

St. Mary School



Interest in a parochial school began to develop in the 1920s among the growing St. Marys parish. In 1924 a school opened in the old wood church with 125 students and three sisters.



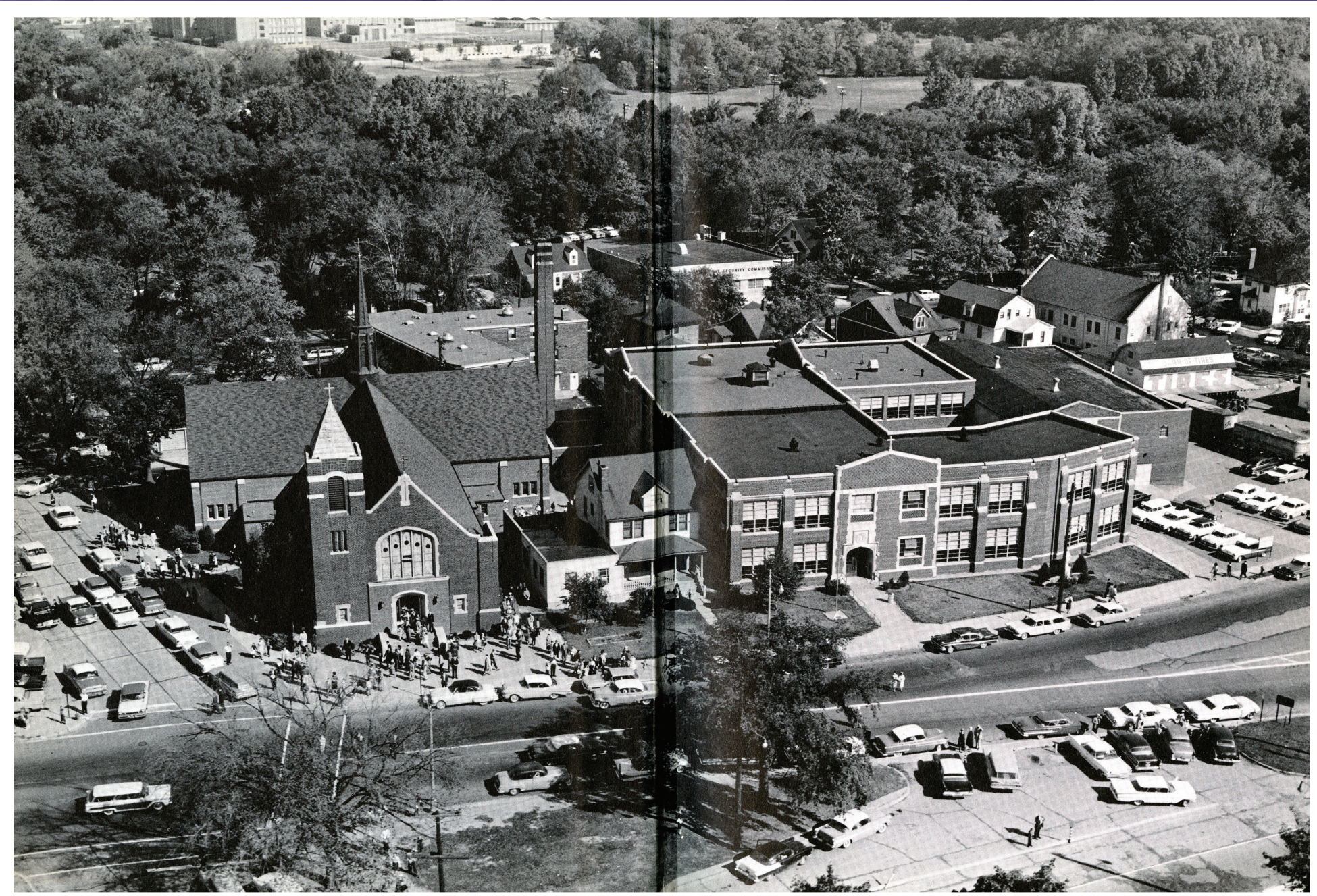
A new building was built in 1929, and the school taught grades 1-8. By the 1940s enrollment had grown to more than 650 students, 12 sisters and 15 teachers.



Students were instructed with faith-based curriculum and took the sacraments of reconciliation, first communion, and confirmation by the 8th grade.



The sisters that taught at St Mary were some of the first to have college degrees, and they were well liked by students and parents.



By the late 1960s the school was in its heyday with over 1,700 students, a booming sports program and was well known for its tight community atmosphere.



However, behind the scenes debt was mounting, and in 1971 budget problems forced the closure of the high school. This photo is from the final commencement.



The school continued on, but a shrinking congregation, smaller family sizes and changes in religious attitudes caused enrollment to decline. In 2018, low enrollment and mounting church debt led to the closure of St. Marys School after 94 years.



In honor of Greg Reynolds's 25 years of coaching boys CYO basketball at St. Marys