

# IHM Sisters Centennial 1923-2023

## May 1, 1949 — The IHM Sisters Celebrate Silver Jubilee of Teaching at Saint James

Below is an excerpt from the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, published in our May 7, 2017, bulletin.

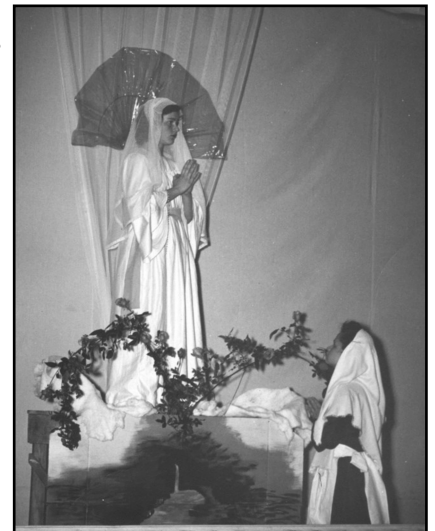
*“Reverend Fathers, devoted Sisters, and members of St. James Parish, both new and old: It is my greatest pleasure to welcome you to this the Silver Jubilee of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in our parish. For 25 years we have been the fortunate recipients of their untiring services and loving devotion. These Sisters in a spirit of unselfish sacrifice have labored early and late to minister to our every want and need both large and small, and in their humble self-effacing manner have offered their every talent in order that St. James might grow and prosper in the manner which we now see. Perhaps we have become so accustomed to the blue habit and white coif that we fail to appreciate fully their importance and necessity in our daily lives... ..These consecrated women then are truly the hands and feet of Christ in our parish, teaching, ministering and guiding both young and old....May we once again extend to these Sisters our deepest gratitude and loving affection for their many favors to us.”*

*-- Excerpt from address given during the celebration*

The program included the school children presenting Pageants of Guadalupe, Lourdes and Fatima. The photo to the right is the Pageant of Lourdes with Nancy Lyons as the Virgin Mary and Rosemary Maguire as Bernadette.

The prayerful Bernadette is former parishioner Rosemary Maguire, who later became Sister Marie Vianney, IHM. Rosemary lived with her parents and five siblings in a big house just a block from St. James. An earlier resident of that same house was Robert Eugene Shreve, who helped excavate the foundation for the first stone church. Rosemary attended Saint James Catholic School from 1940 to 1948. She entered the convent on September 8, 1952. Two of Rosemary’s brothers also entered religious life. Robert was a Jesuit priest and William was a Trappist brother. Sister Rosemary died on June 22, 2022, in the 70th year of her religious life.

To learn more about her life as an IHM Sister, visit <https://ihmimmaculata.org/sister-rosemary-maguire-ihm/>.



The Sisters happily posed for this photo with the anniversary cake commemorating this special occasion. However, due to custom in their Community, the Sisters ate out of public sight and thus enjoyed the cake behind closed doors.

Pictured l-r: Sr. Bon Secour, Sr. Mary Hugh, Sr. Theresia, Sr. Callista, Sr. Miriam Cephas, Sr. Maria Carmen, Sr. Maria Martin, Sr. Robertine, Sr. Christopher, Sr. Claudia, Sr. Paul Bernard, Sr. Therese, Sr. Kateri, Sr. John Bosco, Sr. Marie Pierre, Sr. Rosita, and Sr. Ann Joseph. Mother Clotildis, Principal (not pictured)