

# and Every Time We Think of You'

— St. Paul

## Sisters of Saint Joseph of Rochester



sent the sisters abroad for study. The diocese became known throughout the U.S. for its system of education in which the sisters played a major role.

The celebration of the 125th anniversary of the coming of the Sisters of St. Joseph to the state held in Canandaigua, called forth new interest in the Saltonstall Street house. For the sisters and for the hundreds who joined in the liturgical celebration and reception, it was a day of jubilee. But the celebration hailed more than a house; it hailed the spirit of the congregation, willing to meet the needs of the Church in the decades from 1854 to 1980 and beyond: caring for orphans; educating the young, teens and college students; comforting the aging, the sick, the lonely, the imprisoned and the oppressed; providing special care for the mentally handicapped and emotionally disturbed youth and adults.

The Sisters of St. Joseph indeed have a history of active participation in apostolic ministry, but they do not merely glory in that history. They seek out new ways to respond to the needs of society. Sisters of St. Joseph today are found as campus ministers at the high school and college level, as hospital and prison chaplains, as nurses and physicians, as educators, social workers, religious education directors and pastoral assistants, as mission workers in Selma, Ala., and in Brazil.

Faithful, however to the spiritual legacy of Father John Peter Medaille, the Sisters of St. Joseph strive to combine a deep, contemplative prayer life with their apostolic ministry.

"In imitation of Christ, she endeavors to spread the Kingdom of God by a joyful 'Yes!' to the Father and a total availability to the neighbor."

Clockwise from top: Mother Stanislaus Leary, S.S.J., first mother general of the diocesan congregation; Le Puy, France, 1650, and the original foundation on Saltonstall Street in Canandaigua; Sister Sheila Miller looks over the shoulder of Sister Frances Marie Kehoe, the generations in the convent; Sister Jamesine Riley, superior general of the congregation.