

I.B.V.M. in Joliet, Illinois

1880 - 1917

- 1880 - Sept. Foundation made in St. Patrick's Parish at the request of the pastor, Rev. W. H. Pgwier
Parochial school opened in basement of the Church, beginning with 25 boys and girls, increased in a few weeks to 100
Select School opened on Sept. 8; 8 pupils
- 1880-1881 Winter excessive, some houses so banked with snow that the people had to use ladders to second-storey windows for coming and going. Thaw in early spring turned the city into a Venice. Convent high enough not to be immerged.
- 1881 - May 8, First Communion; May 14, Archbishop Feehan for Confirmation, 150 in St. Patrick's Church. Archbishop advised the community to move to St. Mary's Parish on the invitation of the Pastor, Rev. Maurice F. Burke (Later Bishop of Cheyenne in 1887, and then of St. Joseph's, Missouri; died March 17, 1921, an esteemed benefactor and friend). Fr. Burke rented a house for a Convent, at 22x \$420 a year, which he paid. Cass Street.
Sept. Select School opened with 50 pupils and increased weekly.
St. Patrick's Parochial School began with 40 boys and girls.
Rev. P. Dunne, curate, was chaplain.) Later on Pastor of St. Patrick's
- 1882 - Feb. Mary Maguire senior at the Academy applied for and obtained a County teaching Certificate. She entered the Novitiate at Loretto Abbey, Toronto, on July 11.
In early spring the community purchased ground at the corner of Cass and Ottawa Streets and had plans made for a Convent.
- 1883 - Aug. 6, moved into the new Convent, St. Mary's Academy
Sept. 1 - 200 pupils
- 1885 - Sept. Sacred Heart Parochial School opened with 340 pupils.
- 1887 - Sept. St. Mary's Parochial School opened with 350 pupils, 6 Sisters.
Rev. F. F. Mangan became parish priest after Bishop Burke was consecrated
- 1888 - Graduation Exercises in the Opera House (usually in the Church hall)
- 1892 - and again in 1902, the city suffered spring floods
- 1898 - Rev. Fr. McNamee became pastor of St. Mary's after the death of Dean Mangan
Dean
- 1905 - Silver Jubilee celebrated, Archbishop Quigley, Bishop Burke, many priests at Jubilee Mass on May 30th
150 former pupils at the Banquet. Alumnae has continued with organization and annual banquet to the present time, nuns from Chicago as honoured guests.
- 1913 - Opening of St. Bernard's School, Ridgeway
- 1917 - Last graduation (total 236 graduates and 153 School Certificates)