
In 1949, the four IHM Sisters who arrived to open the new St. Anne School in Warren, Mich., found that there were no teachers’ desks, flags, crucifixes or statues.

However Pastor Frank Walsh had “procured a number of old desks and parishioners had refinshed them to match the classrooms” for the 198 students in grades one through six, according to the convent chronicler.

In addition to the business of education, St. Anne played its first football game in October against Murthum Public School. They tied, 0-0. That first fall, the girls were clamoring for school uniforms. Some of the parents objected because they’d already purchased school clothes for the year, but their daughters won them over by asking them to buy them a uniform for Christmas instead of another new dress.

The school added a seventh grade in 1950, but there were so many students the second graders were asked to stay home the first two days of school as parishioners worked diligently to create enough seats in the classrooms. Once all students started classes, they began to raise money for school equipment and supplies through paper drives. Students also worked to fill food baskets for their neighbors in need at Christmas.

By 1951, 321 students attended grades one through eight and six IHM Sisters taught them. St. Anne’s first eighth-grade graduation took place in June 1952.

Students engaged in friendly rivalry to raise money for a new church in 1954. The chronicler notes, “All the grades have a little competition from the ice cream machine the school had installed...” The new church opened in November 1954, and students turned their fundraising efforts toward the missions, the Bishops’ War Relief Drive and equipment for the school.

As families flocked to Warren, the St. Anne student population expanded, reaching more than 1,100 (with 13 IHM Sisters) in 1964. The parish considered building a high school, but fully staffing it was a concern. Instead, the parish developed a “shared time” high school with Warren Consolidated Schools in 1965. With this model, students attended St. Anne for instruction in several subjects, including religion, and Warren High School for secular classes. It was the second shared high school in the country.
The IHM Sisters remained at St. Anne through the 1970s. The Class of 1977, our **Featured Class Year**, enjoyed a trip to Toronto; hosted the eighth-graders when they visited the high school; and attended a three-day retreat in St. Clair, Mich. The 54 seniors graduated June 5.

At the end of June 1979, the last two IHM Sisters made the difficult decision to minister elsewhere. St. Anne remains open for students pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.

**In 1977**

The Nuclear Proliferation Pact, curbing the spread of nuclear weapons, was signed by 15 countries, including the United States and the USSR.

The first woman Episcopal priest in the U.S. was ordained.

President Jimmy Carter pardoned Vietnam War draft evaders.

Apple Computer Inc. was incorporated. The first Apple II computers went on sale a few months later.

The Oakland Raiders defeated the Minnesota Vikings 32-14 in Super Bowl XI. The New York Yankees were World Series champions after taking four of six games with the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Portland Trailblazers played six games with the Philadelphia 76ers before winning the NBA Championship. In hockey, it was a clean sweep for the Montreal Canadiens over the Boston Bruins for the Stanley Cup.

Emmy Awards went to *Masterpiece Theatre: Upstairs, Downstairs* (PBS) for Outstanding Drama Series and *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* (CBS) for Outstanding Comedy Series.

Elvis Presley died at Graceland, his Memphis, Tenn., home. He was 42.

Stevie Wonder’s *Songs in the Key of Life* received an Album of the Year Grammy.