

Mother of Our Savior School - Detroit



Mother of Our Savior (MOS) church and its adjacent school were built as "satellites" of St. Mary of Redford in Detroit. Four IHM Sisters opened the school in 1953 for 212 children in grades one through six.

The following year, the convent chronicler reported "...an increase in the enrollment in the lower grades...forced us to eliminate the sixth grade. The pupils transferred to St. Mary of Redford."

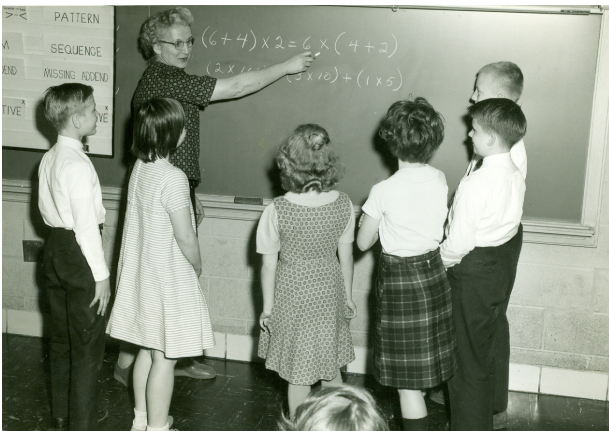
Four additional classrooms in 1956 enabled MOS School to expand to include grades one through

seven. An eighth grade was added the following year. As more families moved to the area, Mother of Our Savior was "raised to the status of a parish" in 1958.



Students were very aware of their responsibility to others. The chronicler notes that, "Another quality we like to see instilled and well-developed in our students is thoughtfulness for the needs of others." Participation as "service girls" or "safety patrol boys" was common. Students made baskets for those in need at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter and collected toys for the children of migrant workers. When the seventh- and eighth-graders adopted a family through the Catholic Social Services in 1959, it was the first time an elementary school had participated in their program.

MOS School worked hard to develop well-rounded students. In addition to providing a first-rate education, the school also gave students the opportunity to expand their horizons through the Civics Club, choir and of course, sports. Although the school produced a few champions, the chronicler comments that "The students and coaches are not so much interested in victories as they are in giving as many as possible an opportunity to play. That's what we like about our...sports program."



The early 1960s brought a number of changes to MOS School. The school newspaper, *Mong Our Selves*, began and new uniforms were instituted. The school was wired for educational TV. Students participated in the Catholic Students Mission Crusade. Each grade helped a missionary of its choice by prayer, offerings, study of the missionary's area and by writing letters to "their" missionary. Grades four through eight began an ungraded program in reading and math, and MOS participated in the Wayne County School District's Shared Learning Program to develop shared activities between schools of different racial, ethnic and socio-economic makeup.

In 1968, our **Featured Class Year**, the chronicler joyfully noted, "Dec. 17: Surprise!! Christmas vacation starts early because of the big flu epidemic. It wasn't much fun for those who were sick, but for the strong, the extra days were fun."

When voters defeated a 1970 proposal to fund private schools, enrollment at Mother of Our Savior School began dwindling. The school closed in 1973.

In 1968

The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended the year at 943. The federal debt stood at \$368.7 billion. The average cost of a new house was \$14,950. The average annual income was \$7,850. Gasoline sold for 34 cents per gallon. The first Big Mac went on sale in McDonalds. It cost 49 cents.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was slain in Memphis on April 4. Robert F. Kennedy was shot and critically wounded on June 5 in Los Angeles after winning the California presidential primary. He died June 6.

Amniocentesis was developed.

London Bridge was sold for more than \$2 million. It was dismantled and reconstructed in Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

The "Truth in Lending Act" was passed to protect consumers during credit transactions.

The motion picture rating system debuted with G, PG, R and X.

"Up, Up and Away," received both a Song of the Year Grammy and a Record of the Year award. *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, by the Beatles, was named Album of the Year.

Emmy Awards went to *Mission: Impossible* (Outstanding Dramatic Series) and *Get Smart!* (Outstanding Comedy Series). *In the Heat of the Night* received an Oscar for Best Picture. Katharine Hepburn was named Best Actress for her role in *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?* and the Best Actor award went to Rod Steiger, *In the Heat of the Night*.

The Detroit Tigers won their first World Series championship since 1945, defeating the St. Louis Cardinals in seven games.