

# St. Joseph's School of Nursing Commemorative Calendar



1911-2011

1890

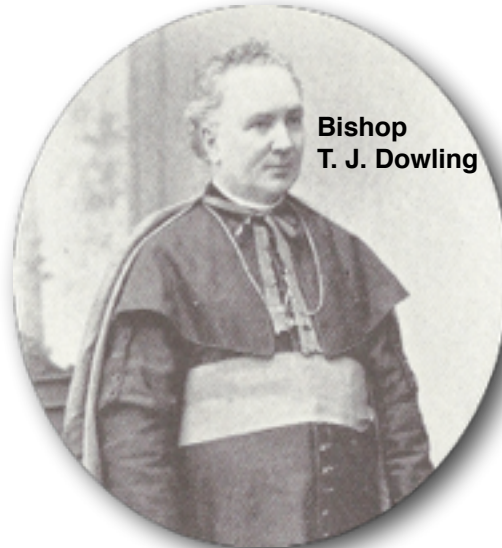
On June 11, 1890, St. Joseph's Hospital, with a capacity of 25 beds, was formally opened and operated under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Hamilton, Ontario. They purchased Bishop Thomas Joseph Dowling's (4th Bishop of Hamilton) residence, called "Undermount" on John Street South for \$10,000. The Sisters of St. Joseph provided the manual labour but recognized a pressing need for additional trained nurses.

1911

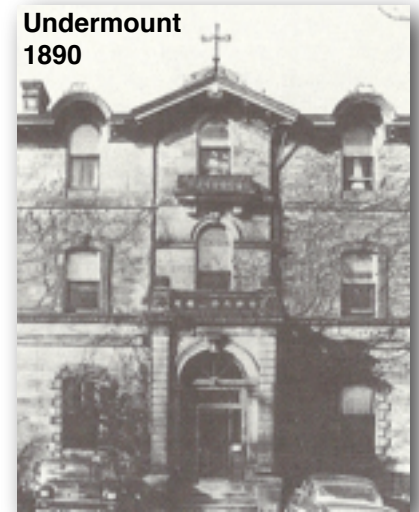
On September 8, 1911, the growth of the hospital led the Sisters into the decision to open a school for lay nurses. Thus St. Joseph's School of Nursing began. At the age of 29, Sister Gerard Moran'15 was the first Sister to enroll. Most of the nurse's training was of the hands-on-variety - she learned by doing. Four doctors are credited with laying the foundation of the nursing school: Thomas Balfe, Ingersol Olmsted, James Edgar and Herbert Sullivan, Sr.



**First Graduating Class 1915**  
Grad photo absentees:  
Sister Loretto, Sister Vincent  
Sister Gerard



**Bishop  
T. J. Dowling**



**Undermount  
1890**

The nurses' first residence was the Adam Brown Residence, at the corner of St. Joseph's Drive and Mountwood Avenue. It was demolished later to build the new Undermount Residence.



**1922 Living Room in  
Undermount furnished by  
the Alumnae for \$1,000.**



**Dr.Lang  
with student nurses attending lectures  
in Anatomy & Physiology 1917**



**Recreation Time in  
1917**

# January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 <b>Jan 12, 1967 Opening Renal Dialysis Unit Dept. Head: Dr. Art Shimizu Head Nurse: Marianne Stepanek '63</b>	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Each girl wore a crisp starched blue and white cotton uniform, made at home according to strict specifications. Apart from some minor changes, the same uniform was worn until 1966 by generations of students who remember them as uncomfortable with stiff collars, cuffs and belts. A highly starched bib and apron were worn over a blue underdress and were complimented by white nursing shoes and hose. Eventually, more comfortable white uniforms were worn in the summer and in the OR, Pediatrics, Nursery and Formula Room. Blue and red capes made of wool were used when the weather turned colder. White school caps were worn as soon as the probationer was deemed worthy while black bands were affixed to the nursing caps when students had earned them. Each school of nursing had their own signature caps that were worn with immense pride.



At 6 a.m. during a typical school day, a merciless bell, which was rung by hand, could be heard ringing up and down the halls. Uniform inspection and attendance was taken at 6:30 a.m. Everyone went to Mass and had breakfast before going on a 12-hour duty, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. They were relieved for 1/2 to 2 hours every day.

Classes began in the evening after their shift when the doctors and nurses were free for lectures.

Service to the hospital was the student's first priority while formal education came second. The purpose of the hospital was to provide charitable services, rather than education.

The Ontario government passed legislation in 1920 to enact a registration law, which required all nursing students to write departmental exams on the completion of their course. This was the signal for extensive improvements in all schools of nursing seeking provincial accreditation.



# February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Feb. 23 1919 Fifth Class to Graduate	24	25	26
27	28	1	2	3	4	5



Oakbank Nurses' Residence was built in the mid-1850's. Edward, the Prince of Wales stayed at Oakbank in 1860 when he attended the opening ceremonies of the city's waterworks system.

By 1921, the hospital had grown to accommodate more patients, which created the need for more nurses. An increase in student enrollment promised to burden the already crowded residences. So on Tuesday November 28, 1922 Undermount was officially opened.



*"Our Home  
Away From  
Home"*

#### THE RESIDENCES

1916, the nurses' first residence was the old Adam Brown home on the corner of St. Joseph's Drive and Mountwood Avenue, then known as Alma Avenue.



*Home  
is  
where  
the  
heart is.*






Marygrove, built in 1869, was purchased by the hospital for use as a nurses' residence in 1947.

Fontbonne Hall Nurses' Residence opened in 1962. Today it is used for doctors' and administration offices.



# March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	10	11	12
13	14	15	16		18	19
20	21	22	23	24	<b>Around the Bay Relay Packages Pick-up</b>  <b>18 Suter Crescent Dundas 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. 905-628-5842</b>	<b>Around the Bay Relay Packages Pick-up</b>  <b>St. Joseph's Villa 56 Governor's Rd. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 905-577-2948</b>
	27	28	29	30	31	



**Graduation Class 1938**





**Jeanette (Simpson) Eaglesham '38 receives O.R. instrument instruction from Sister Loretto Gainor '19**

As in all areas of education, St. Joseph's School of Nursing was affected by the Second World War. Classes were increasing rapidly in size, more residence accommodation had to be obtained and additional graduate staff nurses were employed, thereby removing some of the service responsibilities from the students. Each week, all students had a half-day off. Curfew was set for 10 p.m., at which time all students had to be in their bedrooms. One night a month, there was a late leave of 11:30 p.m. It was compulsory for nurses to sign in at the hospital office and return to residence via an underground tunnel, a dreaded walk at that hour because they passed the morgue en route. In the first year, the student received \$6 allowance, with a one-dollar increase each year. Anything broken or damaged was deducted from the student's salary. There was a strong sense of seniority among students – doors had to be opened for senior students. Lipstick, nail polish and rouge were not permitted. After three months probation (probies) student nurses received their caps. In their second year, they received their "cap pin", to be worn on their bib until Black Band Ceremony in their third year, where they proudly displayed the pin on their black band. On Graduation Day, school pins were received along with diplomas and beautiful bouquets of red roses.





# April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21		23
 Easter Sunday	25	26	27	28	29	30

By the 1930's and '40's, classes were growing in size and as a result, the number of nursing lectures increased and classes were no longer included in off-duty time. In the mid-40's, more lectures were given by doctors, emphasis increased on curriculum planning and a Sister instructor was appointed to assist the director in teaching.

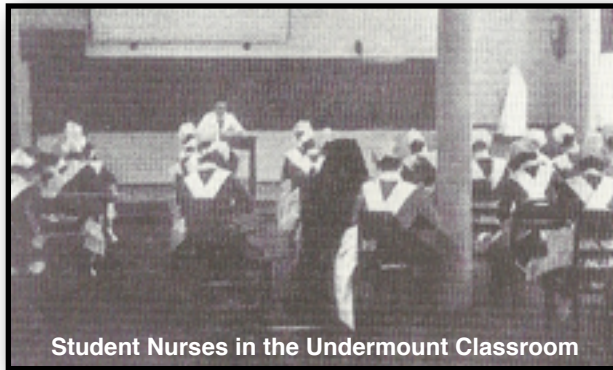
The instructor for nursing procedure was Sister Mary Assumption, for medication Sister Loretto Gainor '19, and for obstetrical nursing and care of the newborn, Sister Mercedes Gallagher '24 who was the supervisor of Casa Maria.

The Sisters taught 90% of the content in the area of nursing and an increasing numbers of doctors lectured, too. Florence M. Roach was the first lay instructress. Other teachers were Sister M. Monica '27 teaching Professional Ethics, Principles of Nursing, and Sister M. Gerard '15 teaching Operating Room Technique.

**Superintendent of Nurses in 1934**



Florence M. Roach  
First Lay Instructress



Student Nurses in the Undermount Classroom



Sister Monica '27

*Prize-Winning Graduate Nurses 1935*



Rae M. Weatherill '35



Sadie Palmer '35



C. McCowell '35

# May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	<b>Reunion Day Mass</b> 11:30 a.m.	28
29	30	31			<b>Reunion Day Dinner</b> Bar opens at 5 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$40.00	

When she graduated on May 22, 1941 Leona Johnson Hudecki recalled: "Our brothers and boyfriends were gone. The usual music played for graduation was *Pomp and Circumstance*. Our class had been anticipating this beautiful march-in. Instead *There'll Always be an England* was played because by that time we were conscious of the horror of war." As a result of the war, nurses were needed around the country and overseas. St. Joseph's response was to admit three classes rather than the two in 1944.



Sr. Joan O'Sullivan  
1943  
a.k.a. Sr. Celestine



Leona Johnson  
Hudecki  
1941

Dr. John Tilden

Frances  
O'Brien  
1941



Sister Ursula '44



Sister  
Eileen  
McKenna

Class of 1944



The First Twins to Graduate  
Class of 1946

Frances Ruffing Harold

Rosemary Ruffing Cutler

# June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 <b>June 11, 1890</b> <b>St. Joseph's Hospital</b> <b>with 25 beds</b> <b>was formally</b> <b>opened</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 <b>June 20, 1890</b> <b>Dr. Rosebrugh</b> <b>performed</b> <b>the first operation</b> <b>in the</b> <b>new hospital</b>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

As Nursing Education evolved, three months affiliation with the Ontario Hospital in Toronto and the Hamilton Ontario Hospital along with the six weeks at the Mountain Sanatorium were now part of the curriculum.



**Class of '55  
Capping  
Ceremony**



**Irene DeCoste '56**

Irene MacInnes (married name De Coste) recalls being called by Sister Virginia to an important meeting in the linen cupboard because office space was non-existent. Sister Virginia was planning to start an innovative health program for the staff and asked if Irene was interested in the job.

At first it was primarily a student health service but bit by bit it expanded, and by 1968, Irene was zeroing in on all of the employees doing pre-employment, routine physicals and immunization programs.

In 1959 Dr. Robert McHarg was hired as the Medical Director of the service.

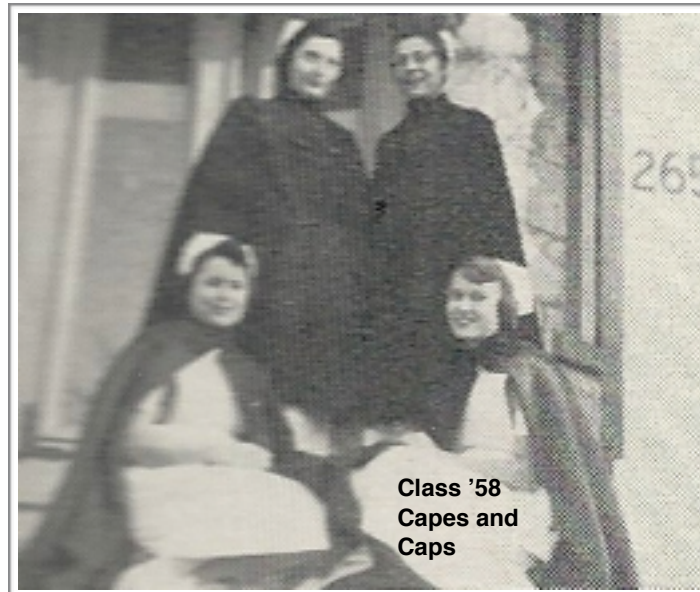
Today it is called the Personnel Health Unit.



**Director of Nursing  
Sister Virginia '45**



**Class '56**




**Class '58  
Capes and  
Caps**

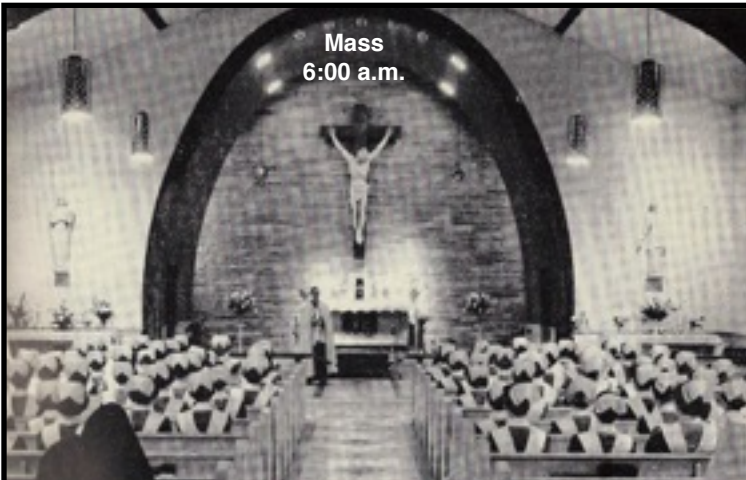


**Class '56  
Halloween**

# July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <b>July 20, 1973 Graduation of The 60th &amp; Last Graduating Class from the independent St. Joseph's School of Nursing</b>	21	22 <b>St. Joseph's School of Nursing continued to operate as a Campus for the Mohawk College Nursing Program</b>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

The Day in the Life of a Student Nurse



The Class '58 was the first class to work the new 8 hour shift



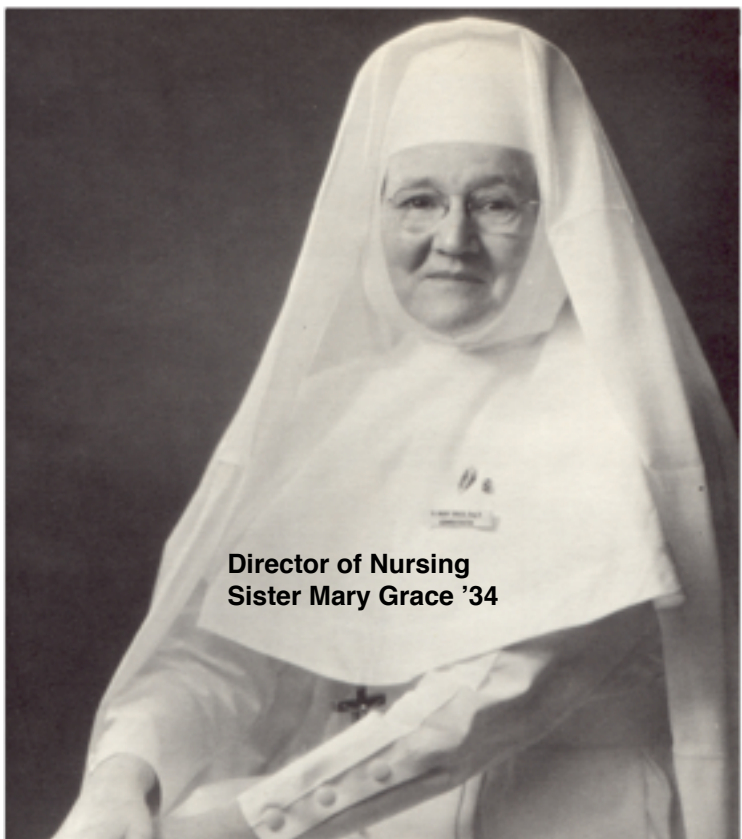


# August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3



**Class 1960  
Black Bands presented by  
Sister Mary Grace**



**Director of Nursing  
Sister Mary Grace '34**

## *Queen and Her Court*



**Red Rose Ball 1960  
Queen:  
Judith Ann LaPierre**

**Princesses:  
Francis Fraser  
Claudene Cruikshanks.**

The Queen, attired in a rhinestone tiara and a red velvet floor-length ermine trimmed cape, was presented with a dozen red roses, and a sterling silver tray while each princess received engraved charm bracelets.

# September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5 	6	7	8 <b>Sept 8, 1911</b> <b>St. Joseph's School of Nursing began</b>	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 <b>Sept 15, 1947</b> <b>Marygrove purchased for Nurses' Residence.</b>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

# Sumo Shop Staff



THE FIRST PIECE OF EQUIPMENT THAT CAME TO TEAR DOWN STAFF AND MARYGROVE.



Watching T.V. in residence



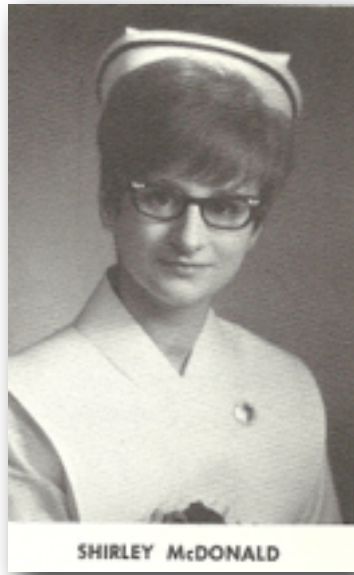
STAFF RESIDENCE (DECEASED)

# October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10  Happy Thanksgiving	11	12 Oct 12 1916 Opening of a New Surgical Wing	13	14	15
16	17 Oct 17 1962 Opening of New Surgical Wing & Fontbonne Hall Nurses' Residence	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 	1	2	3	4	5



SHEILA McDONALD



SHIRLEY McDONALD



CLARIBEL MARCHIE



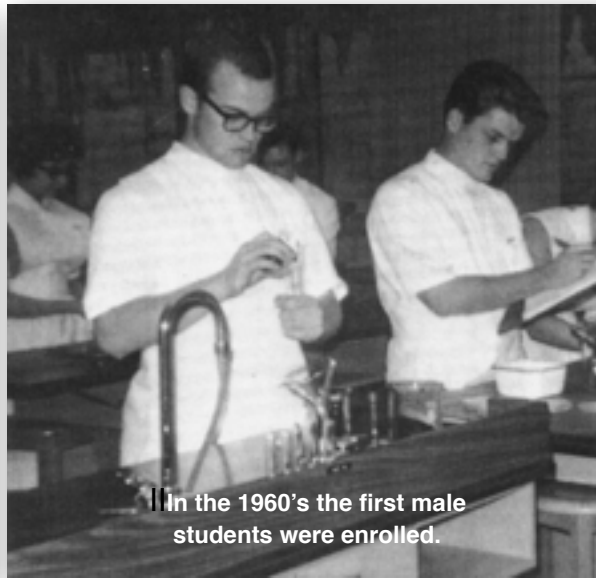
**Nigerian Student**  
Miss Clairbel Marchie, of Enugu, Nigeria (left), gets settled in her room in St. Joseph's Hospital nurses' residence, with the assistance of Sister Mary Catharina of Siena, also a student nurse, and Mrs. Bartram Merile, African student project co-ordinator of St. Joseph's Hospital Nurses' Alumnas Association. The alumnas sponsored Miss Marchie's passage, and the Sisters are sponsoring her nursing education, which began this week.

**Director of Nursing  
Sister Ann Marshall**

**Director of Nursing  
Sister Joan O'Sullivan**



**Sister Ann Marshall '56  
a.k.a  
Sister Maris Stella**





**In the 1960's the first male  
students were enrolled.**



**Sister Joan O'Sullivan '43  
Initiator of the  
"Individualized Objective-Based Program"  
in the 1960's.**

# November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px;">  <p><i>"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old, Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn, At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We shall remember them"</i></p> </div>	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10		12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	<b>Nov. 28, 1922</b>  <b>Undermount Residence of St. Joseph's School of Nursing officially opened.</b>	29	30	1	2	3

T  
M

st

Class '70



Janet Blackett

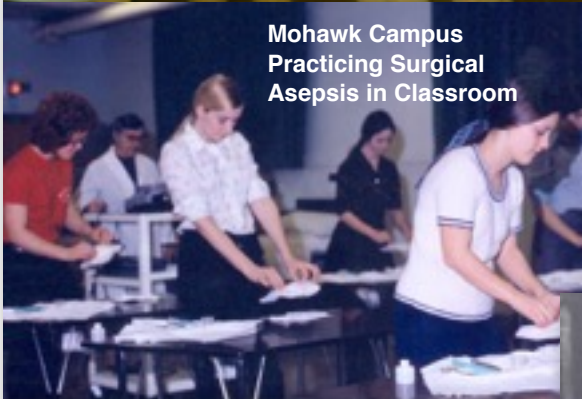
Marnie Best

Pauline Feniuk

Maryann Vasko



Learning Resource Centre



Mohawk Campus Practicing Surgical Asepsis in Classroom



Playing at the corner of James St. S. & St. Joseph's Drive.

Black Band Ceremony 1970



Sr. Eleanor Anne a.k.a Sr. Pat Valeriotte

Sr. Rita Clare

Shirley Ann Zahavich

Wilma Hogervorst



Class 1972 Recreation Time

**Salary Scales 1977**

Average for Ontario/year

Med. Lab. Tech.	\$ 12,000
Nursing	\$ 10-12,000 (depending on area)
Physiotherapy	\$ 13,600
Radiography	\$ 12,000




**The End of an Era**

Class of 1978 was the last class to graduate as part of the St. Joseph's School of Nursing. The torch of tradition has now been handed over to them, because from 1915 to 1978:

*"We are forever... a St. Joe's Grad."*



# December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 <b>Dec 10, 1890</b> <b>Attending Staff</b> <b>of Physicians</b> <b>was formed</b> <b>at the hospital</b>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 

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The Celebration of the 100 Year Anniversary of our School of Nursing starts with this Commemorative Calendar, highlighting just some of our nursing day at St. Joe's. I hope you enjoyed this calendar as much as I did creating it.

To all the Directors of St. Joseph's School of Nursing and to our many teachers and instructors: thank you for guiding us, inspiring us and making us into what we are today. The 4,006 nursing graduates from St. Joe's are a testament to your immense talents to impart knowledge.

And last, but not least: to those women and men behind the scenes (listed below) who kept us "safe-and-sound" during our three years of residency, thank you.

Cheryl Gravelin McQueen '66  
President and Newsletter Editor



Housemothers

Thanks to:  
Janina Muta Berenyi '65 our "Historical Archives Coordinator," who supplied the many books and copies of *Vox Omnium* our annual yearbooks, to make this project possible.

#### Bibliography

- "To Serve with Honour" by Peggy Savage 1953 ISBN 1-55002-069-2
- "The Way We Were..." by Lois MacKenzie Class of 1954 and Ruth Milne Class of 1958
- "1890-1950 Sixty Years" by the Sisters of St. Joseph
- "The Story of St. Joseph's Hospital 1890-1960" by Kingsley Brown
- "Vox Omnium" annual year books.
- "Memories 1990 by the Graduates of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing on the Occasion of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Hospital and the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the First Graduation Class" by The Alumnae Association.

