## Consolidation

## Coatesville Area Catholic Elementary School

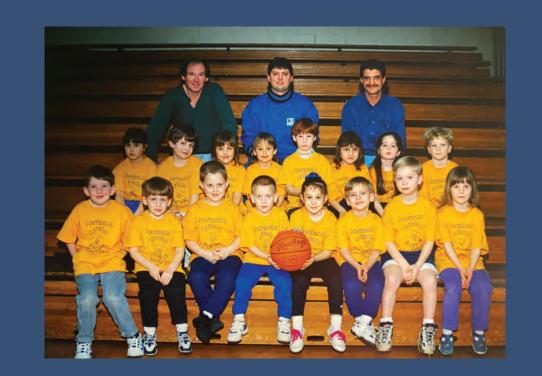
By 1971, with enrollment slowing at each of the parochial schools and expenses rising, the Office of Catholic Education decided to consolidate the three parish schools into one. Students in kindergarten and grades one to four attended St. Cecilia School. St. Stanislaus Kostka School housed the fifth and sixth graders and St. Joseph School accommodated the junior high students in seventh and eighth grade. The consolidation was known as Coatesville Area Catholic Elementary School and also included students from Our Lady of the Rosary and Our Lady of Consolation parishes which did not have elementary schools. The school's colors were blue and gold and their school mascot was the Spartan.

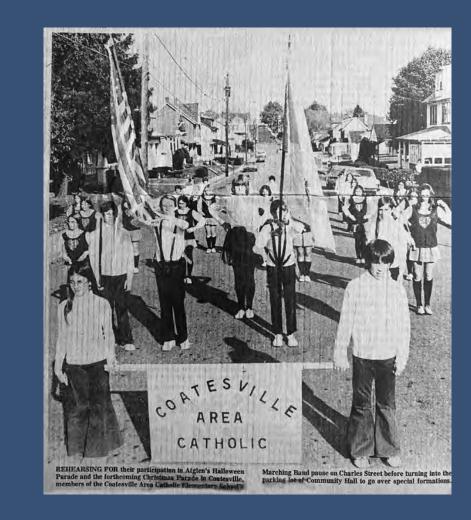
Sister Marie Honora Fraties, IHM, principal during the consolidation process, met with the five pastors from five parishes on a monthly basis to discuss sacramental programs, curriculum, finances, the school calendar and Catholic identity. She built a strong unity and loving spirit amongst the students who came from diverse parishes and neighborhoods.

In addition to Catholic Schools Week, students took part in many activities that would shape and enrich their Catholic school experience.









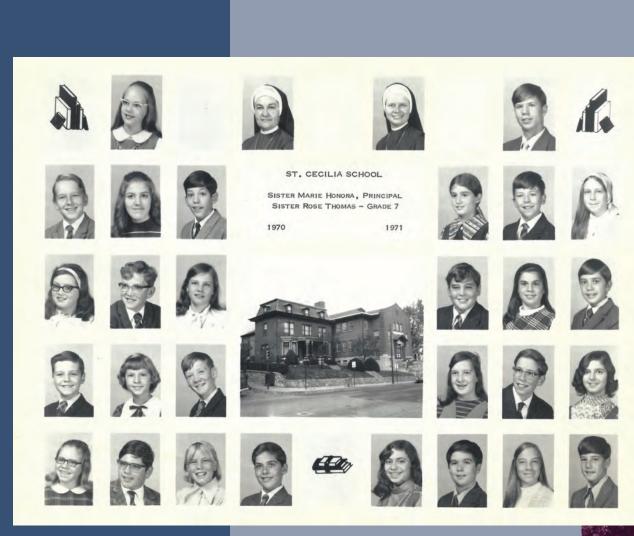
## Regional School Planning for a Regional School

During Sister Leo Mary Cummings' tenure as Principal, interest in building a regional school triggered much discussion; however, the project failed to move forward. By the year 2000, almost three generations of Coatesville area students had been blessed with a Catholic education in the three schools. However, the aging buildings, limited space to accommodate modern educational needs and the need to shuttle between three different school buildings resulted in a feasibility study initiated in February 2000, to determine if a new model was appropriate. Sister Helen Loretta McAdams, who was Principal at the time, was eager to bring the project to fruition.

Despite the enthusiastic support for a new school, choosing a site delayed the process for another two years. In July 2002, Caln Township denied the request to build a school adjacent to Our Lady of the Rosary due to inadequate acreage. That same year, Our Lady of Consolation decided to break away from the consolidation to make plans for its own parish elementary school.

Finally after much collaboration, in October of 2002, Cardinal Bevilaqua enthusiastically approved the purchase of thirty acres of land in West Brandywine for the first ever multi-parish elementary school in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. In addition, St. Peter Parish, formerly in Honey Brook, purchased fifty acres of land next to the school to build their new church. St. Peter joined the other four parishes in supporting, planning, and working toward the new regional school.













## IHM ADMINISTRATORS OF **COATESVILLE CATHOLIC AND PJP II**







Sr. Marie St. James Nult















Principal, 1997-2009





Sr. Jeanne Patrick Brophy Vice Principal, 2007-2011



Sr. Anne B. McGuire



Sr. Beverly Ann Pellegrino Vice Principal, 2011-2017