

Sisters of Mercy celebrate diamond, golden and silver jubilees

The three Sisters of Mercy celebrating their 60th jubilees this year entered the Mercy congregation in 1924 and were received as novices on August 22, 1925. They made their final professions of vows on August 21, 1930.

Two of them, Sister Mary Celine Frank and Sister Mary Evangelist Meyer, are from St. Andrew's Parish, Rochester; the third sister, Sister Mary Imelda Corrigan, is a native of Seneca Falls and calls St. Mary's of downtown Rochester her home parish.

Sister Mary Imelda spent 54 years in diocesan schools — 41 as a teacher and 13 as a tutor. For 25 years, she taught music at St. Mary's, Corning; St. Cecilia's, Elmira; and St. Charles Borromeo, Rochester. She was a kindergarten teacher for 15 years at St. Cecilia's and St. James, both of Rochester, and also taught at Holy Cross School.

Sister Mary Imelda spent a total of 28 years at St. James Parish, 14 as a teacher and 14 as a tutor and parish visitor. In 1981, she moved to the senior sisters' residence, Omega Community, at the Mercy motherhouse on Blossom Road, Rochester. Her ministry is the congregation's spiritual apostolate of prayer for special needs.

Sister Mary Celine Frank taught for 47 years, primarily at the junior high level. She also served as the principal of St. Mary's and St. Vincent's schools, both in Corning. For 11 years she taught at St. James School, Rochester, and for nine years each at St. Mary's, Corning; St. Andrew's, Rochester; and Holy Family, Auburn. She also taught at St. John's, Clyde; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Rochester; St. Vincent's, Corning; St. Ann's, Hornell; Our Lady of Mercy Grammar School, Greece; and Holy Cross, Rochester. Since 1973, she has lived with the Omega Community, serving as a clerical assistant in the congregation. In addition to her clerical duties, she is now serving as sacristan for the motherhouse chapel.

Sister Mary Evangelist Meyer has spent 57 years in the diocesan school system and continues in educational ministry at St. James School, Rochester. She has been on two founding faculties: the first at St. James school in 1950; the second at St. Michael's Grammar School, Newark, where she also served as the school's first principal from 1954-57.

She has taught all grades from one to 12. She was a teacher at Holy Cross school for seven years and for limited times at St. Ann's Hornell, as well as serving in the following Rochester schools: St. Mary's, St. Cecilia's, St. Thomas the Apostle, St. Charles and St. James. She also taught English at Our Lady of Mercy High School for 11 years and at Holy Family High School, Auburn, for two. Her longest service — 19 years — has been at St. James where she has been a teacher and is now coordinator of resource materials. Since 1970, she has also visited the homebound, sick and elderly in that parish. In addition to her teaching ministry, she has served as a convent superior a number of times. St. James Convent is her home.



Diamond jubilarians, who made their final professions of vows on August 21, 1930, are (left to right): Sisters Mary Evangelist Meyer, Mary Celine Frank and Mary Imelda Corrigan.

The golden jubilarians entered the congregation in 1934, were received as novices in June, 1935, and made their final professions in 1940.

Sister Mary Finn-Bar Bartley has been a nurse at St. John's Home, Rochester, since 1973. Previously, she taught for 35 years, many of them in the first grades. She was at St. Vincent's, Corning, for eight years and as St. John's, Clyde, for seven. She also taught at Holy Family, Auburn; St. Patrick's, Oswego; St. Mary's, Corning; and the following Rochester schools: Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Salome's, St. Andrew's and St. John the Evangelist. She received her LPN certificate from Rochester General Hospital in 1973. She was born in Cork, Ireland, and her home parish is Blessed Sacrament, Rochester.

Sister Mary Corinne Cimineri has used her culinary skills for 51 years ministering as cook at the Mercy motherhouse and Mercy High School, Rochester, from 1934 to 1957 and at Notre Dame High School and convent, Elmira, from 1957 to the present. She is a native of Clyde and her home parish is St. John the Evangelist in Clyde.

Sister Jane Frances Hauser, coordinator of services for the retired sisters and coordinator of the Omega Community, is a Rochester native. Her home parish is St. Peter and Paul. Prior to her current ministry, she served in congregation administration for four years as a member of the Mercy Council. For 39 years, she also taught at the secondary level, primarily in the areas of science and algebra, at Aquinas Institute for three years, at Mercy High School for 19 years, and at Notre Dame, Elmira, for 17 years. She was on the founding faculty of

Notre Dame which opened in 1955, and founded Camp Maplewood at the school as a summer day camp for children.

Since 1976, Sister Mary Valerian McGraw has been a staff maternity nurse in the labor and delivery department of St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester. Prior to that, she served at St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, for 35 years. There, she had been for three years the assistant director of the School of Nursing and Nursing Services, later serving as its director for 10 years. At St. James, she also served as supervisor of obstetrics for a time. She is a native Rochesterian and a former member of Holy Family Parish.

Sister Mary Dominica Petocchi has served in diocesan educational ministry for 48 years. She taught 11 years at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Rochester; nine years at St. Vincent's, Corning; and nine years in two Elmira schools, St. Patrick's and St. Mary's. She spent her longest stretch — 12 years — at Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira, where since 1973 she has been a classroom assistant and substitute teacher. This year she will also tutor there in remedial reading and math. She has also taught at St. John's, Clyde; St. Patrick's, Oswego; St. Mary's, Corning; and St. Cecilia's, Rochester. Her home parish is St. John the Evangelist in Clyde, her hometown.

Sister Mary Ambrose Rogers has served in diocesan schools for 48 years as an administrator and teacher. She was at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Rochester, for 17 years, 14 of them as both principal and eighth-grade teacher. She spent 12 years at St. Ann's, Hornell, as both principal and a junior high teacher. She was principal at Holy Cross, Rochester, for six years. She also taught at several other schools: Holy Family, Auburn; St. Mary's, Bath; and the following Rochester area schools: Holy Cross, St. John the Evangelist, St. James and St. Andrew's. She also served as convent superior for a number of years. In 1981, she returned to St. Andrew's as a part-time teacher and tutor and will continue there this year. She is an Auburn native, with Holy

Family, Auburn, as her home parish.

Sister Mary Regis Straughn recently celebrated her 20th year in parish ministry and social work at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Rochester. She began ministry there in 1965, was co-pastor from 1975 to 1981, and continues as parish assistant. Previously, she had been a teacher and principal in diocesan schools for 28 years. She was both principal and teacher at St. John's, Clyde, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Rochester. She taught at St. Charles Borromeo, Rochester, for 12 years and also at St. Salome's, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Helen's. She also served as a convent superior. She was born in Rochester, and her home parish is St. John the Evangelist.

The nine Sisters of Mercy celebrating their silver jubilees this year entered the congregation in 1957, were received as novices in June, 1958. They made their first professions of vows in 1960 and their final professions in 1965.

Sister Marie Catherine Cain has been a math teacher at Notre Dame High School, Elmira, since 1972 and previously taught math at Our Lady of Mercy High School, Rochester for 10 years. She is an Elmira native, and St. Patrick's is her home parish.

Sister Rita Kaufman (Sister Mary Simon) is on the staff of the Mercy Prayer Center in Fairport and also is engaged in spiritual direction at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Newark. She taught home economics at Notre Dame High School, Elmira, for eight years and then for 12 years was a religious education coordinator, first at Good Shepherd, Henrietta, and then at St. Michael's, Newark. She was born in Auburn, and Holy Family Parish there is her home.

Sister Jane Kenrick (Sister James Mary) has been a missionary in Santiago, Chile, since 1966. She also directs Chilean women who have just entered the Mercy congregation in Santiago and those thinking of entering religious life there. Prior to missionary work, she taught at St. John the Evangelist, Rochester, and Good Shepherd. Her home parish is Immaculate Conception, Ithaca.

Since 1980, Sister Joanne Lappetito (Sister Michael) has been the executive director of the Federation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, which is based at the Mercy motherhouse, Rochester. She taught Latin and theology at the secondary level for 12 years at Cardinal Mooney, Notre Dame and Our Lady of Mercy High School and was diocesan director of religious education in Rochester for five years. She served as the congregation's novitiate director and was a member of the Mercy Formation Team. She was also a parish religious education coordinator and a lecturer at St. Bernard's Seminary. She is a Rochester native, and her home parish is St. John the Evangelist.

Sister Kathleen Mary O'Connell is pastoral assistant at Holy Cross Parish, Rochester, where she first began teaching 25 years ago. She was an elementary teacher for nine years at Holy Cross, Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Michael's, Newark, and also taught Spanish at Cardinal Mooney High School for four years. She was a chaplain to the SUNY Geneseo Newman Community for 11 years and this past year was on the Tioga County Rural Ministry team. She has also served as the Mercy congregation's vocational

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Golden jubilarians are (front to back, left to right): Sisters Mary Dominica Petocchi, Mary Corinne Cimineri, Jane Frances Hauser, Mary Regis Straughn, Mary Finn-Bar Bartley, Mary Valerian McGraw and Mary Ambrose Rogers.



Silver jubilarians are (front to back, left to right): Sisters Joanne Lappetito, Sheila Sentiff, Marie Catherine Cain, Jane Schur, Kathleen Mary O'Connell, Jane Kenrick, Roberta Rodenhouse, Rita Kaufman and Marlene Vigna.