



**REUNION DAY 2024**

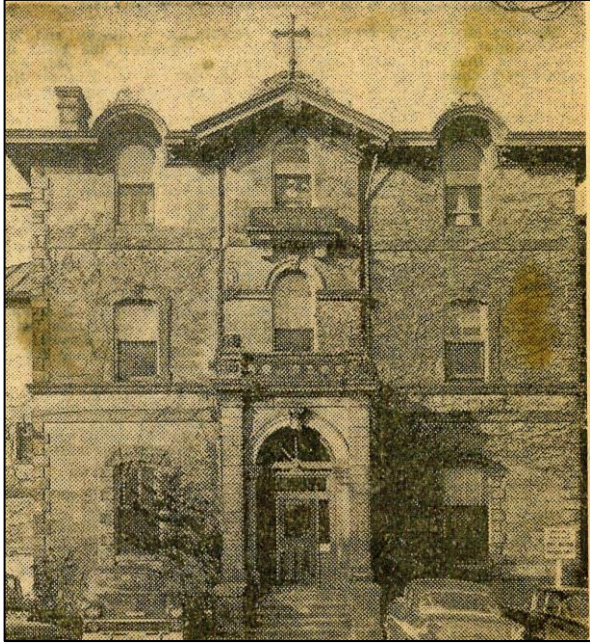
**CLASS OF 1915 - 1939**

**ANNIVERSARY YEARS CELEBRATION**

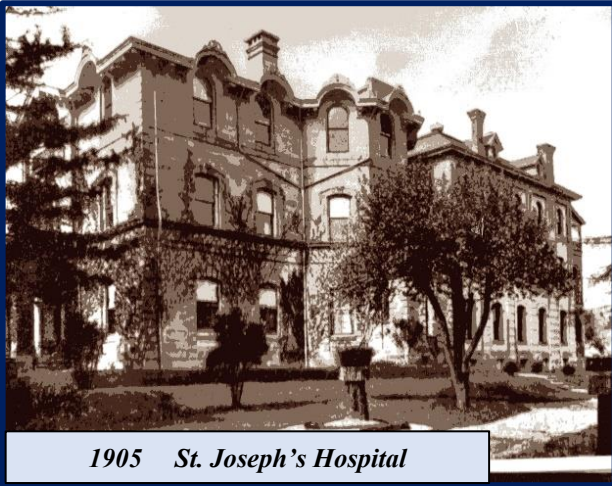




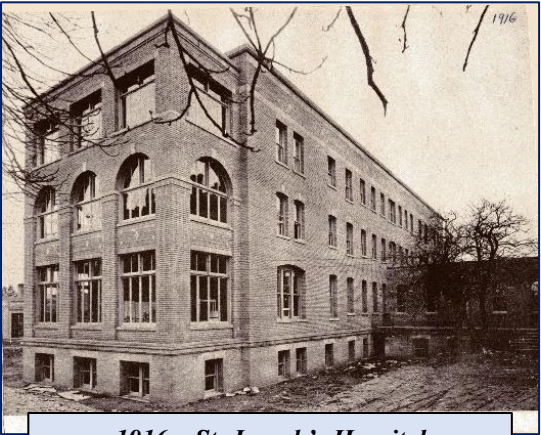
June 11, 1890 St. Joseph's Hospital



1894 St. Ann's Wing



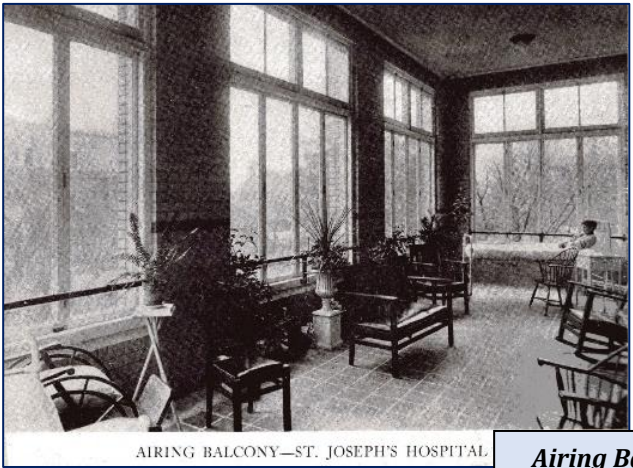
1905 St. Joseph's Hospital



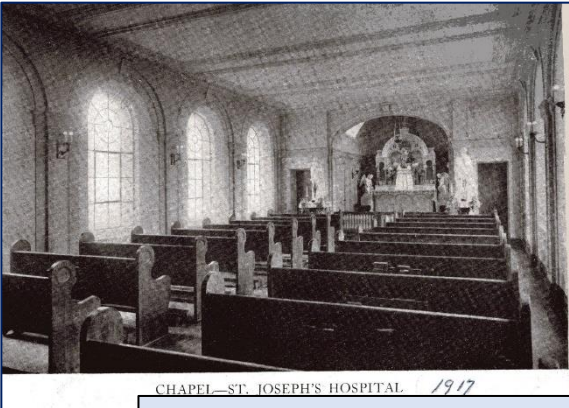
1916 St. Joseph's Hospital

The Sisters of St. Joseph  
respectfully request the honor of your  
presence at the  
*Formal Opening of the New Wing*  
of St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton, Ontario  
at eight o'clock p. m., on  
Thursday, October the twelfth  
nineteen hundred and sixteen

1916 St. Joseph's Hospital



Airing Balcony 1916

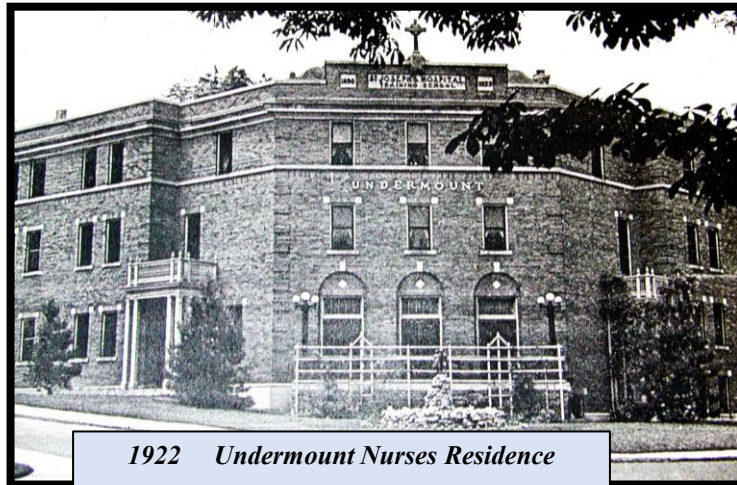


CHapel—ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL. 1917  
1917 St. Joseph's Hospital Chapel

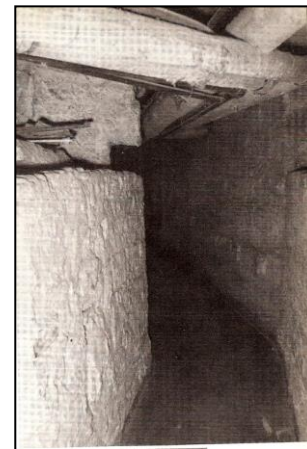




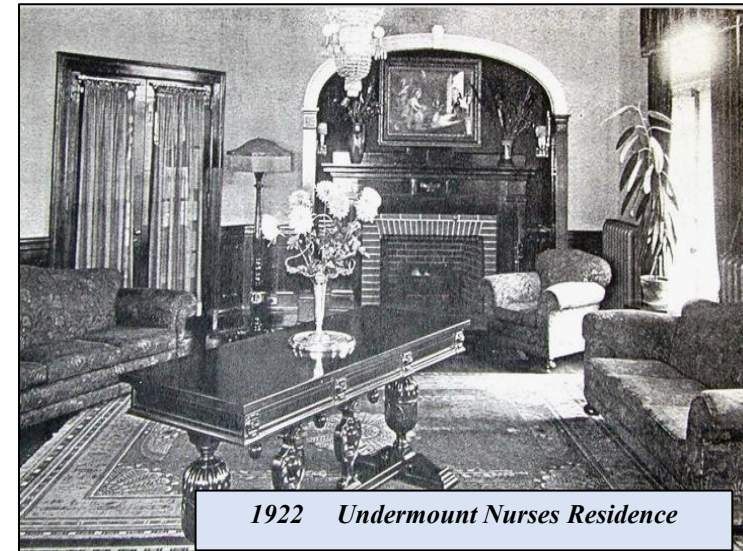
1911 St. Joseph's School of Nursing



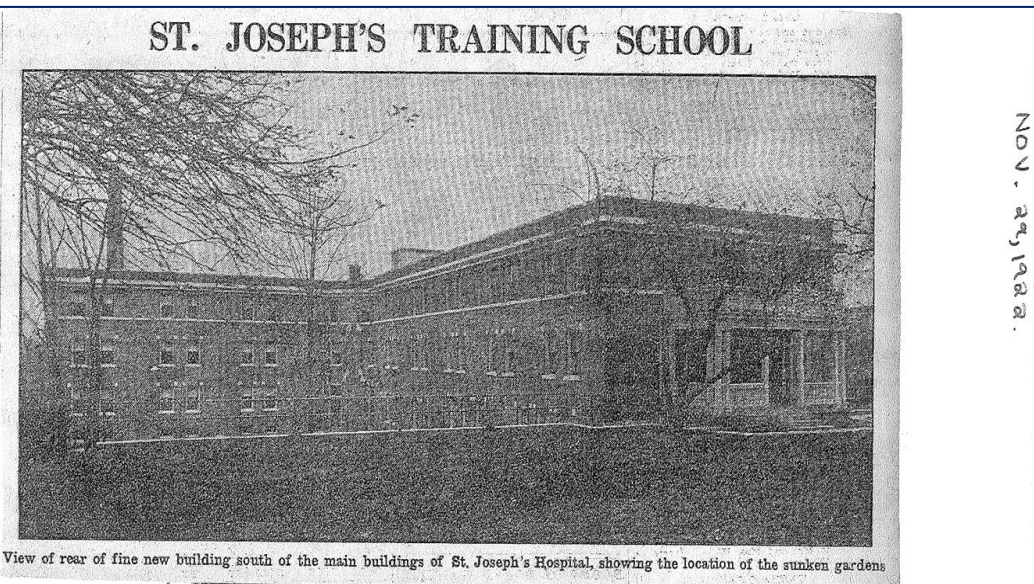
1922 Undermount Nurses Residence



Tunnel from the school to the main hospital

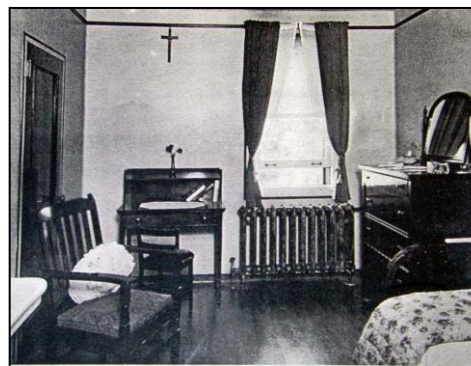


1922 Undermount Nurses Residence

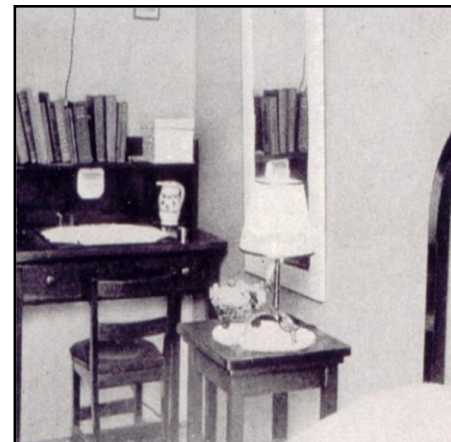


View of rear of fine new building south of the main buildings of St. Joseph's Hospital, showing the location of the sunken gardens

The building was erected at a cost of \$155,000  
The furnishings cost another \$18,000 for a total cost of \$176,000



Student Bedrooms & Study Areas



Classrooms





1915  
*Sister St. Basil designed St Joseph's Graduate Pin*



MISS E. KELLY  
 The first president of St. Joseph's Hospital Alumnae—1915

*Ella Kelly '15*  
*1st President of the Nurses Alumnae*

GRADUATES 1915

The first two students entered the school of nursing on September 8, 1911  
 The remainder of graduates entered at various times until a sufficient number was reached in order to have a graduation.

Graduation took place on January 22, 1915.  
 The ground was covered with a great white blanket. The impressive and elaborate ceremony took place at 8 pm in the lecture hall amidst prominent members of the Hamilton clergy, laity and medical professions who together with friends and relatives, enjoyed the musical programme prepared by the 9 young graduates.  
 A handsomely engraved medal, given for outstanding work, and huge bouquets of pink roses were presented to the nurses.

Following Graduation exercises the nurses returned to duty with their patients.

Entered 1911    Ada Egan  
                     Sister M. Gerard Moran

Entered 1914    Helen Carroll  
                     Lillian Furrey  
                     Clara Grant  
                     Mabel Grant  
                     Angela Halloran  
                     Ella Kelly  
                     Anne Maloney  
                     Annie McGinnity  
                     Jean Morin

Sister M. Vincent Bergin  
 Sister M. Loretto Gainer







*Reunion Day 1947*

Graduates from the 1st class "1915" at the Nurses Graduation Dinner in 1947  
 Left to right  
 Ana Maloney class of 1915    Sister St. Basil graduate 1900 Instructress of Nurses    Jean Morin class of 1915    Sister St. Gerard class of 1915    Ella Kelly class of 1915

*Ana Maloney'15    Sister St. Basil graduate 1900    Jean Morin'15    Sister St. Gerard'15    Ella Kelly'15*



*Genevieve Boyes'17    Margaret Lenhard'16    Nora Finn'18    Helen Fagan'17*



*Eva Moran '20    Doris Crossley '32    Sister St Edward '32    Elizabeth Quinn '20*



Mrs. Webster (Jean Laidlaw), Miss F. Ruffing, Miss M. Reding, Mrs. Muir(A. Smith)  
 Miss B. Clohecy, Mrs. Markle(D. Crossley), Miss F. O'Brien

*Back row (left to right)*  
*Jean Laidlaw '37*  
*Frances Ruffing '47*  
*Marguerite Reding '43*  
*Agnes Smith '34*

*Front row (left to right)*  
*Bernadette Clohecy '43*  
*Doris Crossley '32*  
*Frances O'Brien '41*



# GRADUATES 1919

Record book identifies 7 graduates

Myrtle Duggan  
Hilda Gollins  
Teresa Gurry  
Mary Kennedy  
Gladys Merritt  
Mary Robb  
Irene Murray



*Irene Murray '19*

1942 - 1943    *Teresa Curry'19 served as the Treasurer on the Alumnae Executive*

1934    *Irene Murray '19 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the St. Joseph School of Nursing Alumnae Association.*



## *Graduating Class of 1919*

*Picture was restored by donation to the Alumnae for Reunion day 2019*





1979 Thank you card sent to the Alumnae by Irene Murray for the plant received at Christmas.

Hamilton Dec 23 - 1979.  
 Dear Mrs. Melnyk,  
 please extend my sincere thanks  
 to the Alumnae Members for  
 the lovely plant, I received again  
 this X-mas.  
 May you all have a Very  
 Happy and Holy X-mas.  
 Sincerely Irene Murray

*July 6/57* 1957  
**Nursing Sister  
 At St. Joseph's  
 Dies In Hospital**

Sister M. Vincent Bergin, of Guelph, a member of the sisters of St. Joseph, Hamilton diocese, died Saturday at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Born in Guelph she had spent most of her life nursing at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Surviving are her brother, the Rev. John Bergin, SJ, of Toronto; three sisters, Mother M. Adelina, of Loretta Academy, of Niagara Falls, Ont., Mrs. Anna O'Brien of Guelph, and Mrs. Agnes McAstocker, of Havre, Mon.

Funeral Mass was held today at 10 a.m. in St. Joseph's Hospital Chapel. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

*Sister M. Vincent Bergin  
 was a graduate in the class of 1915.*

*She spent most of her life nursing at  
 St Joseph's Hospital, Guelph.*

*She entered Eternal Life July 6, 1957.*



Irene Murray '19  
 Reunion Day 1986

*The only thing nicer  
 than having a friend  
 is being a friend*



Hamilton April 21 - 1979.

Dear Nancy,  
 Thank you for your  
 very kind letter.

Please convey my  
 sincere appreciation to  
 the alumnae association  
 for their best wishes

I find it hard to  
 realize as so much  
 has happened since  
 1919.

I am looking forward  
 to seeing you all at  
 the annual dinner.

Sincerely,  
 Irene Murray.

1979 Thank you card sent to the Alumnae by Irene Murray

## GRADUATES 1924

Marion Barry  
Basilla Clancy  
Mae Gaffney  
Annie Gallagher  
Beatrice Haller  
Nellie Hart  
Nora Jardine  
Margaret Kelly  
Sara Langley  
Ivy Loyst  
Georgina Malloy  
Georgina Morrow  
Verna Murphy  
Kathleen O'Brien  
Ann O'Connor  
Norine O'Regan  
Katharine Smith  
Dorothy Wren

Sister M. Xavier Reding  
Sister Mercedes Gallagher

No graduation photo available for the class of 1924  
Record book identifies 20 graduates



## 1924 Graduates

*Sara Langley received a medal for General Proficiency.  
Iva Loyst received a medal for Promptitude and Diligence.  
Annie Gallagher received a medal for surgery.  
May Gaffney received a \$10 gold piece for obstetrics.  
Marion Barry received a gold medal for Dietetics.*

*Pictures of the nuns were not permitted in the class photos.*

*Kathleen O'Brien '24 was the 6<sup>th</sup> president of the Nurses Alumnae Executive*

*1942 – 1944 Iva Loyst'24 was the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the Nurses Alumnae Executive*

*1933 – 1936 Margaret Kelly'24 served as the Treasurer of Nurses Alumnae Executive  
1963 – 1965 Margaret Kelly'24 served on the Advisory Board of the Alumnae Executive*



**Graduation ceremonies took place in Undermount Nurses Residence.**

**Graduation took place on the south lawn of Undermount, with lilacs, roses and peonies as a background.**

**Eight small attendants, clad in white frocks and wearing wreaths of lily of the valley, preceded the eighteen nurses to the platform, looking very serious and sweet in the newly acquired dignity of their uniform.**

**Each nurse carried a large bouquet of roses and an excellent orchestra played a lively march while the procession passed through.**

**A charming musical program had been arranged by the Sisters and the entire assembly sang O Canada. The program opened with the valedictory read by Miss Norene O'Regan and a delightful vocal solo was given by Miss Vera Guay, a student nurse (1925).**

**A charming vocal duet was contributed by Misses Teresa McAgy and Edith Melody, also student nurses (1926).**

**Very Rev. Dean Cassidy congratulated the graduating class, stating it was the largest graduating class in the history of St Joseph's Hospital.**

**It was also the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of St Joseph's Hospital.**

**Mayor Jutten presented the class pin.**

**Dr. J. K. McGregor stated that it had often been felt by the public that nurses were overpaid.**

**He wished to take public exception to this opinion.**

**The doctor thought that when a nurse went into training for three years, living in an atmosphere where she daily risked serious infection, giving up much pleasure at a time in her life, when most girls sought amusement, during which time she was forced to perform many menial tasks, that the current rate paid the nurse could save little more than one or two hundred dollars per year.**

**Surely he said the profession was not overpaid at that rate.**

**There were 20 graduates in the class of 1924**

## Eighteen Nurses Receive Diplomas

St. Joseph's Hospital Training School Holds Graduation Exercises For Largest Class in Hospital's History—Sir Bertram Windle Makes Presentations—Day Is Also 34th Anniversary of Hospital's Opening.

With the lovely south lawn of Undermount, gay with lilacs, roses and peonies, as a charming background, the 1924 class of the St. Joseph's hospital school of nursing, was graduated yesterday. Preceded by eight small attendants, clad in white frocks and wearing wreaths of lily of the valley, the eighteen nurses marched to the platform, looking very serious and sweet in the newly acquired dignity of their uniform. Each nurse carried a large bouquet of roses, and an excellent orchestra played a lively march while the procession passed through. Catholic and Protestant clergy, a very large representation of medical men, and many women socially prominent, composed the audience which greeted the graduating class, as well as a good many proud families. A charming musical program had been arranged by the sisters, and the entire assembly sang O Canada. The program opened with the valedictory read by Miss Norene O'Regan, and a delightful vocal solo was given by Miss Vera Guay, a pupil nurse. A charming vocal duet was contributed by Misses Teresa McAgy and Edith Melody, also pupil nurses. Madame Yelmo very kindly acted as accompanist for the vocal numbers.

Very Rev. Dean Cassidy was chairman of the afternoon, and in a brief address congratulated the graduating class, which, he said, was the largest in the history of St. Joseph's hospital. Their graduation day was also the 34th anniversary of the opening of St. Joseph's hospital, he said. The nursing profession was a Christian institution, and many were awaiting the ministrations of these young women. He then introduced Sir Bertram Windle, M.A., M.D., Ph.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., LL.D., of Toronto, who presented the diplomas to the graduates. Their graduation day, he said, was undoubtedly the greatest milestone in their lives, and although nursing was a fine and noble career, it was by no means an easy one. Sir Bertram spoke of the great advance which had been made in medicine and surgery even during his own career, and recalled the days, thirty odd years ago, when the mortality in operations was terrific. Anaesthetics were then unknown, as was aseptic surgery. He felt sure that these graduates would see just as great an advancement during their careers as had taken place during the past sixty years. The medical man or nurse who entered the profession, said Sir Bertram, with no higher ideal than that of earning a livelihood would never be a success. The nurse or doctor should feel repaid that he was doing something, in his day and generation, for suffering humanity.

### PROUD OF HOSPITAL

Mayor Jutten, who presented the class pins, stated that Hamilton was proud to own such an institution as St. Joseph's. He did not know of any walk in life which required such sacrifices.

### NURSES UNDERPAID

Dr. J. K. McGregor, of the McGregor-Mowbray clinic, in presenting the medal which he donated for surgery, stated that it had often been felt by the public that nurses were overpaid. He wished to take public exception to this opinion. The doctor thought that when a nurse went into training for three years, living in an atmosphere where she daily risked serious infection, giving up much pleasure at a time in her life when most girls sought amusement, during which time she was forced to perform many menial tasks, that the current rate paid per

day to nurses was all too little. Bricklayers, who were paid a very high wage, claimed it because they could not work all of the time. The same was true of the nurse—and the nurse must have a preliminary education which the bricklayer certainly did not require. The doctor stated that he had known nurses to state that, during 28 years' practice, they could save little more than one or two hundred dollars per year. Surely, he said, the profession was not overpaid at that rate. The doctor demanded of the nurse three things: First, that she have powers of observation and exclude them; second, that she be resilient, and this, he said, was more commendable than cleverness in a nurse, for many homes had been wrecked by the publishing of fairly secret confidences to the nurse through the confidential or professional contacts; third, the nurse should have a heart. When a man was sick, he dropped down from the point where he had a certain amount of self-control, and became again the child, pettish and irritable, so that the nurse must show sympathy and patience. In these days of commercialism the nurse got very little more, in the way of remuneration, out of her profession, than a kitchen maid, and would be the consciousness of a deed well done. This would be the best salve for the lot of hard knocks, weary hours and bad cases.

### PRETTIEST CLASS

Dr. Olmsted also spoke briefly, stating that the 1924 graduating class was the prettiest he had ever seen. In addressing the mayor, he asked why St. Joseph's hospital did not get a fair share of the city rate of work, for it had become known to him recently that the relief department did not send a patient to St. Joseph's unless the General was completely filled up. He congratulated the mother superior of the hospital for the foundation they had laid for this splendid school of nursing.

### SOME STATISTICS

During 1923, three thousand patients have been cared for, one hundred of those being city relief patients. A special ward had been opened for the children, and 1923 had also witnessed the opening of Casa Maria, the new maternity ward, where there was accommodation for 25 mothers and babies. The hospital accommodation at present totaled 196 beds and of these 25 were baby cots.

### SPECIAL PRIZES

Special prizes were awarded as follows: General proficiency, gold medal, donated by Rev. Mother Thelma, sister superior of St. Joseph's community, awarded to Miss Sara Langley, Alliston, Ont. Promptitude and diligence gold medal, donated by Very Rev. Dean Cassidy, awarded to Miss Iva Loyt, of Stillville, Ont. Gold medal for surgery, donated by Dr. J. K. McGregor, awarded to Miss Annie Gallagher, Hamilton, Ont. Obstetrics, \$10 gold piece, donated by Dr. Sullivan, awarded to Miss May Gaffney, of Pembroke. Dietetics, gold medal, donated by Dr. Downes, awarded to Miss Marion Barry, of Hamilton. The graduating class was as follows: Misses Mary K. Gaffney, Kathleen O'Brien, Sara T. Langley, Margaret R. Kelly, Eva V. Mallory, Annie G. Gallagher, Norene F. O'Regan, Dorothy J. Wren, Basil A. Clancy, Margaret Anna O'Connor, Beatrice F. Haller, Georgina M. Morrow, Ivy J. Loyt, M. Katharine Smith, Norah M. Jardine, Nellie B. Hart, Ferna Murphy, Marian F. Barry.



**Injection Set belonged to**

**Annie Gallagher '24**



**GRADUATION**

*May 16, 1929*



GRADUATION May 16, 1929

Members of the class Mary Atkins, Helene Fagan, Florence Dietrich, Marguerite Fleming, Mildred Boulton, Melinda Cronin, Ivy Hoyle, Mildred Curry, Margaret Melody, Thelma Brydges, Elmira Whiteside, Mary Cullin, Helen Robinson, Veronica Sullivan, Ethel Hazlett, Elizabeth Hubbell, Viola Saunders Isabel Sullivan

*Graduation ceremony was held in the prettily decorated lecture hall Undermount Nurses Residence. There are 16 graduates in the photo of graduation 1929.*

*Record book identifies 19 graduates*

*The program was opened by a few words from Dr Playfair, chairman of the hospital staff. He expressed the opinion that the value of the work done by St Joseph's Hospital was not properly appreciated by a large part of Hamilton. Controller John Peebles presented diplomas and graduation pins. Right Rev. Monseigneur Blair gave an interesting outline of the history of hospitals from the early days when the sick were tended in the Bishop's house.*

*Prize winners included Veronica Sullivan with the award for highest standard in theory. Viola Saunders won the award for general proficiency and the award for medical nursing. Viola Saunders also won the award for Obstetrical Nursing. Florence Dietrich won the award for efficiency in bedside nursing. Helen Robinson won the award for gynecological nursing and examination*



left to right

GRADUATION May 16, 1929

Mary Atkins, Helene Fagan, Florence Dietrich, Marguerite Fleming, Mildred Boulton, Melinda Cronin, Ivy Hoyle, Mildred Curry, Miss Gibson (Instructress), Margaret Melody, Thelma Brydges, Elmira Whiteside, Mary Cullin, Helen Robinson, Veronica Sullivan, Ethel Hazlett, Elizabeth Hubbell, Viola Saunders  
Absent from photo: Isabel Sullivan



Graduates were Mary Atkins, Mildred Boulton, Thelma Brydges, Melinda Cronin, Mary Cullin, Mildred Curry, Florence Dietrich, Helene Fagan, Marguerite Fleming, Ethel Hazlett, Ivy Hoyle, Elizabeth Hubbell, Margaret Melody, Helen Robinson, Viola Saunders, Isabel Sullivan, Veronica Sullivan and Elmira Whiteside.

# St. Joseph's Hospital Holds Its Graduation

Sixteen Young Women Receive Diplomas; Right Rev. Mons. Blair Addresses Class; Hopes They Will Not Go to U.S.; Miss Veronica Sullivan Wins Parry Prize.

"I offer you my congratulations and best wishes for full success and long life in this noble profession you have chosen. May you do a noble work for the sick and the afflicted, which will prove to be a comfort to yourselves." In these words the Right Rev. Monsignor J. J. Blair concluded his address yesterday afternoon before the graduation class of the nurses' training school of St. Joseph's hospital. The exercises, in which sixteen graduates received their diplomas and medals, took place in the prettily decorated lecture hall of the nurses' residence.

The program was opened by a few remarks from the chairman of the hospital staff, Dr. L. L. Playfair, in which he expressed the opinion that the value of the work done by St. Joseph's hospital was not properly appreciated by a large part of Hamilton. Dr. Playfair spoke with regret of the possibility that the ranks of the graduating class would be soon depleted either through marriage or the departure of some of the nurses for the United States, where emoluments were more attractive. A short musical interlude followed, during which vocal solos were sung by Mrs. Corbett Whitten and Mrs. James C. Brigger and a violin selection played by William Andrew.

**PRESENTED DIPLOMAS**  
In the absence through illness of Bishop McNally, the presentation of the diplomas and pins was made by Controller John Peables, who was present in the stead of Mayor Burton.

Mgr. Blair gave a fatherly address to the graduating class, holding up before them the highest ideals of their profession. "You must be happy today," he said, "at coming to the end of a long, hard period of training. Today you receive the stamp of approval of this institution in these diplomas and medals which prove to the world that you have fully qualified yourselves in every department of nursing and the care of the sick."

**A NOBLE PROFESSION**  
"It is a truly noble profession upon which you have entered. It behooves you to see in each patient your suffering Lord and to treat him as you would Christ, with the same reward in view."

"First you must have patience and sympathy. You must make suffering as light as possible. It is for you to see that the doctor's instructions are fully and carefully carried out."

"The training you have received has been difficult and long. You have looked forward to the completion of the course. Now, perhaps, you are not so glad; you should think only of the pleasant and happy things. Happy things are in store for all who work and make sacrifices."

"You are now starting out into a larger sphere, but the same work will continue. You will meet difficulties and you will have to make sacrifices."

**HISTORY OF HOSPITALS**  
Mgr. Blair gave a very interesting outline of the history of hospitals from the early days when the sick were tended in the bishop's house, probably by the bishop himself, at that time usually a skilled physician.

"You are starting out on a great career," said the speaker. "If you decide to marry, as Dr. Playfair said was possible, it will not be a calamity. You will be better prepared for wifehood. One thing I would deplore, and that is to see any of you go to the United States. I see no good reason why any Canadian should go there. The only inducement is that of higher salary."

Controller Peables in a brief address congratulated the graduating class on having so successfully completed the long and arduous course and reminded them of the high principles of service that should guide every member of the nursing profession.

**SPECIAL PRIZES**  
Six prizes in the special departments of nursing were given out. That for the highest standing in theory, given by Dr. J. R. Parry, was won by Miss Veronica Sullivan. The award for general proficiency, given by Dr. W. F. Downes, was won by Miss Viola Saunders, as were those given for medical nursing and examination given by Dr. Playfair and obstetrical nursing and examination given by Dr. L. A. Richmond.

The prize for efficiency in bedside nursing, given by Dr. F. B. Mowbray, was won by Miss Florence Dietrich. That for gynecological nursing and examination was won by Miss Helen Robinson.

**MEMBERS OF CLASS**  
The members of the graduating class were as follows: Misses Veronica M. Sullivan, Hamilton; Viola L. Saunders, Jarvis; Ethel E. Hazlett, Jarvis; Hannah E. Hubbell, Jarvis; Marguerite E. Fleming, Cayuga; Helen R. Robinson, Hamilton; Isabelle M. Sullivan, Galt; Helene M. Fagan, Jarvis; Mildred Bolton, Jordan Station; Margaret M. Cullen, Paris; Elmira Whiteside, Hamilton; Margaret C. Melody, Hamilton; Florence M. Dietrich, Walkerton; and Mildred M. Curry, Hamilton.



## GRADUATION

June 6, 1934



Left to right:

### GRADUATION 1934

Front row: Ruth Dooley, Betty Wellsman, Alice Schweyer, Dorothy Cobb, Sophia Minden, Marguerite Goetz, Patricia Muldoon, Gertrude MacKay, Agnes Smith, Clea Scott, Eudene Pearce, Helen Zettle, Margaret Moore

Back row: Marjorie Broker, Dorothy Craig, Doris Easterbrook, Devena Muirhead, Helen Foley, Jean Durward, Mary Nunziato, Anne McNichol, Miss Roach (Instructress), Jean Costle, Ruth Hewson, Irene Hannah, Lillian Chamberlain, Orpha Harvey, Mary Dean, Marie Stevens

Missing from photo: Vera Selkirk, Violet Bassindale, Mary MacGillicuddy, Rose Conway

Marie Stevens

(Sister Mary Grace Stevens)

*Graduation exercises were held in the Undermount Nurses Residence. There were 32 graduates in the class of 1934.*

*Parents and friends of the graduates, members of the medical and nursing profession of the three city hospitals, and representative of the clergy were present in large numbers to offer their congratulations. Guests and relatives of the graduates assembled in the lecture room of Undermount senior nurses residence, prior to the graduates entry in their snowy white uniforms and carrying arm bouquet of American beauty roses. The window ledges and the platform held scores of baskets filled with flowers.*

*Dr. L. L. Playfair brought congratulation to the graduates. He took the opportunity to speak on nursing education at the time. Whatever was true in past years, was now not just a matter of bedside nursing and manual skill. Academic and scientific training were added to each year. This branch of education was restricted by the resources and needs of the hospital in which the training school was located and it was a question how much theory could be added to the nurse's training while the nurse continued to do her present share of the practical work in the wards*

*. "In our own hospital " he said, "and in many others there are fully qualified and full-time teachers and every effort is made to present the work in the best possible manner. But can it be absorbed by the nurses on twelve-hour duty with a limited time for study and recreation?" I venture to prophesy in the future, nurses will receive scientific training in a school or college organized for that purpose where only academic work will be given for the first year or two and she will get practical bedside training in an affiliated hospital, as the medical students do now"*

*Photo shows 31 grads / Record book identifies 33 graduates / Newspaper article quotes 32 grads*



June 6, 1934.

## NURSES RECEIVE THEIR DIPLOMAS

Ceremonies of Graduation Feature At St. Joseph's Hospital To-day—Chairman of Staff Delivers Address

The twentieth annual graduating exercises of St. Joseph's hospital school of nursing held at Undermount this afternoon, were largely attended, when 32 young women received their diplomas and awards. Many flowers made an effective background for the graduating class in their fresh white uniforms. Parents and friends of the graduates, members of the medical and nursing profession of the three city hospitals, and representatives of the clergy were present in large numbers to offer their congratulations. Dr. W. P. Downes, B.A., C.M., chairman of the staff, presided. The presentation of pins and diplomas was made by the Very Rev. Father Banniger, C.B., provincial of the Resurrectionists. Addresses to the graduating class were given by Rev. J. F. Hinchey, pastor of St. Mary's church; Dr. L. L. Playfair, F.R.C.S. (Edinburgh) and Dr. T. C. Boulter, M.D., F.R.C.P., general secretary of the Canadian and Ontario Medical Society.

**Address to Class**

Dr. L. L. Playfair brought the congratulations of the hospital staff and sisters to the graduates as having completed their training. He took the opportunity to speak on nursing education at the present time, for the problem was a serious one, he said. Whatever was true in past years, it was now not just a matter of bedside training and manual skill. Academic and scientific training were added to each year. This branch of education was restricted by the resources and needs of the hospital in which the training school was located, and it was a question, how much theory could be added to the nurse's training while the nurse continued to do her present share of the practical work in the wards. "In our own hospital," he said, "and in many others, there are fully qualified and full-time teachers, and every effort is made to present the work in the best possible manner. But can it be absorbed by the nurse on twelve-hour duty, with a limited time for study and recreation? I venture to prophesy, in the future nurses will receive scientific training in a school or college organized for that purpose where only academic work will be given for the first year or two, and she will get practice bedside training in an affiliated hospital, as the medical students do now."

Dr. Downes, in extending congratulations to the members of the graduating class, stated that it was their good fortune to receive their training in such an establishment as St. Joseph's. Since the establishment of the training school in 1911, with an attendance of nine pupils and a staff of two teachers, the school had progressed until today it had an attendance of ninety pupils and a staff of twenty-five teachers. The aim of the institution had been to develop by sound methods, the knowledge instilled by honour, so as to think well, skill, so as to work well, and character, by good sound moral training, so as to live well.

Since the introduction of the registration examinations for nurses in 1925, a province-wide qualifying examination, 80 to 100 per cent. of St. Joseph's students had been successful, usually 100 per cent.

"In all parts of the world the graduates are doing splendid work," he said. "Last year during the earthquake at Long Beach, Cal., one of your members was mentioned in despatches for her heroic conduct. Two of you nurses made the supreme sacrifice while in the discharge of their duties—Miss Mildred Souter in India working in the foreign mission fields, and Miss Dorothy Lande of this city."

Dr. Downes said: "I urge you to continue your education. Remember, it is a continuing process and should go on to the end of life. On behalf of the medical staff, Dr. Downes thanked the staff superior, Mother Martina, for her co-operation and complimented her on the efficiency of her hospital management during these difficult times."

**Students**

Members of the graduating class: Sister Mary Grace, Misses Ann I. McKinn, Elizabeth Welman, Margaret Moore, Dorothy Cobb, of Hamilton; Ruth Hewson, Toronto; Dorothy Craig, Burlington; Marguerite Goss, Guelph; Ruth Dooley, Hamilton; Rose Conway Stratford; Mary McGillivray Kenilworth; Violet Bassindale, Nanticoke; Marjorie Broker, Tillamook; Chamberlain, Jeanne Coste, M.D., Dean, Galt; Doris Easterbrook, Hamilton; Helen Foley, St. Catharines; Irene Hannah, Hamilton; Orpha Harvey, Vaudreuil; Ruth Gertrude Mackay, Devenish Mill; head, Sophia Minden, Patricia McDonagh, Mary Nanticoke, all of Hamilton; Eudene Pearce, Mitchell; All Schweyer, Hagersville; Clela Scott Dondos; Vera Sakurik, Hamilton; Agnes Smith, Hamilton, and Rita Zettel, Hildesheim.

## Local Hospital Staff Praised for Advances

Knowledge, Character and Skill Three Essentials of Profession, 32 Graduates at St. Joseph's Are Told by Dr. W. P. Downes at Exercises

Graduating with the knowledge that St. Joseph's hospital now their alma mater, holds high rank among such institutions in Canada, the 32 members of the 1934 class were cautioned yesterday by Dr. W. P. Downes, Toronto, general secretary, Canadian and Ontario Medical societies, that they had added to the responsibility of each nurse. Dr. Downes said that the members of the class, who had been through fifteen years of close association with all Canadian hospitals.

Dr. Downes said that the graduates assembled in the lecture room at "Undermount" were a great evidence, prior to the graduation entry in their new white uniforms and carrying arms, of the progress of the nursing profession, the window ledge and the pattern held stories of hospital life with flowers—all present in the hospital.

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## St. Joseph's Hospital Hamilton, Ont.

### SCHOOL OF NURSING

THIS DIPLOMA IS AWARDED TO

## Doris Easterbrook

In testimony of her having completed a three years' course of instruction in this Institution and having passed with credit the required examinations

In Witness Whereof the undersigned have affixed their signatures on this sixth day of June, 1934

Sister M. Monica  
Sister M. Martina

Doris Easterbrook '34



1943 - 1944

Agnes Smith '34 was the Representative to the Canadian Nurse for the Nurses Alumnae Executive

1944-1945

Agnes served on the Executive Committee for the Nurses Alumnae





#### IN HONOUR OF GRADUATES

Undermount, St. Joseph's Hospital, was the scene of a very enjoyable party on Wednesday evening, when the intermediate class entertained in honour of the 1934 graduates. The guests were received at the entrance to the reception room by Miss Florence M. Roach, gowned in scarlet plaid organdie, and Miss Helen C. Webster, in ivory taffeta, with blue accessories. Corsage bouquets of orchids and lilies of the valley, gifts of the intermediate class, were worn by the hostesses. The prizes for the novelty dances were received by Miss Lillian Chamberlain, Mr. Herbert Thwaite, Miss Patricia Sullivan and Dr. Fred Bowman. Among the guests were: Dr. and Mrs. L. L. Playfair, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Playfair, Dr. and Mrs. Clendennin, Dr. and Mrs. McDonald, Dr. and Mrs. Finlayson, Dr. and Mrs. Trebilcock, Dr. W. P. Downes and Miss M. Leach, Dr. T. H. Nash, Miss Mortimer, Dr. A. Hollinrake, Miss Louise Keenan, Miss Patricia Sullivan, Mr. Herbert Sullivan, Dr. F. B. Bowman, Dr. G. Stull, Dr. R. Appleford, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Davis, Mr. Reginald Williams, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Reid, Miss Loyola Dooley and Mr. Dooley (Guelph), Mr. and Mrs. George Foley and Mr. and Mrs. O. Haines (St. Catharines), Mr. E. Radigan (Guelph), Mr. E. Goetz (Guelph).



*Dr. W. P. Downes, chairman of the staff, presided. "In all parts of the world, graduates are doing splendid work" he said. "Last year during the earthquake at Long Beach California one of your members was mentioned in despatches for her heroic conduct. Two of your nurses made the supreme sacrifice while in the discharge of their duties – Mildred Souter '28 in India working in the foreign missionary fields and Dorothy Landers '31 of this city."*

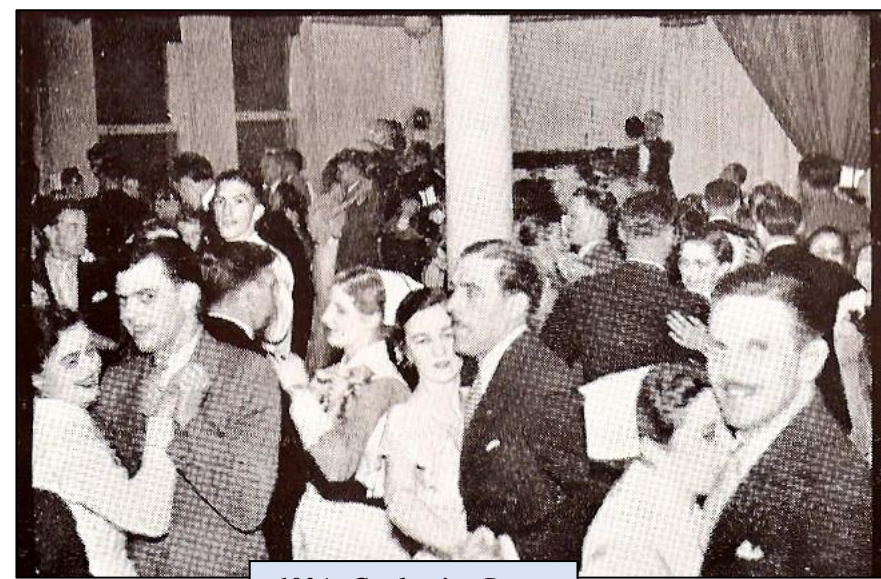
*Dr Downes said "I urge you to continue your education. Remember it is a continuous process and should go on to the end of life. He commented that since the introduction of registration examinations for nurses in 1926, 90 to 100 percent of St. Joseph's students had been successful, usually 100 percent.*

*The terrace garden of Undermount held an afternoon tea following the graduation ceremonies. Individual tables were set beneath shady trees on the three terraces. The intermediate class entertained at a very enjoyable evening in honour of the class of 1934. Guests were received at the entrance by Florence Roach and Helen Webster (instructresses)*





1934 Graduation Dance



1934 Graduation Dance







*Sister Mary Grace '34*

*A native daughter of Hamilton Sister Mary Grace Stevens graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital, Nurses' Graduating Class in 1934.*

*She was an instructor of Nursing and in 1940 was appointed Superintendent of Nurses.*

*Sister Mary Grace was a woman ahead of her time, visionary, fair minded, with a talent for administration.*

*1954-1960 Hospital Administrator, St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton*

*1960-1963 Hospital Administrator, St. Mary's Hospital, Kitchener*

*1963-1970 Hospital Administrator, St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton*

*During her time as administrator, she worked with some of the most advanced ideas being introduced in hospital management. She was known as a forward thinker. She set in motion the plan to build the new surgical wing in the late 1950's based on the Freisen Concept.*

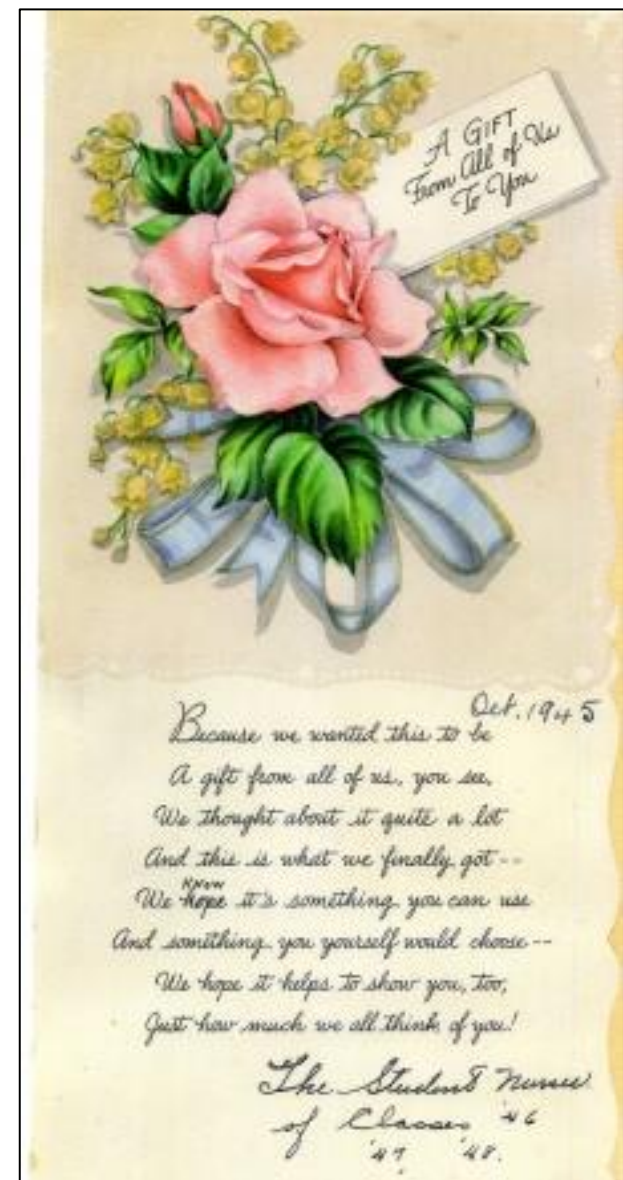
*In the late 1950's she worked with Piggott Engineering in the planning and construction of Fontbonne Hall, which opened as a Nurses' Residence in the early 1960's.*

*In 1958 Sister Mary Grace advertised for the position of a Medical Director. Dr. Ken Williams was hired as the first Medical Director of any of the 285 Catholic Hospitals in Canada.*

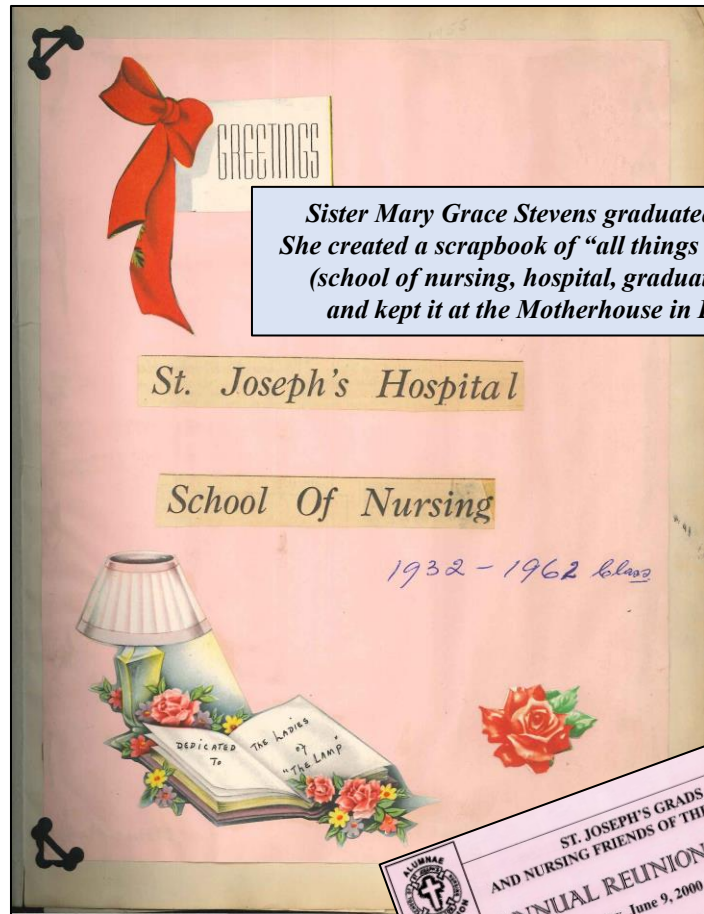
*Sister wanted a hospital committed to quality patient care in order to meet Hospital Accreditation Standards. Working together with Dr. Williams, they achieved this goal.*

*The large surgical building in the present hospital, "The Mary Grace Wing" is named after her,*

*Sister Mary Grace entered eternal life on November 13, 1999.*







*Sister Mary Grace Stevens graduated in 1934  
She created a scrapbook of "all things St Joseph's  
(school of nursing, hospital, graduations etc)  
and kept it at the Motherhouse in Dundas*

*Sister Mary Grace  
entered Eternal Life November 13, 1999*

*Her favourite colour was pick, so pink was the  
colour chosen for the announcements and for  
dinner tickets for Reunion Day 2000*

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF NURSING  
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION  
Hamilton, Ontario

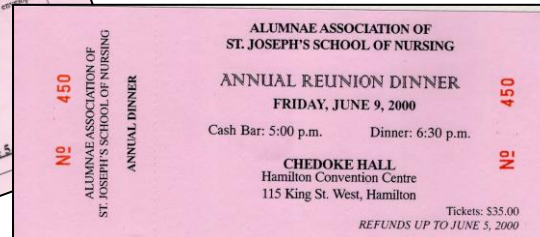
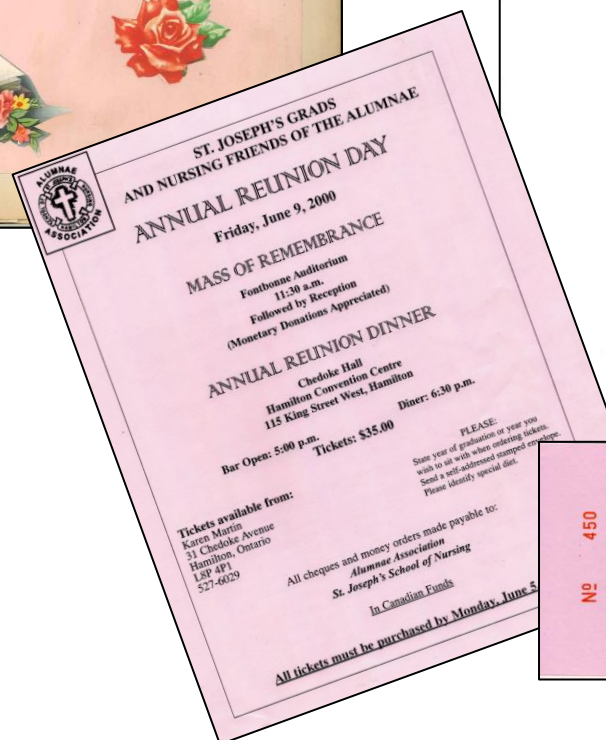


SISTER MARY GRACE STEVENS, CSJ

Graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing, Hamilton 1934  
Entered Eternal Life: November 13, 1999

### Reunion Day Liturgy of Thanksgiving

Friday, June 9, 2000  
St. Joseph's Hospital  
Fontbonne Hall  
Hamilton, Ontario



## PROFILE

### Sister Mary Grace 1902-1999

*Mary Grace, force behind St. Joseph's  
"Gutsy lady made it a progressive hospital"*

These were the headlines in the Hamilton Spectator article on the death of one of St. Joseph's most prominent and influential Alumnus.

Sister was born in Hamilton in 1902, entered the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph where she took her vows in 1928 and graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in 1934.

During her sixty year Nursing career, which included Guelph and Kitchener, she was most prominent during her tenure as Administrator at St. Joseph's in Hamilton.

Many of us remember Sister either as a teacher, supervisor or Administrator. Her signature is on many of our graduation diplomas. But it was her progressive leadership skills that helped shape our hospital into what it is today.

As Administrator in the fifty's, Sister hired a Medical Director, the first Catholic Hospital in Canada to do so, oversaw the construction of the new wing on Charlton Avenue, the second coronary care unit in Canada, and the country's third Dialysis Unit.

Sister retired from St. Jo's in 1970. The Hospital Board's retirement gift was a trip to Europe including an audience with the Pope. A hospital wing is also named after her.

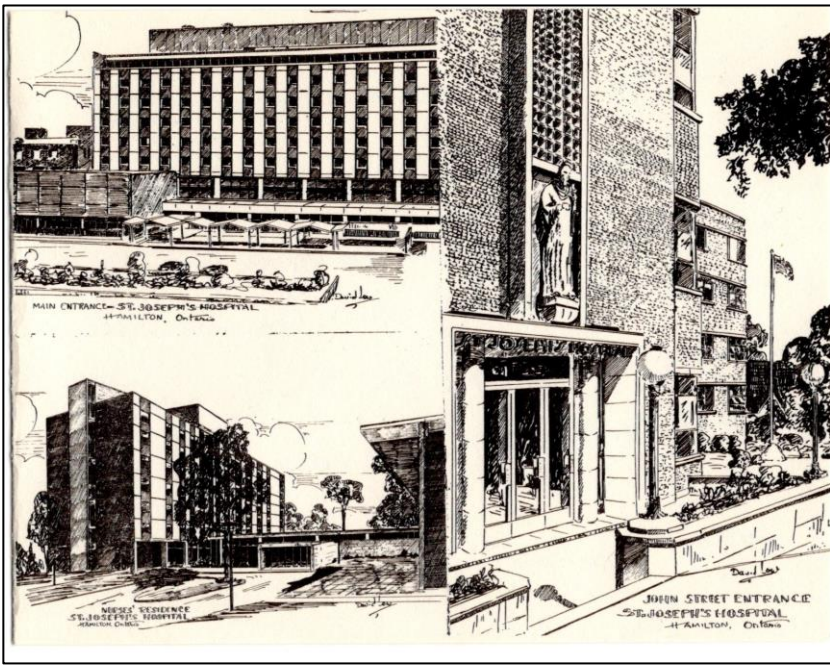
Sister spent her last years at St. Joseph's Villa in Dundas, acting as Administrator and finally assisting in Pastoral Care before retiring permanently.

On November 13, 1999, Sister closed her eyes for the last time.

*May she rest in peace.*







1970 Card sent to the Alumnae by Sister Mary Grace '34

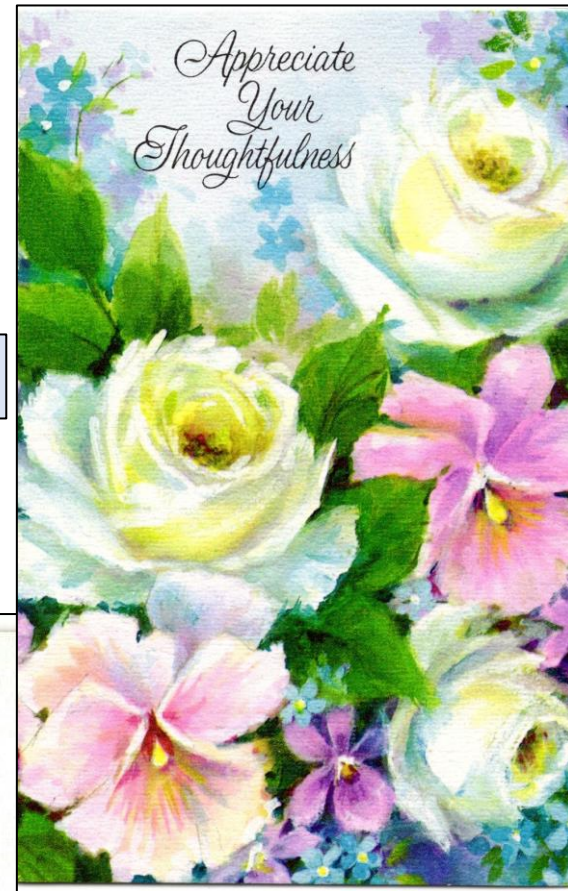
New Years Greeting to the  
members of our Alumnae  
and my sincere thanks for  
your kind Christmas remembrance.  
May 1970 be a year of health  
and happiness to all of you  
Sincerely Sr. Mary Grace

Thank you card sent to the Alumnae by Sister Mary Grace '34  
following a reunion dinner and receiving a crested mug.

My sincere thanks  
to all the members  
of the Alumnae  
I enjoyed meeting so  
many friends, a  
delicious dinner and  
I love my Crested Mug.  
Wishing much success  
to the Executive.

THANK  
YOU  
SO MUCH

Sister Mary Grace







**CORBETT-COWLEY**  
LIMITED

Toronto  
690 King St. W.

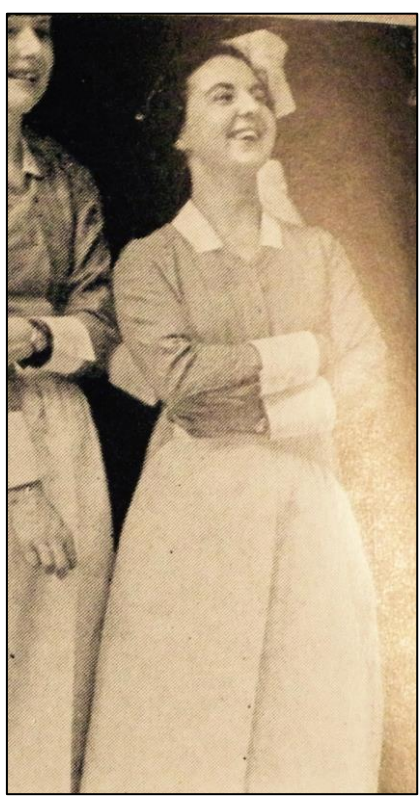
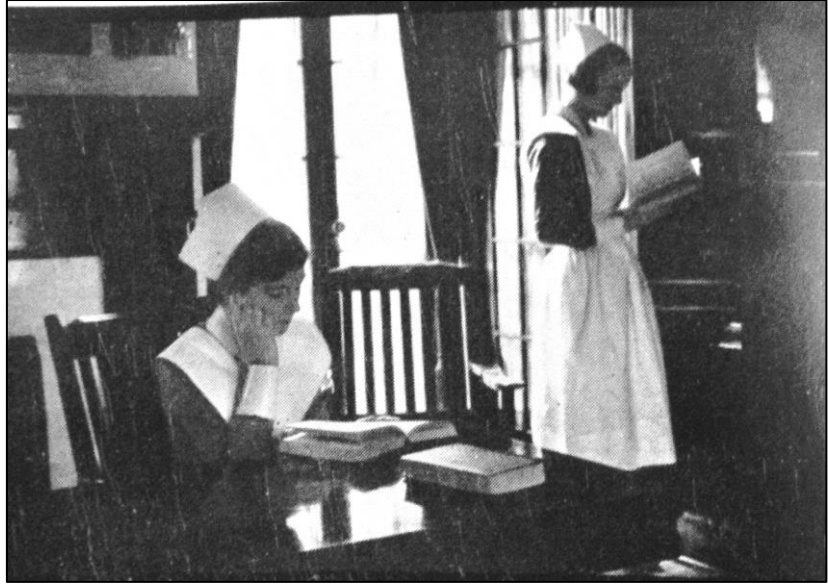
Montreal  
637 Craig St. W.

*Exam Papers*     31 topics

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXAMINATION



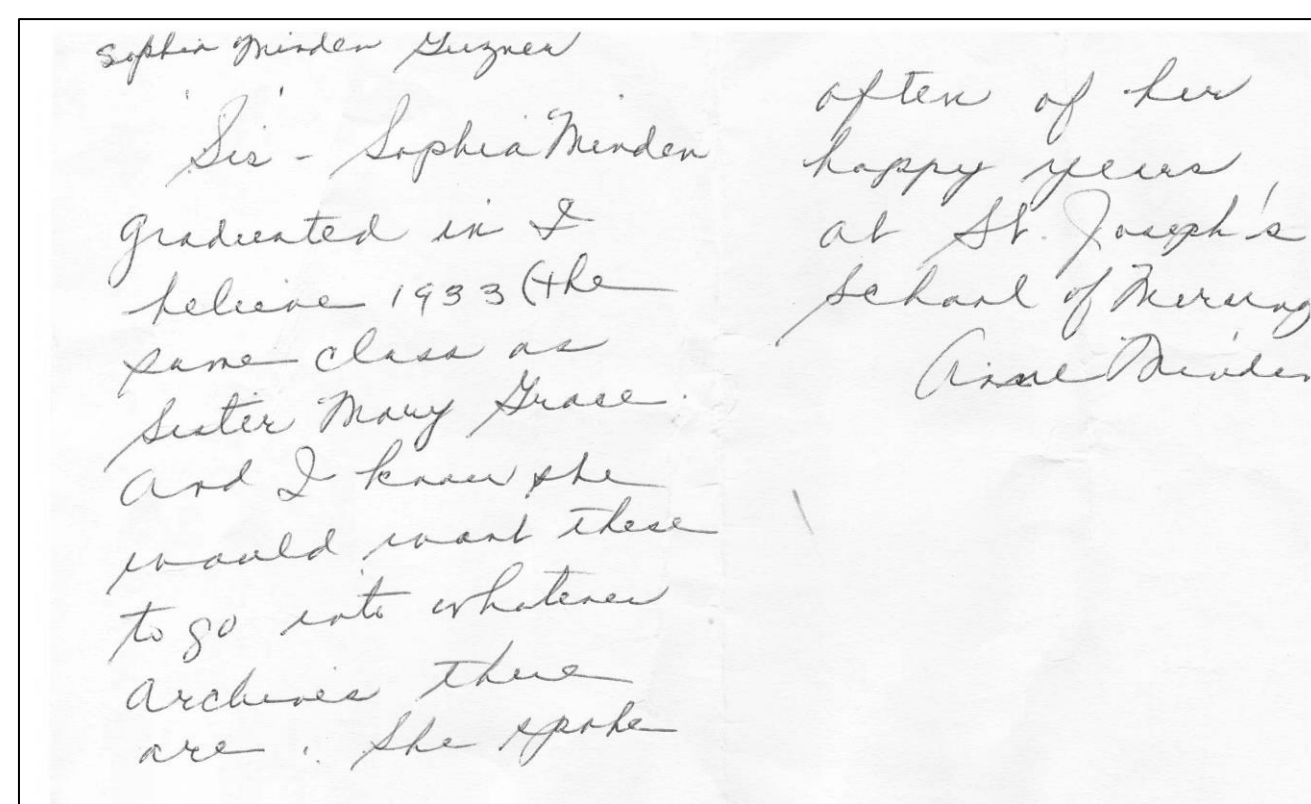
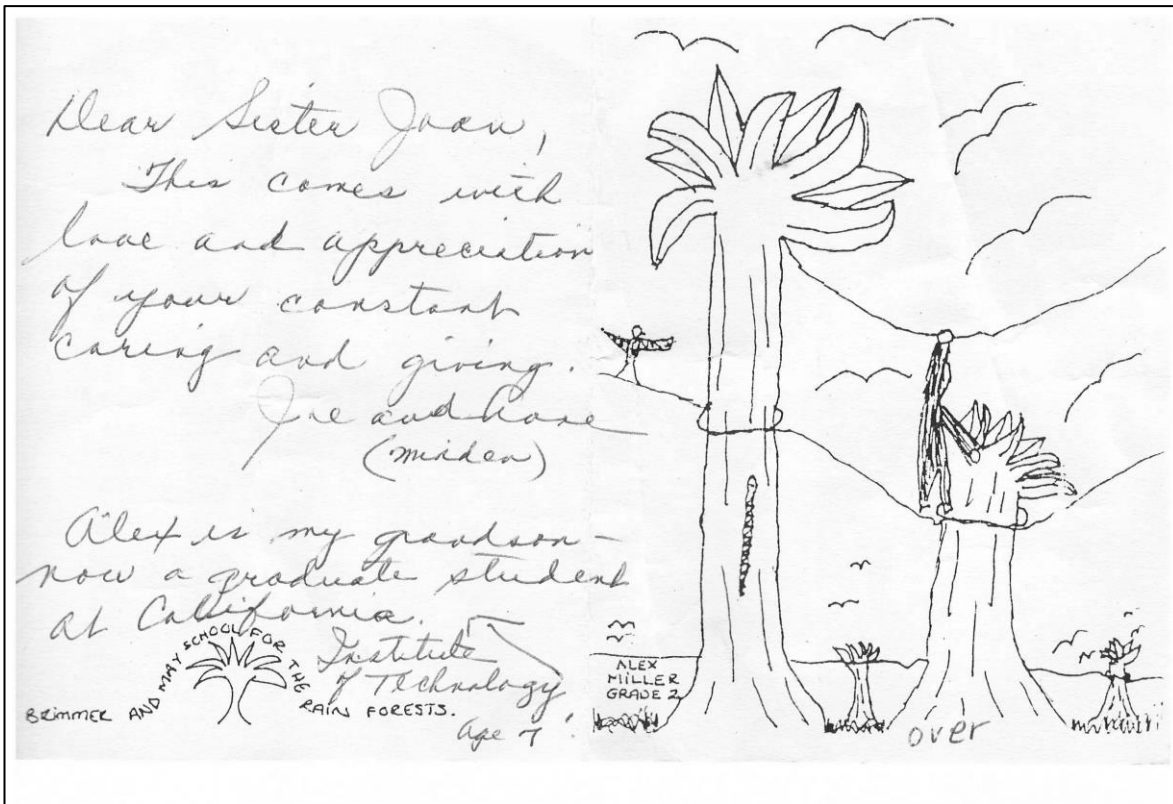
EXAM PAPERS	SUBJECT	# OF PAGES	YEAR	COMMENTS
1	Hospital housekeeping	6		<i>Exam Papers for 1934 donated by Violet Basindale'34</i>
2	General review	5	1931	
3	General review	6	1931	
4	General review	6	1931	
5	First Aid	2	1933	
6	massage	2	1934	
7	Obstetrics	2	1933	
8	Pediatrics	2	1933	
9	Dietetics	2	1933	
10	O.R. Technique	2	1933	
11	Medical Nursing	3	1933	Miss Gibson
12	Surgical Nursing	4	1933	Miss Gibson
13	Bacteriology	4	1932	Dr Ballantyne
14	Anatomy and Physiology	2	1932	Dr lang
15	Materia Medica	2	1932	Dr Downes
16	Urinalysis	2	1932	Sister Monica
17	Dermatology	2	1933	Dr Jaffrey
18	Orthopedics	2	1933	Dr Woodhall
19	Drugs and Solutions	2	1931	Sister Monica
20	Tuberculosis	2	1933	Dr Aitcheson
21	Gynecology	3	1933	Dr Jamieson
22	Psychology	2	1931	Sister Monica
23	Surgery	2	1933	Dr Stevenson
24	Metabolism and Anaesthetics	2	1932	Dr Brough
25	Special Senses	2	1933	Dr Lapp
26	Public Health	2	1933	Miss Boyd
27	Bacteriology	2		Sister Monica
28	Nursing Principles	4	1931	
29	Ethics and History of Nursing	3		
30	Anatomy	2		Sister Monica
31	Hygiene and Sanitation	2		



*Class Notes for 1934 donated by Violet Bassindale'34*

CLASS NOTES	SUBJECT	# OF PAGES	COMMENTS
1	History of Orthopedics	2	
2	Tuberculosis & other infections of bone	7	
3	Orthopedic Conditions	5	Rickets / Scoliosis / Bow Legs / Knock Knees / etc
4	Orthopedic Conditions	4	Club Feet / Congenital Dislocation of Hip / Exostosis / Spastic Paralysis
5	Arthritis	4	
6	Treatment of Tuberculosis	5	
7	Gynecology	6	
8	Cancer	1	
9	Medicine	1	1933 Dr Downes lecture on Urology
10	Respiratory Conditions	1	1933 Dr Downes
11	E.N.T.	10	Dr Lapp
12	Dermatology	7	
13	Organic Brain Disease	2	
14	Diet Sheets	4	





**These drawings were given to Sister Joan O'Sullivan by Dr. Joseph & Anne Minden**

**Dr. Joseph Minden was on staff at St Joseph's Hospital as a general surgeon.**

**Sophia Minden was a graduate of the class of 1934**

**She was also an instructor at the St. Joseph School of Nursing**



Helen Yetman is a delightful lady! One of my favorites, as a matter of fact. I know that you'd love a conversation with her. That is, of course, if you can manage to track her down. She isn't always easy to find, what with her busy schedule and all.

Helen has only been a parishioner in our parish for 2 1/2 years, but she has managed from the very beginning to fit so well into the parish community that her involvement is broad. She not only takes part in a variety of activities, but she brings a wonderful warmth to each one of them and the people who work with her always enjoy it.

"Nana", as she is known by most of her friends, goes out for lunch EVERYDAY and usually stops to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament on the way home. (As a former resident of Staten Island, where churches are always locked, she considers this a real privilege that our church is always open and is grateful to Father Walz for making it a reality.) Every Wednesday, Helen goes to Cedarcroft Nursing Home to visit the people who live there and to pray the rosary with them. She also goes regularly "out to the Mountain" to Marymount Nursing Home to pray the rosary with the Legion of Mary at the bedside of Loretta Combs. Nana took a morning out to cut apples in preparation for the famous St. Joseph apple butter for the Sausage Supper. Just having her there to share in the activities brought a smile to the hearts of many of the other workers. That's just the effect she has on people.

Those women who had the opportunity of attending the Women's Guild Fashion Show in October, and even the other models, would be quick to agree that Nana stole the show as she made her way down the runway, escorted arm-in-arm by tuxedoed Tom Zlatic. (Word has it that she even gave him a kiss the night of rehearsal!)

Nana makes a point of supporting parish activities like the Fish Fries during Lent and is always most receptive and pleasant with anyone who stops at her table to chat.

This charming lady includes travel among her many interests. The high point of last summer was her trip to Disney World, and she is happily anticipating a trip to Canada in May for her 55-year "class reunion" as a Registered Nurse. Nana (along with the wonderful stories she has to tell) has brought many smiles to the parish community of St. Joe, and it is our privilege to know her! (Maybe the reason she has so many great stories about life is that she has had 92 years to collect them.)

*excerpt from Alumnae Newsletter September 1989*

*The following article was given to the Alumnae Newsletter Editor by Terry Schmidt, the very proud daughter of Helen Foley Yetman. It appeared in the church newspaper in Manchester, Missouri.*



*Helen Foley Yetman '34  
Reunion Day 1989*

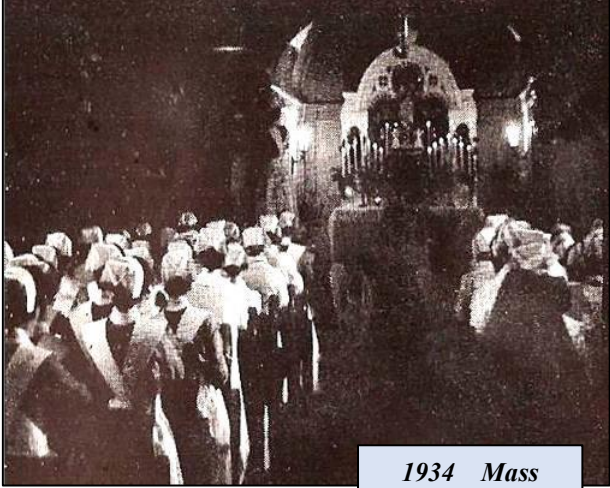


*The Class of '34 —  
Still the Class of '84!*

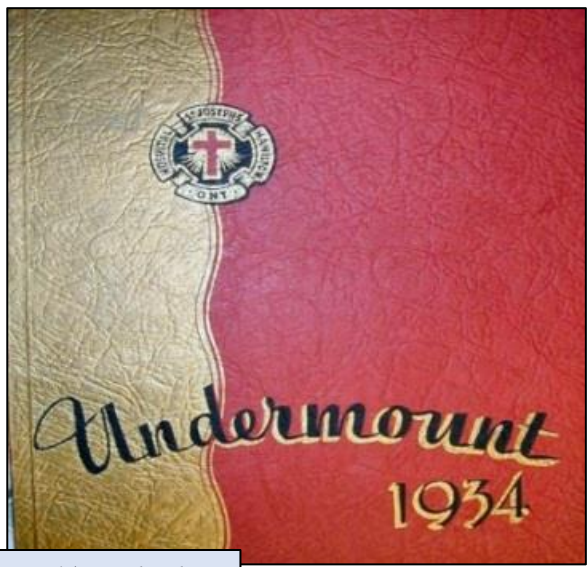
*Reunion Day 1984 Celebrating 50 Years*



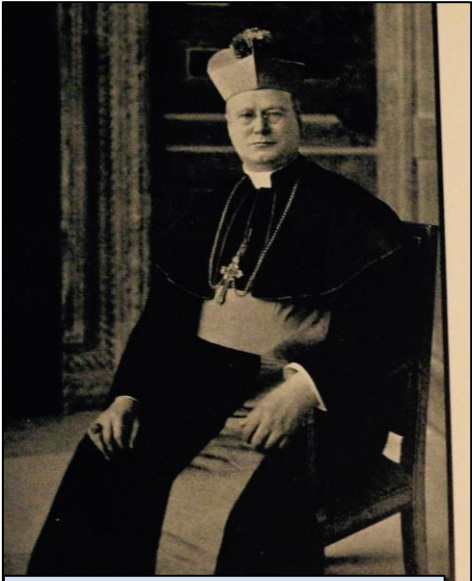
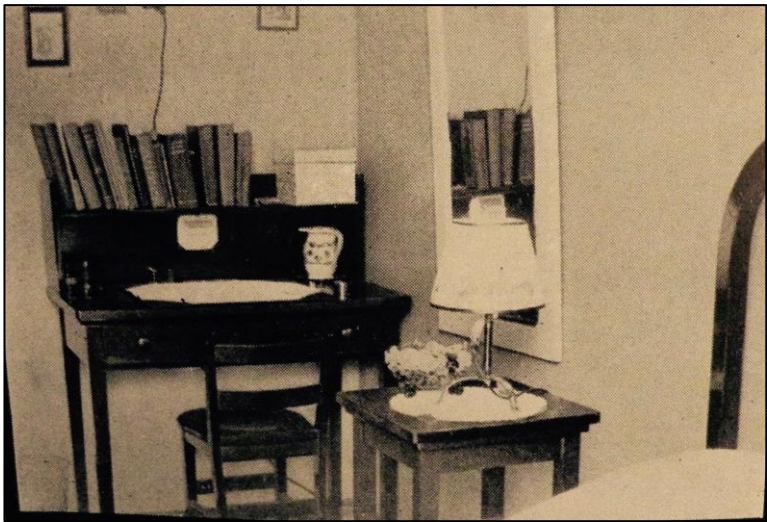




1934 Mass

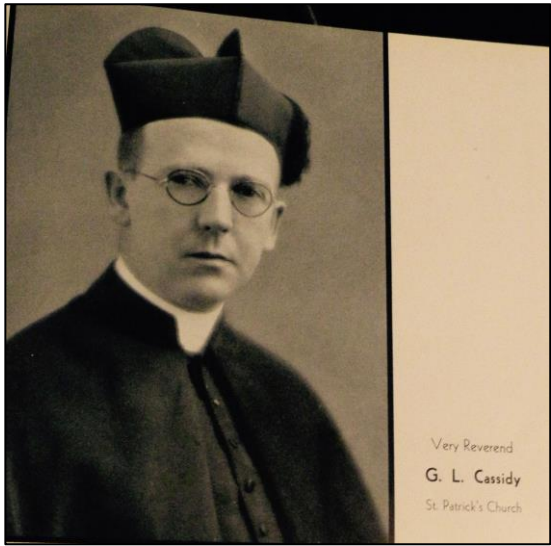


1st Yearbook

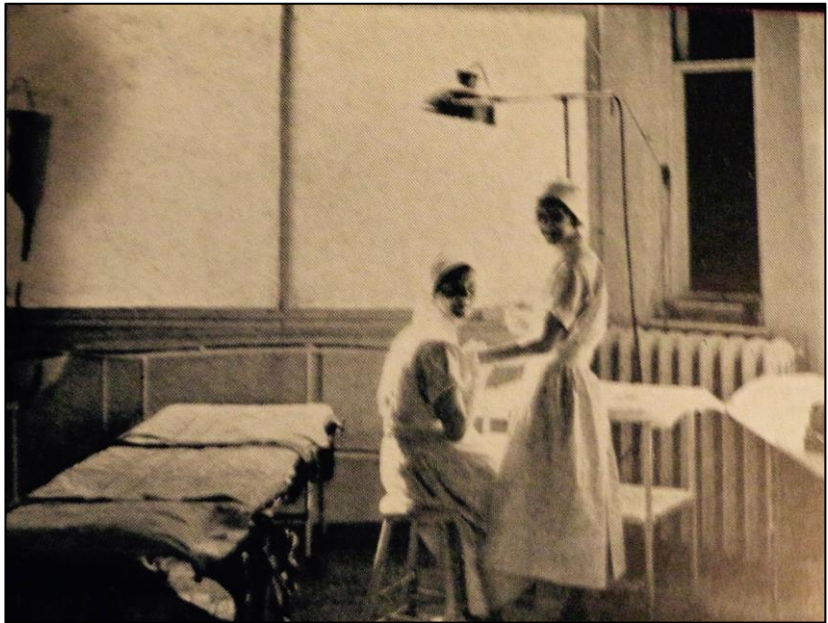


Most Rev. J.T. McNally, D.D.  
"under whose patronage our first  
year book went to publication"

His Excellency  
Most Rev. J. T. McNally, D.D.  
Bishop of Hamilton, Ontario  
Under whose patronage our First Year Book  
goes to publication.



Most Reverend G. L. Cassidy  
St Patrick's Church







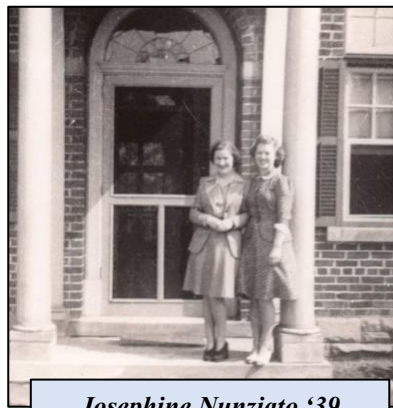
## GRADUATION May 18, 1939

Left to right: front row: Mary Vince, Minnie Sutherland, Beryl Verner, Doris Bunker, Muriel Betzner, Marie Vollick, Virginia Condon, Josephine Nunziato, Jean Stevenson, Betty Scheer, Celine O'Donohue, Brana Dysiewicz

Left to right: back row: Doris Switzer, Doris Palmerston, Evelyn Goetler, Norma McGill Edna Williamson, Teresa Latimer, Beth Wilhelm, Zelda Kennedy, Jean Leslie, Alice Lansing, Mary Williams, Jean Murphy, Mary Stickles

*Graduation ceremonies took place in Undermount Nurses Residence. There were 25 graduates in the class of 1939*





*Josephine Nunziato '39*



*Doris Bunker '39*



*Josephine Nunziato '39*



*Doris Bunker '39 Irene Murray '19 Ethel Gilmour '41*

*Josephine Nunziato was a graduate in the class of 1939. Her family has written her biography*

*Josephine Blanche Nunziato was born March 6, 1917 and died May 22, 2002. She graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Hamilton in the class of 1939. She is seen in the class photo standing 10<sup>th</sup> from the right.*

*She was the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 9 children of Carmine and Orsola Nunziato. She grew up on Fairfield Ave in east Hamilton.*

*After graduation she nursed at the Hamilton T. B. Sanatorium, then the Haldimand War Memorial Hospital in Dunnville.*

*The family believes this was part of the requirements for completing her registration process. She also continued to take on private in – home nursing positions.*

*In 1944, she married William Leonard Robinson and made the transition from city life to rural farm life. Josephine and Leonard raised a son and daughter in the small community of Warner, east of Hamilton.*

*She would sometimes reminisce about being a student nurse, reflecting on the strict rules, ensuring all work was done before leaving the floor to go for a break and finding the food nearly gone by the time she reached the cafeteria.*

*Being a very petite woman she also remembered the difficulty of moving patients between floors, manually up and down the stairs.*

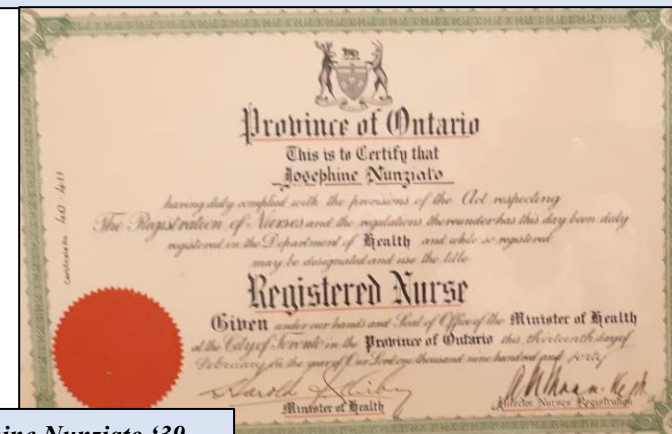
*She could not come home often even though she lived in the same city.*

*Her youngest sister Louise has a vivid memory of a stranger standing in the hallway of the family home dressed in a sparkling white uniform navy cape and cap and not recognizing her own sister.*

*Uniform worn by Edna Williamson '39*

*1951 – 1954 Doris Bunker '39 served on the Alumnae Executive as Treasurer*

*1942 – 1944 Celine O'Donohue '39 served on the Alumnae Executive as a member of the Executive Committee for Special O.R. equipment*



*Josephine Nunziato '39*