

# Sr. Theresa Gerard Marks 50th Anniversary, Dec. 8

Sister Theresa Gerard of the St. Joseph Motherhouse, onetime principal of St. Anne's School, Palmyra, celebrated her Golden Jubilee last Saturday, Dec. 8.

party at a stylish restaurant with her four blood sisters and two sisters-in-law. (Sister Theresa has three brothers, also, but they were not invited, according to the oldest one, Anthony Specksgoor.)

Sister entered the convent from St. Michael's at the age of 17 on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception Dec. 8 — 1929, taking the names of two of her siblings. She taught at St. John's Greece, and in Dansville, Avon and Palmyra, her brother Anthony reports.

Seven years ago, he said, she was in a near-fatal road accident. Convalescing at the Motherhouse, she was able to teach some of her colleagues the art of making ceramic objects, but recently she has been forbidden to work at all, Anthony said. Besides him, the family

includes Mildred Specksgoor, Claire Cocquyt, Theresa Koch and Mary Stenger; Anthony's wife, Betty; Joseph and Jean Specksgoor, all of the Rochester area. Another brother, Gerard, lives in California.

Festivities included a lunch

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### Say 'Yes' To Heaven

**Editor:**  
I would like to respond to Mary Alice Rogers letter of Oct. 31.

The "Heaven" spoken of in the "Our Father" is the kingdom that our loving Father has invited us to. Jesus came to tell us this kingdom has already begun. We as God's children are offered a place in this kingdom. All we have to do is say "yes" and it is given to us. Having said "yes," we must realize that our Father asks us to try to love Him, others and ourselves in the same way that He loves us, totally and without reservation. If everyone did this we would have the kingdom right now, right here. Even though we don't have the kingdom fully realized yet, Jesus says that evil will not triumph. So everything will be all right in the end. If this is true, then committed Christians have no reason not to be joyously happy. Things might get tough in this life, but victory is ours in the end. Hooray!

Dan Quilty  
87 Holbrooke St.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14621

### Used Books For Missions

**Editor:**  
A few years ago you were kind enough to print a request for used books that we sell to help our missions. At this time we would like to thank you and your readers for the tremendous response we received.

We would also like to renew this request and add that our humble shop could benefit greatly from used records and stamps. Any records of the 1950s and 1960s in the pop, jazz or classical field would be especially helpful.

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PHOTO: JEROME FICOSTA

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