



St. Joseph Sisters bring faith to Alabama

### Sisters' Mission In Alabama

SINCE A PERSON consecrated to the service of God has at heart the needs of the Church throughout the world, the Sisters of Saint Joseph in 1900 extended their services to include a mission for colored in Alabama. In September of that year five Sisters forming a pioneer band received their mission crosses from the hands of His Excellency Bishop Kearney and set forth to help the faithful of St. Edmund in the work of St. Elizabeth's Mission in the city of Selma.

The first work of the Sisters was in visiting the sick and providing for the needy by the distribution of used clothing and of food. Soon they were instructing women interested in the Catholic Church. Within a few



Friends in Deep South



Sister's pet

months a kindergarten class was formed as the nucleus of a school, and each year thereafter one grade was added. In 1925 the first group graduated from St. Elizabeth's School.

In the meantime, the corporal works of mercy kept pace with the instruction to the groups in the school rooms and to the individual catechumens. In 1943 the Sisters took over the Holy Infant Inn, establishing the Old Folks Home, and a year later accepted the supervision of Good Samaritan Hospital. That was the old hospital; it was in 1947 that the new 85-bed hospital was built to care for the colored in that area. The old folks from Holy Infant Inn were then moved into one wing of the hospital so that nursing care could be under one roof.

In 1950 a new venture was begun with the inauguration at Good Samaritan Hospital of a training school for practical nurses, the first in the State of Alabama. This program has proved very beneficial to the colored near and far. Its graduates, now 78 in number, readily secure employment in hospitals throughout the South. There are five Sisters of Saint Joseph assigned to the staff of Good Samaritan Hospital.

Early in 1953, a new school building, modern in every detail, was opened for classes. Four Sisters are teaching in St. Elizabeth's School. A flourishing Catholic parish now is the pride of St. Elizabeth's Mission.

## Hearty Congratulations To The Sisters of St. Joseph

on the celebration of their  
Centenary in Rochester...

Our very best wishes for  
another hundred years of  
faithful and distinguished  
service to our children and  
the homes of our community



### ALL AT THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Salute

with greatest appreciation

THE CENTENARY YEAR

of the

SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH