



*The 75th
Anniversary*

Saint Peter Hospital

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON



MOTHER EMILIE GAMELIN, *Foundress*



These 75 Years

*I*N reviewing the growth of the facilities and the services of Saint Peter Hospital during the last seventy-five years, we learn of the privations and limited resources of the early days, of the self-sacrifice and devotion of the Sisters of Charity of the House of Providence, of the zeal and enthusiasm of the doctors, of the faith and courage of its early pioneers. It is a service of three quarters of a century given to the sick and afflicted—“*I was sick and ye visited me*”—a faithful service to the people of Olympia, and a loving service to God.



1887 St. Peter Hospital was founded on June 1, 1887, by the Sisters of Charity of the House of Providence.

April 7th—The construction work on the Hospital began under the supervision of the Reverend Charles Claessens, Pastor of St. Michael Church; not only was Father Claessens instrumental in bringing the sisters to Olympia, he was also their benefactor. He used his vast experience to help the sisters realize real savings on the construction.

April 7th—Sister Benedict Joseph, the first Superior, began rounds of the logging camps to sell "tickets of admission" to the hospital thus collecting a goodly sum of money as well as creating perfect public relations with the potential patients for St. Peter Hospital.

June 21st—The need for medical and nursing care was found to be imminent; the Hospital was far from being ready to admit patients, however, a generous soul, Sister Joseph Hercule offered to admit her first patient in a small house measuring 18 x 24 feet. At one time she had ten patients in this house where she devoted herself night and day for their welfare.

August 10th—The patients were transferred to other quarters, although not permanent, they offered better facilities for the care of the patients. These consisted of two separate buildings, one of which was a wood shed and the other the laundry. Both buildings were one and one-half stories high and measured 18 x 30 feet. The upper part of these buildings served as hospital wards while the construction was progressing.

September 23rd—Feast of our Mother Foundress, Mother Emilie Gamelin, our thirteen patients were installed in St. Peter Hospital to the joy and happiness of all concerned.

November 13th—The first Mass was celebrated in our Chapel. An added joy and occasion of gratitude for the sisters.

November 15th—The following is a copy of a newspaper clipping found in the Archives of the Institution—they are worthy of note although it is regrettable that the name of the newspaper was cut off.

"Located in Olympia, mid quiet surroundings, is the St. Peter Hospital at 420 Mills, Telephone 841, where the best possible care may be had in all cases of sickness.

"Here so much better care can be given than in the home because the hospital is equipped for all emergencies. It is quiet and restful. You are under the care of nurses whose years of training and experience have made them familiar with all illnesses . . .

"It is a pleasure to give to St. Peter Hospital honorable mention in this review."

1892 December 13th—The first Bazaar in behalf of the Hospital was held; unfortunately, no mention is made of the results of it. We are certain that the same generosity of the Olympians of 1892 equaled those of 1962.

1894 December 21st—The second bazaar for the benefit of the Hospital was opened at Kamilche; the sales amounted to \$333.34.

1895 December 21st—Another bazaar held in Olympia this time resulted in the sum of \$315.00. Mention is made in the Archives that, at this time times were difficult and money was not easily had, so that this result again reaffirmed our confidence in our citizens of Olympia.

1896 December 21st—The annual bazaar was held as usual since the Sisters counted greatly on this financial help; however, since the logging camps were closing at that time, we realized only the sum of \$300.00.

1897 January—An interesting feature of the early days of our Institution is that, the Sisters looked forward to the opening of the Sessions of the Legislature, when they could take in boarders from among the Legislators, and realize some income that would permit them to pay some of their debts. The debts were heavy and caused great concern to the Administration. As always, Providence took means to provide for Her children. Nineteen Legislators remained at the Hospital during the entire Sessions and others remained either a few days or a few weeks.

February 22nd—A card party was given in the home of Mrs. Chambers (unfortunately her first name is not given) assisted by Mrs. Barbee. These charitable ladies knew that the hospital could not afford the expenses involved in wiring the Hospital for electricity so, unknown to the Sisters, they prepared a party complete with entertainment.

It was consequently a surprise for the Sisters to read the announcement of this party in the newspapers.

The admission fee was 75c for two persons and the result for the evening was \$36.60. Other parties were repeatedly given and the Archives mention that "the members of the Legislature contributed their large share to this project." With such encouragement there was no delay in the work and on March 13, the electricians were actively at work.

December 20th—The annual bazaar brought the sum of \$326.17.

1898 September—One of the sisters went on a begging tour of the logging camps in Shelton and Kamilche and returned with donations amounting to \$182.82.

December—This month brought the annual bazaar for which the ladies had prepared by arduous work. Each week a number of them spent a few afternoons embroidering objects and making articles that would attract the public. Their efforts were rewarded and they cleared the sum of \$484.05.

1899 December—The annual bazaar brought the rewarded results of \$629.00.

1902 No mention of a bazaar was made until this year when the lovely sum of \$1,000.00 was realized.

1908 An elevator is installed. Prior to this time, the patients had to be carried to and from first and third floors.

1909 A complete electric laundry was installed.

1917 August 1st. Our X-Ray Department was opened with x-ray table and accessories to the satisfaction of all concerned. Two x-ray films were taken: that of a leg and that of an arm.

1919 The Capitol Buildings having become inadequate, we were notified by the State of Washington that our property was needed for additional buildings. We were given two years to find another location and build a new Hospital.

August 19th—A plot of land situated on Main Street (now 4th Avenue) was purchased for the sum of \$12,000.00.

October 1st—Since the Foundation of the Hospital, the Sisters, aided by a few young girls had assumed complete bedside care of the patients admitted to our institution. With the increase in population in Olympia, with larger quarters which a new Hospital would provide, it was decided to open a three-year School of Nursing where young girls would be trained in the art of nursing.

On October 1, five young ladies entered our School of Nursing. They were: Miss Martha Herman, Miss Erna Herman, Miss Dora Hansen, Miss Jeanne Bousquet, and Miss Alice Whitney.

August 24—The first graduation of four student nurses. Doctor J. W. Mowell presided and Doctor W. L. Bridgford gave the address.

1923 Excavation for the foundations of St. Peter Hospital. September 23—Fifty men with machines are breaking ground for the present St. Peter Hospital. The building will measure 211 feet frontage by 174 feet wide. Style of architecture: reinforced concrete, brick, terra cotta, terrazzo floors, fire-proof building. The building will be five stories high.

Material used: 500,000 bricks; 150 tons steel; 3000 cubic yards concrete.

Architect: MR. JOHN GRAHAM, Seattle
Contractor: A. W. QUIST CO., Seattle
Superintendent: MR. S. A. BERG, Seattle
Electrical system: LEPAGE & MCKENNEY, Seattle
Heating system: Rautman Plumbing & Heating Co., Seattle
Common brick: BAKER FUEL CO., Olympia
Exterior brick: MARTIN HARDWARE, Olympia
Steel: PACIFIC COAST STEEL CO., Seattle
Sand and Gravel: OLYMPIA SAND & GRAVEL CO.
Cement: MARTIN HARDWARE CO., Olympia
Doors and windows: TACOMA MILLWORK SUPPLY CO., Mr. R. T. Davis, Mgr.
Estimated cost of building: \$310,000.00

1924 March 19th—Blessings of the cornerstone of the Hospital by the Reverend Michael O'Dwyer.

July 25th—Dedication of the Hospital by Msgr. O'Dea aided by the Reverend Charles Lighthouse, O.S.B.

His Honor, Governor Louis F. Hart, honored us with his presence and he gave a short history of the beginnings of our institution and spoke highly of the work performed by the Sisters and the Doctors. He recalled, with marked emotion, the souvenir of Mother Benedict Joseph, first Superior and foundress of the mission, and the numerous acts of charity performed by this valiant woman and her companions.

The Honorable Mark E. Reed, Senator for the State of Washington, also congratulated the Sisters for their untiring devotedness in the service of suffering humanity.

July 28th—Transfer of the patients and personnel to the new Hospital was effectuated.

The Companies of Jesse T. Mills, Warnica & Warnica, as well as Shelton General Hospital sent their ambulances for the transfer of the very sick patients. Some of the Doctors transferred their own patients. Thus the work was completed in two days.

1927 July—Installation of the refrigeration system.

1928 October—Received approval from American College of Surgeons.

1929 July 1st—New x-ray machines installed. Cost \$5,190.35.

1937 June 29th—The 50th anniversary of the foundation of St. Peter Hospital was celebrated.

1938 September 2nd—A central diet was organized under the direction of Miss Eliza Hardman.

1940 March 3rd—Exchanged x-ray machine for a larger and newer model for \$6,740.00.

1942 October 15—What would appear to be the First Ladies' Auxiliary was in existence when a number of women came to the hospital three hours each week to help with the sewing and mending. The originators of the work were: Mrs. A. B. Cuda, Mrs. H. Cusack, Mrs. M. J. Darcy, Mrs. T. J. Henkels, Mrs. George Harrigan, Mrs. E. L. Myers, Mrs. J. J. Moriarity, Mrs. Joe Reder, Mrs. H. Reder, Mrs. Frank Ryan, Mrs. E. P. Rowe, and Mrs. Wm. A. Sullivan.

1943 October 5th—The Federal Government broke ground for the construction of Nurses' School of Nursing. Prior to this, in answer to our application for funds, the following telegram had been received:

\$124,000.00 Federal Funds approved construction
of Nurses' Home.

Signed: MON C. WALGREN, U.S.S.
MARTIN F. SMITH, M.C.

1944 February 15th—The first nurses enrolled in the U. S. Cadet Nursing Corps. They were sixteen in number.

1945 June 4th—The X-Ray Department was transferred from the fifth to the first floor.

1947 January—A cold storage plant at a cost of \$11,000.00 was installed in the kitchen.

April 11th—Negotiations for the purchase of the Nurses' Home from the Federal Government were completed. The cost was \$23,000.00.

October 22nd—A new elevator was installed.

1954 April 21st—For the first time in fifty-seven years St. Peter Hospital is to have a Women's Auxiliary. A group of Olympia women established the framework for this new organization. It will be known as "St. Peter Hospital Women's Auxiliary."

Sister Barbara Ellen, Administrator, and Thomas J. Taylor, M.D., Chief of the medical staff, presided at this meeting.

The first officers were:

MRS. PATRICK MONTAGUE.....	<i>President</i>
MRS. JAMES MCGOLDRICK.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
MRS. THOMAS HAZELRIGG.....	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
MRS. KATHERINE NETTLETON.....	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
MRS. DON LYON.....	<i>Treasurer</i>



Sister Barbara Ellen, Administrator

Mrs. Patrick Montague, First President

April 13th—The St. Peter Hospital Women's Auxiliary voted to raise money for a post operative recovery room, the cost of which will be \$2,211.40.

1956 June 11—The St. Peter Hospital Women's Auxiliary saw the completion of their "dream project", a parking lot. They raised the sum of \$6,318.86 for it.

1957 August 9—A poison control center is organized by a committee of doctors appointed by the Thurston-Mason County Medical Society and in cooperation with our pharmacist, Mr. Charles D. Kitterman.

1957 October—A generator building was completed at a cost of \$2,363.00. The contract was given to A. G. Homann Company. The building has a concrete floor, the walls are of brick veneer and concrete, 3" tongue and groove wood built up with tar felt.

December 9th—A generator was installed at a cost of \$12,000.00. The Civil Defense paying half and the Hospital the other half.

1959 A central diet kitchen with all new, modern equipment is completed and transferred to a new location. Also the cafeteria was enlarged and remodeled.

1960 May 22nd—Our heating plant was changed from oil to gas at a cost of \$14,483.35. It was the first major modification to the power plant since the opening of the Hospital in 1924. The Lawler Heating and Boiler Company of Tacoma was granted the contract.

1959 An intensive care unit was planned and on July 3, 1961, the first patient was admitted to this department. The United Good Neighbors paid the entire expenses for this unit amounting to \$7,560.43.





Saint Peter Hospital

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

is accredited by

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals

is a member of

The American Hospital Association

The Catholic Hospital Association

The Washington State Hospital Association

The Southwest Washington Hospital Council

The United Good Neighbors Fund

1887—Provincial Administration:

SISTER JOHN OF THE CROSS
President

MOTHER PRAXEDES
Vice-President

SISTER MARY OLIVE
Secretary

1962—Provincial Administration:

MOTHER JUDITH
President

SISTER BARBARA ELLEN
Vice-President

SISTER GENEVIEVE
Director

SISTER GERTRUDE FRANCES
Secretary

SISTER MARY LORETTA
Treasurer

1887—St. Peter Hospital Administration:

SISTER BENEDICT JOSEPH
Administrator

SISTER VINCENT FERRIER
Secretary-Treasurer

1962—St. Peter Hospital Administration:

SISTER MARCELLE ODILE
Administrator

SISTER MARY OLIVER
Assistant Administrator

SISTER THEODULA
Director

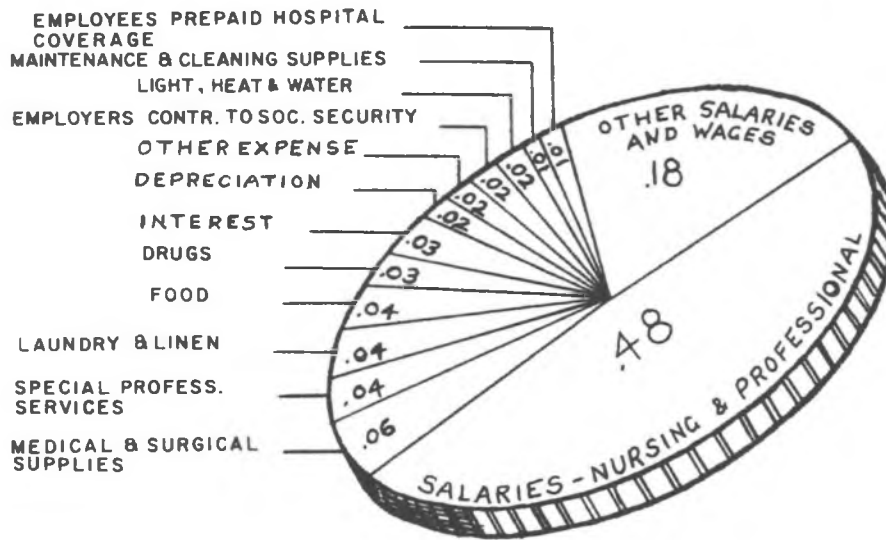
SISTER FLORA MARGARET
Secretary-Treasurer

Patients Admitted and Hospital Days

Year	Admissions	Hospital Days	Year	Admissions	Hospital Days
1887	255	2805	1925	1460	16,060
1888	472	5192	1926	1174	12,914
1889	523	5753	1927	1533	16,863
1890	620	6820	1928	1701	18,711
1891	391	4301	1929	1999	21,989
1892	270	2970	1930	1772	19,492
1893	159	1749	1931	1524	16,764
1894	197	2167	1932	1199	13,189
1895	175	1925	1933	1397	15,367
1896	207	2277	1934	2079	22,869
1897	357	3927	1935	2305	25,355
1899	506	5566	1936	2099	23,127
1900	550	6050	1937	2171	17,496
1901	631	6941	1938	2729	20,790
1902	698	7678	1939	2935	16,930
1903	806	8866	1940	3313	23,381
1904	628	6908	1941	3602	24,818
1905	789	8679	1942	4247	29,082
1906	902	9922	1943	4153	28,751
1907	546	6006	1944	3473	28,369
1908	630	6930	1945	3791	34,954
1909	618	6798	1946	3992	34,324
1910	556	6116	1947	4360	30,705
1911	640	7040	1948	4288	29,545
1912	630	6930	1949	4256	30,487
1913	657	7227	1950	4073	33,937
1914	756	8316	1951	4140	34,495
1915	506	5566	1952	4032	25,268
1916	720	7920	1953	3986	23,850
1917	1632	17,952	1954	3856	23,417
1918	1740	19,140	1955	4202	25,585
1919	1582	17,402	1956	4299	23,479
1920	896	9856	1957	4681	24,840
1921	888	9768	1958	4825	23,820
1922	1130	12,430	1959	4451	21,887
1923	1173	12,903	1960	4479	22,179
1924	1428	15,708	1961	4802	24,274

Total Admissions: 145,242 -- Total Hospital Days: 1,163,867

How the Saint Peter Hospital Dollar Is Spent



The 1887 Financial Report shows expenses of \$ 23,921.50

The 1962 Financial Report shows expenses of 1,004,652.00

ADMINISTRATORS OF ST. PETER HOSPITAL From 1887 to 1962

SISTER BENEDICT JOSEPH	- - - -	1887 - 1898
SISTER VINCENT FERRIER	- - - -	1898 - 1902
SISTER LADISLAS	- - - -	1902 - 1904
SISTER MACAIRE	- - - -	1904 - 1907
SISTER MARIE-AURELIE	- - - -	1907 - 1912
SISTER MARIE MARTINE	- - - -	1912 - 1919
SISTER JOSEPH OCTAVE	- - - -	1919 - 1925
SISTER LOUIS ARTHUR	- - - -	1925 - 1926
SISTER ANNE PHILOMENE	- - - -	1926 - 1932
SISTER MARIE PHILIPPE	- - - -	1932 - 1938
SISTER PETER FRANCIS	- - - -	1938 - 1941
SISTER BONOSA	- - - -	1941 - 1947
SISTER MARY OF NAZARETH	- - - -	1947 - 1953
SISTER BARBARA ELLEN	- - - -	1953 - 1955
SISTER GERMAINE OF SEVEN DOLORS	- - - -	1955 - 1961
SISTER MARCELLE ODILE	- - - -	1961 -



Original Chapel



The Chapel Today



*Mother
Provincial*

MOTHER JUDITH
Provincial Superior

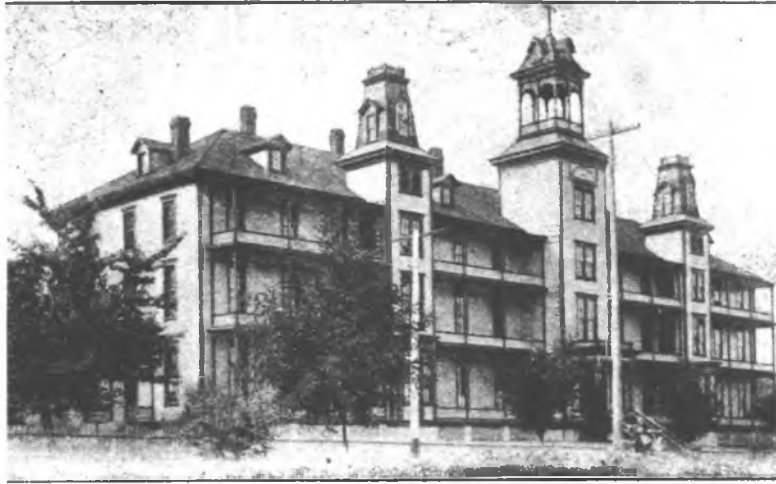
Providence Heights
Pine Lake
Issaquah, Washington



*Sister
Superior*

SISTER MARCELLE ODILE
Administrator

Saint Peter Hospital
Olympia, Washington



Serving Olympia, Washington since 1887

Conducted by
THE SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF THE HOUSE OF PROVIDENCE



SAINT PETER HOSPITAL
Olympia, Washington

Hospital Week, 1962