COURIER-JOURNAL

On St. Joseph's Day, Sisters of St. Joseph mark 150th year in U.S., Canada

Sound the trumper ... this is to be a jubile for you. (Leviticus 25:9; 11)

Trumpet fanfare and a reading of this proclamation from Leviticus began the St. Joseph's Day celebration for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, who gathered in their East Avenue Motherhouse chapel on Saturday, March 15. Unique to this year's celebration is the fact that the congregation is celebrating its 150th anniversary of service in the New World. It was on March 25, 1836, that six French Sisters of St. Joseph arrived in St. Louis to begin their work on this continent.

The Leviticus proclamation speaks of a "return to one's ancestral home," and Sister Elizabeth Anne LeValley, superior general of the congregation, stressed this idea in her address to the sisters. She urged them to recall that the meaning of jubilee calls us back to "the sacred and holy principles of love and of humbly walking on holy ground with every neighbor.

Living by these principles is, she said, "a common dream shared by believers and non-believers: it is not unlike the cream that was a part of the founding of this country, and it is central to the dream that the Son of Joseph lived and died for.

"Let us be on fire with the message that burns within us," she concluded. "The legacy behind us and the promise before us demand that we be heroic."

To continue the celebration of heritage and history, the sisters scheduled a desert reception at the St. Joseph Convent and Infirmary. Throughout the afternoon, sisters visited with the retired sisters who reside in the convent infirmary, and shared the displays of pictures and records of past events.

The U.S. and Canadian Sisters of St. Joseph have planned a national jubilee event, which will be held in St. Louis June 20-25. About 1,200 sisters - including a delegation from Rochester — are expected to attend.



Sister Irene Wolter and Sister St. Clare Casey exchange greetings after the services.



Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Monsignor William Shannon concelebrate the Mass commemorating the feast day of St. Joseph.

Red Cross Health Series

Six "Lifestyle Management" seminars will be held at the Red Cross, 50 Prince St., in April and May. Classes will be offered April 15, 10 a.m.-noon, for \$6; April 18, 9



a.m.-12:30 p.m., for \$8; April 21 and 23, 6:30-10 p.m., for \$12; April 22, 10 a.m.-noon, for \$6; April 29, 10 a.m.-noon, for \$6; May 6, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., for \$8. To register, call (716)461-9800, ext. 222 or 326

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