

a Tradition

oving Toward Future

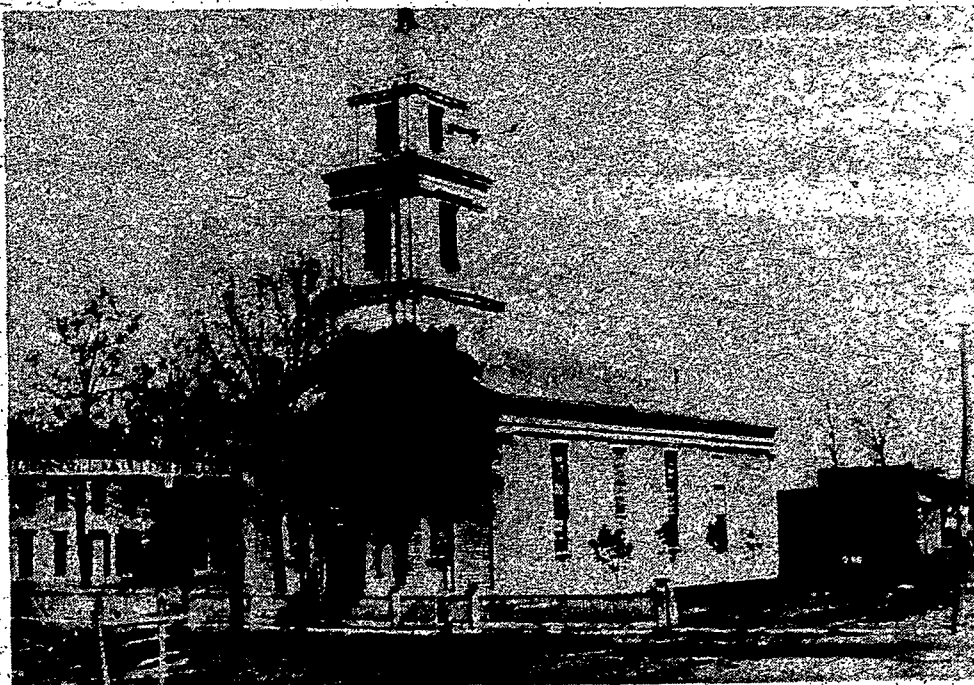
long-range planning, and marketing tools. Several of our local schools have entered into the formal stages of long-range planning.

At Bishop Matthew H. Clark's invitation, a committee of leaders in our business community has been formed to study our present system of financing our Catholic Schools and to research alternatives to this system. They have also examined the possibility of marketing Catholic Schools. Their study is reaching completion and recommendations for implementation are being prepared.

The decade of the 80s will prove to be an exciting time for Catholic Schools. The goals commissioned to us by the Bishops of the U.S. will continue to be promoted and lived out — namely to teach the Word of God, to be community and to offer service. The response to be worthy stewards of the mission and treasure given to us is conscientiously being addressed through planning and strengthened management procedures.

Problems and concerns certainly exist. We struggle with the need to offer better compensation to our teachers and administrators who are dedicated to serving the Church through education. We continue to study and research to offer quality programs that will prepare our students for life both within the Church and society. Cooperative planning with parents is essential to achieve the goals of Catholic Education.

We invite all of you to share in this venture to strengthen our schools and to prepare our legacy so that the generations to come may also celebrate the Choosing of a Tradition. — The Catholic School of the 1980s.



Changing to Meet Future

This photo of Old St. Mary's Church, Dansville, was taken about 1890 while a new tin roof was being constructed. Behind the church is a deteriorating building. It once served as a schoolhouse for District 2 in Dansville Village but was acquired by St. Mary's for religious services. In 1845, after the church, shown here, was ready for occupancy, the old building became St. Mary's School. For many years there were two Catholic schools in Dansville — St. Mary's established in 1845 and St. Patrick's which opened in 1883. In 1953 Bishop James E. Kearney directed the two schools merge under the name of Guardian Angels. A new school building to facilitate the needs of the consolidation was completed and opened in Sept. 1960. It was dedicated Nov. 11, 1960, by Bishop Kearney.

Teaching by Love

By Father Albert J. Shamon

Dr. Elinor Ford recently spoke (Sept. 19) to more than 200 Catholic school teachers in Waterloo. She said, "Do you know that the latest surveys show that children in Catholic schools rate academically higher than those in government schools?" She went on to say that a bevy of educators tried to find the reason for this. Some of them opined it was the discipline. Others, the screening of students. Others, the small numbers in classes, etc. Then Dr. Ford gave the real reason, which I had never thought about before. She said in effect that students in Catholic schools achieve higher academically than those in government schools because they are taught to love Jesus Christ — taught by experience. Once the student has it all straight inside, once he knows inner peace, that he is loved and destined for an eternity of love, well, then the student is free to settle down and learn — no more distractions from within!

And this is our tradition: Christ is the way to life by His truth. Catholic schools have chosen this tradition, for Catholic education offers young people a secure point of reference — that is, Jesus Christ. Pope John Paul II defined Catholic Education as "above all a question of communicating Christ, of helping to form Christ in the lives of others."

The first Bishop of Rochester, Bernard J. McQuaid, used to say, "To build the church before the school is to build a monument to our folly, for in the next generation the church will be empty."

The Fathers of Vatican Council II wrote that pastor and parents should spare no sacrifice to help Catholic schools achieve their goals.

That is why we in Waterloo have given our Catholic school top priority. We have a waiting list from pre-school to grade 8. We are subsidizing our school by an Education Fund aiming at a half-million dollars. We believe in investing in our young. We believe they are the future of the Church. We believe they will best be served and better able to serve by attending the Catholic school. For in the Catholic school our Christian tradition is best transmitted — transforming both head and heart, mind and will of its student — the whole person!

While visiting the classrooms of St. Mary's in Waterloo, one is greeted by children dressed in lively navy and blue plaid uniforms, a picture newly introduced this year. But that's not all that's new at St. Mary's. For the first time in its history, the school can boast a full-time pre-school program. Under the capable leadership of Mrs. Jennifer McEntee, 45 youngsters, ages three and four, gather for classes in their newly constructed convent classroom. Aides from Eisenhower College as well as volunteer mothers assist Mrs. McEntee in this program.

According to Sister Catherine Judge, principal, the kindergarten enrollment has almost doubled. It became necessary to expand the program this year to two full sessions. Mrs. Diane Keiffer now greets 40 happy faces each day.

The school is beginning a new reading approach — the Open Court Reading Program. Schools in the Finger Lakes area as well as the City of Rochester have found this program highly successful, and thus St. Mary's is happy to be adopting it. A reading readiness aspect of this program was given to our kindergarten pupils last year; hopefully this will add to its success.

There is a "tradition" of Catholic School education in Waterloo (St. Mary's was begun in 1910). From the many signs of growth, we feel sure it is here to stay.



St. Mary's first graders — Patrick Patchen, Jeff Goodman, Jennifer Lewis, Sarah Peters, and Jacqueline Vrooman — show off new uniforms.

Tradition Continues

St. Boniface School was founded in 1866, and was originally located on Gregory St. In 1924 the school moved to its present location at 15 Whalin St.

Originally all classes were taught in German, but as the neighborhood changed so did the teaching. The neighborhood grew and so did the school. At one time enrollment topped 600.

The neighborhood remained stable and the school flourished until, in the 1950s, an exodus occurred. Young families all over the city began moving to the suburbs, resulting in declining city elementary school enrollments. A critical period in the history of St. Boniface School was unfolding. The dedicated and caring parishioners were determined that their school was a valuable and needed institution and must survive.

So, with wise planning by administration, staff, committees and groups we survived — although the planning meant increased tuition, fund raising projects, energy conservation research, and more generous contributions for Sunday offerings.

Today we are enjoying a revitalization of the St. Boniface neighborhood, due in part to the staunch determination and hard work of the members of our parish. St. Boniface School enrollment has stabilized and is, in fact, climbing. This year 210 children attend, including a new pre-school class. A number of dedicated parishioners are now working with our pastor, Father Kellner, to maintain the momentum of this new trend in our school so that we may continue to grow and provide true Christian witness in our Southeast area.

As we enter the 1980s, St. Boniface faces a strong and bright future. We have been blessed with an extremely competent, creative and dedicated faculty. Our financial base is sound. A wave of parental involvement has swept through the school. Among the new programs parents are involved in are: development of an ongoing five-year master plan for the school; a Friday afternoon enrichment program in which parents and others lead discussion and demonstration programs covering a wide spectrum of interest areas; the organization of a nine-member St. Boniface School Board of Directors to assist the principal, Sister Mary Lou Brien, in carrying out some of the non-academic responsibilities of the school. In all, we are joyous and optimistic for the future.



council are, from left, Pete Mehalick, Tanya MacInerney and Richard Rice.

Week Oct. 26 - Nov. 1

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al Schools will begin the Schools' Week with a Mass. W. Hickey assisted by Bishop hard Kinsky, superintendent of iller, rector of Sacred Heart from the diocese. The Mass is cathedral on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2 in the rectory hall.

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