

Sisters of Mercy pay tribute to 10 jubilarians

The Sisters of Mercy honored 10 jubilarians during the congregation's traditional Mercy Day weekend, Sept. 22-23, at the Mercy motherhouse, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester.

The annual Mercy Day Mass took place on Sept. 23, with Bishop Matthew H. Clark as the celebrant. The liturgy included the annual commissioning of the sisters to their ministry and the renewal and blessing of the Mercy associate members' covenant. The jubilarians were honored at a social hour and dinner following the Mass.

The following sisters are celebrating their jubilees.

Celebrating 60 years

Sister Mary Georgiana Markel, a native Rochesterian, entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1929 and was received into the novitiate in February, 1930. She taught in diocesan schools from 1931 until she retired in 1983.

Her longest teaching stints were at St. Salome's School (1939-46, 1947-55) and St. Charles Borromeo (1955-64), both in Rochester. Sister Markel also taught at Holy Cross, St. Cecilia's and Mount Carmel, all in Rochester, and at St. Mary's, Corning, and St. Patrick's, Elmira.



Sister Mary Georgiana Markel, RSM

She served as a school tutor from 1968 to 1983, spending four years at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Brighton, and 11 years at St. Andrew's School, Rochester.

Sister Markel also served for 30 years as church sacristan in several parishes in which she taught. She currently lives at the Mercy motherhouse with the Omega senior sisters' community, and her ministry is the congregation's Spiritual Apostolate of Prayer for special needs in the world and locally.

GENESECO — The diocesan jubilee for religious celebrating their anniversaries this year will take place at St. Mary's Church, 4 Avon Road, this Saturday, Oct. 13.

The day will include a Eucharistic celebration with Bishop Matthew H. Clark at 11:30 a.m.



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Celebrating 50 years

Sister Mary Bonaventure Hall served in several capacities at Our Lady of Mercy School for 42 years. She was principal from 1976-83, primarily a math teacher for 35 years (1944-58, 1960-76, 1983-88), and vice principal and teacher for three years.

During that time she also served the congregation in several capacities, including as an elected member of the congregation's Executive Council (1970-77), director of sisters with first vows, as well as math teacher and dean of the former Catherine McAuley College.

A native Rochesterian, Sister Bonaventure graduated from Our Lady of Mercy High School in 1939 and received a bachelor of arts degree in Latin from Nazareth College in 1945, a master of science degree in math from Notre Dame University in 1958, and a doctorate in secondary-school administration from St. John's University, Brooklyn, in 1961.

Sister Hall currently serves as assistant in the congregational treasurer's office.



From 1972-76, **Sister Mary Anne Steinmetz** was a core member of the former St. Mary's House of Prayer in Corning. Her other years in ministry have been spent in education at the secondary-school level.

She taught Latin and German for 33 years — 16 at Our Lady of Mercy High School (1939-55) and 17 at Elmira Notre Dame High School (1955-72).

Since 1976 she has worked in the Mercy high school media center and has been its audiovisual coordinator since 1982. Sister Steinmetz graduated from the former Naples Academy in 1929, received a bachelor of arts degree from Syracuse University in 1933 and a master of arts degree in German and Latin from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., in 1949.

She taught for four-and-a-half years at the former Naples Academy — which is now Naples Central School — prior to entering the Mercy congregation in 1939.



Sister Mary Virginia Sweeney has been a clerical assistant in the Mercy congregation's administrative offices since 1984. A 1938 graduate of Our Lady of Mercy High School, she was at St. James Mercy Hospital for 12 years for both her training (1944) and her nursing ministry (1941-46, 1947-48, 1958-64).

Sister Sweeney was also school nurse at Mercy for a year and summer camp nurse at Camp Stella Maris, Conesus Lake, from 1949-66. From 1948-58 and again from 1964-83, she taught in diocesan schools. Among the schools in which she taught were: St. Mary's, Corning, St. Mary's, Bath, and Holy Cross, St. Charles Borromeo, St. James, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Andrew's, all of Rochester.



Sister Mary Patrick Kennedy is a clinical nutritionist for Group Health, dividing her time between the Wilson Health Center and the Greece Health Center.

She started out as a teacher at St. Mary School, Corning, from 1942-45, and then taught home economics for 18 years at Our



Lady of Mercy High School (1945-55) and Notre Dame High School (1955-63). At the completion of further study, she left teaching to become a dietician.

Sister Kennedy has served at both St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell (1964-76) and then briefly at St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira. She arrived at the Wilson Health Center in 1978.

A 1939 graduate of Our Lady of Mercy High School, she received a bachelor of science degree in home economics from Columbia University in 1951. Sister Kennedy later took graduate courses at Cornell University, and completed her dietetic internship at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, in 1964.

Since 1980, **Sister Mary André Streb** has been an ombudsman for elderly people in Steuben County. She has served the elderly in nursing and adult homes since 1980.

Between 1941 and 1973 Sister Streb worked at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell in a variety of nursing roles, including head nurse, night supervisor and director of nursing service. She was also a school nurse at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

From 1973 to 1979, Sister Streb was a public health nurse in Steuben County.

She graduated from Our Lady of Mercy in 1939 and from the St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in 1944. Sister Streb also earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing education from Marquette University in 1950. She has lived with the community of Mercy sisters in Canisteo since 1977.



Sister Jane Hasbrouck, formerly Sister Mary Cyprian, has served as the congregation's archivist since 1985. She also was administrative secretary for the congregation from 1971-82. A secondary school teacher for 30 years, she taught primarily English, Latin and math at Holy Family High School, Auburn, for six years.

Sister Hasbrouck then moved over to Our Lady of Mercy High School, where she taught for 21 years and served as attendance secretary for three years. She was also vice principal at Holy Family, Mercy and Elmira Notre Dame high schools.

After graduating from Our Lady of Mercy High School in 1939, Sister Hasbrouck earned a bachelor of arts degree in math and English from Nazareth College in 1943, and a master's degree in Latin from St. Bonaventure University in 1959.



For the past 22 years, **Sister Mary Jude Rockenbrock** has ministered at St. Ann's Parish, Hornell. She has been the pastoral assistant in Hornell since 1976 and prior to that she taught at St. Ann's School from 1968-76. Her 33-year teaching ministry also included 17 years in Corning — six at St. Mary's (1942-43, 1961-66) and 11 at St. Vincent's (1946-57).

Sister Rockenbrock also taught at St. Andrew's, St. John the Evangelist (Humboldt Street) and Mount Carmel, all in Rochester, and St. Cecilia's, Elmira. She graduated from Our Lady of Mercy High School in 1939 and received a bachelor of arts degree in history from Nazareth College in 1967.



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