Featuring Epiphany School Class of 1966

Epiphany opened in Detroit in 1926, an IHM mission school with 225 students in grades one through eight. Names and faces changed through the 48 years it remained open, but the ministry of providing quality education never wavered.

Epiphany was a microcosm of its times. When an outbreak of "infantile paralysis" - polio - occurred in 1931, the school responded by opening several weeks late. When the Great Depression rocked the Motor City, Epiphany closed a month early.

(The unnamed Epiphany Convent chronicler reported that, "By order of the Right Reverend Ordinary, following the action of the City School Board, we too, folded our tents."

Enrollment increased steadily, and by 1934, there were so many first graders, those students had half-day sessions. Although the school building was expanded, in 1948 both first and second graders had half-day sessions.

By 1957, enrollment stood at 818, and in 1966, our featured class year, 90 eighth grade students graduated.

The school year 1965-66 was a big one for Epiphany. The school's cheerleaders tied for first place in competition, and both the football and basketball teams were runners-up. TV outlets were installed in all classrooms, the "fruit of the candy-selling labors of the Mothers Guild." Not to be outdone, the Dad's Club presented the school with a stereo 3-D microscope "in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the field of science."

Graduates of the Class of '66 have wonderful memories of their school years.

Roz Rice Slavik remembers one of the sisters getting her veil caught in something and, "we saw her hair. We always thought nuns were bald."

"The best teacher I had was Sister Lurana (Sankovic)," Frank Podsadlo recalls, "even though I had trouble with her."
Other favorite teachers who are fondly remembered by their former students are Sisters Dorothy McDaniel (Harold Marie), Carolyn Campbell (William Mary) and Joan Charnley (Joseph Andre).

Dorothy Zynda-Snyder, who organized the July 29 class reunion, knows that her education helped her succeed. She “developed a sense of service to others, lifelong friendships and a deep respect for the IHM Community and their spirit.”

IHM Sisters at Epiphany School, circa 1965

The Year: 1966

- The first Star Trek episode is broadcast.
- Medicare begins.
- The Boston Celtics defeated the LA Lakers for the NBA Championship.
- The Montreal Canadiens won the Stanley Cup, defeating
Detroit in six games.

- The Grammy for "Record of the Year" went to "A Taste of Honey," by Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass.
- Insulin is first synthesized in China.
- Supreme Court decides Miranda v. Arizona, protecting rights of the accused.