

Each family chipped in \$20 to purchase a Chevy 60-seat school bus that was driven by Fred Clem, John Vechazone, and even the pastor, Fr. Nugent. The first typewriter was purchased through Buckeye Stamps that were saved diligently by all the parents. The first public address system was bought with the proceeds from a Halloween candy sale. Parents were, and still are, the heart behind the learning, giving unselfishly of their time and energy to make good things happen for the students of the school.

The staff for the first year was the Principal, Sister Rose Rayburg, along with Sister Mary Harriet, Sister Agatha, and Sister Mary Ralph. These sisters all came from the Sisters of St. Joseph in Baden, Pennsylvania after being called by Father Nugent. The sisters felt that it was their mission to assist in the teaching of Catholic children.

Sr. Marie Blanche Finneran fondly remembers the day she was playing, with her niece and nephew, in the backyard of her brother's home on Fishinger Road, when Father Nugent strode across the yard from the parish rectory to ask if the Sisters of Baden would come and teach in the parish school. Sister informed Father Nugent that she could not speak for the sisters, but encouraged him to call and ask the Mother Superior.

"I remember the vast open land that spread out from our view from the car window as we turned onto Reed Road. One could see a few houses but mainly the large structure of St. Andrew Parish's church and school," remembers Sr. Rose Rayburg when reflecting upon her arrival in Columbus.

The sisters lived in a home at 4040 Reed Road, presently owned by parishioners Joe & Louise Karam, until a convent and chapel were completed in 1958. They appreciated the newly constructed home, which allowed them enough space to use one room as a chapel. The sisters fondly remember that a dishwasher was installed within twenty-four hours after Father Nugent learned that the sisters had been washing their dishes by hand since their arrival.