



Linda Dow Hayes/Catholic Courier  
Sister Mary Norbert Schlitzer is celebrating her 70th year as a Sister of Mercy.

# Sister made up for 'lost time'

Sister Mary Norbert Schlitzer got a late start as a Sister of Mercy.

The Rochester native did not enter the congregation until 1918 when she was already 29 years old.

But she has made up for that lost time, and this year will celebrate 70 years as a Sister of Mercy — the senior member of this year's group of jubilarians from the congregation.

On June 21, Sister Schlitzer also celebrated her 100th birthday, making her the oldest jubilarian as well. The two milestones in her life were marked by a special reception held June 24 at Lourdes Hall in the Sisters' of Mercy motherhouse on Blossom Rd., Rochester.

Sister Schlitzer continues to serve as an active member of the congregation despite her age. Her daily routine includes a half-hour morning meditation and visits to the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel of Lourdes Hall.

In addition, this past summer she asked another Sister of Mercy to teach her how to crochet so she could add yet another activity to her knitting and tatting. Thus, she could contribute more items to the congregation's annual arts and crafts sale.

The desire to learn and to remain active has been typical of Sister Schlitzer, even after she retired from teaching in 1960.

Even in her 70s, for example, she started studying Spanish. When asked about learning a new language so late in

life, she simply explained, "Never let your mind be idle."

Sister Schlitzer was born in Rochester June 21, 1889. Her father died, so even after finishing high school she remained at home to be with her mother, taking a job as a secretary.

After her sister was able to take over caring for their mother, Sister Schlitzer entered the Mercy congregation on Aug. 15, 1918. She was received into the novitiate July 5, 1919, and took her perpetual vows in 1926.

Given a choice between pursuing music — Sister Schlitzer played the piano — and teaching, Sister Schlitzer chose teaching. "I loved teaching," she said. "I loved the children."

Between 1919 and 1960, she taught at a number of schools: Mt. Carmel, St. Mary's, St. Andrew's, St. Charles, Holy Cross, St. Salome's, and St. John the Evangelist, all in Rochester; and St. John's, Clyde. She also earned a bachelor's degree in education from St. Bonaventure University in 1942.

Sister Schlitzer retired from teaching in 1960 due to her age and a hearing loss, but she continued to do typing and office work in the congregation's Catherine McAuley College before it ceased operations in 1970.

She worked around the motherhouse until her doctor told her to stop.

Reflecting on 70 years as a woman religious, Sister Schlitzer said two things she enjoyed were the opportunity for prayer and "the quiet life."

## Jubilarians honored for service to God, community

### 60 years

Three Mercy sisters celebrated their 60th anniversaries.

Sister Louis Marie Gabriel known to many of her students as Sister Charlotte, taught for 41 years in diocesan schools, then served the elderly at Maryville Home for Adults in Avoca, before retiring to the Mercy Motherhouse.

Among the schools in which Sister Gabriel served were: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Salome, St. Charles Borromeo, St. James, and Cardinal Mooney High School — all in Rochester; and Holy Family, Auburn.

Since retiring, Sister Gabriel takes part in the spiritual apostolate of prayer and enjoys creative writing.

Corning native Sister Mary Patrice Hussey spent 28 of her 47 years as a teacher serving in her hometown. She taught at St. Mary's School from 1932-42 and 1955-68, and at St. Vincent DePaul from 1944-49.

Sister Hussey also spent four years at Holy Cross, Rochester, and nine years at St. Ann's, Hornell (1971-80).

In addition to regular classroom duties, Sister Hussey frequently served schools to which she was assigned as a music teacher, directed parish choirs, and played the organ.

She was also a school principal for three years — two of them at St. Cecilia's, Elmira (1950-52).

For the past nine years, Sister Hussey has served as a parish visitor at St. Ann's

Parish, Hornell, where she has lived since 1971.

Sister Mary Justin Morris taught for a half century in diocesan schools.

Aside from four years as principal of Holy Cross School, she taught at St. Thomas the Apostle, St. John the Evangelist, Our Lady of Mercy elementary school, and St. John's, Clyde. She also taught at St. Salome's, St. Rita's and St. Andrew's schools.

Since 1984, Sister Morris has been office manager for the annual Mercy Founders Club fundraiser. She has lived at the Mercy motherhouse since 1973.

### 50 years

Marking their golden jubilees are seven Sisters of Mercy serving in locations scattered from Santiago, Chile, to Victor, N.Y.

Sister Mary de Paul Dugan has served in diocesan elementary schools for 48 years, primarily as a teacher, but also as a school office worker and learning center aide. Since 1986, she has been computer coordinator at Holy Cross School.

Previously, Sister Dugan had served at St. Andrew's, Good Shepherd, St. John the Evangelist, Rochester, St. Salome's and St. Thomas the Apostle schools. She was also parish visitor at St. Salome's for seven years, and at St. John the Evangelist, Rochester.

A business teacher for 22 years, Sister Carolyn Lattinville, also known to students as Sister William, taught at St.

Mary's School of Business, Rochester; Notre Dame High School, Elmira; and Rochester Business Institute, where she was also program coordinator.

From 1950-65, Sister Lattinville was business manager of St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell. For the past nine years, she has served as secretary at Ignatius House, a Jesuit retreat house in Atlanta, Ga.

Sister Mary Perpetua McHale spent 20 of her 24 years teaching at St. John the Evangelist School on Humboldt Street, Rochester. She also taught at Our Lady of Mercy elementary school for four years, and served as director of Mercy novices for six years.

Since 1972, Sister McHale has been director of religious education at St. Patrick's, Victor.

Sister Margaret Mary Mungovan, previously known as Sister Helen Marie, taught for 30 years, primarily at St. Patrick's, Owego, Holy Cross, St. John the Evangelist, Rochester, and Our Lady of Mercy High School.

During the 1960s, she was a ham radio operator.

In 1971, Sister Mungovan left the United States for mission work in Santiago, Chile. During two home visits, she has served as a pastoral assistant to Spanish-speaking people in Newark, N.Y. (1979-80), and as a missionary to Mexican-Americans in Texas and California (1980-81).

Since 1940, Sister Marian Elizabeth Schantz has been involved in nursing — as



Sisters of Mercy celebrating their 60th year as women religious are Sr. Louise Marie Gabriel (center), Sr. M. Patrice Hussey (left) and Sr. M. Justin Morris (right).

a student, nurse, and instructor.

Beginning in 1946, she served as an instructor at St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, and at New York state universities in Brockport, Albany, Utica and Rome.

While at St. James Mercy, she initiated a hospital newspaper, which she edited for 10 years. Sister Schantz has been head  
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