

# Sisters of Mercy Honor Founder, Jubilarians

Eighteen Sisters of Mercy are celebrating anniversaries in religious life this year.

Mother Mary Magdalene Schenck and Sister Mary Andrew Lally are Diamond Jubilarians. (The congregation celebrates the Diamond Jubilees on the Sister's 60th anniversary.)

Mother Mary Magdalene Schenck, a native Rochesterian, was Mother General of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy for 12 years, from 1943-1949 and again from 1955 to 1961. She also served as Assistant Mother General, Congregation Bursar, and Mistress of Novices. A teacher for many years, she instructed at both the elementary level and the high school level at Our Lady of Mercy High School; Notre Dame High School, Elmira; Cardinal Mooney High School; St. Patrick's, Elmira; St. John's, Clyde; Holy Family, Auburn; St. Mary's, Mt. Carmel, and St. John the Evangelist, all of Rochester. Mother Magdalene entered the Mercy Congregation in 1917. She received a B.A. in philosophy from Canisius College, Buffalo, and an M.A. in Latin from St. Bonaventure's, Olean.

Sister Mary Andrew Lally was born in Galway, Ireland, and entered the Rochester Sisters of Mercy in 1917, three years after her own sister, Sister Mary Nolasco Lally, had entered. Both women were cooks. Sister Andrew spent the bulk of her religious life as cook at Holy Family Convent, Auburn. In 1969 she retired to the Motherhouse.

The Golden Jubilarians are:

Sister Mary Emmanuel Johnson, born in Brooklyn, entered the order in 1927 and taught at St. Thomas the Apostle, Mt. Carmel, Holy Cross, Holy Family, (Auburn), St. Ann's, (Hornell), and St. Patrick's, (Owego) until 1936. From 1936-1943 she did housekeeping work at St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, and from 1943-1968 was general housekeeper at the Motherhouse.

Sister Mary Alice Hayden taught almost all grades, particularly seventh, for 40 years in schools across the diocese, including St. Andrew's, St. John the Evangelist, St. Vincent's, Corning; Holy Cross, Holy Family, Auburn; and Mt. Carmel. In more recent years she was on the library staff of Mercy High and since 1973 has worked in the Congregational offices. Born in Auburn, she entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1927.

Sister Mary Regina Feltz, born in Penfield, entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1927 and taught for 42 years in the following diocesan elementary schools: St. Salome's, Holy Cross, Mt. Carmel, St. Mary's and St. Vincent's, Corning; Holy Family, Auburn; St. Cecilia's, Elmira; St. Andrew's, St. John's, Clyde; St. Charles, St. James, Good Shepherd, St. Louis, and St. Rita's. Sister Regina lives at Cardinal Mooney Convent and makes visitations at a neighborhood nursing home.

Sister Mary Colette Frank is serving currently at St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, in the area of pastoral care and home visitations. She was the first Educational Director of St. James Mercy Hospital School of Radiologic Technology and also served there as X-ray Technician Instructor from 1943 to 1975. Before that, from her entrance in 1927 to 1943, she taught at St. Salome's, Mt. Carmel, St. Mary's, Corning, St. Charles and Holy Family, Auburn. A native Rochesterian, Sister Colette has a B.A. in Education from St. Bonaventure's and X-ray technician's certification.

Sister Mary Marguerite Tobin has been in the Sisters of Mercy Infirmary since Christmas. She taught in diocesan elementary schools from 1927, the year she entered the Mercy congregation, until 1968. During those 41 years she was at St. Andrew's for 21 years and



MOTHER MAGDALEN



SISTER ANDREW



SISTER EMMANUEL



SISTER ALICE



SISTER COLETTE



SISTER JOACHIM



SISTER AGNES MIRIAM



Sr. Phyllis



Sr. M. Aid



Sr. Sullivan



Sr. Jacqueline



Sr. Kathleen



Sr. Gerard



Sr. Gratia



Sr. Janet

This weekend the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester celebrate an annual feast, Mercy Day. But this year, the festivities will be something special. Not only will the congregation fete Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilarians, it also will mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of its founder, Catherine McAuley.

An audio-visual biographical presentation is slated for Sept. 23 on "The Life, Work and Spirituality of Catherine McAuley." This will be followed by small group reflection, a box supper and evening prayer on "Union and Charity," a favorite theme of Mother McAuley.

On the actual feast, Sept. 24, Father Robert Kennedy, motherhouse chaplain will celebrate a special Mass. Sister Mary Walter Hickey will be the homilist. Following the Mass, a dinner and a Commissioning Ceremony will be held.

In that ceremony Sister Mary Judith, the superior general, and the congregation's Executive Councilors, will publicly affirm the apostolic work the sisters will engage in for next year.

General chairpersons for the day are Sisters Mary Walter Hickey and Mary Sullivan.

The Silver Jubilarians are:

Sister Mary Sullivan, dean of the School of General Studies at Rochester Institute of Technology; Sister Phyllis Bernardo, Social Minister in the Edmundite Mission in Wilcox County, Alabama; Sister Mary Gratia L'Esperance, assistant to the director of the Office of Field Education at St. Bernard's Seminary; Sister Janet Wahl, missionary to the parish of Santa Ana in Santiago, Chile; Sister Mary Therese Magin, teacher of Business at the high school level; Sister Mary Gerard Erb, mathematics teacher at Notre Dame High School, Elmira; Sister Jacqueline DeMars, Finance Advisor of the Mercy Congregation and a mathematics teacher at Mercy High School; Sister Mary Aid Lacagnina, Audio-Visual Consultant of the Media Center of Mercy High School; Sister Mary Benigna Bayer, who recently returned to her baptismal name; Sister Kathleen Bayer, is in the Pastoral Care Department of the St. Louis University Hospitals, St. Louis, Mo.

also at Holy Cross, St. Vincent's, Corning; Holy Family, Auburn; St. John the Evangelist; Mt. Carmel, St. Louis, Our Lady of Mercy Elementary, and St. Joseph's, Penfield. From 1968 to 1971 she assisted in Mercy High's library. She is a native Rochesterian.

Sister Mary Joachim Pearson teaches mathematics and science at Notre Dame High School, Elmira where she has been since its 1955 opening. A teacher for 47 years she has instructed at Aquinas Institute (1930-39), Mercy High and Elmira Catholic High (1940-1955). She also taught two years at the elementary level. Born in Rochester, she entered the Mercy order in 1927.

Sister Agnes Miriam Kennedy, a native of Dansville, entered the Mercy congregation in 1928. She has taught for 46 years in diocesan elementary schools, mainly at the junior high level. At St. Thomas the Apostle School for 21 years, she also taught at St. Andrew's, Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, Elmira; St. Vincent's, Corning; St. Salome's, Our Lady of Mercy Elementary, St. Cecilia's, Rochester, and St. John the Evangelist. For three years she was vice principal in addition to teacher.