

## Featuring St. Mary School – Wayne, Mich.



In 1924, three IHM Sisters arrived at St. Mary School in Wayne, Mich., expecting to teach 106 children in grades one through eight. When 125 students arrived, St. Mary's pastor placed a hurried call to Monroe to request another IHM.

For four years, classes at St. Mary's were held in the parish's old church which had been remodeled for the school. A new school building opened in 1929 providing enough space to add ninth and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. Because of the ever-burgeoning grade school enrollment, ninth and 10<sup>th</sup> grades were discontinued in 1942 to accommodate the elementary school children.



The parish built a new school in the late 1940s, and the ninth and 10<sup>th</sup> grades were re-established. An 11<sup>th</sup> grade was added in 1949 and the 12<sup>th</sup> in 1950. By 1952, 18 IHMs taught 1,090 students. An inspector from the University of Michigan recommended curtailing enrollment. Instead, St. Mary's pastor built 10 more classrooms. Conditions were so crowded the eighth grade girls were taught in a house behind the church.

During our **Featured Class Year**, 1964, enrollment stood at 1,046. The football team "scored their first victory as regional champions...when they beat the St. Louis team in Mt. Clemens," the chronicler says. The "Blue Knights" were also city champs that year, although they lost the baseball city championship 3-1 against St. Andrew in the last game.

The 79-member senior class boasted several scholarship recipients that year, including **Richard Darnell**, **Kathleen Holland**, and **David Remski**. The class enjoyed the senior outing to Bob Lo, as well as the baccalaureate breakfast hosted by the sophomore class. They graduated June 14.



St. Mary School was socially active, holding Masses for peace during the Vietnam War and collecting clothing for children in Korea at the request of an alumni member serving there. They also pledged to raise \$2,000 for a publicity campaign to help defeat Proposal C – "Parochiad."

The proposal, which prohibited the use of public money to fund private schools, passed in November 1970. As a result the St. Mary Parish Council announced in January that grades 10-12 would close at the end of the school year.

Enrollment dropped. By 1979, when kindergarten was added, 265 children attended the school. Principal Marie Cyril DeLisi, IHM, increased enrollment each year, and by the time the last IHM Sister left the school in 1985, 366 children attended St. Mary.

The school remains open for grades kindergarten through eight.

## In 1964



The United States Supreme Court ruled that Congressional districts should be roughly equal in population.

Folk musician Bob Dylan became increasingly popular during this time of social protest, with songs expressing objection to the condition of American society.

Three civil rights workers—Schwerner, Goodman and Cheney— were murdered in Mississippi.



In the Soviet Union, Nikita Khrushchev was deposed; Alexei Kosygin became premier and Leonid Brezhnev became the first secretary of the Communist Party.

Ranger VII took 4,316 high-resolution pictures of the moon.



*The Dick Van Dyke Show* received Emmy Awards in five categories, including Actor and Actress in a Series for Dick Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore respectively. A Best Performance by a Vocal Group Grammy Award went to Peter, Paul and Mary for "Blowin' in the Wind."

The St. Louis Cardinals won the World Series in seven games against the New York Yankees. The Boston Celtics were crowned NBA Champions after defeating the San Francisco Warriors four games to one. It took the Toronto Maple Leafs seven games against the Detroit Red Wings for the Stanley Cup. The first Super Bowl was still three years off.



U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry affirmed that cigarette smoking causes cancer.