

# Sisters Celebrate Mercy Day

The Sisters of Mercy of Rochester will honor the feast day of their patron with activities scheduled the weekend of Sept. 22-23.

Both days comprise Mercy Day Weekend, an annual congregational celebration

held on or near Sept. 24, the feast day of Our Lady of Mercy.

Fifteen jubilarians, among them one celebrating her 75th anniversary, will be honored on Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Motherhouse, 1437 Blossom Road.

Father Daniel Tormey will celebrate the Eucharist, followed by a dinner attended by the whole local congregation, and a commissioning ceremony.

According to a press release from the order, the day

before -- Saturday, Sept. 22 -- will be "a day of fast and reflection on leadership in the congregation and on each sister's personal call to participate in leadership." This day is one of preparation for the congregation's Chapter in 1985.

## Mercy Sister Celebrates 75th Anniversary

Sister Mary Ursula McQueeney, RSM, the most senior religious in the Mercy congregation, celebrates her 75th anniversary this year.

Sister Ursula was received as a novice in May 1909 and professed her final vows in July 1911.

She was born in Auburn on Nov. 30, 1889, the daughter of Irish immigrants, and was a member of Holy Family Parish there.

For 55 years she taught in Catholic grammar schools in the Rochester diocese, primarily at the junior high level, and spent her longest stretches at St. Ann's, Hornell, for 21 years, and for 27 years at St. Patrick's in Elmira.

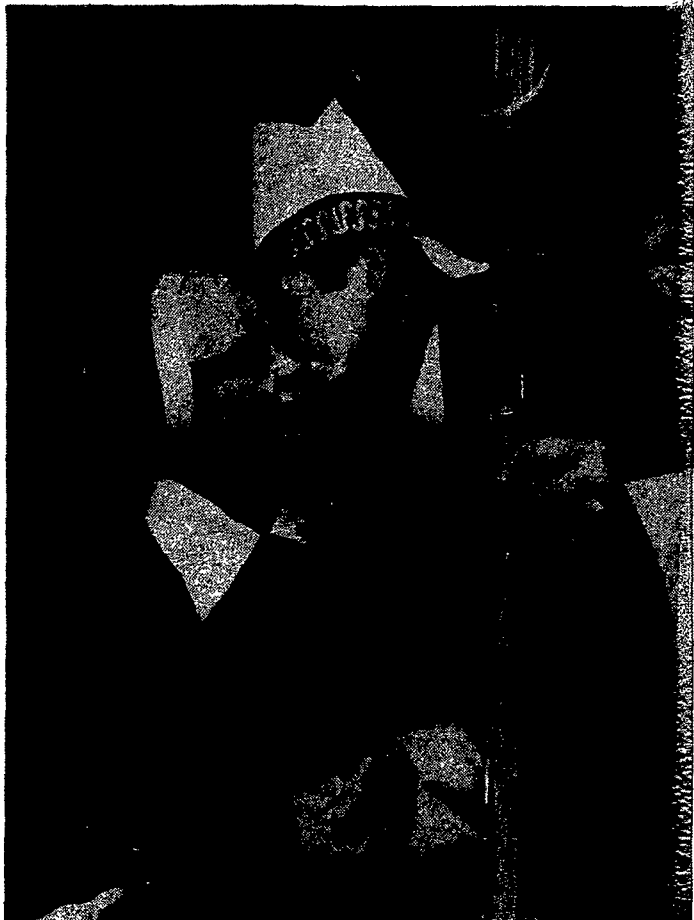
Her teaching assignments were at St. Mary's, Corning (1909-10); St. Mary's, Rochester (1910-11); Mt. Carmel (1911-12); St. Ann's, Hornell (1912-25, 1952-60);

St. Patrick's, Elmira (1925-52); and Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira (1960-64).

After retiring from teaching, Sister Ursula lived at St. Helen's Convent, Gates, from 1964-71, where she was superior for a time and served as librarian at the parish school.

In 1971 she moved to the motherhouse where her ministry has been the Spiritual Apostolate of prayer.

According to Sister Nancy Whitley, Mercy counselor, Sister Ursula attends daily Mass at the motherhouse. "Although she has failing eyesight, she delights, with the aid of a magnifying glass, to write a note to others on special occasions," Sister Nancy said. "When reflecting upon her 55 years of teaching in parochial schools, she smiles, 'I loved every bit of it.'"



Sister Ursula received a special anniversary kiss from Bishop Matthew H. Clark five years ago at the time of her 70th jubilee.

## Sister Mary Alma Notes 60 Years

Sister Mary Alma Waterstraat this year will celebrate her 60th anniversary as a Sister of Mercy.

She entered the congregation in January 1924 and was received as a novice in August of that year. She professed perpetual vows in August 1929.

A former principal, convent superior, teacher and tutor, Sister Alma spent 50 years in diocesan elementary school ministry. She served at St. Cecilia's in Elmira for 19

at St. Charles Borromeo, Rochester for 18 years (1952-59, 1965-76).

She also served at St. John's in Clyde, and Mt. Carmel.

In 1976, she joined the senior sisters community at the motherhouse and took on the ministry of the Spiritual Apostolate of prayer.

Sister Alma is a native of Rochester, her home parish being St. Michael's. Her brother and sister, Herbert



**SISTER ALMA** and Florence Waterstraat, both live in Rochester.

## Fr. Aurelio To Speak at St. Ambrose

Father John Aurelio, well known author and speaker, will give a program on "Preaching and Children's Liturgies," 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 25 at St. Ambrose School.

Father Aurelio has spent most of his priestly life working with children and is currently chaplain of West Seneca Children's Developmental Center.

"Story-telling," Father Aurelio has said, "is the basic way I find I can converse with children." His talk will center on this theme.

The session is open to any interested persons. Those who teach children or preach at children's liturgies should find Father Aurelio particularly interesting and helpful, the diocesan Liturgy Office said. The Liturgy Office is coordinating the event.

Registration for the event is made by calling the office, 328-3210 before Friday, Sept. 21. The fee is \$3 per person.

## NFP Plans 2 Sessions

Two Natural Family Planning information sessions have been scheduled in Rochester.

Sponsored by NFP Education of Rochester, the first session will be from 7:30 to 9 p.m., Monday, Oct. 1, at the East Auditorium, St. Mary's Hospital; the second from 7:30 to 9 p.m., Friday, Oct. 12, at the Main Conference Room Rochester General Hospital.

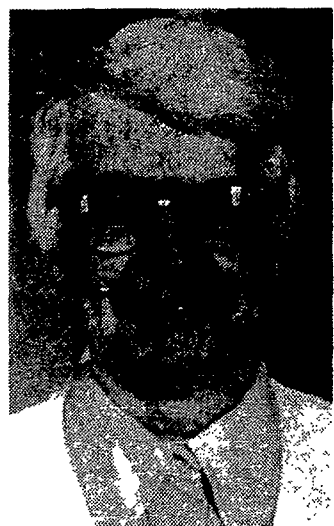
Pre-registration is required by calling 464-8705. The sessions are free.



**SISTER BRIDE**



**SISTER SUZANNE**



**SISTER ASSISIUM**



**SISTER EDMOND**



**SISTER DANIEL**



**SISTER LORRAINE**

## Six Mercy Sisters Celebrate 50ths

Six Sisters of Mercy, who were received as novices into the congregation on June 2, 1934, are celebrating golden jubilees this year.

They are Sisters Mary Bride Claire, Mary Suzanne Delaney, Mary Assisium Fitzgerald, Mary Edmond Gauthier, Mary Daniel Janto, and Mary Lorraine Kaufman.

Sister Bride was born in County Clare, Ireland. She is currently assistant to the congregation treasurer. Formerly, she held the posts of superior general, as well as assistant superior general, congregation counselor, novice director, Mercy High teacher and guidance counselor, coordinator of services for retired sisters, and Mercy Prayer Center staff member.

Sister Suzanne, born in Binghamton, is presently involved in visitation ministry. Formerly, she was principal/superior/teacher at St. Mary's, Corning; teacher at Mercy High, Aquinas and Notre Dame, Elmira; elementary teacher at St. Patrick's in Elmira, St. James, Annunciation, and St. Rita's in West Webster; and religious education coordinator at Annunciation.

Sister Assisium is a Rochester native, currently offers her services as a driver for senior sisters. She is a

former assistant for the motherhouse retirement program; and teacher at St. Patrick's in Owego, St. Salome's, Holy Cross, St. John the Evangelist, Mt. Carmel, St. Charles, St. Cecilia's, St. Thomas the Apostle, Annunciation, and Good Shepherd.

Sister Edmond, born in Southbridge, Mass., is presently librarian and teacher at Notre Dame High School, Elmira. She is the former director of junior professed sisters; and teacher/librarian at Mercy High, Elmira Catholic High, Cardinal Mooney, and Catherine McAuley College of the Sisters of Mercy.

Sister Daniel, born in Clyde, is currently a motherhouse switchboard assistant. Formerly, she taught at Mt. Carmel, St. Salome's, Holy Family in Auburn, St. Andrew's, St. John's in Clyde, St. Cecilia's, St. John the Evangelist, St. Vincent's in Corning; and tutored at St. James and St. Salome's.

Sister Lorraine, born in Rochester, is currently administrative assistant at Cardinal Mooney High School. Formerly, she taught at St. Andrew's, St. Patrick's in Elmira, St. Rita's in West Webster, and St. John the Evangelist.



## Seven Mark 25ths

Silver jubilarians are, front, from left, Sister Mary Rachel Parlavecchio, preschool teacher, St. Andrew's; Sister Marena Buckland, primary teacher; Sister Barbara DiFiore, director of student life, Our Lady of Mercy High School. Back row, from left, Sister Janet Korn, counselor, Sisters of Mercy; Sister Patricia Morrell, music instructor/department chairperson, Our Lady of Mercy High School; Sister Joan of Arc Ruocco, teacher, St. Joseph's School, Penfield; Sister Marilyn Williams, Chapter I reading teacher, City School #28.