

Queen of Sacred Heart Academy finds new home at Christ the King

The Academy of the Sacred Heart was established in 1855 as Rochester's first Catholic High School for girls. For many years the academy's campus on Prince Street was graced by a cast-iron statue of the Blessed Mother which had been made in France in the 1860s. The academy, which in its later years served boys and girls in the elementary grades as well, was closed in 1969, but the statue has now found a second

home at Christ the King School in Irondequoit.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Falvo acquired the aging statue at the time of the academy's demolition and donated it to the Christ the King Parish in 1981. Parish members have since refurbished and painted the statue and built an outdoor shrine to house it.

On October 17, Bishop Dennis W. Hickey dedicated the new Blessed Mother Shrine in a ceremony with the school's children and faculty. An honor court composed of two students from each grade in the school led one decade of the living rosary, and the Blessed Mother was crowned by eighth grader Yesenia Quevedo.

To conclude the services, the gathering said the following prayer of consecration for Mary's intercession:

Mary, our loving mother, be present to us today as we celebrate the dedication of this shrine to you.

Invite your Son, Jesus, into our hearts each and every day of our lives. Let our beings proclaim His greatness with you, Mary.

Let us reflect the light of His love in all that we do, and let the rays of His love

extend from our hearts to our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Because a mother always cares, we know that you, Mary our Mother, will hear our prayers. Queen of this parish of Christ the King, pray for us!



Eighth grader Steve Fullone leads the honor court procession and celebrants toward the statue at Christ the King Church that was blessed Thursday, Oct. 17.



The honor court members, a boy and a girl from each grade, wait patiently, taking turns to lay bouquets of flowers at the foot of the statue.



In his homily, Bishop Dennis W. Hickey told the students that it was fitting to dedicate a statue to Mary, the Queen of Peace, at Christ the King Church.

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