

Sister Georgianna

Nun Marks 60th Anniversary

By FRANK KELLY

Sixty years service to God and the Church!

This is the story of Sister Georgianna who celebrated her 60th anniversary as a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in November.

NOW LIVING IN SEMI-retirement at St. Boniface Convent, Rochester, Sister Georgianna is the former Antoinette Noeith of Rochester.

But her retirement is anything but that.

At St. Boniface's for the past 11 years, Sister Georgianna assists Sister M. Rosanna, her former pupil, in the running of the convent. Sister Rosanna is school principal at St. Boniface's Parish.

IN HER 80TH YEAR, Sister Georgianna has the spirit and vigor of a woman much younger. It was only an arthritic condition that caused her retirement from active teaching.

In her years as a School Sister of Notre Dame, Sister remembers her years teaching in New York City as among the most memorable in her life.

Assigned as a teacher at Assumption Church on West 49th St. in New York City in 1901, she had an experience that she will never forget.

"THIS WAS A GERMAN parish," she recalled, "and one of the families who were members of the parish had been afflicted with a steady run of tuberculosis.

One of the boys, Frank Ostermann, had to leave school at 11 because of the death of his father. A short time later, he expressed the desire to become a priest, but doubted that he could get into Cathedral High School, the diocesan preparatory seminary.

"The pastor of Assumption asked me to prep the Ostermann boy for the entrance examination and for one long, hot summer, he used to come to the convent every night to prepare for the exam.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, he passed the examination and went on to become a priest. Now Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis Ostermann, he will celebrate his 43rd anniversary as a priest next June," she said.

Sister Georgianna also recalls fondly the fact that she, later on, taught at a church school where the then Father Ostermann was an assistant pastor.

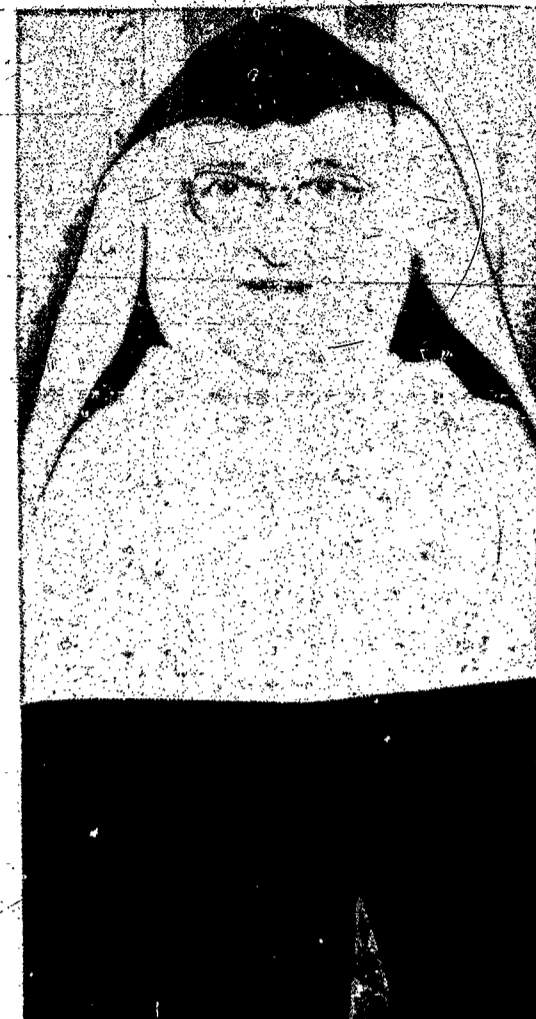
Sister was brought up in St. Joseph's parish, Rochester, and attended that parochial school before going into the convent.

In her career, she has taught in Maryland, where she was a novice, New York City, Buffalo and Rochester. Among her assignments in this diocese were at Sts. Peter and Paul's, Holy Redeemer and St. Boniface, all in Rochester, and Holy Ghost in Coldwater.

SHE WAS STATIONED in Maryland at the time of her 50th anniversary and among the great many friends who visited her on that occasion, were two of her former pupils at Assumption Parish in New York City. They were Monsignor Francis Ostermann and his brother, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Ostermann, who became a priest in the New York Archdiocese after being instructed by Sister Georgianna.

Sister said that teachers today have a much harder time than when she first started her teaching career.

"We didn't have to complete church ceremony. Tea chairman



SISTER GEORGIANNA

TO EMPHASIZE THIS point, Sister again referred to the Ostermann family in New York City. "The parents of this family both died before the eldest child was 20. The eldest daughter, Cecilia, only 17 at the time, became the mother of the family of eight children.

"In spite of her tender years, she was able to instill a sense of responsibility and obedience in her older and younger brothers and sisters that amazed us all. She, more than any one else, was the one responsible for her two younger brothers becoming priests, in spite of the poverty of the family.

"This is something that a person seldom sees in a normal family today," she concluded.

Winners Named Essay Contest

Watkins Glen — Daniel B. Stone was awarded first prize in the high school essay contest sponsored each year by the Rosary Altar Society of St. Mary of the Lake Church at a Gaudete Sunday tea, Dec. 14, held in the parish center.

Other award winners on the topic of Pope Plus XII were James Schimzki, Diane Granston and Louise Argetsinger.

The program opened with a reception of members in the church conducted by Rev. Benedict Ehrmann, pastor. Five Rosarians, Mesdames Lillian Ervey, Mary Lou Ruvalo, Alene Shannon, Mary Sullivan and Mary Vickie were formally received.

The tea was held after the church ceremony. Tea chairman

Father Schiefen Named Chancellor

Rev. Gerald S. Schiefen of Rochester, a member of the 1946 class of St. Bernard's Seminary is the new Chancellor of the Diocese of Miami, Fla. It was learned here this week.

Father Schiefen, who was appointed by Bishop Coleman F. Carroll, was vice chancellor of the Diocese of St. Augustine prior to the erection of the Miami diocese.

Infirmiry Drive Captains To Meet

Captains of teams in the Monroe County committee for the Sisters of St. Joseph Infirmiry-Novitiate appeal will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, in the Nazareth College cafeteria. It was announced this week by Gerald R. Barrett, committee chairman.

Teams are being organized among four groups of prospects, Barrett pointed out. They include relatives of the Sisters; alumnae, parent groups and the Nazareth College Guild and friends.

ADVANCED GIFTS solicitation will begin Jan. 29 and general solicitation Feb. 4. There also will be appeal committees organized throughout the remainder of the Diocese where the Sisters of St. Joseph staff parochial schools.

Since 1940, Mother Helene pointed out, the community has expended approximately \$5,500,000 for the erection and expansion of education facilities. Current indebtedness totals \$3,040,000, divided as follows: Nazareth College, \$1,422,100; St. Agnes High School, \$1,162,500; Nazareth Academy, \$500,000.

The income of the Sisters is admittedly small, the mother general concluded, and does not allow for savings — either for old age retirement or for capital expenditure.

IN A MESSAGE to committee-men, Mother Helene stressed the

St. Patrick's Cub Scouts Get Awards

Coming — Awards were presented to Cub Scouts at a Christmas party held recently in St. Patrick's school hall by parents and Cubs of Pack 91.

After an opening ceremony, led by assistant Cubmaster, Armond Darcangelo, a tree was decorated with ornaments and gifts. The Cub had made under the supervision of their den mothers and which were later presented to their parents.

CUBMASTER Fred Graham welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Patrick as guests and congratulated them on completion of their work with a Webelos den.

After a community sing of Christmas carols with William Wright at the piano, the following awards were presented:

Gold and Silver arrows on Wolf badge to Larry Comfort, Mark Mekus, and Terry Kiltner; two Silver Arrows on Wolf to Lester Brown, Bear daga and

Denner stripes to Steven Brady; Gold Arrow on Lion badge to Chris Mekus; Webelos daga to Ronald Kiltner; Gold Arrow on Bear to Paul Bennett; Wolf badge to Mark Bennett; Silver Arrow on Bear to right William Wright; Wolf on Bear to W. J. Wright; denner stripes to John Veary; Silver Arrow on Bear to Joseph Blazewick; Wolf badge to Ron Ed McTale.

SEVERAL STARS were presented to Steven Brady, David Scott, Chris Mekus, Mike Phillip, Ronald Kiltner, David Thompson, Stephen Miller, Michael Hanley, Gary Haynes, Lawrence Ferris, Paul Bennett, Chris Graham, William Wright, John Veary, Frank Coleman, Edward Hogan, John Horigan, Francis Kiltner, John Poland, David Lee, Ray Ward, Don Coest, and den mothers Mrs. Toh Coleman, Mrs. Ray Ward and Den Father Robert Coleman received registration cards.

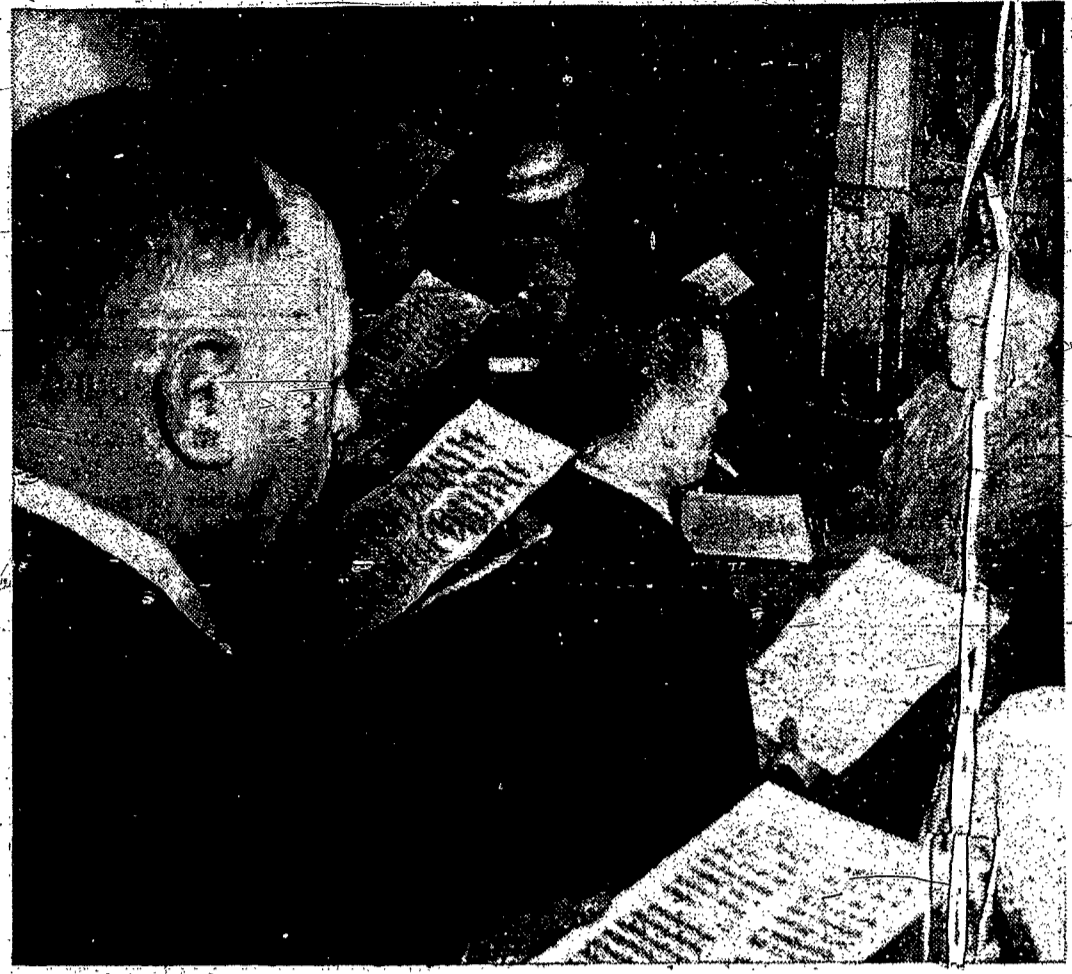
Chairman Frank Phillips announced that a new Boy Scout troop is now being started at St. Patrick's with Bernard Kiltner acting as cubmaster. At present six boys have registered but it is hoped there will be more recruits in the future. Don Gustina of the commissioner's staff was introduced.

FOR THE NEXT year, Armond Darcangelo will serve as cubmaster succeeding Fred Graham.

Phillips presented St. Patrick's parish with a gift as a token of the parish's appreciation for the use of their facilities during the course of the year. Father Cushing accepted the gift in behalf of Rev. William Tobin and spoke briefly of his pleasure at seeing the growth of a Cub Scout pack at St. Patrick's.

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PROFESSOR ROMEO Fracalanza directs sits at the organ. He came to Rochester in the choir at Corpus Christi Church as he November from Port Huron, Mich.

Venice To Rochester

Trip Took 12 Years

By LARRY PATRICK

Parishioners of Corpus Christi Church, Rochester, have music with a Venetian flourish, at the 11 a.m. Mass each Sunday.

The music is provided for them under the direction of Romeo Fracalanza, who came to Rochester by way of Venice in a round about way.

HOW HE ARRIVED in the Flower City from the City of Gondolas is an interesting one. Born in Padua, Professor Fracalanza studied at the conservatory of music in Venice. His list of teachers reads like a "who's who in European music."

Among his teachers were Ravennolo, a famed composer of church music; Fernando; German, head organist for the Papal choir, and John Francesco Malinero, also a liturgical composer.

LIVING IN ITALY at a time when Benito Mussolini ruled the land with an iron fist, Fracalanza wanted to come to this country but because of lack of funds and tight immigration quotas, he was unable to do so in the 1930's.

During the Second World War, Fracalanza served with the Italian Army where he was an artillery man. But, even there, he did not neglect his music.

He was stationed in Italy till

during the war and found the opportunity to organize and direct a band which performed for Italian soldiers home from the front.

AFTER THE WAR, he had an opportunity to go to Brazil and in 1945 he and his wife, Josephine, left for Sao Paulo, where he taught in the music conservatory and served as choirmaster in the cathedral in that city for eight years.

In 1954, he left Brazil for Saratoga, Canada — this time with his wife and daughter, Mary, now 10, who was born in that South American country.

After spending two years in Canada, he was befriended by an American priest from Port Huron, Michigan, who invited him to come to the United States to become choirmaster at Sacred Heart Church.

SEIZING THIS OPPORTUNITY, Fracalanza and his family entered this country, not as Italian immigrants, but as Canadian immigrants.

This is how this Padua-born musician was able to fulfill his life-long ambition.

"But, this is not the end of my ambition," he said. "As soon as I can, I will take out my citizenship papers."

Professor Fracalanza came to Rochester around the beginning of November after answering an

advertisement for an organist magazine.

R. REV. MON SIGNOR John E. Maney, administrator of Corpus Christi parish here was in need of a choirmaster and organist for his church.

After several interviews with the professor, Monsr. Maney decided that Fracalanza was the man to fill the post so the Fracalanza family packed once again. "This time for good, we hope," the professor said.

"There are several reasons I love this city already," he related. "I am much impressed with the high standards of music here and the people I have met are most friendly to my wife and children."

The Fracalanza's second child, Pierre Paul, was born seven months ago in Port Huron.

In addition to his work at Corpus Christi, the professor also will give private organ and piano lessons and hopes to give recitals as he did in Brazil and Italy.

AS IS COMMON with most serious music fans, he does not consider rock and roll music. "It is all rhythm without melody and music is composed of both melody and rhythm," he said.

He and his wife live at 413 Alexander St. in Rochester and his daughter, Mary, attends Corpus Christi school.

Parents Dilemma

Children Speak French

Parents of children of St. Thomas school, Irondequoit,

will have to start taking courses in French fairly soon, if they expect to speak with their children.

Cries of "Bon jour, mere et pere," greeted the arrival of the parents at a demonstration of classroom procedure in French that is being taught to third through eighth grade students at St. Thomas on Sunday.

SISTER MARY Caritas, R.S.M., demonstrated the procedure in teaching this foreign language. She has been teaching French on two levels since school started in September.

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Richard K. Burns, church pastor, commented on the value of studying a foreign language, especially in young pupils.

Other s who addressed the parents included Rt. Rev. Monsignor Charles V. Boyle, Diocesan superintendent of schools; Sister Mary Gregory, school principal, and Mother Mary Magdalene, Mother General of the Mercy order. Dr. Robert Gluffrida, philolo-

gist and language instructor at the University of Rochester, gave the class its best boost.

DOCTOR GIUFFRIDA told the children that "they have made remarkable progress in the study of French and that their pronunciation was very authentic."

The university professor also stressed the value of beginning a foreign language at an early age, and stated that language study makes a great contribution in broadening a child's horizon.

The classroom demonstration was conducted entirely in French and the class presented a playlet. The demonstration was closed with the singing of "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" and "O Holy Night" in French.

ST. THOMAS School is one of three parochial schools in the Diocese offering classes in elementary French. Sister Mary Celeste conducts a class at St. Louis school, Pittsford, and Sister Mary Grada conducts a similar class in St. Patrick's school, Elmira.

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