry the gospel of Christ into areas where the Holy Father has begged for the service of modern apostles. Their sacrifice would be a hopeless failure unless some one undertook to give the spiritual and financial help which they need for their work. On Mission Sunday the universal Church prays for these missionaries in millions of Masses over the world and asks also your prayers and your generous assistance in the Mission Collection for the Propagation of the Faith.

This year's collection comes during the Marian Year, a year dedicated to the special honor of the Mother of God. May I ask that, in her special honor, you give twice as large an offering next Sunday as you gave last year. Thus, you will be paying her a tribute of special devotion for her Marian Year and also helping to make her known to so many souls under the care of our missions who need so much her mother's care.

The generosity of our diocese to the Missions is one of our finest traditions. Let us preserve the honored tradition.

With grateful blessing, I am

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,
✠ James E. Kearney
Bishop of Rochester

P.S.: The Mission Collection is to be taken up at all the Masses on Sunday, October 24.

Newark Archbishop Receives Pallium In New Cathedral

Newark, N. J. — (NC) — The solemn and colorful ceremony of the presentation of the pallium to Newark's Archbishop Thomas A. Boland marked the formal opening of the newly completed Cathedral of the Sacred Heart here.

The rituals also marked the closing of the centennial year of the establishment of Newark as a diocese. It was given the status of a diocese in 1853 and raised to an archdiocese in [illegible].

The pallium, which is a symbol of the fullness of Archiepiscopal office, was conferred upon Archbishop Boland by His Excellency Amleto Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, who was the Solemn Pontifical Celebrant. Monsignor [illegible] was [illegible] James A. [illegible]

...fficer Receives ...ments In 5 Hours

Newfoundland S. Army officer Ernest Harmon ...epehenville has ...perience of re... ...ments within a ...e hours.

...uis G. Adams, ... was baptized, ... confession, received his First Holy Communion, and was confirmed and married sacramentally — all between 11 in the morning and four in the afternoon.

Not only the captain, but his four children were received into the Church at the same time. They were Peter, 9, Michael, 7, Kathy Louise 5, and Nancy, only 9 months. His wife, Betty Lou, who had been baptized a Catholic previously, received four of the Sacraments.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER being baptized, Capt. Adams made a conditional confession, and the marriage was performed. At noonday Mass, the captain made his First Holy Communion and at four o'clock he was administered the Sacrament of Confirmation by Bishop Michael O'Reilly of St. George.

Peter, the eldest son, was one among a group of 53 others to be confirmed in the Base chapel. They included military personnel and their dependents, officers and enlisted men. There were 43 adults, all of them converts to the Faith, and ten children.

...before the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The National Council of Catholic Women is affiliated with the world-wide organization.

Nothing will bring more cheer to a shut-in than a lovely Bouquet or a long lasting plant. Call Blanchard Florist, BAker 2481. Let them take care of it or drop in at 58 Lake Ave. Parking in rear.—Adv.

...tion—to become a nun.

The years of suffering, which began in babyhood when Julia McColgan, now 16, was pronounced a victim of "rheumatic fever," left her physically weak and tiny in proportion to other girls her age. But her faith is stronger than most and her smile has provided courage to many a bedside patient.

As her condition became steadily worse, she was sent to Atlantic City, N. J., and finally was sent to Philadelphia General Hospital. At the latter institution it was learned for the first time that the girl was not plagued by rheumatic fever but that she had holes in two sides of her heart.

A RARE OPERATION was called for—but the tiny girl was by that time too weak to undergo such a strain. The needed ...pal hospital's operating room, where she remained for four hours while the holes in her heart were drawn together by a surgeon's needle.

The heart became reduced in size almost immediately and doctors hope that soon it will be normal.

"If I become strong enough some day I'll be a Sister," Julia said. "I believe I will get strong."

George L. Stowe, now a candidate for Ohio state senator.

The new ordinance provides a stiffer penalty for the offender when the recipient of such literature is a minor and if contains a section obviously aimed at curbing horror and lust comics.

Necklaces, Brooches and Earring Sets. Williams S. Tempel, Jeweler. 310 Main St. E. BA. 2081.—Adv.