

FEATURE

38 Sisters of St. Joseph observe anniversaries

The Sisters of St. Joseph will celebrate their jubilees with a Mass at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 3, at the motherhouse in Pittsford, followed by a reception.

75 years



Sister Annunciata McCabe, SSJ, has devoted most of her 75 years of religious life to education. Sister Annunciata graduated from Nazareth Academy in 1924, after which she entered the congregation. She graduated from Nazareth College in 1927, and joined the staff of Nazareth Academy, where she spent the next 43 years. She taught Italian and French for 22 years, and then moved into administration. Her administrative posts included serving as director of studies, vice principal and principal. While she was working at Nazareth Academy, Sister Annunciata earned a bachelor's degree in Latin and French from Canisius College and a master's degree in French from Montreal University.

"Both aspects of education were important to me," Sister Annunciata explained. "In teaching a class, it was important to be sure to get the message across and my goal was to make these students successful in whatever they were doing."

"In administration, it was important to concentrate on getting things done, especially in planning and development," she continued. "The work made me feel good, because I felt I was making a positive contribution to the future of these students."

Sister Annunciata eventually accepted a position as special assistant to the vice president of planning and development at Nazareth College. She remained at the college for 16 years before retiring in 1989. Since her retirement, Sister Annunciata has focused on prayer ministry and now lives at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmiry.



Sister Rose Frisk, SSJ, (formerly Sister Rose Adelaide) was inspired as a youth to be a Sister of St. Joseph, and entered the congregation in 1924. "My earliest memories of the nuns at St. Mary's in Elmira are still vivid to this day," Sister Rose said. "They were the women of prayer. They were excellent teachers, and they were kind and compassionate."

"They were also 'Angels of Mercy' who visited and helped in homes where there was illness, death or other misfortune. They helped regardless of social status or class distinction."

These sisters prove an inspiration to Sister Rose even now as a 75-year jubilarian. The Nazareth Academy graduate accepted her first teaching assignment at St. John the Evangelist in Spencerport in 1927. She went on to teach in schools throughout the area including St. Ambrose (1936-39) and Immaculate Conception (1939-41). Sister Rose earned a B.S. in chemistry and general science from Nazareth College. She also earned a master's degree in chemistry from St. Louis University. She went on to teach chemistry at the college from 1942-45. In 1945, she traveled to Selma, Ala., where she taught for two years. She returned to Rochester in 1947, and taught at Nazareth Academy until 1953. She went on to DeSales High School in Geneva (1954-56), and Mt. Carmel High School in Auburn (1956-59). She later became principal of DeSales High School (1959-65), before returning to teach at Nazareth Academy (1965-82).

Sister Rose retired from teaching in

1982, at which time she became the Academy's library assistant. Since 1989, she has served in convent services and prayer ministry.



Sister Mary Carmel Uschold, SSJ, never had a class she didn't love. That says a lot, considering she spent more than 50 of her 75 years as a Sister of St. Joseph in the classroom. "I expected my students to be ladies and gentlemen, and they responded as such," she went on. "It was just a great time in my life. I still hear from my students, and I'm so happy for them."

Sister Mary Carmel entered the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester in 1925. The Nazareth Academy graduate began her teaching career in 1927 at St. Agnes School in Avon. She went on to teach at St. Ambrose (1929-34), St. Paul in Oswego (1934-42), Our Lady of Victory (1942-43), Ss. Peter and Paul in Elmira (1943-45, 1959-60), Holy Rosary (1945-50), Corpus Christi (1950-52), St. Francis Xavier (1952-55), Holy Apostles (1955-56), St. Joseph in Wayland (1956-59), St. Thomas More (1960-63), St. Mary in Canandaigua (1963-68), Nazareth Hall Cadet School (1968-70), Our Lady of Good Counsel (1970-72), and St. Pius X (1972-78). Sister Mary Carmel shared with her students an enthusiasm for sports, and with that same enthusiasm, she worked hard to build their love for learning. After retiring in 1978, Sister Mary Carmel continued to serve on the financial staff for the Congregational Health Fund. And since 1987, she has worked as a librarian at the Religious Life Resource Center.

70 years



Sister Marie Anne Slavin, SSJ, accepts with pride the honor of being the oldest sister in the congregation. She celebrated her 99th birthday on April 16,

The Nazareth Academy graduate entered the order in 1931, and went on to earn a B.S. from Nazareth College. Sister Marie Anne taught at Corpus Christi (1932-38) and Nazareth Academy (1938-49, 1953-83). She served as the registrar at Nazareth College (1949-53). Today, Sister Marie Anne lives at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmiry, where she remains devoted to her full-time prayer ministry.



The new millennium brings great hope for **Sister Joseph André De Mers, SSJ**, who taught many women religious from different orders across the Diocese of Rochester to become teachers. The Hudson Falls native educated these sisters at Nazareth Normal School. Eventually Nazareth Normal School merged into the education degree program at Nazareth College. In addition to training teachers, Sister Joseph André also taught middle school students around the diocese. She worked at St. Patrick Cathedral (1932-37), St. Stephen in Geneva (1937-39), St. Paul in Oswego (1939-40), St. Augustine (1940-43), and Sacred Heart (1943-50). In 1950, she was promoted to principal at Sacred Heart. She went on to serve as principal at School of the Holy Childhood (1956-62), St. Joseph's Villa (1962-63), and St. John the Evangelist in Spencerport (1963-71). Sister Joseph André then accepted the post of Learning Center coordinator at St. Augustine and St. Theodore's.

Since her retirement in 1982 she has worked at the motherhouse in various service ministries.



A nonagenarian, **Sister Robertina Finegan, SSJ** grew up in Rochester and entered the congregation after graduating from John Marshall High School. Her teaching assignments were St. Patrick in Dansville (1932-41),

Holy Apostles (1941-45), St. Paul in Oswego (1945-47), St. Patrick in Mt. Morris (1947-50), St. Stephen in Geneva (1950-52), and St. Mary in Waterloo (1952-56). She went on to become principal at St. Ambrose (1956-60) and St. Joseph's Villa (1960-62), before returning to teaching at Ss. Peter and Paul in Elmira (1962-71), and St. Patrick Junior High (1972-85). In 1985, she joined the staff of Sacred Heart School as a special education teacher. She remained there for 10 years, after which she retired.

During her career, Sister Robertina earned bachelor's degrees in education and English from Nazareth College, and a master's degree in special education from Fairfield University. She now concentrates on prayer ministry and lives at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmiry.

Looking back on 70 years as a Sister of St. Joseph, **Sister Cecile Berwind, SSJ**, (formerly Sister Helen Cecilia) cannot imagine her life any other way.



Sister Cecile has served primarily in education. She worked at Ss. Peter and Paul in Elmira (1932), Nazareth Academy (1933-40), DeSales High School in Geneva (1940-43, 1956-75), and St. Agnes High School (1943-56, 1975-78). In

1978, she became the cook at St. Agnes High School. She remained in that position for four years, until she joined the staff at Nazareth Academy. She worked in the English Resource Room and in volunteer service, before retiring in 1994.

Sister Cecile entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1930, after graduating from Nazareth Academy. During her career, she earned a bachelor's degree from Nazareth College and a master's degree from St. Bonaventure. Today, she lives at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmiry and focuses her energy on prayer ministry.



Sister Julia Podsiadlo, SSJ, (formerly Sister Anicetus) has retired from teaching, yet she remains quite busy with another ministry - candy making. Sister Julia devoted more than 50 years to education. She earned a bachelor's degree from Nazareth College and a master's degree from Notre Dame, and remains an avid Notre Dame fan. She taught at Immaculate Conception (1932-40), St. Monica (1941-44), Nazareth Academy (1944-45, 1947-57), DeSales High School in Geneva (1945-47), and St. Agnes High School (1957-82). In 1982, she again returned to Nazareth Academy to volunteer in the library, where she remained for three years. Since 1985 she has worked at Nazareth Convent, where she also lives.



Sister Dorothy Marie Schantz, SSJ, believes she has been blessed with many opportunities. Sister Dorothy Marie herself has worked hard during her religious life. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1930, and

spent 40 years in education at more than 16 Catholic schools across the Rochester Diocese. While she was teaching, Sister Dorothy Marie earned two bachelor's degrees in education, and in English and history from Nazareth College.

In 1974, she became a pastoral assistant at St. Philip Neri, and one year later went to work at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmiry. From 1976-88, she served as the director of the Altar Bread Department, distributing altar breads to diocesan parishes. Since 1988, she has served as a volunteer in hospice care.



Sister Mary Adele Mariana, SSJ, finds it difficult to believe that she has been a Sister of St. Joseph for 70 years.

After graduating from Nazareth Normal School and Nazareth College, she taught at St. Anthony in Elmira (1932-42), St. Lucy (1942-48), St. Anne (1949-51), St. Francis Xavier (1951-59), Holy Apostles (1959-60), St. Anthony of Padua (1960-63), Immaculate Heart (1963-66), and St. Michael in Penn Yan (1966-68).

In 1968, she made a transition from teaching into health care. She became a certified nursing aide, and went to work at St. Mary's Hospital (1968-69). She then worked at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmiry from 1969-85. Since then she has retired, and now lives at the Infirmiry. She focuses her time on prayer ministry.



Sister Mary Alma Kraus, SSJ, enjoyed her childhood, growing up in Auburn. She attended school at St. Mary's, and was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph. She entered the order in 1931, and seven years later graduated

from Nazareth Normal High School. She went on to earn her certification in teaching from Nazareth Normal School and a bachelor's degree from Nazareth College. She later earned a second bachelor's degree from the college in English and social studies. Sister Mary Alma taught at St. Francis de Sales in Geneva (1934-39), Blessed Sacrament (1939-45), St. Monica (1945-49), St. Rose in Lima (1949-55), Mt. Carmel High School in Auburn (1955-57), and Nazareth Hall (1957-66). She later became principal at Nazareth Hall, and al-

Did You Know...?

There are single women in our midst committed to living the Gospel in service of the Church - yet living at home, pursuing their careers? They are members of

Caritas Christi
Secular Institute
(Approved by the Church)

For further information, write or call:
Fr. John Murray, CSB
3497 East Avenue • Rochester, NY 14618
(716) 586-6750
www.ccinfor.org

Congratulations

JUBILIANS, RETIREES
AND MARRIED COUPLES
FROM THE
CHURCH OF
SAINT MARY OUR MOTHER
816 WEST BROAD STREET,
HORSEHEADS NY 14845
(607) 739-3817

f Brooklyn
1, Jamaica,
ordination,
r at Christ
until 1983.
e of Port of
e did pas-
a seminary

Upson was
ent Ferrer
a leave of
the priest-
Diocese of
d as direc-
ely funded
h develop-
9-93.

Thomas J.
ended St.
Church,
and its
is a gradu-
Cardinal
gh School,
d St. John
College.
He also
y from St.
pleted clin-
tholic Uni-
gton, D.C.
ained by
n April 2,
ce Church,
t intern at
Rochester,
and then
Sacrament
0.

diocesan
then, with
Seminary
n director-
hood. In
of Becket
ant to the
t to Ithaca
1993-97.
erved as a
rsity, New
tor at the
ich serves

reflection
words: "I
years of
the words
ord Jesus
trength."
b Cullivan



STER
HANGING,
alls, ceilings
shampooed,
shing. Dan
3-0827.

