



New St. Agnes High School for girls opened during Centennial Year

New St. Agnes High School For Girls

Sisters of St. Joseph mark their centenary in diocese by opening \$2,100,000 school in Brighton Rochester area's most modern school provides auditorium, gym, facilities for 800 pupils

At the addition of the Sisters of St. Joseph to the secondary education of girls in the Rochester Diocese is the new \$2,100,000 St. Agnes High School, on East River Rd.

Dedicated on Sunday, Oct. 17, 1954 by His Excellency Bishop Kearney, the building replaced the former school at 376 Main St. E., now the site of St. Agnes Convent School. At the dedication Bishop Kearney said:

"The world at the present time is too apt to disregard the qualities of loyalty, humanity, obedience and gentleness which are the enduring virtues of women. Their vocations and responsibilities in public life may change, but the true nature of women does not. At this school we will attempt to educate ladies in the highest sense of the word."

Opened at the Main St. site in 1939 as the St. Agnes Conservatory of Music and Art, the school originally operated under the charter of Nazareth Academy. A separate charter was granted to St. Agnes High School by the Regents of the State of New York in April of 1944.

The new school will accommodate 800 pupils in 25 classrooms and special rooms and includes a gymnasium, cafeteria, auditorium, fully equipped laboratories and workshops. It is situated on a 37 acre plot in East River Rd.

Sister Leo Xavier, now a member of the DeSales High School, Geneva, faculty, acted as principal during the early years of the school. Sister Geraldine was the second principal, and during her administration from 1945 to 1951 the student body expanded in numbers and more teachers were added to the faculty. Sister Rose Alma has been principal since 1951, and the faculty now numbers 15.

From the very beginning, the curriculum of St. Agnes High School has emphasized academic subjects, but at the same time provided a limited number of elective subjects in the fields of business and social studies. The most recent addition is the Christian Family Living course.

Now that the Sisters of St. Joseph at the new high school have increased space and every modern facility, there will be almost unlimited opportunity for additional development of skills in home economics, business, physical education, speech, dramatics and art.

ACADEMICALLY, the Sisters of St. Joseph have given the students of St. Agnes a solid ground work. The number of scholarships, both those

granted by New York State and by private colleges, has been in good proportion to the number of students. Today there are 246 students enrolled under the capable guidance of the Sisters of St. Joseph at St. Agnes High School.

The contrast of the old St. Agnes High School on E. Main St. and the new school on East River Rd. may well symbolize the progress of the Sisters of St. Joseph who have seen education in the Diocese of Rochester in both its poorest and finest

days. The tremendous demands for teachers in the Diocese 100 years ago when facilities were poor brought the Sisters of St. Joseph to Rochester and through their years of effort have emerged the fine educational facilities we have today.

God bless you
Sisters of
ST. JOSEPH

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