

Featuring Holy Cross School



It was 1869 when three IHM Sisters traveled by ship from Monroe to Holy Cross School in Marine City, Mich., a small town about 18 miles south of Port Huron. They were greeted by 65 students. By Christmas of that year, the student population had doubled.

A new school was completed for the 1891-1892 school year, and according to the convent chronicler, "With beaming faces did the dear children assemble on the first Monday in September to begin anew their work."

Modifications and improvements to the school were duly noted in the chronicles. In 1913, for instance, "new single seats were procured" for the students, and in 1922, "Work was begun on the old school to convert it into a high school for the coming year." For the 1941-42 school year, the gym was converted to classrooms to accommodate the ninth- and tenth-graders.

The cornerstone for the new Holy Cross High School was laid in September 1950, and the new school opened the following September with 143 students.



The convent chronicler noted during the 1952-53 school year that, "A unique Marian plan was started. Students from the first through the 12th grade and even some babies and grandpas gathered every night in May and October to say the 'neighborhood rosary' with the sisters."

Over the decades, enrollment remained steady, and by our featured class year, 1977, 200 students attended Holy Cross

High School.



"Homecoming activities began Oct. 20, 1976 with the annual bonfire in the church parking lot," the chronicler reports. "The local volunteer fire department was on hand to keep the fire under control while the effigy of St. Andrew's team, our opponent in the homecoming game, [was burned]." Holy Cross won that game, 28-6.

The Class of 1977 held its prom at St. Clair Country Club, and on June 12, 41 seniors graduated.

There were IHM Sisters at Holy Cross until the mid-'80s, but as the 1985-86 academic year progressed, those missioned there "began to discern about our continued presence at Holy Cross. We knew it was time to relinquish a great mission of over a century.' The IHM Sisters left Holy Cross at the end of the school year.

In 1977



Jimmy Carter was president of the United States; Americans had a life expectancy of 73.3 years, and the

Nobel Peace Prize went to Amnesty International.

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

Rocky beat out *Taxi Driver*, *Network* and *All the President's Men* for the Best Picture Oscar; the miniseries *Roots* walked off with five Emmy Awards; Lindsey Wagner received an Emmy for her role in *The Bionic Woman*; and *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* was named as the Outstanding Comedy Series.



The Oakland Raiders defeated the Minnesota Vikings 32-14 in the Super Bowl.

Star Wars hit theaters and became the second highest-grossing film of all time.



Entertainment giants Charlie Chaplin, Bing Crosby, Groucho Marx and Elvis Presley all died in 1977.

