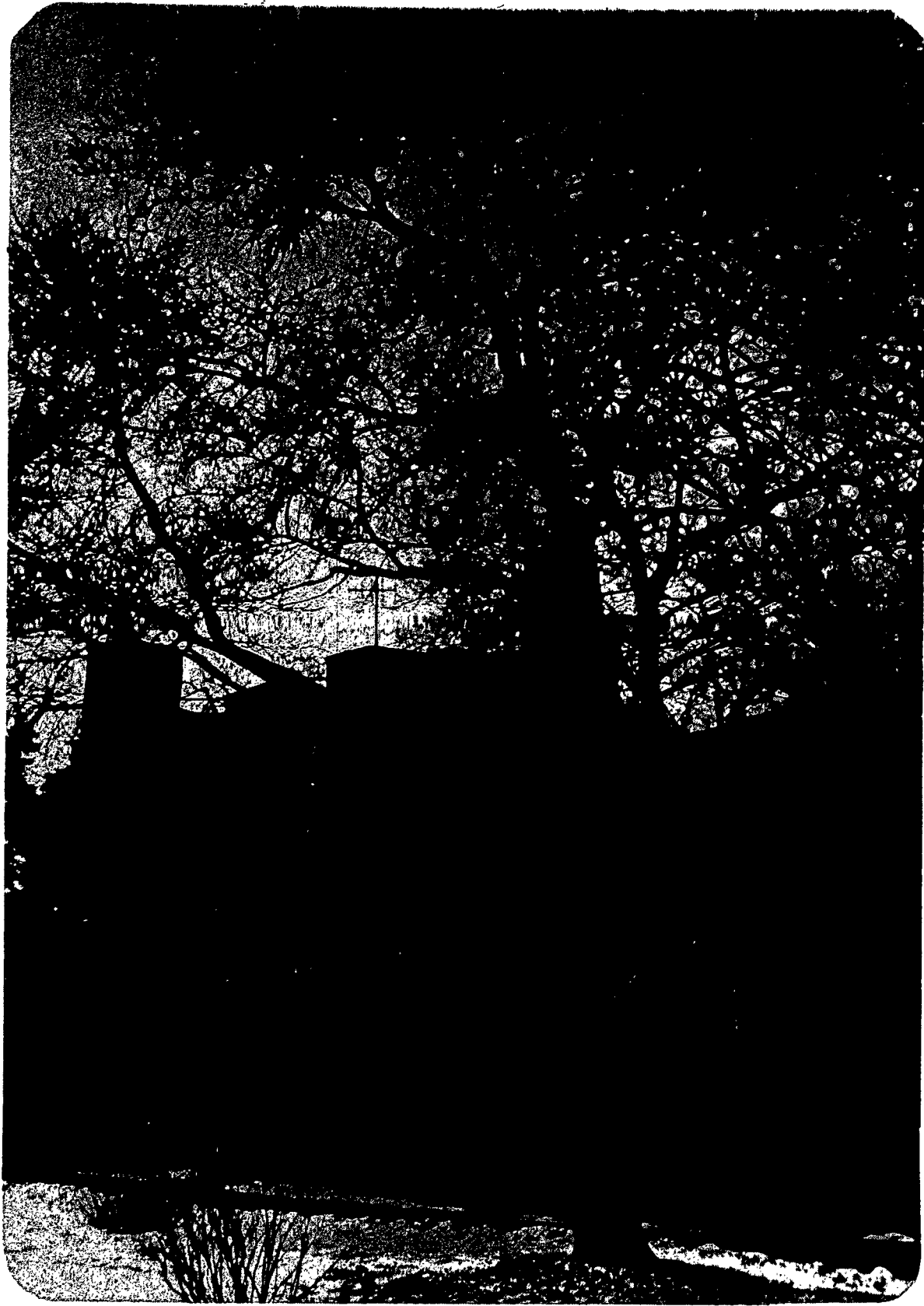


A Place to Get



The main building of Holy Angels Home, erected in 1930.

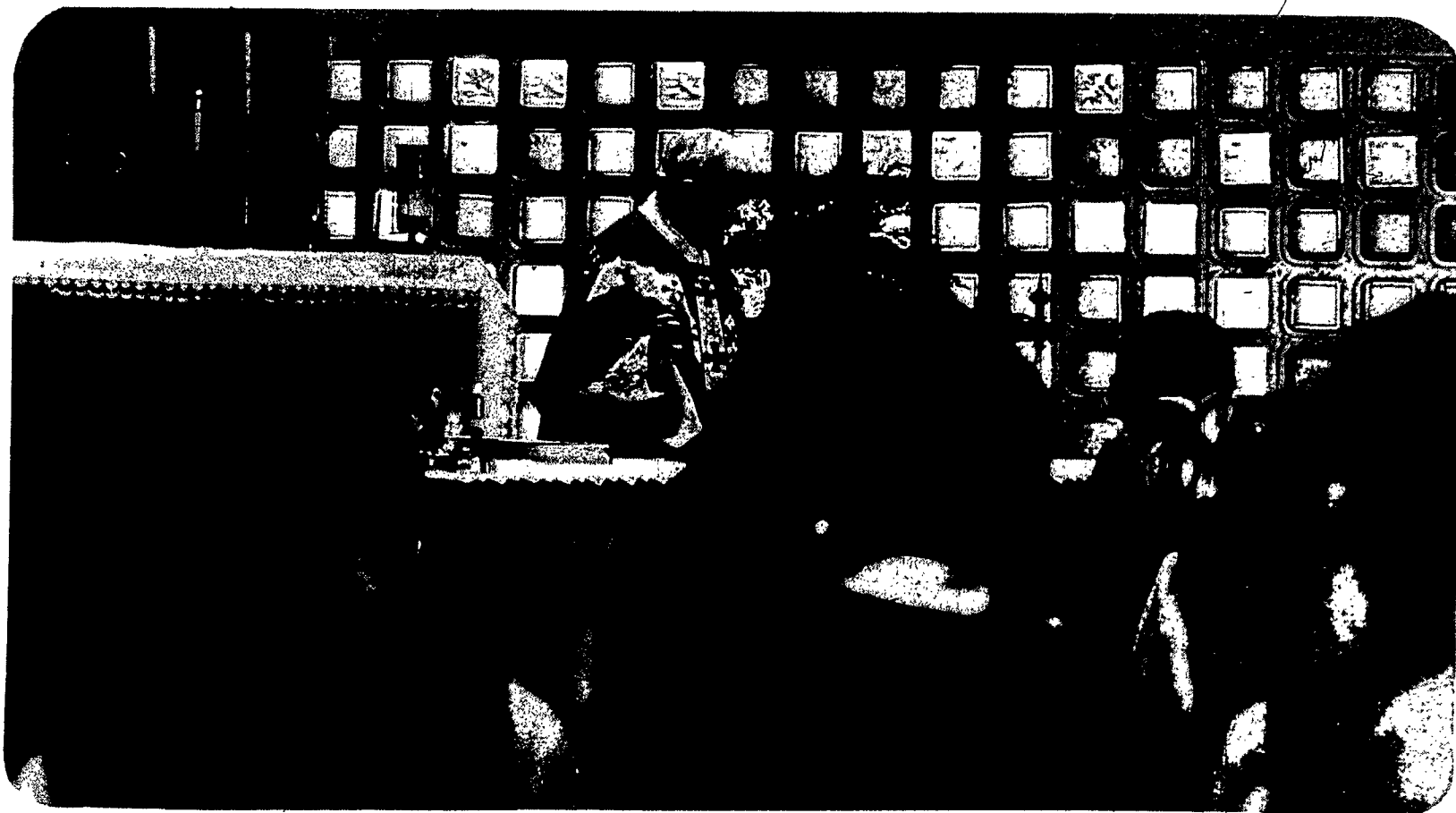
It's a good kind of work to be doing," were Sister Francis Nalley's parting words as I left. She is administrator or, as it used to be called, superior at Holy Angels Home on Winton Road in Rochester, where I had just spent the day observing, taking notes and pictures, and talking to the personnel and the girls.

It is a good kind of work, and one that should probably be done more widely. Holy Angels Home is a boarding school for girls who "aren't making it" in the outside world, in the words of social worker James Cimino. What this means, he explained, is that many of the girls come from broken homes or from families in which parental supervision failed because of too many children or poverty.

In talking about the school, the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of Refuge who run it, were anxious to stress that it is not a home for unwed mothers. This kind of mistaken image, says Sister Francis, "doesn't bother us Sisters so much, since we're here all the time, but it's hard on the girls when they go home on a vacation, to have to face this kind of thing."

The school has a population of 32 girls, with a capacity for four more, and is run and maintained by eight nuns and 24 lay people. Founded in 1930 by a group of Refuge Sisters from Buffalo, who came to Rochester at the request of Bishop John Francis O'Hearn, Holy Angels has since added a school, a chapel and a convent (1958-59) and two residential cottages (1966-67).

Text and photos by Laurence E. Keefe



Msgr. Francis Burns says weekday Mass for the girls in the Home's chapel.



Sister Clare Flora counts the tributes to the various p...