Volume Six: February 1, 2024

## Family of Holy Cross Leadership 1920-1950

## Academy of the Holy Angels Provincials of Louisiana

Mother James Dooley, MSC Mother Mary of St. John Berchmans Quitler, MSC Mother Mary of St. Ligouri Mazerat, MSC Mother Mary of St. Francis Xavier Haggerty, MSC

## Holy Cross School Presidents

Brother Engelbert Leisse, CSC Brother Aidan O'Reilly, CSC Brother Matthew Neeson, CSC Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer, CSC Brother Gerard Fitz, CSC Brother Harold Grindel, CSC Brother Owen Lynch, CSC Brother Octavius Franke, CSC Brother Alfonso Comeau, CSC

## Our Lady of Holy Cross College Presidents

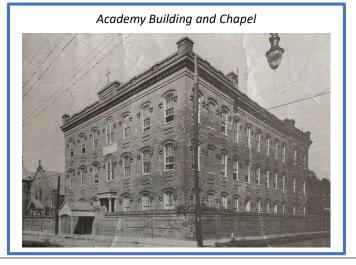
Sister James Dooley, MSC Sister John Berchmans Quitler, MSC Sister Liguori Mazerat, MSC Mother Mary Francis Xavier Haggerty, MSC

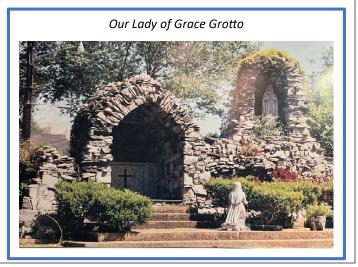
## Programs, Facilities Flourish from 1920 to 1950 including Icons and Legends

#### At the Academy...

By 1920 a significant footprint was in place for the Academy of the Holy Angels campus. In 1855 the Marianites built the first brick building on the corner of Gallier and North Rampart Streets; it was used for the Novitiate and the Industrial School. A cornerstone was laid in 1862 for the Academy Building which was completed in 1866. The Chapel of Our Lady of the Seven Dolors was erected in 1885 between the Academy Building and the Industrial School. By May 15, 1915, the stone grotto in honor of Our Lady of Grace had been erected. No student in all of the Academy's history can ever forget the May Crownings celebrated on all of the mornings in May at this lovely shrine to Mary.

Programs blossomed on the St. Claude Avenue campus and throughout the city and southern part of the state due to good leadership, strong faith and hard work. By 1948, the Marianites of Holy Cross were operating nineteen grade schools, ten high schools or academies, and one fully accredited college for the Sisters.





# At Holy Cross... People and Programs; Legends and Successes The Three Brother Vincents

There were three Brother Vincents, all making a significant impact on the Dauphine Street school; two of them arrive on campus during this era. Brother Vincent Pieau arrived with the original founders of the New Orleans ministry. He was an educational giant in the Holy Cross Brothers' work in education playing an instrumental role is the establishment of Notre Dame in Indiana, Holy Cross in New Orleans, and then St. Edwards University in Austin. The second "Vincent" was Brother Vincent Hinderschied; the third was Brother Vincent de Paul Hujar who arrived in 1945.

The second of this trio, Brother Vincent Hinderscheid, was assigned to New Orleans in 1915 where he remained for the rest of his life, except for a stint in Indianapolis from 1921-26. He taught algebra and geometry during the school year, but he lived for the summers when he could get away to the property in Waveland, Mississippi, acquired by the Brothers in 1913. At the bay-front "camp" he taught classes to the boys, many of the boarders from the school; in the morning and in the afternoon, he took them swimming off the pier or crabbing or fishing. During the school year he often returned to Waveland on weekends with 7-day boarders in tow; he loved the camp. Brother Vincent kept in close contact with the camp neighbors and would harvest pecans from the trees on the property in the fall. He retired from active ministry in the school in 1966. After the camp was destroyed by Hurricane Camille in August, 1969, he lost much of his energy and interest once the buildings and the prospect of young campers were gone. Brother died in December, 1970, at Touro Infirmary.

## Much Program Growth; Familiar Names/Legends

The strength of many of the programs at the school today was built upon the foundation established in this era. Band/music/theater continue as a special feature of the school since the foundation years. First publication of the institution was in the form of a "catalogue of students." By the Twentieth Century *The Bulletin* was being published; the first "yearbook" was published at the end of 1920-21...*The Gold and Blue Book*. Football was returned to the campus by Coach Leo Ernst in 1922; highly respected coaches, Johnny Lynch and Lou Brownson establish a legacy of success. Soccer was introduced in 1926. Coach Brownson convinced Brother Melchior Polowy to become a part of the athletic program, and he introduced the sport of wrestling in the State of Louisiana in June, 1944. Holy Cross enjoyed many championships in this era in baseball, basketball, football, track and wrestling.

## Another Significant Educational Impact of the Marianites



To Prepare teachers for the many schools the Marianites opened in Southern Louisiana, the Louisiana State Board of Education in 1916 granted the Marianite Sisters the right to open a Normal School which functioned as Holy Cross Normal. In 1938, the Louisiana State Department of Education approved a program which would lead to the conferring of the Bachelor of Arts degree. The name of the school was then changed to The College Department of the Academy of the Holy Angels, and the first graduation exercises were held in 1942.

In 1947, the Ernest B. Norman family presented the Marianites a gift of forty acres on the West Bank of the Mississippi River to be used for educational and religious purposes.