

Four SSNDs celebrate anniversaries

Four School Sisters of Notre Dame who taught in the Diocese of Rochester are observing 75-, 70- and 50-year jubilees.

75 YEARS



Sister Mary Albina Kowalczyk was born in Holy Redeemer Parish in Rochester on April 7, 1909, and entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Baltimore in 1924. Her final profession of vows was in 1934. She received her bachelor's degree from the College of Notre Dame in Maryland.

Sister Albina taught and served as administrator in several diocesan schools, including St. Boniface, St. Philip Neri and St. Margaret

Mary, all in Rochester; St. Michael, South Glens Falls; and St. Stephen/St. Edward, Warwick. Moving to Wilton, Conn., in 1980, she served on the staff of Lourdes Health Care Center at the congregation's motherhouse and as a community volunteer until her retirement in 1998. She currently resides at Lourdes Health Care Center.

70 YEARS



Sister Mary Alicine Fox, born in Savona, N.Y., on April 1, 1915, entered the congregation in Baltimore in 1930. She professed her final vows in 1939

and received her bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University. Sister Alicine taught for more than 50

years in Massachusetts, New Jersey and in the Rochester Diocese. She taught at Holy Family and St. Boniface Schools in Rochester. Retiring in 1991, she is in residence at the Lourdes Health Care Center at the motherhouse in Wilton, Conn.



Sister Mary Bernardin Schmitt was born in Buffalo on July 24, 1910. She entered the congregation in Baltimore in 1930, professing her final vows in 1939.

Most of Sister Bernardin's years in teaching were in the Diocese of Rochester at St. Michael, Holy Family and Holy Redeemer Schools. She taught in New Jersey prior to her 1994 retirement to the

motherhouse in Wilton, Conn.

50 YEARS



Sister Stephania Walczak, a native of Rochester, was taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame at St. Michael School. She then entered the Aspiranture

in Fort Lee, N.J. Following a teaching assignment in New Jersey, she returned to Rochester to teach at St. Margaret Mary School. In 1964, she became one of Bishop Kearney High School's pioneer staff, teaching English and religion. Following six years as principal and superior at St. Margaret Mary (1968-1974), she returned to Bishop Kearney High where she presently teaches theology.

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was granted instantaneous acceptance. It was in this moment I realized that I was part of a long legacy, my work being made more successful by the work of sisters past, and the work of sisters future being made possible by my work."



Sister Melita Burley, having joined the congregation from St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Rochester, taught at St. Monica, St. Agnes High School and

Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rochester. She currently is a teacher and librarian at the Nazareth Schools.

"I hadn't thought much about religious life until my senior year in high school. I had always felt great admiration for the sisters who taught me at Nazareth. In sharing my attraction to their way of life, I was advised to 'come and see.' Upon entering, I felt that this was where God wanted me to be. Even from my earliest years, my love for children drew me to think about teaching as a career. My many years with young people, both at the elementary and high school level, have been richly rewarding. As I look back on my 50

years as an SSJ, I thank God for the countless blessings: for my wonderful community, my family, friends, and the dedicated lay men and women with whom I have ministered in the schools and in the parishes where I have served."



Sister Sienna Cameron became a Sister of St. Joseph from St. James Parish in Rochester. Her teaching ministry took her to Corpus Christi in

Rochester, St. Mary in Waterloo and St. Alphonsus in Auburn. Her other ministries include the congregation's Public Relations and Communications Office and the diocese's Office of Human Development.

"Living in this congregation has been a great benefit. Through the love, support, challenge and understanding of my sisters in community I have gained so much. I have learned the value of working together with those having the same goals and vision, trusting that God would grace our way. Above all I have learned to treasure being accepted for what and who I am. I thank God for these 50 years filled with fond memories and blessings."

Congratulations

to

FR. LEO REINHARDT

25 YEARS

and

SR. MARY ELISE QUIGLEY, R.S.M

50 YEARS

from

Immaculate Conception Church

113 N. Geneva Street, Ithaca NY 14850