

RSMs Honor Jubilarians On Mercy Day

Sister Mary Ursula McQueeney will be feted by her congregation, the diocesan Sisters of Mercy, on the occasion of her 70th anniversary of entrance into the group, on Mercy Day, Sept. 23.

She is among 16 jubilarians to be so honored during the festivities which include a Mass, celebrated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark, and a dinner and commissioning service for the entire congregation.

Three sisters, Sister Mary Immaculata Coleman, Sister Mary Frederica Konz and Sister Mary Norbert Schlitzer are observing their 60th anniversary. Five are celebrating 50 years in the congregation: Sister Mary Louise Gabusay, Sister Mary Carmel Kruckow, Sister Elizabeth Helen Meisch and Sister Mary Justin.

In addition six sisters are celebrating 25 years as Sisters of Mercy. They are Sisters Patricia Flynn, Sisters of Mercy Center; Elaine Kolesnik, public relations director for the congregation and religious education coordinator for St. Joseph's in Rush; Mary Estelle Martin, art teacher at Our Lady of Mercy High School, Marlene McQueeney, history teacher

at Cardinal Mooney High School; Mary Rosaire Norton, teacher at St. Thomas the Apostle; Jacquelyn Reichart, assistant principal of Mercy; Nancy Whitley, guidance director at Mercy.

Sister Ursula is the eldest sister in the local congregation. The daughter of Irish immigrants and a native of Auburn, where she belonged to Holy Family Parish, Sister Ursula entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1909.

She taught, mostly at the junior high school level, for 55 years of her life, at St. Mary's, Corning; St. Ann's, Hornell; St. Patrick's, Elmira; Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; and St. Mary's and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Rochester.

Sister Immaculata, a native of Dansville taught at the Rochester schools of Mt. Carmel, St. Mary's, St. John the Evangelist, prior to a 33 year ministry at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell.

Sister Frederica, a native of Naples, has served as teacher and principal of St. Ann's in Hornell, has taught at St. Joseph's in Penfield, acted as Motherhouse bursar and directed housekeeping at the Motherhouse, at St. James Mercy, and the Omega Manor for retired priests in Mendon.

Sister Norbert, a



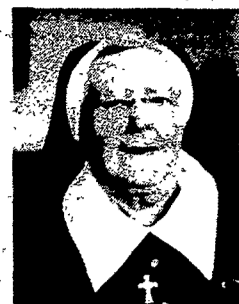
Sr. Ursula



Sr. Immaculata



Sr. Frederica



Sr. Norbert



Sr. Patrice



Sr. Louise



Sr. M. Carmel



Sr. Elaine



Sr. Estelle



Sr. Marlene

Rochesterian, taught at Mt. Carmel, St. Mary's, St. Andrew's, St. Charles, Holy Cross, St. Salome's and St. John the Evangelist, all in Rochester, and at St. John's in Clyde.

Among the golden jubilarians, Sister Patrice was taught at Holy Cross, St. Andrew's, St. Mary's and St. Thomas the Apostle in Rochester; St. Vincent's and St. Mary's in Corning; St. John of Rochester, Perinton; St. Cecilia's, Elmira; St. Rita's, West Webster; and St. Ann's, Hornell, her current assignment.

Sister Louise Marie has served at the Maryville Home for Adults in Avoca, and has taught at Holy Family, Auburn; St. Cecilia's, Elmira; St. Vincent's Corning; Mt. Carmel, St. Salome's, St. Charles, St. James, St. Andrew's, and Cardinal Mooney.



Sr. M. Rosaire



Sr. Jacquelyn



Sr. Nancy

Sister Mary Carmel has taught and served as principal at St. Andrew's, Rochester. She has also taught at St. Rita's, West Webster; St. Ann's, Hornell; St. Patrick's, Owego; and St. Charles, Rochester.

Sister Elizabeth Helen has tutored at Mt. Carmel, and has taught at St. Vincent's Corning; St. John's, Clyde; Holy Family, Auburn; and Holy Cross, St. Thomas, St. Salome's, St. Charles, and St. Cecilia's in Rochester.

Sister Mary Justin has taught at Our Lady of Mercy Grammar School, St. Salomes, St. Thomas, St. Andrew's, Holy Cross (where she also served as principal), and St. John's in Rochester; St. John's, Clyde; and St. Rita's, West Webster.

GENESEE TREE SERVICE
TREE & STUMP REMOVAL
 Trimming, topping & cabling
 FREE ESTIMATES - INSURED
 271-1125

E. J. WELDON, Inc. BUILDERS
 223-2590
 Fairport, N. Y.

- Masonry
- Carpentry
- Concrete
- Painting
- Roofing
- & More

JOBS - Large and Small

Parish Base Communities Rise

By Frank Maurovich
RNS Staff Writer

New York — Small, neighborhood Christian communities — parishes within parishes — have been mushrooming in the Catholic Church in this country as instruments of spiritual renewal and political involvement.

Originally developed in Latin America as a means of evangelizing peasants and workers, some 1,000 of these pocket-size communities of 20 to 40 members now exist in the United States, especially in Hispanic populated areas, according to a report in St. Anthony Messenger, a magazine published by the Franciscan Friars in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Archbishop Robert F. Sanchez of Santa Fe, N.M., sees these supportive communities — known by their Spanish name *comunidades de base* (base communities) — as "the salvation of the Church in our country." Stating that "one of the great indictments of our Church is that we as priests never reach out to all the people," Archbishop Sanchez launched a program to employ base communities as the heart of evangelization in his archdiocese.

"Scripture talks of the early groups of Christians in terms of community," said Father Richard Mangini, pastor of St. Leander Church in San Leandro,

Calif. "We learn of their communal experiences and the feeling of genuine community. The Vatican Council has called us to return to that ideal in parish life."

Comunidades de base have been flourishing in Latin America for more than a decade. Latin America Press in Lima, Peru, reported some 50,000 of these grassroots communities in Brazil alone.

The *comunidades de base* are a Christian adaptation of Pablo Freire's pathbreaking education methods for the poor, in which the Brazilian educator taught peasants and workers how to develop leadership and solve practical problems through an observe-judge-act-reflect method of united effort. Church leaders, such as Cardinal Evaristo Arns of Sao Paulo and the late Bishop Manuel Larrain of Talca, Chile, saw the potential for evangelization.

The theology of liberation movement grew from the small groups of campesinos and laborers coming to grips with their social realities in the light of Bible reflections. At their meeting with Pope John Paul II in Puebla, Mexico, earlier this year, the Latin American bishops hailed the base communities as "the focal point of evangelization, the motor of liberation."

The concept of smaller, more action-oriented

communities than the traditional parish or congregation is neither new, as Father Mangini pointed out, nor is it exclusively Roman Catholic.

In 1965, Chicago's Ecumenical Institute began experimenting with a parish structure that offered worship, study, small-group fellowship and mission. A number of Protestant congregations formed "house churches" and social action cadres which drew from the house churches. But the Ecumenical Institute plan has not been widely adopted.

Among Catholic parishes, however, the phenomenon is mushrooming, according to Frank Ponce, associate director of the U.S. Catholic bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs. Ponce reported that base communities have taken root in parishes from New Orleans to San Diego, from Rockford, Ill., to El Paso.

The heartbeat of the base community is the weekly meeting, according to Father Jack Wintz, OFM, associate editor of St. Anthony Messenger, who surveyed a number of the communities in New Mexico, California and Illinois. Most were led by members of the laity.

The meeting is divided into prayer, Bible reflection and study. Actions ranged from group prayer over a sick child to putting pressure on city officials to fix a neighborhood drainage ditch. The size of the group

is kept small so that members can really know one another and have a true voice in determining activities.

Archbishop Sanchez admitted that the base community "is certainly a challenge to the established order and requires great trust on part of the parish priest involved — a trust in lay people, to trust in the presence of God to inspire and guide them. Our Church requires trust. After all, Jesus had to trust 12 men."

Father Ramon Aragon, pastor of Nativity of Our Lady Church, just north of Albuquerque, N.M. claimed the trust, if invested, paid dividends. With 11 base communities thriving at Nativity, Father Aragon said parish life is much stronger, people are interrelating more and placing their talents and charisms at the service of the local community.

Base communities have political clout as well, according to Archbishop Sanchez. "Decisions made in our state legislatures or city councils or Congress influence Christians," the prelate said. "They want to react to them from a Christian viewpoint. By coming together in small groups, people can support each other and be more effective in their relationship to their cities, communities and authority."

"I would love to see the system spread," Archbishop Sanchez said.

BALDWIN
 PIANO & ORGAN STUDIO
 Quality You Can Hear... and See
 Rent A Brand New Baldwin For Your Child
 Let Your Child Play the Best
 At the End of the Rental Period,
 You Tell Us if its Worth It!
 Tuning/Repair available for any make piano.
 3400 Monroe Ave. Pittsford Colony
 near Loews Theatre 381-7930

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER
 "Professional Help"

EDWIN SULEWSKI
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

The sudden death of a loved one, whether lingering or not, is a shock that none of us can handle well. Strained emotions, depression, irrational reasoning are only a few of the "natural" reactions to an event which we face unwillingly. And, while still in this off-balance condition, we know that there is a great need for careful, exact handling of all the many details, that suddenly have become very important.

As funeral directors, we have not only been trained to handle these may details for you, but carefully and professionally see to most of your special needs. The prompt and proper handling of social security and veteran's insurance retirement benefits is only a small, but important, part of our services to you as your funeral director.

Many of these decisions and details can be worked out prior to this time of necessity. Stop by or call at any time. Our staff is always available to assist you or answer questions. Use our lending library of books concerning death, dying, bereavement, and related subjects.

SCHAUMAN FUNERAL HOME
 2100 St. Paul St. 342-3400

ions
or Bishop
lies. The
nounced

ng will be

g
a
res
!
t
s
ims

ork.

gram
ay!

board
0011

ork
send me
my part

ram.

CI-4

ul op-
u! An
n one!
home
ractive
ce you
red at
her at
e from

4