

Teaching in Winnipeg

I was asked to teach in St. Nicholas school, in Wpg., just as the new school, beside it was being completed. St. Nicholas school building was old, but the spirit in the school was life-giving, energetic, caring and compassionate.

It didn't matter that desks were old; that often students and teachers had to do some janitor work; that at times in winter students stayed in their jackets because the rooms were cold; these were just outward circumstances that didn't quench the spirit of goodness, care and self-giving that prevailed in the school.

The positive spirit came about as a result of years of dedication, faithfulness, courage and hard work of all the teachers - sisters and laity who taught in the school, and whose trust and goodness was passed on to the students.

When the new school was completed, we moved in - to continue our teaching, but the new school provided classes only to grade eleven. I recall how one grade eleven student, towards the end of the year, asked me: "Sister, why couldn't we stay on for grade twelve, ⁱⁿ the old school - no one would know we are there...?"

That question says much about the spirit of the school - life-giving, energetic, caring and compassionate - and for this we thank God who gifted and blessed - the teachers, the students - and the school.

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