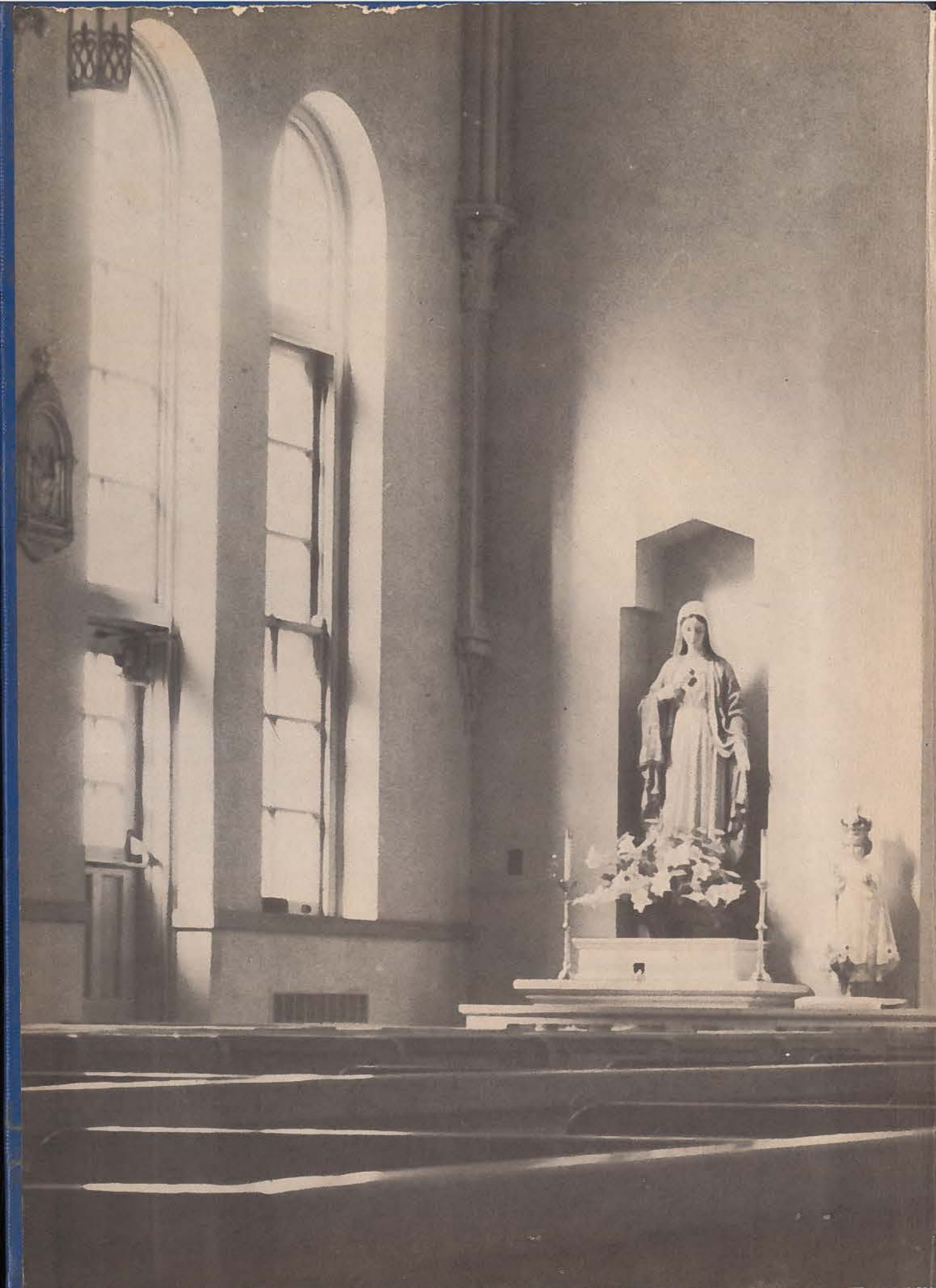


The Aurora

1954





Mary Jo Freyling

The Thirtieth Edition of

THE AURORA

An account of our smiles and good times . . . of our tears and disappointments
. . . of spiritual growth and of cherished friendships during the year 1953-54 at

INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY

Corpus Christi, Texas

A HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

TAUGHT BY THE SISTERS OF THE INCARNATE WORD AND BLESSED SACRAMENT

Dedications are usually made to the noble and the great, but we dedicate our book to the teenager, who, though having done nothing outstanding, probably has more fun, more problems, and more activities in one day than some people have in a month.

Through *The Aurora* we will endeavor to bring you a clear unbiased picture of our life.

As the pages unfold before you, you will get an inside view of us, the students, participating in the many classes, clubs, and extra curricular activities that comprise our school life.

During the Marian Year, we place all of our endeavors and activities, including this yearbook, under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception.



His Excellency
 The Most Reverend M. S. Garriga, D.D., LL.D.
 Bishop of Corpus Christi

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The Aurora Staff

The words COPY, LAY-OUT, and DEAD-LINE soon became familiar to the year-book co-editors, Carol Oldmixon and Betty McEvoy, as they began work on the 1954 AURORA. Carol carried the major responsibility for the technical side of the job, while Betty ruled over the literary and copy division.



Lay-out staffers Cornelia Brown, Mary Jo Anderson, Pat Strathman, Rita Kocurek, and Elizabeth Orsak planned, pasted, and typed up all the copy. These faithful five devoted long hours of their time towards the construction of the completed record of the year.



Mary Louise Swick served as circulation manager. Betty Halbrook took care of all the money, bills, and records, as business manager. Nancy Sowa took care of the work involved in one of the most important jobs on the staff, the advertising manager.

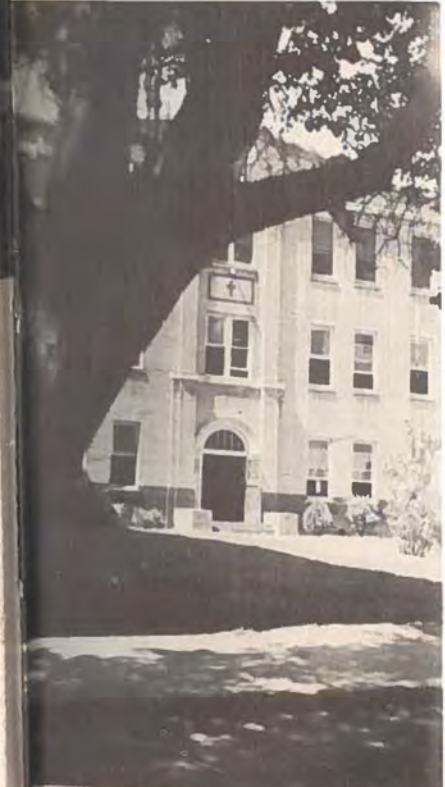
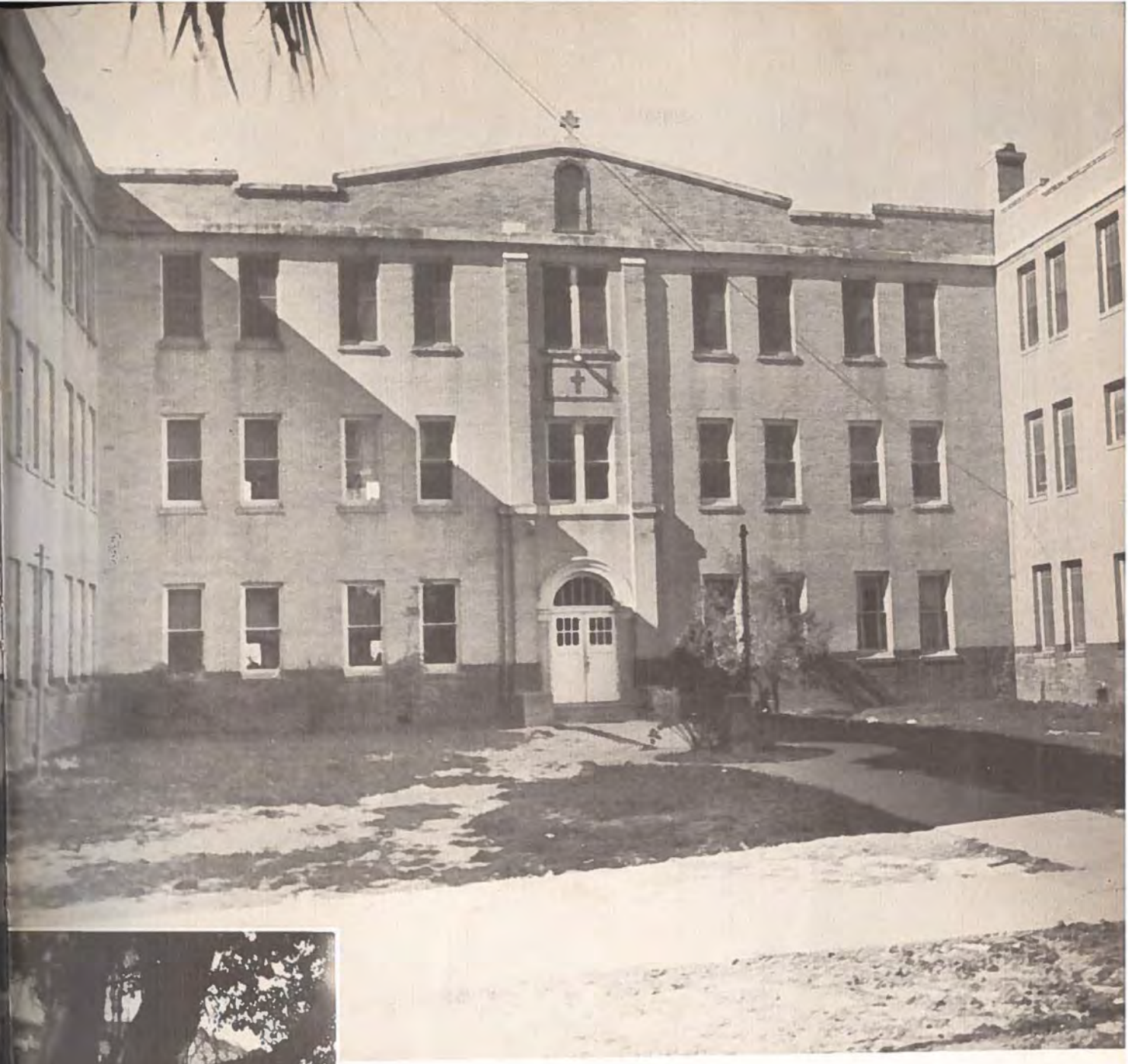


Below are the ones who helped make the book possible, the advertising salesmen.



Album shots by Yvonne's Studio. Action Photography by Fritz Herr and Sister Jeanne Francis, sponsor. Lithographed by Port Printing Company.

'53 AURORA
First Honors—CSPA
"A" rating—NSYA



THIS IS OUR SCHOOL OF WHICH WE ARE JUSTLY PROUD

Incarnate Word Academy is one of the oldest landmarks of Corpus Christi. It was established in the year 1871 by a small community of Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. These Sisters were pioneers in the true sense of the word. When they came to Corpus Christi, it was little more than a trading post. Although they suffered many setbacks in the early years of their labor, God blessed the community.

In 1922 this building was erected and today it houses the high school which has an enrollment of over 200 students. Over the years many improvements have been made. On the next page are interior scenes of the school.



OUR LIBRARY, A PLACE OF LABOR AND LEISURE, WHERE YOU CAN PORE OVER A TERM THEME, READ A NOVEL, OR JUST PLAIN STUDY.

WHEN YOU'RE IN THE MOOD TO DANCE, TALK, OR JUST HAVE FUN, THE PLACE TO GO IS THE STUDENT LOUNGE.



IN HIGH SCHOOL, YOUR HOME ROOM IS VERY IMPORTANT. IT'S WHERE YOU HOLD YOUR CLASS MEETINGS, CHAT WITH YOUR FRIENDS, AND GO TO GET THOSE INEVITABLE REPORT CARDS.

BELOW IS SHOWN A GROUP OF THE FACULTY MEMBERS IN AN INFORMAL MEETING IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM.





OUR LIBRARY, A PLACE OF LABOR AND LEISURE, WHERE YOU CAN PORE OVER A TERM THEME, READ A NOVEL, OR JUST PLAIN STUDY.

WHEN YOU'RE IN THE MOOD TO DANCE, TALK, OR JUST HAVE FUN, THE PLACE TO GO IS THE STUDENT LOUNGE.



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BELOW IS SHOWN A GROUP OF THE FACULTY MEMBERS IN AN INFORMAL MEETING IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM.



FACULTY



SISTER MARY GEORGE
Principal
English III, Spanish I, III



REVEREND MOTHER MARY PATRICIA
Superioress General



SISTER MARY CLAUDE
Assistant Principal
Religion II, World History
American History
American Government

Sister Mary Claude



SISTER MARY XAVIER
Religion III, Typing I, II
Secretarial Training



SISTER MARY ELIZABETH
Ancient History, Home Economics,
Spanish II



MOTHER MARY ANTOINETTE
Assistant Superioress General



SISTER AGNES MARIE
Bible, Typing I, English I,
General Math



SISTER JEANNE FRANCIS
Journalism, General Science,
Chemistry, Biology, Physical
Education

Sister Jeanne Francis



SISTER MARY LUKE
English IV, II; Latin I, II

FACULTY



SISTER MARY GEORGE
Principal
English III, Spanish I, III



REVEREND MOTHER MARY PATRICIA
Superioress General



SISTER MARY CLAUDE
Assistant Principal
Religion II, World History
American History
American Government

Sister Mary Claude



SISTER MARY XAVIER
Religion III, Typing I, II
Secretarial Training



SISTER MARY ELIZABETH
Ancient History, Home Economics,
Spanish II



MOTHER MARY ANTOINETTE
Assistant Superioress General



SISTER AGNES MARIE
Bible, Typing I, English I,
General Math



SISTER JEANNE FRANCIS
Journalism, General Science,
Chemistry, Biology, Physical
Education

Sister Jeanne Francis



SISTER MARY LUKE
English IV, II; Latin I, II



MR. RALPH THIBODEAU
Combined Choir Director



**REVEREND FATHER
JAMES P. WILKES**
Religion



SISTER MARY JOAN
Piano and Instrumental Music



SISTER MARY GABRIEL
Cafeteria



MR. D. W. McCREADY
Combined Band Director



*Confident yet unsure . . . eager to meet the world yet
reluctant to leave our childhood . . . we are the SENIORS.*



Sylvia Wilmot
MOST BEAUTIFUL SENIOR



Carol Oldmixon
MOST POPULAR SENIOR



Mary Louise Swick
BEST ALL AROUND SENIOR

SENIOR CELEBRITIES



Senior Class officers for the year are: Mary Louise Swick, secretary; Ruby Diersing, parliamentarian; Claudette Wilson, president; Sara Schleppehorst, vice president and Rose Mary Ryan, treasurer.



Sara Schleppehorst, last year's Belle, congratulates the 54's Belle of the Ball, Carol Oldmixon.



Ann Devine, prize poster-maker! She always takes ALL the ribbons!



Valedictorian Cecilia Scecina and Salutatorian Patsy Polansky.



KWBU Spelling Bee champions: Wanda Netek, Carol Oldmixon, Cecilia Scecina and Pat Opfel.



PRESIDENT

CLAUDETTE WILSON
St. Theresa's Parish



VICE-PRESIDENT



SARA JANE SCHLEPPHORST
St. Jude's Parish
Pharr, Texas



MARY LOUISE SWICK
Corpus Christi Cathedral
Parish



SECRETARY



TREASURER



ROSEMARY RYAN
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish
N.A.S.



PARLIAMENTARIAN



RUBY DIERSING
St. Theresa's Parish



REPORTER



CAROL OLDMIXON
Christ the King Parish



ROSARIO ACUNA
Sacred Heart Parish



JULIET ALLEN
St. Patrick's Parish





MARY JO ANDERSON
St. John's Parish
Robstown, Texas



PEGGY ANIOL
Corpus Christi Cathedral
Parish



CORNELIA BROWN
St. Theresa's Parish



LORRAINE COLDEWAY
St. Patrick's Parish



DIANA CUELLAR
Corpus Christi Cathedral
Parish



PATRICIA CULVER
Our Lady Star of the
Sea Parish



ANN DEVINE
St. Patrick's Parish



JEANETTE FLUSCHE
Corpus Christi Cathedral Parish





MARY DARLENE GANEM
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Parish, Portland, Texas



BETTY HALBROOK
St. Theresa's Parish



DELORES HILL
St. John's Parish
Robstown, Texas



MARY CATHERINE HINOJOSA
St. Anne's Parish, Encino, Texas



CAROL JOHNSON
Christ the King Parish



MARGUERITE ANN KALER
St. Theresa's Parish



RITA KOCUREK
St. Cyril and Methodius
Parish



ROSE MARIE KOWIS
Christ the King Parish





GAY LEWIS
St. Anthony's Parish
Violet, Texas



DORA MACAIONE
Corpus Christi Cathedral
Parish



*To Mary Jo,
Good Luck to all
you tryhigs!
Dottie*

DOROTHY MACAIONE
Corpus Christi Cathedral
Parish



*Dear Mary Jo
Lots of Luck
Betty*

BETTY McEVoy
Corpus Christi Cathedral Parish



PATRICIA OPFEL
Christ the King Parish



ELIZABETH ORSAK
Corpus Christi Cathedral
Parish



PATRICIA POLANSKY
Christ the King Parish



*To the sweet
girl I know,
Wanda Netek*

WANDA NETEK
Christ the King Parish



Junior Favorites



Gene Kenny
MOST BEAUTIFUL



Joan Hetherington
BEST ALL AROUND

Rosa Simo
MOST POPULAR



The Corpus Christi College Academy Cavalier football games are followed by the students of Incarnate Word with interest. Each year an Incarnate Word Academy student is elected football Queen. This year, a Junior, Her Majesty, Queen Kathryn, of the House of Sullivan, reigned over the Cavalier Home-coming game on November 15th.

Her Majesty's first attendant, also a Junior, Princess George Anne, of the House of Hubert, helped preside over the royal court.





Nancy Brown
President



Joan Hetherington
Vice-President



Olga Brown
Secretary



Charline Kelly
Treasurer



Marjorie Shearer
Parliamentarian



Barbara Franks



Hilda Garcia



George Anne Hubert



Virginia Lee Kadlecck



Lena Belle Kelly



Becky Ann Baskett



Johanna Blossman



Mary Cerda



Rita Mae Chester



Peggy Cox



Gene Kenny



Vlasta Kocurek



Elizabeth Kureska



Yolanda Lara



Irma Medina



Fern Duncan



Lillie Duran



Joella Fey



Patra Ann Meyers



Charlene Mikulec



Rachel Rachal

Sophomore Favorites



Rosa Simo



Carolyn Slover



Elena Suess



Kathryn Sullivan



Gwendoline Terrell



Kay Veters



Shirley Mehnert
(Second Semester)



Rosemary Williams



Dolores Costello
(Second Semester)



Loraine Yaklin



Lucy Durham
MOST BEAUTIFUL



Susan Scheuer
BEST ALL AROUND

Carolyn Smith
MOST POPULAR



When Spring comes around again, all of us spend our free time outside. Along with the green grass and fresh-leaved trees, there are Texas Sticker-burrs. Nancy, like all of us, has gotten into them!



Marie Durbin
President



Susan Scheuer
Vice-President



Lorene Mae Foyt
Secretary



Elaine Kaler
Treasurer



Shirlene Skrobarcek
Parliamentarian



Mary Rose Horrell



Patricia Hussey



Elsie Mae Janosek



Norma Jimenez



Mary Margaret
Kuntscher



Lyla Jeanne De Vine
Reporter



Mary Stella Alvarez



Esperanza Arredondo



Carol Jean Brown



Marjorie Brown



Patsy Kusenberger



Mary Lu Link



Audrey McPhaul



Phyllis Mills



Betty Kay Morris



Joyce Ann Busenlehner



Lupe Caro



Monica Ann
Delahoussaye



Zaida Dora de Leon



Geraldine D'Unger



Mary Beth Oberle



Rose Marie Orsak



Dianne Pearson



Dolores Petru



Josephine Prado



Lucy Mae Durham



Diane Elaine Fawcett



Esther Flores



Yvonne Harvey



Carol Hedrick



Christine Rachal



Alice Kay Rich



Patsy Riley



Mary Nidia Rodriguez



Kathleen Ryan



Elaine Schonefeld



Sharon Scott



Carolyn Smith



Roberta Smith



Jo Ann Trice



Sara Arredondo
(Second Semester)



Gloria Walters



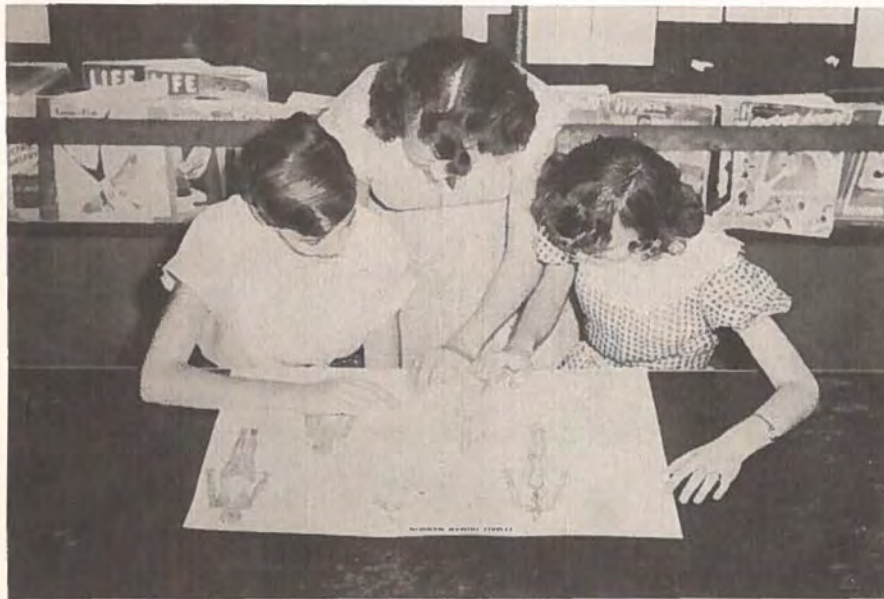
Charlene Waters



Elia Villarreal



Charlotte Guerra
(Second Semester)



Biology takes up a lot of time for sophomores. Here, Alice Kay, Elaine, and Rose Marie check over an assignment on an anatomy chart.



Diane Reynolds
(Special Student)

Freshman

Favorites



Rose Marie Benys
MOST BEAUTIFUL



Mabel Janeczek
BEST ALL AROUND

Betty Vickers
MOST POPULAR





Rose Marie Benys
President



Gerry Migl
Vice-President



Judy Keehan
Secretary



Anita Jones
Treasurer



Annette Karam
Parliamentarian



Joyce Floyd



Suzanne Friedmann



Cora Lee Friesen



Anna Marie Garcia



Sue Garrett



Catherine D'Unger
Reporter



Delia L. Acuna



Joyce Ann Ahlers



Mary Nan Allen



Dorothy Bollom



Mary Louise Gerant



Henrietta Gonzalez



Lucille Gonzales



Margaret Harrison



Mary Alma Hinojosa



Marilyn Boudreau



Dolores Boyles



Mary Frances Brown



Maureen Carter



Carolyn Carter



Mabel Janecek



Blanche Jimenez



Josephine Jones



Annita Kocurek



Maria Lopez



Mary Ann Castro



Mary Ann Chilen



Shirley Clark



Mary Lindsey Coons



Mary Susan Dreis



Mary Lee Lewis



Geraldine Mikulec



Gloria G. Moreno



Mildred McCullough



Emily Nelson



Jeanne Duke



Georgia Lea Durham



Peggy Enright



Patricia Ann Fey



Ernestine Flanagan



Oralia Teresa Pena



Mary Rose Pena



Joyce Peters



Claudia Petzel



Lucille Prado



Peggy Ralph



Beatrice Ramos



Sylvia Riedel



Martha Ruiz



Beatrice Salinas



Mary Margaret Shearer



Jeannette Smejkal



Johnnie Lea Smith



Pat Speed



Jennie Marie Stillman



Mary Jo Strum



Magdalen Sulak



Patsy Trainor



Katherine Ann Tschoepe



Joyce V. Ulcak



Cecilia R. Vargas



Elizabeth Veters



Betty Vickers



Marietta Villarreal



Geraldine Wahl



Sharon Waters



Mary Lee Webb



Mary Delia Weser



Betty Ann Whitworth



Sofie Zdansky

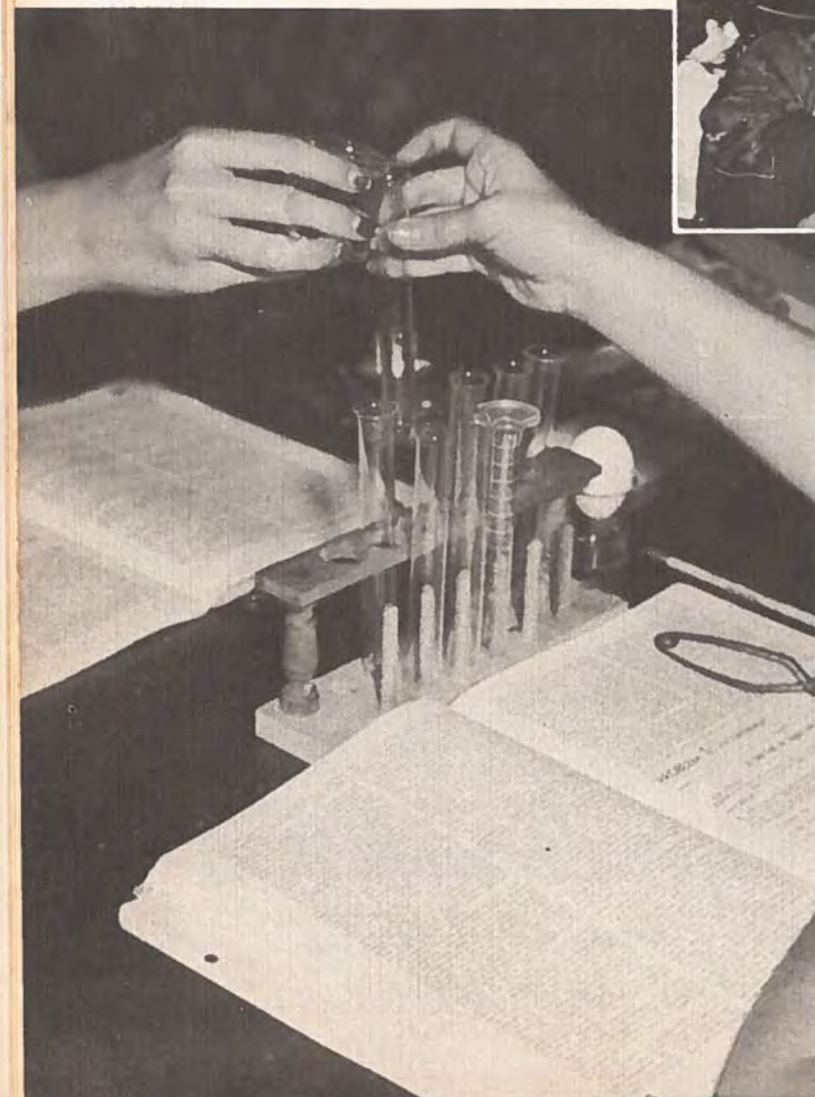


Test tubes and textbooks . . . examinations and term themes . . . studyhalls and cramming . . . all form a part of our **CLASSES.**



Clues, mystery, and words that rhyme, are what these members of the journalism class are searching for. The reason? A contest sponsored by the journalism class. The object is to find the mystery box which was hidden somewhere in the building.

The shouting of the crowds, the roaring of the wild beast, and at heroic courage of the early Christians, become alive as the Ancient History class study the location of the Arenas and colonization of Ancient Rome.



Two Biology students conduct an experiment in which they analyze foods to determine their composition.

The commercial subjects attract many students. One class always filled is Typing I. Here, juniors Gene Kenny and Shirley Mehnert concentrate on their day's assignment.



A class always popular with those who are able to qualify is Choir, a combined four-voice choir of students selected from Incarnate Word Academy and Corpus Christi College-Academy. Much of their rehearsing is done in the Cathedral choir loft. Here, they are practising for the Vocation Day Mass. Senior Cecilia Seccina is accompanist. Mr. Ralph Thibodeau is the director.



"As you sew, so shall you rip," seems to be the motto of the home economics class. Elizabeth Kureska and Lupe Caro work on their six weeks' projects, while Lillie Duran hems a skirt.



For those who wish to continue their study of Spanish, Spanish III is offered as an elective. Small classes make it possible for the student to have the advantages of special help and individual attention.



Bent heads and expressions of deep concentration typify a freshman study hall. The large number of students enrolled in the Freshman Class tends to make their home-room somewhat crowded.



Football games and victory dances . . . variety shows and initiations . . . picnics and proms . . . all blend together to make up our CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

September

One sunny morning you wake up from a fun-filled summer and remember that it is Registration Day. Here, Sister Mary Claude, Assistant Principal, helps two arrange their schedule for the coming year.



Yearbook staff heads always attend the annual conference. This year was no exception.



Early every morning the boarders stumble through Mass and breakfast, then board the bus that takes them from the convent to school.

You Are Invited to our
Yearbook Workshop
 Sept 28
 Auditorium



Betty McEvoy pores over a copy of the Junior Red Cross Light, of which she is city editor.



The first day of school is always exciting. The upper-classmen are anxious to compare notes on holiday fun and to greet teachers, and the freshmen can hardly wait to find out how high school really works, though most of the time they end up completely confused. You never quite catch the same mood during the year. It's that time when everybody's happy, you have a whole new year before you and you feel wonderful!

Senior Wanda Netek smiles gleefully while freshman, Mary Ann Castro begs for mercy. Although the seniors assumed the role of cruel masters during the freshman initiation, we must admit that it was all done in fun.

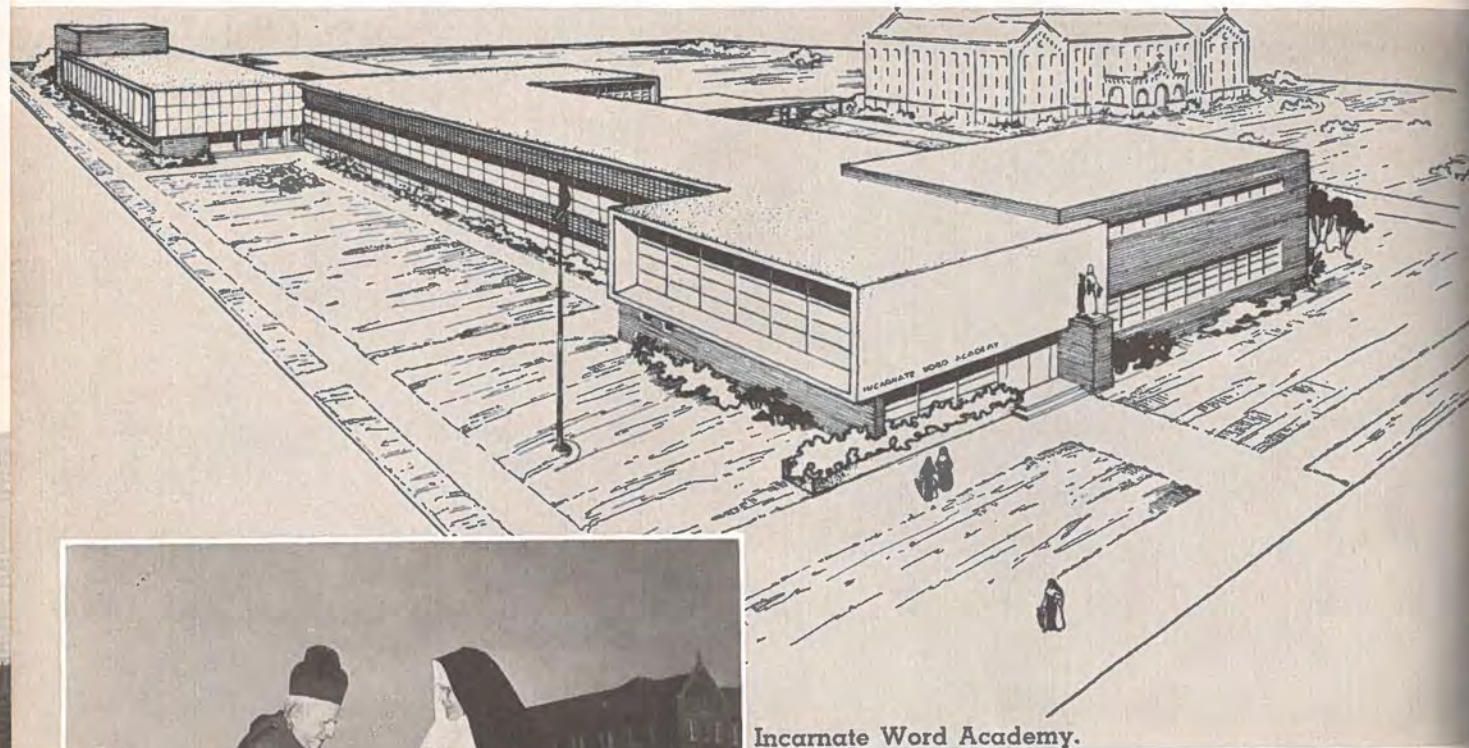


October

At P. E. thoughts turn to basketball. Perhaps these girls are hoping to develop their skill enough to make the team, the Academy Angels.



One hundred years ago, four nuns from the Mother House in Lyons, France, arrived in Texas to found a new monastery at Brownsville, Texas, Incarnate Word Convent. Here Bishop Garriga celebrates the Pontifical Mass in honor of this occasion.



Incarnate Word Academy.

The members of the Music Appreciation Club wait expectantly while Carolyn Carter and Mary Lu Link draw the names of the two lucky winners who will receive free symphony tickets.



Bishop Garriga hands the shovel to Mother Patricia after turning the first shovelful of dirt at the ground breaking of our new high school building. The big day was October 13, 1954.



The C. C. C. A. boys line up for refreshments at one of the many Queen Dances held during October.

November

The Corpus Christi College Academy Cavalier football games and victory dances play a big part in our lives. Here, at the Corpus Christi Cathedral, our Pep Squad and the Cavalier football team members receive Holy Communion in a body before an important game with Victoria.



The Incarnate Word Academy Alumnae Association was host to the Texas Convention of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae this year.

Members of the Alumnae watch Sister M. Benedict, directress of the association, as she prepares for the convention.

Playing the accordion at the annual Variety Show is Joyce Busenlehner, a sophomore at Incarnate Word Academy.



Each year we eagerly await the election of the Cavalier Football Queen. This year a junior, her Majesty, Kathryn of the House of Sullivan, was chosen. Here is a snapshot of the Queen proceeding through her honor guard to the throne, accompanied by football captain Robert Pruitt.



The "Academy Angels" our newly formed basketball team played

their first game at Brownsville, against Villa Marie High School. We were proud of the 33-45 score.

A group of our girls attended the C.C.D. Congress in Amarillo. Here His Excellency, the Most Reverend M. S. Garriga, D. D., LL.D., Bishop of Corpus Christi, and chaperons Sister Agnes Marie and Sister Anita Therese pose with the delegates.

We watched the dress rehearsal of the play, "The Bond Between," which was taken to the play festival at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, Texas on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of November as our annual entry.





And then it was Christmas . . . That odd time of the year when the air is filled with tense excitement, yet in your heart there is a warm glow of spirituality.

Here is the perfect contrast. Above, Rose Marie Kowis lights a candle on the Advent Wreath. On the left, Betty Vickers and Mary Nan Allen decorate the freshman homeroom for the Home-room Decoration Contest. The sophomores were the lucky winners.



Strains of "Silent Night, Holy Night" softly floated through the halls . . . We opened our classroom door and there were members of the Senior class serenading us!

The annual Christmas party was loads of fun for everybody. Above, some of our teachers were caught in a candid shot enjoying themselves.

With an assortment of Ohs, Ahs, and squeals of excitement, the freshmen eagerly opened their gifts.



Father Wilkes officiated at the enrollment ceremony, our newly formed unit of the Junior Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Here the members are receiving their membership cards at the altar rail of the Corpus Christi Cathedral.



January

When we came back to school after the holidays a whole new year awaited us. With the new year came many changes, one of which was the beginning of construction on our new high school building.



A minor change, wrought by the cold winds of winter, forced the girls who eat outdoors into the warmth of the building.



Betty Ann Halbrook, Myrna Stalter, and Carol Johnson, discuss the curriculum of the James R. Dougherty Jr. School of Nursing with Miss Blanche McPeak, after she gave a lecture to the Beaker Breakers.

Members of the Student Council attended the District Convention of the South Texas Association of Student Councils at Victoria, Texas.

Here they are shown before they depart with their sponsor, Sister Agnes Marie, and chaperon, Mrs. Ruth Janecek.



February

Realizing that in our hurried and activity-filled days we might forget the real goal we are striving for, once a year we leave the world behind us to make a three-day retreat at the Motherhouse on Alameda street.



Above, the Seniors and Juniors pose on the steps of the Convent after the retreat.

Below, the Sophomores and Freshmen pose with our retreat master, Father Stanley Kusman, S.M.



This year, members of The Roman Way decided to be different and make valentines using Latin verses. Sister Mary Luke and Myrna Stalter inspect the valentines which were put on display.



Incarnate Word Academy Week was declared to promote the solicitation of pledges during the fund-raising campaign for our new high school.

The Belle of the Ball Dance, annually sponsored by the Student Council, always causes a flurry of excitement. This year the election was held, the votes were counted, but no one knew until the night of the dance that Miss Carol Oldmixon was the Belle of the Ball. The runners up were Mary Jo Anderson (not shown), Mary Loretta Vatzlavick, Gene Kenny, Sara Schleppehorst, Mary Lee Lewis, Carol Oldmixon (winner) and Mary Louise Swick.



March

Students begin the season of Lent by receiving ashes and attending Mass at the Cathedral on Ash Wednesday. During Lent the Student Council sponsored the daily recitation of the Rosary by the student body.

On March 12, Mother Mary Antoinette celebrated her 50th year as a Sister of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. Nancy Brown, Junior Class president, presents her with a gift certificate, while Mary Louise Swick, Student Council president, looks on.



A change in the Cathedral clerical staff resulted in a change of Religion teachers. The Reverend Father Robert E. Clark replaced the Reverend Father James P. Wilkes on the Academy teaching staff.



Reverend Father Clark



Throughout the year, the glee club, composed of students from I.W.A. and C.C.C.A., sing at the various school functions. Here they sing the High Mass at the College Academy. The Occasion — Senior's Cap and Gown Day.



Picnics are always fun. Myrna, Esperanza, and Sister George concentrate on the art of roasting weiners during the boarders' picnic.



The basic foundations being completed, the new school building assumes a new aspect as steel girders arise.

April

Pat Culver, President of Beaker Breakers, presented a paper at the Regional Meet of TAS at Del Mar College. Two others placed ahead of Pat but her original subject and fine presentation won her an Honorable Award mention.



Cecilia, Lorraine, Ruby and Sara talk over their trip to Laredo for the National Catholic Business Teachers Association contest. Their industry and skill won for Incarnate Word Academy second place in the meet.



Texas Academy of Science
 South Texas
 REGIONAL MEETING
 APRIL 2-3, 1954
 CORPUS CHRISTI
 novel use for rose petals. Patricia Culver, Incarnate

Uniforms finally arrived for the new band! Cowboys and cow-girls donned their colorful attire for a special parade on April 23rd.



"Sand, sunburn, ants, and a heap of fun" . . . all this, plus skating and dancing and hiking, at Lake Corpus Christi on the annual school picnic. Obviously, "a good time was had by all."



May

Nancy Brown, as Student Council president for 1954-55, accepts the symbols of authority from Mary Louise Swick, '54's prexy. The student body used a Nueces County official voting machine for the election. Olga Brown smiles as she comes from behind the curtain. (Below)



MUSIC FESTIVAL
 of Corpus Christi, Texas
EL MAR AUDITORIUM
 Thursday, May 13, 1954
 2:30 P. M.
 ALL SEATS — \$1.00
ANNUAL ALL-CATHOLIC SCHOOL
MUSIC FESTIVAL
 of Corpus Christi, Texas
EL MAR AUDITORIUM
 Thursday, May 13, 1954
 PERFORMANCE 8:15 O'CLOCK
 ALL SEATS — \$1.00
 Participating:
 Incarnate Word Academy;
 College Academy; Corpus Christi
 St. Patrick's School; Sacred Heart
 High School

Dancing amid a Oriental garden scene are guests at the Junior Senior Prom. Held at the Country Club, it was a big event for the upperclassmen of both C.C.C.A. and I.W.A.



Captain Sara and some of her team-mates smile with their prize; they won the first place trophy at the diocesan-wide field meet on Vocation Day, amassing a greater number of points than any other school in the meet.



All our high school days point toward the final date of Baccalaureate and Commencement, this year May 24, 1954.





Presenting the graduates, the Class of 1954! And the Commencement speaker, the Very Reverend Monsignor I. A. Martin, Superintendent of Schools of the Diocese of Lafayette, Louisiana.



*The Faculty and Senior Class
of
Incarnate Word Academy
invite you to be present at the
Commencement Exercises
Monday evening, May twenty-fourth
Nineteen hundred fifty-four
at eight o'clock
Del Mar Auditorium*

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE
MAY 23, 8:00 A. M.
CORPUS CHRISTI CATHEDRAL



Working for others . . . helping ourselves . . . having a good time . . . preparing for the future . . . these are the aims of our ORGANIZATIONS.



Claudette Wilson
Secretary



Christine Rachal
Treasurer



Mary Louise Swick
President



Sara Schlepffhorst
Vice President



Susan Scheuer
Parliamentarian



Pat Strathman
Secretary



Mary Jo Anderson
Treasurer



Pat Culver
President



Myrna Stalter
Vice President



Mickie Delahoussaye
Reporter

The Student Council



Sister Agnes Marie
Sponsor

Organized in the fall of 1951, the Student Council has accomplished a great deal in its three short years of existence. Most important of all, the Council has fulfilled the purpose for which it was established; namely, to provide students with opportunities to develop qualities of leadership, initiative, responsibility, and a spirit of cooperation. This year the Council has sponsored the merit system, student assemblies, annual Christmas party, Student Directory, school picnic, Future Freshman Day, the S.D.S. Style Show, Annual Belle of the Ball Dance, and donated a trophy to the outstanding basketball player of the year.

It is affiliated with the National Association of Student Councils, and the Texas Association of Student Councils.

Betty McEvoy
Reporter



Beaker Breakers



The purpose of the Beaker Breakers club is to create interest in the scientific and nursing professions. Most of its sixty members are enrolled in various science classes. The club annually sends delegates to science conventions and seminars who in turn report to the club what has taken place at these meetings. A number of the senior members of the club attend the fall convention of the Texas Academy of Science in Galveston; while the spring regional meet found many representatives at the Del Mar sessions.

Sodalities

In each parish in the City of Corpus Christi there is a Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Together, these organizations function as the Sodality Union. Typical of one of their activities is a Day of Recollection, such as the group below have just completed.



Reverend Father Norman Stuber, of the Cathedral Parish, is the Director of the Sodality Union.



A typical parish sodality is that from St. Therese's Parish. Father Thomas Buerger, O.S.B., is Director, Sister Mary Genevieve, I.W.B.S. is Moderator, and Claudette Wilson is Prefect.



Our Band



Organized in October, the combined bands of Incarnate Word Academy and Corpus Christi College-Academy have made great progress in musical ability and appearance. Uniforms arrived in time for the big Buccaneer Days Parade where the band got its first taste of formal parade work. A presentation of varied selections on the Music Festival program and for the graduation program rounded out the year. Mr. Dwight W. McCready is band master.



The Roman Way



Myrna Stalter
Vice President

Mary Margaret Kuntscher
Secretary



Mabel Janecek
Treasurer



Patsy Riley
Parliamentarian



Carol Hedrick
Historian



As a part of the observance of National Latin Week, March 14-21, members of the club produced a play entitled, "Twilight of the Gods." Above are some of the actors at the conclusion of the program.

President



Sister Mary Luke
Sponsor



Sister Agnes Marie
Co-Sponsor

The ROMAN WAY was

organized in 1953 to make

the study of Latin more interesting

and to encourage more students to

take Latin. The club is affiliated with the

Junior Classical League, a national organization

of high school Latin clubs. The club members decorate

classroom blackboards with ejaculations in Latin. In

February, they sponsored a Valentine contest in which all

Valentines were handmade with Latin writing. A major

project always includes the activities of Latin Week.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine



Carol Oldmixon
President



Carol Johnson
Vice President



Ruby Diersing
Secretary-Treasurer



Sister Mary Claude
Co-Sponsor



Below, future catechism teachers listen while Sister Agnes Marie explains the technique used in teaching public school students the truths of our faith.



The purpose of the Junior CCD is to assist our pastors in their search for souls. Organized at Incarnate Word Academy in the fall of 1953, the club is divided into four divisions: Teachers, Helpers, Apostles, and Associates. A total of 182 students of I.W.A. belong to this organization.



Cavalier Pep Squad



The Cavalier Pep Squad has long been one of the favorite organizations. It was formed many years ago to cheer for the CCCA football team. Special buses take the girls to and from out of town games. Mrs. Robert Helmlinger, wife of the CCCA coach, sponsors the group; various parents take turns sharing with Mrs. Ruth Janecek the pleasant task of chaperoning. Cavalier cheerleaders were Jimmy Patillo, Dora Macaione, George Sears, Kathryn Sullivan, Sean McQuhae, and Dorothy Macaione.

To pep up enthusiasm at all IWA athletic affairs and basketball games are the Angel Cheerleaders, Lucy Durham, Shirlene Skrobarcek and Joyce Busenlehner. Their vivid red-and-white costumes and loyal cooperation helped the Angels on to a very successful season.



Sara Schleppehorst, Varsity high scorer, hits the basket for a free shot in the game with Solomon Coles, local high school for negroes.

The Varsity and Freshman Angels gather with their Captains, Gay Lewis of the Varsity, and Geraldine Mikulec of the Freshman.

Academy Angels

Organized in November, 1953, the Varsity and Freshman Angels piled up an impressive basketball record, despite being severely handicapped by the lack of a gymnasium or a standard practice court. Varsity victories included games with several high schools, Church league teams, with the high point being a 49-25 win over the Navy Waves in the NAS gym. Losses were in games with Del Mar, Solomon Coles, and several out-of-town double-headers with boys of CCCA.



Showing off the letters awarded at the Captain's Banquet are Captain Gay Lewis, Myrna Stalter, Carol Oldmixon, Lupe Caro, Carolyn Smith, Pat Culver, Elaine Kaler, Betty Halbrook, Claudette Wilson, Sara Schleppehorst, Manager Carol Johnson.



Sharon Scott
Secretary



Patsy Riley
President



Susan Scheuer
Vice President

Junior Red Cross



Every student in school can participate in the projects sponsored by the Red Cross during the year. IWA students assisted in gift-wrapping packages for Christmas, providing entertainment at local hospitals, making greeting cards for sick trays, packaging gifts to send across the seas and similar activities.

Sister Mary George
Sponsor



The Debate Club



Claudette Wilson



Carol Oldmixon



Membership in the Debate Club is open to anyone interested in debating. The highlight of the year for debaters is participation in the annual tournament held at St. Thomas' University in Houston, where, this year, Carol Oldmixon, Claudette Wilson, Betty McEvoy, and Gene Kenny (pictured above) competed with the students of other Catholic high schools from the state.



Sister Agnes Marie
Sponsor



Music Appreciation Club

The Music Appreciation Club was formed in September, 1953, to give students the opportunity to enjoy the best in music. An average of 50 students attended the weekly sessions. During the Symphony season, two names were drawn once a month; winners were presented with free tickets to the current Corpus Christi Symphony Concert.

Sister Mary George is Sponsor.

The Vocation Club is new this year. It has three purposes: To acquaint the student with religious life, to give her a better understanding of the life so that she may impart this knowledge to others and to encourage her to pray for vocations.



The Vocation Club



"All-Catholic"



Sara Schleppehorst
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Mary Louise Swick
NEWS EDITOR



Mary Darlene Ganem
CIRCULATION MANAGER



Juliet Allen
ADVERTISING MANAGER

The Crown Staff



Staff members: Pat Strathman, Nancy Sowa, and Dora Macaione are standing. Seated are Myrna Stalter, Carol Oldmixon, Dorothy Macaione, and Betty McEvoy.

THE CROWN is a six-page monthly newspaper published by the journalism class as a school service. It performs all the functions of a school paper in so satisfactory a manner that it holds the CSPA's highest rating: "All Catholic."

Mother's Club

An active group and an integral part of the school, the Mother's Club is headed by Mrs. Nick Rossi as president; Mrs. W. G. Riley, vice president; Mrs. C. D. Morris, recording secretary; Mrs. Walter Franks, treasurer; and Mrs. W. R. Opfel as corresponding secretary.

Projects of this term are to furnish the lounge of the new high school building, to pay for the maid service, and to pay for a yard man to maintain the grounds at the present high school.

Two card parties, the raffle of a cedar chest, a roaster, and the selling of handmade aprons at the Knights of Columbus Annual Carnival are some of the activities sponsored by the club.



Mrs. Riley and Mrs. Morris set up tables for the St. Patrick's Day Card Party given out at the Convent. (Above)

Installed at the dinner meeting, the last of the current season, were next year's officers: Mrs. C. J. Friedmann, treasurer; Mrs. Charles Foyt, recording secretary; Mrs. Fred Scott, president; Mrs. Ruth Janecek, vice president, and Mrs. David Scheuer, corresponding secretary.

