

# Nine sisters record golden jubilees



## 'Class of '42' has contributed 450 years of service

**EDITORS' NOTE:** This is the third in a series of articles honoring women religious celebrating their jubilees this year.

The following comments by Sisters of St. Joseph celebrating their 50th anniversaries were provided by the order's public relations office. Call 716/586-1000, ext. 72, for information.

### Celebrating 50 years

Sister Anne Helene Brien is a Rochester native.

"There was a 'time' in my life for each: teaching, marriage tribunal work, parish pastoral care," Sister Brien said. "After 30 years of ministry in the field of education, I found new life in the church and in myself in the 1970s as avenues of pastoral ministry opened up to women religious. The opportunities were challenging, refreshing, and exciting — all enriched me by my relationships to the people of God."

"My ministry consisted mainly in teaching first grade children as well as eight years with a combination of kindergarten and first-grade children in the same classroom," said Sister Irma Coccia, a Rochester native. "Little children have been my specialty. I loved that. Now I am at the opposite end of the spectrum working with our elderly sisters; that, too, is challenging."

"I thought serving as night hospital supervisor at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira was satisfying," noted Rochester native Sister Karen Considine.

"It was exciting and challenging to be at the hub of all hospital activity. It was gratifying and humbling to see how much the presence of a religious meant to patients in their times of need."

"Teaching student nurses at St. Joseph's and at Nazareth College of Rochester was also satisfying. It was such a joy to see them learn, gain confidence in giving shots, etc., and finally mature to become registered, professional nurses."

Rochester native Sister Arline DeRoller declared, "I enjoyed all my ministries ... the longest being (at) St. Ambrose. I spent many enjoyable years there." Sister DeRoller has been at St. Ambrose since 1965.

"I found teaching at Ss. Peter and Paul in Elmira (from 1946-53) satisfying," remarked Sister Grace Gleichauf, a native of Rochester. "It was my first and only out-of-town mission. I had the privilege of opening the kindergarten there under Monsignor (William) Noughton, the pastor."

"Most of my years in religion have been spent in the teaching profession," said Sister Helen Therese Koenen, who was born in Auburn.

"They have been most satisfying because of the children. They have been my teacher as well, by showing me the meaning of true simplicity, love, complete trust in others, and a striving to grow and mature in times of discouragement and failure."

Sister Marie Stephanie McCaughey is a native of Perry.

"Observing the progress in instrumental students, especially beginners, was something I was enthusiastic about; watching them as they sensed their mastery of each of the techniques I tried to teach them," said Sister McCaughey, who taught music at Nazareth Academy and Nazareth Hall, among other places.

"I also found teaching harmony classes at the secondary and college level (during summers) satisfying," she added. "Perhaps this is because all levels of music theory are akin to math subjects in that they fascinate an analytical mind. Apparently it is not a coin-

idence that I almost chose math as a college major. However, my great enjoyment of music won out, and I enrolled as a music major."

Sister Teresa Singer, a Rochester native, spent her years as an elementary teacher in schools throughout the diocese, including Holy Trinity, Webster; St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls; Nazareth Hall, Rochester; Sacred Heart, Rochester; Holy Rosary, Rochester; St. Patrick's, Mt. Morris; St. Mary's Dansville; St. Jerome's, East Rochester; St. Paul's, Oswego. She currently serves at St. Mary's School, Canandaigua.

Sister Irene Wolter is a native of Rochester. She has served as cafeteria supervisor at Nazareth College of Rochester from 1946-1968.

"I found working in food service rewarding. I had a natural inclination for cooking and food preparation and presentation in general," Sister Wolter said. "The satisfaction came from being able to satisfy the needs of hungry students, faculty, and guests."



## Notre Dame religious mark anniversaries

Five women religious with Rochester connections were honored along with 28 other members of the School Sisters of Notre Dame during a May 17 celebration at the congregation's motherhouse in Wilton, Conn.

Sister Mary Bilhildis Boss is marking 70 years with the order. A former parishioner of Rochester's Holy Family Parish, Sister Boss professed with the congregation on Aug. 28, 1922, in Baltimore, Md. She taught for many years in Holy Family and Holy Ghost schools in Rochester.

Sister Boss currently resides at the congregation's Lourdes Health Center in Wilton.

The celebrant for the May 17 liturgy was Father John Whalen of Rochester, brother to one of the jubilarians, Sister Mary Louise Whalen.

A former member of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Rochester, Sister Whalen is marking 60 years with the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She made her profession on Aug. 4, 1932, in Baltimore. Sister Whalen helped to open Bishop Kearney High School in 1962, serving as the vice principal of the girls' wing.

In addition, Sister Whalen served as a professor of chemistry at the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore in 1941 and from 1950-62.

Sister Whalen currently volunteers at Rochester's St. Philip Neri Church.

Also celebrating 60 years in the congregation is Sister Mary John Damascene Toth, who also made her profes-

sion on Aug. 4, 1932, in Baltimore.

A former member of Holy Family Parish in Rochester, Sister Toth pursued a career in education. She taught in Rochester Catholic schools between 1959 and 1984.

Sister Toth now lives at the Lourdes Health Center.

Two of the order's members celebrating 25 years since their professions July 18, 1967, in Wilton, Conn. have ties to Rochester.

Sister Evelyn Breslin, a native of Malden, Mass., currently serves as assistant principal at Bishop Kearney High School.

Rochester native Sister Joyce Wittman was a former member of Holy Ghost Parish. She taught in Westbury, Conn., from 1968-73, and is currently involved in community service at the congregation's motherhouse.

## Great Beginnings.

The best gift you can give your child is a quality education. At Nazareth Hall, we offer great beginnings from pre-K through grade 8. Our value based education stimulates growth both in the classroom and in the community.

We'd like to show you what we're all about. Come visit our classrooms and talk with our faculty. Make Nazareth Hall the beginning of something special for your child.

*Nazareth Hall*

**Open House '92**  
Tuesday evening • November 10 • 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Pre-K through 5 180 Raines Park 458-3786	Grades 6 through 8 1001 Lake Avenue 458-8583
--	--

**NAZARETH SCHOOLS**  
The Hall - The Academy • A Tradition You Can Trust  
*Privately Owned and Operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph since 1884.*

## The Gaelic Shop

Quality Gifts with a Gaelic Flair

### Announcing the opening of our newly expanded store.

We've moved just next door to  
**41 S. Main Street in Pittsford Village.**  
Stop in today to see our new selection of Irish gifts in time for the holiday season.

**A special thank - you to all our customers for making our first year a huge success!**

**Store Hours: Mon. - Sat. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm**  
**41 S. Main Street, Pittsford (716) 248-8346**