

Milestones

SSJ's

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old, through teaching, nursing, and administration.

"The privilege of sharing in the lives of those whom I have ministered has contributed to my personal growth and confirmed for me that my choice of religious life has been the correct choice for me," Sister Juliana said.

The Buffalo native graduated from the Nazareth Academy in 1945, and went on to Nazareth College to study nursing. Upon graduation, Sister Juliana became a staff nurse at the St. Ann's Home, then on Lake Avenue. Two years later she taught science and health at Nazareth Academy, then at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira.

In 1954, Sister Juliana became the acting director of nursing education at St. Joseph's. She also served as assistant director of nursing education and associate director of nursing education.

Returning to earn her master's degree in public administration from Cornell University, Sister Juliana became a licensed nursing home administrator as well as a member of the American College of Hospital Administrators.

She served as the coordinator of the program for the aging at St. Joseph's and from 1973 to 1984, she was the director of the Chemung County Office for Aging.

For the past 10 years, Sister Juliana has worked as the relief receptionist at the mother-

house. She has also been the health care consultant and assistant in spirituality ministry.

One of the most memorable service opportunities for Sister Katherine Popowich, SSJ, (formerly Sister Michael Marya) was volunteering for the first Latin-American mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

The teacher at DeSales High School in Geneva learned of the mission in 1964.

"Being part of the first mission group in the '60s was a privileged moment in many ways," she said from the congregational mission in Brazil. "Vatican II was revolutionizing our concept of church as people of God; was calling religious congregations to renewal; the Latin-American church was revolutionized by Medellin and its option for the poor and for Christian base communities. To live this whole renewing process, immersed in a different culture, in a church committed to the poor, was a challenge to dream of what might be."

The Brockport native has spent 30 years out of her 50-year career in Latin America, working as a missionary, teacher, and pastoral agent.

Sister Katherine entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1946. The Nazareth Academy graduate began her career in education teaching at Immaculate Conception School, then taught at School of the Holy Child-

hood, St. Agnes High School and DeSales High School.

Sister Ursuline Spohn, SSJ, always tried to instill a love of learning in her students.

The Frankfort native dedicated most of her career to teaching history at Nazareth Academy and DeSales High School.

"I chose secondary school education because I felt I could relate to that particular age group," she said. "History became alive to me, and I tried to instill the love of that subject in my students."

Inspired by learning, Sister Ursuline pursued her own education. After receiving a bachelor's degree in sociology and French, she attended the University of Rochester where she earned a master's degree in education. She also earned permanent certification in Italian.

Twenty-three years after becoming a teacher, Sister Ursuline decided to enter the administrative area of education. She served as a guidance counselor at St. Monica's School, then as a coordinator at St. Francis Xavier School. At Nazareth Academy, she completed one year each as a clerical assistant and as secretary for the English department.

Since retiring in 1975, Sister Ursuline has volunteered for Nazareth Academy as a library worker and bookkeeper. For the last year she has been a volunteer at the Irondequoit Senior Center.

a woman in the world has been one of the most significant changes in 25 years for Sister Sheila Briody, SSJ.

"Being unencumbered by possessions, yet open and receptive to the needy has been a call and challenge as God leads me," Sister Sheila said.

A Toronto native, Sister Sheila graduated from St. Agnes High School in 1969. She continued her education at Nazareth College, where she earned a bachelor's degree in religious studies.

For six years, Sister Sheila taught first at St. Monica's School, then at St. Agnes High School. A short time later, she accepted the position of school chaplain at St. Agnes. She served as chaplain for three years, after which she became the chaplain at SUNY Brockport.

Graduating with a master's degree in theology from Notre Dame University, Sister Sheila returned to SUNY Brockport as the campus minister as well as the associate director of psychotherapy at the Chili Counseling Center.

In 1989, she became the director of novices for the congregations, while also working as a counselor at the Catholic Family Center. Since 1994, Sister Sheila has been a counselor at the Samaritan Counseling Center and the St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center.

Looking back on the past 25 years as a Sister of Saint Joseph, Sister Kathleen Weider, SSJ, has been particularly grateful

for opportunities to work with Salvadoran refugees.

Sister Kathleen traveled to El Salvador and Honduras six times between 1986 and 1991, trying to assist the victims and seek an end to the war financially supported by the United States.

"It was deplorable to see the destruction and hear their stories of repression, torture, and death at the hands of their own government," Sister Kathleen said. "The meetings with military and political leaders there, representatives at the U.S. Embassy, and members of the United Nations High Commission on refugees were real eye-openers."

Sister Kathleen entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1969, after graduating from St. Agnes High School. The Rochester native earned a degree in religious studies and history from Nazareth College, then went on to become a theology teacher at St. Agnes High School and Nazareth Academy.

In 1979, she became vocation director for the congregation. Through the years, she has served in several positions including director of the Medaille House, a local community for women considering a religious vocation, instructor for continuing education, and part-time teacher at Nazareth Academy.

From 1986 to 1990, Sister Kathleen worked as the assistant chaplain at Nazareth College as well as director of the Medaille House. For the past six years, she has served as the director of campus ministry at Nazareth College.

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25 years

The call and challenge to be

School sisters honor jubilarians

The School Sisters of Notre Dame will honor their jubilarians Saturday, May 4, at the congregation's motherhouse in Wilton, Conn.

Among the 22 women celebrating jubilees this year, six have Rochester connections.

75 years

Sister M. Justin O'Loughlin, SSND, was born in Brooklyn June 20, 1899. She made her final profession as a School Sister of Notre Dame Aug. 28, 1921, at the congregation's motherhouse in Baltimore, Md. From 1947 to 1953 she served as the principal at Holy Ghost School in Rochester.

60 years

Sister M. Janet Fitzgerald, SSND, was born Oct. 26, 1915, in Boston. She made her final profession as a School Sister of Notre Dame Aug. 5, 1936, at the congregation's motherhouse in Baltimore. She served as a teacher at St. Joseph School,

Rochester, from 1953 to 1954.

Fellow Boston native, Sister M. Bernardine Hanley, SSND, also made her profession as a School Sister of Notre Dame Aug. 5, 1936, in Baltimore. Born Aug. 24, 1915, she served as principal of St. Joseph's School, Rochester, from 1961 to 1967.

50 years

Sister Grace Marie Hansen, SSND, was born Feb. 4, 1925, in Brooklyn. She made her profession as a School Sister of Notre Dame July 31, 1946, at the congregation's motherhouse in Baltimore. She taught at Bishop Kearney High School, Rochester, from 1971 to 1979.

Sister Alma Caroline Statt, SSND, (formerly Sister Victoria) is an Ogden native born June 18, 1925. She was baptized at Holy Ghost Parish, Rochester, and professed with the School Sisters of Notre Dame

July 31, 1946, at the Baltimore motherhouse.

Sister Statt taught at Holy Redeemer School, Rochester, from 1954 to 1959. She then taught at Holy Family School, Rochester, until 1963, and St. Margaret Mary School, Rochester, from 1965 to 1982. Between 1982 and 1988, Sister Statt taught at Bishop Kearney High School, Rochester. Since 1988 she has served on the staff at Bishop Kearney.

Sister Catherine Trott, SSND, (formerly Sister Carl), was born Jan. 25, 1921, in Rochester. She was baptized at St. Michael Church, Rochester, and made her profession as a School Sister of Notre Dame July 31, 1946, at the congregation's Baltimore motherhouse.

From 1953 to 1956, Sister Trott taught at St. Boniface School, and from 1962 to 1967 at Holy Family School, both in Rochester. She served on the clerical staff at Bishop Kearney High School from 1972 to 1973, was active at Holy Family Parish, Rochester, from 1981 to 1984, and has been involved in community service at Bishop Kearney High School Convent since 1993.