



OBLATE FATHERS

Holy Rosary Church

MOXEE CITY, WASHINGTON 98936

After 52 years of Catholic Education, Holy Rosary School, Moxee City, graduated its last 8th grade class at 7:30 p.m., June 5th, with Fr. John Shaw, pastor, as celebrant of the Mass. Visitors were Sr. Annunciata, Assistant Provincial Superior from Providence Heights, Issaquah and Sister Aurelia. In the sanctuary were the two resident priests of the parish, Fr. Terrence Koreski and Fr. Michael Ryan. Sr. Mary Berenice directed the childrens' choir. 8th graders graduating were, 1st row(left to right), Cynthia Champoux, Tom Sauve with teacher, Mr. Hollis Sweeney; 2nd row: Susan Poirier and Joe Brulotte; 3rd row: Steve Blundell, Peggy Champoux, Molly Meloney, Jerry Brulotte, Joy Sauve, Denise Sali, Cherie Beaulaurier; last row: Bernice Charren, Sue Poirier, Cosmos St. Hilaire, Janet Simard, and Loretta Boucher.

Cynthia Champoux was the recipient of the annual scholarship offered by the Young Ladies Institute of Yakima, # 14. A reception was given in the parish hall after the Mass for the faculty and graduates; the ladies of the parish providing floral decorations and refreshments.

The present faculty are Hollis Sweeney, principal and 7th & 8th instructor; Sister Yvonne Perrault, 5th & 6th grades; Mrs. Coralie Derrick, 3rd & 4th grades and Sr. Mary Berenice, 1st & 2nd grades. Mrs. Harriet Desmarais was teachers' aide.

The Holy Rosary School Evaluation committee, appointed by Fr. Shaw, made a complete study of possible supply of Sisters for the new year, salaries for more lay teachers, enrollment, heavy school repairs, double grade system and proximity to Yakima area parochial schools. Trends were obtained from reports of the past 10 years of operation. The Sisters of Charity of Providence have staffed the school with as many as 11 from its founding in 1915 with over 200 pupils, when it was also a boarding school for high school girls until 1956. Now the school is staffed with 2 Religious, with no promise of Sisters for the new year. The present low enrollment is 100. Approximately, 8,320 students have attended the school the past 52 years.

A summation of this complete evaluation report was given to the parishioners at a general parish meeting Feb. 9 and again Feb. 11, Sunday, with a questionnaire for all the parishioners. The final decision of closure was given after due consideration of the local educational and ecclesiastical authorities.



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The building will be used for a catechetical center.

The history of Holy Rosary Parish, Moxee (first Mass celebrated in the original church, 1900) and the School date back to the pioneering French-Canadian families arriving from Minnesota in a big emigrant railroad car to take up land in Moxee Valley. They grubbed the land of the sage-brush and sacrificed to build a House of God and a school for their children.

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