

LORETTO CENTENARYOUR ROOTS

Nov 1979

1880

1980

The Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary had its beginning in 1609 when Mother Mary Ward with five companions opened their first school in St. Omer for Catholic refugee children from England. Offering education for women, the Institute spread throughout Europe, back to England and on to Ireland. From Ireland in 1847, five Loretto nuns came to Canada and in due time a Canadian Generalate was formed.

August 30, 1880, marks the arrival of IBVM from Canada to the United States. Reverend Walter Power and Reverend Maurice Burke, two pastors in Joliet, had written to Mother Teresa Dease in Toronto, asking her now "to do something for the West." This year we celebrate that foundation in Joliet. IBVM worked for thirty-eight years in Joliet teaching in four parish elementary schools and conducting St. Mary's Academy, a boarding and day school for girls. In 1892 Loretto nuns were called to Chicago, to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan in 1896, and in 1949 our sisters went to Phoenix and Sacramento.

Sister Mary Clare Mracek, IBVM

In August of 1980, we, the Sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, are celebrating our 100th anniversary in the Archdiocese of Chicago. To celebrate this centennial year our Centenary Engagement Committee is sponsoring three events open to all our friends.

On February 26, 1980, there will be an evening of recollection at St. Catherine of Alexandria School in Oak Lawn. There will be a liturgy celebrated by Father Jack Gorman, pastor of St. Michael's Church in Orland Park, as well as a talk on "Personal Loneliness." More information regarding this evening and another lecture in March will appear in a future Newsletter.

In April we are planning a pilgrimage to our roots in Joliet. That day will end with a Mass in St. Mary's Church in Joliet celebrated by Bishop Joseph L. Imesch, the recently appointed Bishop of Joliet.

On Sunday, August 17, 1980, at three o'clock, there will be a Centennial Liturgy celebrated by John Cardinal Cody at Holy Name Cathedral. All are invited and encouraged to share this liturgy with us. Following the Mass there will be a Dinner-Dance at the Palmer House. We are looking forward to seeing old and new friends, families, relatives, our graduates with their husbands and wives and all friends of Loretto.

If you know of anyone who does not receive this Newsletter, please share the news of all these events with them and send us their mailing addresses so they can be kept up-to-date on our year of celebrating 100 years in the service of the church in the United States.

We remember the past with fond memories, celebrate in the present, and look forward hopefully to whatever the future holds for all of us.

The Centenary Committee

Sister Patricia Maloney, IBVM
Sister Marguerite Caulfield, IBVM

Dear Friend of Loretto,

A few of our Sisters were present at some of the events that took place during the recent visit of Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. Like many of you, most of us followed the entire visit on TV. The strength, determination, compassion, joy and genuine love of each person, manifested by His Holiness, renewed our hope for peace in a troubled world.

Once again, our annual Dinner-Dance brought together hundreds of friends of Loretto. Many thanks to each one who helped with his/her presence and/or donations to make the evening a success. The beautiful music of Wayne King made the occasion an unforgettable one. If you would like to mark your calendar early, the date for next year is October 3, 1980. Hope to see you there!

The annual Luncheon and Fashion Show will be held at the Hilton Hotel on March 22, 1980, with Betty Marsh Fiedler the capable chairperson. More information will be sent regarding this after the New Year.

Reverend J. Philip Johnson, a loyal friend and generous benefactor, recently celebrated in Quincy, Illinois, his Golden Jubilee of Priesthood. Father is the last surviving member of the Johnson family who lived in Joliet and attended school there. One of his sisters was a member of the IBVM Community. Many of you will remember Sister Alphonsus, who was an excellent teacher and a beautiful artist. Some of her works of art can be seen in our Convent here at Wheaton.

On the reverse side of this Newsletter we have some information on our Centennial which will be observed next year. Be sure to read about it.

IN YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHO DIED RECENTLY:
 Joseph Callahan, brother of Betty (Marquette Bank V.P.); Robert Fagan (St. Bride's); Alice Stahl Kidd (W '29); Irene Strohmeier Kenny (E '32); Clarence Martin, husband of Margery Lunney Martin (W '29); James P. Boyle, husband of Geraldine O'Connor Boyle (W '42); brother-in-law of Kay O'Connor Brossmer (E '47) and Sr. Anastasia O'Connor (W '39); Fannie Darling, aunt of Catherine Wiest (E '32); Evelyn Bickler (E '34), sister of Clifford, St. Bernard graduates, daughter of Theodore, former usher at St. Bernard's; Mrs. Ausili, benefactor, (Wheaton); Mrs. Jane Sexton, mother of Ruth Wilkins (E '38), Mary Jane Kenny (E'42), Nancy Fritsch, (E'46); James Donovan (Wheaton) benefactor and friend, husband of Doris; Antoinette De Roulet (W'17); Bess Kelly Sontag (J'04); Mrs. Hattie Madden (Jol.); Cecilia Davidson Shaw (W '36), sister of Marjorie (W'39); Sr. Jesse, (Margaret Green) (W'24), sister of Joseph and Leo, (formerly St. Bride's); Mrs. Kamen, mother of Kathleen Cooney Cartan, (W'31); Rev. James Lynch, Pastor of St. Michael's, Wheaton, benefactor and friend; Rose Keller, mother of Norman and Lorraine Mullalley, formerly of St. Bernard's; Bill Wilson, husband of Agnes O'Leary Wilson, (E'32); Matt McMahon, brother of Rev. Thomas E. McMahon, Betty Burns, Margaret Schreiber, Marie Schreiber, Patrick, Edward and Bernard, all formerly of St. Bernard's; Mary Hogan McHale, (E'29); Mr. Flanagan, father of Rita Griffin (E'55); Mr. Robert Horkey, husband of Anna Mae Kelleher Horkey (E'45); Martin Walsh, brother of Frank, Packey, Mary Jo, Sara (E'26), Catherine (E'27), Agnes (E'30), all formerly St. Bernard's; Irene Hinkens, mother of Arnold and the late William, formerly of St. Bernard's; Gerhard Charters, cousin of Sr. Marguerite; David Leo Stalzer, son of Marilyn Hirschfelder, (E'53), nephew of Sandra Luckett (E'54), grandson of Mrs. Robert Hirschfelder, (volunteer worker at Loretto Federation Resale Store); Gertrude McCarthy Dempsey (E'44), sister of Clare Sweeney, (E'43); Edward Klinger, father-in-law of Charles Blaney, (St. Bernard's); Richard Brosius, son of Harriet Jacques Brosius, brother of Juliette Brosius Bickler (E'43) Raymond, formerly of St. Bernard's, nephew of Sr. Florentia and Lucille Mulvihill (E'22); Emile Savoie, father of Sr. Magdalena (Soo '33); Eileen Riley Kolf, benefactor, cousin of Sr. Leah; Kathleen Saulters Schwartz (St. Bride's '29); Mr. Clifford White, father of Sr. Mary Ann White (W'52), Jacqueline White Wirtz (W'59); Mary Thibert Stanley, sister of Sr. Corinne, (Soo'50) Harry Olson, step-father of Sr. Mary Howard Moriarty (W'54); Albert S. Job, father of Rev. Thos. Job, former curate of St. John Vianny, Northlake; Thomas Bracken, brother of Sr. Mary Rita Bracken, L.C.M., (E'40); Conception M. Palos, mother of Matilde Villanueva (W'51) and Dolores (W'54); Virginia Berls, (E'44); Gertrude Daly, benefactor, aunt of Sr. Therese Fox, B.V.M. (W'48);

May your Advent and Christmas seasons be happy.

Sister Mary Ellen

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February, 1980

Dear Friend of Loretto,

As stated in a former letter, these are the details we promised:

- 1) Tuesday, February 26th: An evening of Recollection will be held at St. Catherine of Alexandria's Parish Hall at 7:30 p.m., 10621 South Kedvale (one block west of Pulaski), Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453. Monsignor John Gorman of Orland Park, will celebrate the Liturgy. The Lenten season is an appropriate time for these experiences which are directly related to our humanity in the fullness of Christ. No reservation nor fee is required.
- 2) Sunday, April 20th: There will be a pilgrimage to St. Mary's Church, Ottawa and Clinton Streets, Joliet, Illinois at 3:00 p.m. Bishop Joseph L. Imesch of Joliet, will celebrate the Mass to commemorate Loretto's first foundation in 1880. All are also invited to decorate the graves of our first Sisters in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Joliet.

We sincerely hope you will join us in both of these Loretto activities. God bless you and thank you for your many kindnesses to us.

Sincerely yours,

Sister Nancy Kennelly

The Loretto Centennial Committee