

Worcester, Mass - Places of the Past, St. Ann Orphanage

We would like to thank each, and everyone who placed a post on this page. This page was the most important factor in deciding to start our Facebook page and website.

Joe Massie & Rosie Blackburn (Lester & Rosalie LaFontaine SAOW 1954-55)

We have highlighted names so people could readily see them. One might be yours or someone you knew. Please look through. There are many names & memories posted in this one document. (JoeM)

<http://www.worcestermass.com/places/stannorphanage.shtml>

User Stories and Comments

The following are comments left about St. Ann Orphanage from site visitors such as yourself. They are not spell checked or reviewed for accuracy.

Neil H Donahue - On Granite St.

Nancie - I think this statue is right in front of Holy Name high school

Jeff Cote - St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church was founded in 1855 on Eastern Ave. In 1962, the congregation merged with Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the building was razed.

Peg Ragaini - This Grotto is indeed in front of Holy Name High School. It is located across the street from St Ann's Orphanage which was torn down and replaced with individual "cottages". It was run By THE GREY NUNS from Canada. I remember going to the Grotto as a group to say the rosary when the weather permitted. To my knowledge it had no connection to the parish of St Ann's. As we had a beautiful chapel and a resident priest **Fr. Alfred Berthiume**, an Assumptionist. Brings back wonderful memories.

David Rivenburgh - I can remember the Orphanage Maybe more than I'd like to When I was a boy both my brother Gene and myself spent about 3 years there, I can't remember if it was 3 or 4 floors but I do remember we slept on the top floor.in a dorm that must have held 50 beds. I remember the back was all caged in for safety .and this building sat atop a hill that we played ball on in the summer and went sliding when it snowed, I do remember at the foot of that hill was a little woods and vines of "concord Grapes" and across the street there were hazelnut trees on the side were the shrine was there was also a very small pool in Pea green. And below that were the playgrounds we played in. over on the other side I can remember a barn and Pigs. I have got to say that I've never gone back but my brother Gene has and told me of the change, he still lives in Mass. I have lived all over the world. And just never found the time to go home. but I do have fond memories if the sisters who took care of all us kids and put us on the right road in life.

Candy Blaisdell - I believe the address for St. Anne's Orphanage in 1963 was 133 Granite St. It was not far from St. Vincent's Hospital. I believe the orphanage was one huge building (or two, front/rear, joined by an internal rampway). **Father Alfred Berthiaume** was the serving priest in that year; he passes away in the early 80's. **Sister Dolores** served in the girls' section--we all thought she was pretty hep for a nun. She left the sisterhood later--last known address in Florida somewhere. I hope **Jose Gomez** from Cuba (pre 1963) writes and adds comments to this site. Behind the orphanage was a baseball diamond where the nuns taught us baseball. Sister Dolores taught us football. Also, out back and down the hill was the pathway we walked to the junior high school (Providence St. School, I think). What a trip down memory lane. Thank you, Chuck.

Paul Reynolds - I attended Holy Name High School and would often stop here to smoke one last one before the school day.

Valerie - My Grandmother, **Blanche nee Goyette** lived at St. Ann's, made her First Holy Communion there on May 30, 1910. **Father Marie-Clement Staub** gave my Grandmother her first Holy communion. My Grandmother told me of her memories at St. Ann's, one of which was the dandelion greens. My Grandmother, and her sister **Loretta nee Goyette**, would pull dandelion greens from the grass on their way down to supper. They would place them between the bread they were given, for flavor. My Grandmother never spoke an angry word about the Grey Nun's or St. Ann's. It though was a tough life, but much better than the alternative. My grandmother was a "boarder" which meant that she did have a surviving parent, her Father, **Peter Goyette**. Pete as his friends called him, was a barber. His shop was on Grafton Street in Worcester. Peter, my great grandfather, killed himself in 1948.

Michelle Charbonneau - My son and I live off of Granite Street and hanging in my hall is a picture of my Dad's first communion class taken in front of the St. Anne's Grotto. I have only heard stories but, know that he and his twin brother were at St. Anne's orphanage for a period of time. I found it interesting to learn that the nuns who took care of him were French Canadian, because so is he. Currently my son goes to school at Holy Name, and he is named after his Grandfather. I've often wondered why I was drawn to this neighborhood, maybe St. Anne's is the connection.

Mary - I was five years old when I was sent to Saint Ann's. My first night was spent in what I considered a big crib, in a huge room with many of the big "cribs". The girls and boys were in separate parts of the building, and I only recall seeing boys at playtime outside. The nuns did indeed speak French, but had to speak English too, obviously for English speaking kids were most likely the majority. I do not remember that grotto, but I do remember the showers were in a lower part of the building, and it was just one open room with a lot of shower heads, rather spooky and dreary place. We used to be helped by older girls, and my daily wish was not to have to be there like the older girls that weren't adopted. I Felt terrible for them. I was adopted about a year later, and when I was leaving the orphanage, I had my two little girlfriends ready to go with me. I don't remember their names, but they were twins, and had red hair. Needless to say, how upset we were when we found out we couldn't all be adopted together. I still wonder about those girls, and all the other kids that were there. I wonder what happened to the children when they closed/tore the place down.

Norm Lussier - I attended Saint Anne's Orphanage from September 1951 'til June 1959. Thank you for the page on Saint Anne's otherwise known as Saint Anne's French Canadian Orphanage. I remember the buildings, grounds and pool. I attended class at Saint Anne's Orphanage and remember the showers and dining hall. After Saint Anne's I went to Working Boy's Home in Newton Highlands Massachusetts from 1959 - 1961.

Katherine Jacques Blackwood - I would really like to contact some "boarders" from St Anne's between 1954/5 and 1961 about the time I was there. If anyone would care to respond - please use this email. I remember the orphanage, **Sister Frigette, Sister Roy, Fr. Alfred, Monsignor Sullivan**, I remember days totally alone when all the kids went home and I could not, I remember the showers, the dance recitals, etc. does anyone else? Yes, I remember the grotto too. kblackwood2002@yahoo.com

Bob Troy (Decelles) - I was sent to Saint Ann's in 1969 and lived there through 1975. My first 3 nights were spent in the young girls' cottage as there was no room in boys' cottage. There were 5 cottages at that time, 1-Young Boys, 2-older boys, 3-young girls, 4-mid girls, 5-older girls and one main building which housed the Chapel, kitchen (All meals prepared there and walked to each cottage) **Ron Archiri** (sp?) was my counselor. **Sister Margaret** was the closest thing I had to a mother. Over-all it was a good place

Andrea Domingos - I am trying to determine if this is the same orphanage that was also listed as St. Anne's Orphanage, Needam, Mass? Or is there another St Anne's Orphanage that anyone may know of in Needam, Mass?

Ed Grautski - I appreciate the chance to comment on my memories of St. Anne's Orphanage. My sister and myself were boarders. We attended from 1954 to 1959. Reading through all the postings brought back all the memories that have been shared. I started as a "Little Boy" and graduated to the "Big Boys" upstairs. I, too, remember the separation of boys and girls, the fields where we learned baseball and football. I remember going to Holy Cross College and seeing my first football game. We were the guests of Holy Cross and got to eat with the students in the great dining hall. Tommy Green was the quarterback and they played Syracuse. It wasn't until years later that I realized that we had seen the great Jim Brown playing for Syracuse. I'm sure someone else remembers that game. I'm sure someone else remembers going to the Boston Garden and seeing the Celtics play and meeting Bob Cousy and other players after the game. I'm sure others remember when the Mouseketeers came to give us a show (complete with Annette). Or when we did the Hula-Hoop dance at the Stadium Festival in Holy Cross Stadium. It was hosted by Dick Clark and we were about as close to the stage as you could get. I remember that Connie Francis and Fabian were the headliners. I won't ever forget because myself and a girl named Marilyn were chosen to go on the stage and pull the tickets for the cars that were given away. We later had our picture taken with Dick Clark, Connie Francis and Fabian. What I wouldn't give for a copy of that. The memories I have are countless and good. I remember studying and becoming an altar boy. I made my First Communion there and was one of the altar boys serving **Fr. Alfred** when **my sister Cheryl Ann** made her First Communion. I got to hold the platter under her chin when she received. I, too, would like to communicate with others that attended the years that I did. If anyone would care to communicate, please use my e-mail address. In closing I would like to comment on one memory in particular. As I said, my sister and I were boarders, we had a parent. At Christmas time everyone at the school was told to make a list of three things we really wanted. We could wish for anything except a bicycle. At Christmas time, downstairs where the stage was, we all opened gifts and at least one item, maybe it was two, of the three we listed, had our name on it.

Janice (Pepin) Young - My father was raised by the nuns at St Anne's and he turned out to be the kindest gentles man that I have ever known. He used to tell me about the pigs and other stuff to. He learned about God and he knelt and said his prayers morning and night and I attribute that to the nuns. I wish that I could get some info on him from the early 1900's. Janice (Pepin) Young. His name was **Emile H Pepin**

Noel - I remember the grotto and the orphanage! I was there along with my biological brother 1955 to 1963. My memories are sad but make me a better person. Would love to have pictures of the orphanage if anyone has one for my children and grandchildren, and niece who is most interested! I have a picture of **Sister Roy and Sister Lucias** (sp?) that I cherish!

PAULETTE BERTHIAUME - MY UNCLE WAS FATHER ALFRED BERTHIAUME. WHEN I WAS A YOUNG GIRL FATHER ALFRED BROUGHT A GROUP OF CHILDREN FROM THE ORPHANAGE TO A PICNIS AT OUR HOUSE IN SPENCER MA. ONE YEAR, WHEN HE WAS AT OUR HOUSE FOR THE ANNUAL PICNIC A HERD OF COWS CAME RAMBLING ACCROSS THE STREET FROM JOLICOEURS FARM TO JOIN THE PICNIC. WE ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO A VISIT FROM FATHER ALFRED AND HIS 'CHILDREN'. PB

John A. Vayo - September 09, 2007 - I was at the orphanage from 1936-1946 I was three when I arrived and thirteen when I left, I would like to hear from anyone that might remember me. My e-mail address is tvayo@bellsouth.net I remember the orphanage just like most of you do the little girls the big girls the same for the boys I was there when the Grotto was built. In the 1940s I used to bring the food to the big boys on a big cart thru the connecting tunnel to the boys' side. I thought I was something having that chore. It was a big deal to me at the time. I went to Mass in the old chapel hundreds of times over the years I remember the pigs and barn. The play areas. The metal ones attached to the back side of the orphanage. Does anyone remember **Sister Perault and Sister Trouxier**? They were the big boys Mothers at my time there 1936-1946

Pat - January 13, 2008 - If you were at St. Anne's Orphanage in the early 1950's please email me with the subject line St. Anne's Orphanage - at kellysquare2003@yahoo.com. I'd love to compare notes, hear

stories, etc. I was about 4 or 5 when I went there --I think between 1954-1957. I remember **Father Alfred - Sister Baceau (sp), Sister Roy, Miss Shirley** who used to have a room right off the dormitory, etc.

JAMES H. PAGE - January 21, 2008 - I was a boarder at St Anne's orphanage 1947 - 1953, I have some good memories and some not so good, such as getting the "stick" in the closet every morning for wetting my bed and carrying the sheets to the laundry. I do have good memories of **Sister Ann** and baseball albums my team was the Washington Senators, also remember the swimming pool and visits from **Bishop Wright**. I remember the pigs and barn and eating Yuck blood sausages, the plays we put on, and 'parlor' if you had a visitor on Sunday. If anyone attended in those years, please email at nubywinds@verizon.net and share memories thanks!

Debbie - February 03, 2008 - My father-in-law was at St Anne's orphanage from 1954-58. His name is **Roger LeBlanc**. He was there with **his brother Ivan and sisters Doris & Murial**. He has many fond memories of his time there and would be interested in talking with anyone who might remember him. He is not on-line but if anyone would like to get in touch with him please send me an e-mail at Misty182@aol.com.

Lorraine Gaboriault Laplante - February 07, 2008 - I attended St Ann's from 1953 until 1959 - I was three and remember **Father Alfred**, the "big" girls and the "little" girls - I remember we each got a "big" girl as a mentor, I remember me sitting at the top of the stairs, there would be a girl at the bottom and she would call up a name and I would go get the girl who had company. I remember being a flower girl for the bishop. I remember the HORRIBLE showers down somewhere and the awesome pool. I remember running around that pool and the shrine across the street. I remember walking to the store with money in our "envelopes" and seeing Fanny on the walk down to buy penny candy. I had a friend; her name was **Linda Lesperance** - I have often wondered what happened to her. I do not remember the cows and the pigs mmmmmm thanks everyone for all of the memories

Chris Desrosiers - April 05, 2008 - In 1978 I lived at Mt St Ann's orphanage at 133 Granite Street, Worcester, Mass. It was a wonderful place to be. It was not like the little orphan Annie stereotype. The sisters were wonderful and believe me they were indeed strict when the occasion called for it. I remember in 1978 we had the big blizzard. I was 11 years old at the time. It was dangerous outside. The wind was tearing up the city. The temperature was unbearable. Man, the snow that came down with that storm. The next day of course there was no school at Granite Street School. After morning breakfast and our chores, we all got to go outside and play in the snow. We dug tunnels and built forts a couple feet taller than us. Somebody came up with the idea to spray down the walls of the snow forts with water from a watering bottle. It worked great. the walls became coated with thin layers of glistening ice. At the end of the day we had the snowball battle to end all snowball fights. It was the funniest time I had there (other than the swimming pool in the summer. Note: The pool has since been filled in and grown over, but the fence is still there, and you can see where it was.) Thanks to **Sisters Margaret, Helen and Marie and Father Alfred** for taking such good care of me. if anybody remembers being at Mt. St. Ann's in 1977 & 1978, I'd like to hear from you. We may even know each other. My e-mail address is bootleg1@yahoo.com

Kim Baker - April 30, 2008 - I lived at St Ann's from mid 1975 to 1979 when I graduated North High. I lived in the 'D' house down at the bottom of the hill. It was for older girls and younger children and babies. **Sr Marguerite and Sr Marie** were the house mothers. I remember **Fr. Alfred** taking us to Assumption basketball games. My email is othy_84116@yahoo.com

Justine - June 10, 2008 - Does anybody know what happened to the little cottages after the Grey Nuns left in 1979? St. Ann's was then run by the Catholic Charities corporation until it closed in 1983. I know the cottages housed some poor people in need a little after that, but then what happened? Are the cottages still there today? Any help would be more than welcomed.

Pat - June 13, 2008 - Hi again folks. It's been a couple months since I've visited here, and I see some new posts. **Lorraine**, I remember a lot of what you posted here and more - although I don't remember name really of any of the girls. James I too have bed wetting stories and one that is pretty vivid even now 50 years later :). My sister has been going to the Worcester library and looking up information. I'm wondering information from the library can be accessed on-line - it would be easier. Also, how to go about getting

any records, or information about staying there. I seem to have run into roadblocks several years ago from writing to Catholic Charities. Anyone have any ideas on this? **James**, I'll email you at some point. Feel free to email me at peafreen@gmail.com and please use St. Anne's in the subject line so I won't think it's spam.

Mary Ann - June 20, 2008 - My father, **Joseph William Donovan, his brother Harold and sister Ruth** were at ST. Ann's in 1915 -for several years. They were aged 2, about 6 and 9 Or 10. **Ruth died there of septicemia** - anyone have any relatives that go that far back?

Aileen - August 19, 2008 - My sisters and my two brothers went to Saint Ann's around 1964-1965 we were there for about 3 years. then we were sent to a foster home (hell on earth) The Nuns were FANTASTIC as was **Father Alfred**. We missed the nuns the moment we left. I remember being at the big orphanage then moving to Vernon St. I think it was. We left before they returned to the old orphanage, I believe at the time they were doing some major reconstruction. I remember the sister that was in charge of the younger girls was Sister Alice. Anyone out there remember the move and When the orphanage moved to Vernon St? - Sorry my sister said the name of the street was Salisbury St. But I am fairly sure that we left in 68-69 before the orphanage moved back to Granite St. And to the person trying to get records of your stay there. We tried to gain access to all our records through the State. When we left the nuns and were placed in that Foster home. We were then in the guardianship of the state. We were told the records from both places were destroyed in a fire in Worcester. And of course that was the end of that, Before that we were told to get a lawyer, then once we told them we had knowledge about the freedom of information act and right to private records that had been maintain by the state, that we had a constitutional right to those records, somehow they all disappeared In a FIRE No Less! Hmmm Seem suspicious to anyone else? We were never in the care of Catholic Charities so who knows maybe they still maintained records from back then.

Carolyn Cavanaugh - August 20, 2008 - **Aileen is my sister**, we lived at Mount St. Ann. At the time they moved to the house on Salisbury St. I remember they stop taking in children for a while. Only a couple dozen of us could fit in the new home. The temporary home was a large white house that was being used as an office building. I know this because when Sr. Alice gave us the tour of the new place, while being converted for us. There was a wall urinal in what was to become the Jr. Girls bathroom. Not knowing what it was I asked **Sr. Alice** if we would be able to keep the bubbler. She just said no and hurried all of us out, before someone tried to get a drink from it. It was a Jewish neighborhood. I made a friend across the street. She was a little Jewish girl. I went to her house to play several times at first. Then suddenly the visits ended. I think it was because I was telling everyone I wanted to become Jewish. Then I could have a big bedroom of my own. I'm sure that didn't sit well with the nuns. I also remember going many places with the nuns in the Beach Wagon (the Woody). I loved farther Alfred; he took me places quite often. To his family's house, the ballet, basketball games, even indoor swimming at I think it was at Assumption. At one point I decided become a nun. I was going to play the guitar like **Sr. Maria**. She played at the folk masses for us. Then when they shorten the Habits. I though "what's the fun in that if you don't get to wear that cool long habit, with the huge crucifix hanging from it." I discussed it with Father Alfred. We agreed. I probably didn't have the calling, if it was about the dress. I didn't mind. Sr. Maria didn't have the calling and she was my mentor. She left the Order just before we moved to the new home. She wanted to get married and have children of her own. Mass was never the same. However, she would stop by and visit all of us when something special was going on, Holy days, first holy communion, etc.... I had the mumps when I was to make my first Holy Communion. I was very disappointed because I did get to have the host like everyone else. Father Alfred was so kind he brought me an unblessed host and did a practice Communion with me that day. Not long after I made my Communion all by myself. So that I wouldn't be the only one not able to receive. These were some of the best days of my life. I went to visit Mount St. Ann's in 1978. I wanted to Thank everyone. They had been in the cottages for about 8 or 9 years by then. **Sr. Alice, Miss Shirley, and Father Albert** were still there. Sister recognized me right away. She also remembered all my brothers and sisters. Father Alfred gave mass and all the young children helped him. Then we visited, remembering the old times and how much the world had changed, since those simple days. Everyone was very moved that former children had such fond memories of life with them. As I left, I told them I would visit again, but life got away with my time and I never made it back for another visit. I have so many stories I could go on forever. I was a very busy child, I had to know everything about

everything. I must have driven poor old Father Alfred crazy. To me he was the answer man sent to me personally. God bless all of them, Carolyn

Ed Grautski - October 15, 2008 - Failed to leave e-mail address in original posting. Was at grotto and St. Anne's Orphanage site in July (2008) while vacationing from Oregon. Attended from 1954-1959 with sister **Cheryl**. Anyone wishing to communicate can reach me at e.grautski@canby.com. Please include St. Anne's in subject line.

Bob Troy (Decelles) - December 27, 2008 - 1969 through 1975 shecky109@gmail.com

Chris Desrosiers - December 29, 2008 - Hey **Justine**, the cottages are still there. I live about 2 miles from the site. The place is now a shelter for battered woman and young single mothers. there has been a flurry of construction on the site recently. I'm not sure what they are building, but the pool is definitely completely gone now, as well as, the swing sets. I have recently been in contact with **Sr. Marie**. Her and **Sr. Helen** are working in Northern New Hampshire. I left my e-mail address here earlier, then the next thing I knew I was receiving e-mails from Sr. Marie. Leave your e-mail address. You never know what can happen.

Norm Lussier- February 14, 2009 - The Grey Nuns from Saint Anne's are located in Lexington, MA 10 Pelham Road Lexington MA 02421-8499 617-862-4700

Denyse Cadorette - February 22, 2009 - I do so wish someone had pictures of the interior of the orphanage. The dining hall, showers, main living area. Back porches (endless summer days playing jacks on those). Running around the pool to dry off. The terry cloth pullover robe with your face cloth and soap to take a shower. The tiny little sinks all lined in a row to brush your teeth. The small (little girls) beds (white wrought iron). The TWO bicycles available (you had to be the fastest one to get a hold of one) The countless charity shows I had to rehearse for and sing. That strange lit up statue thing of Jesus in the dormitory whose eyes followed you. **Shirly** (can't remember her assistant). And WONDERFULL **Sister Roy** (mom at the time). **Sister Baceau** (she yelled a lot). And always remember the folding of sister's apron... The closet with the cubby holes that held your clothes and underwear. The big room where you played, got dressed and once a while watched TV. Big Brother Bob Emery. I remember it all.... How did one nun and two lady assistance handle it, I'll never know. If anyone remembers these things and or especially has photos of the sisters and the facility, PLEASE let me know. gallerymusic@verizon.net

Ann Squier - March 10, 2009 - **MaryAnn** - My Grandmother (who I called Nana) grew up in St. Ann's Orphanage, probably starting in the 1920's sometime. She would be in her early 90's if she were alive now. She went to live there because her mother died, and her father was too much of an alcoholic to take care of her and her brother. It is really a long and sad story... She did not have a nice time at the Orphanage. She was heartbroken over her mother's death and she was separated from **her brother Edward** because he had to stay on the boy's side. Edward could not take the regimen of the Orphanage and suffered from failure to thrive. He was adopted out quickly because of this. However, my Nana had Polio when she was 18 months old and this left her crippled and club-footed. The nuns sent her to a hospital right away to have the foot and leg operated on, so at least one good thing came out of it. She told me that many of the Nuns were mean, although there were one or two, she was very fond of, and kept in contact with as long as they were alive. She also told me that it was only French speaking then with some English classes that were probably like 'English as a second language'. She was sent to this Orphanage because her father was French Canadian and French speaking. However, Nana did not know French before she went to the Orphanage. She also told me that sometimes they would get corn flakes donated to the Orphanage. When they poured the flakes into their bowls there was 'stringy stuff' hanging off of the flakes (probably moth infestation). She did not know until after she left the Orphanage that Corn Flakes is not supposed to have stringy things hanging off of it. When she was sixteen, she was told that now she should quit school and go to work because she had to pay the Orphanage back for room and board for all the years, she grew up there. Anybody with interior photos of this Orphanage, I would love to see them.

Barbara (Eastman) Tatro - March 12, 2009 - I was at St Ann's 1950-56. remember **Sister Beacu, Joan Bohigian and her 2 sisters Mary Ann and Rose Ann, Barbara Ordway, Ann Brewer and Zoe Cinnotta**. Write me at mobycat2000@yahoo.com with St. Ann's' in subject line

Ben - March 29, 2009 - Is St. Anne's the only orphanage in MA. to be razed in the 1960's, **my father** was in an orphanage that was taken down in the 1960's but he never told us the name.

Jack Daunais - March 31, 2009 - My older sisters and brother were at St Anne's in the early fifties. My Mom got sick and my **brother Rich, my sisters Pat and Sue** were at the orphanage for about a year. I went to a relative's. **Denyse**, I remember you from Holy Name, you were my sister Sue's best friend. How are ya?

Ben - April 03, 2009 - HI **John A. Vayo** my father was at St. Anne's from 1934 to 1943 his name was **Bill Brehio**. Did you know him? black hair and about 5'11" in 1943.

Chris - April 11, 2009 - My **grandmother Vivian and her sister Loretta** lived at St. Ann's for a time in either to the late 20s or possibly early 30s. My Dad and are trying to find out why they were sent there as they only stayed for a few years and ended up back with their mother **Loretta Bonner** at some point. Did anyone know them or know where the records might be at this point?

Raymond P - April 17, 2009 - Please contact me my email is rapierre@cisco.com

Jackie F. - May 08, 2009 - **My aunt Doris Joyce taught dance at St. Anne's**, after she died I inherited some priceless photos of children from the orphanage, I have some pictures of Dick Clark with some children, a first communion picture of about 10 little girls, one African American the others white, other pictures of children from the orphanage in dance costumes. I am not sure what years it is, but looks like the 50's, I would like to share some of these photos, they could be of you or family members. Some of the bigger photos say **Peter Nappellio photographer**, another says **Mac Jacobs creative photography** and the other looks like photos from the gazette

Carmen Roman - May 21, 2009 - I was in a catholic orphanage in Ma during the mid- 50's. I remember: They spoke French It was a huge place almost like a castle the nuns wore their Habits I made my first communion the beds were made of metal all white. About 50 or more in a room. Does this sound familiar to anyone? All the people that could help me find the right orphanage are now dead. Please email me, Carmen at carmendeliar@yahoo.com

Mary - May 28, 2009 - Dear **Jackie F.** I lived at St. Anne's with my **brother Bobby and sister Pat**, I used to be a dancer at the orphanage I would love to see some of the pictures you have my email is cdemjs5@aol.com

Michael Fulginiti - July 19, 2009 -

I have been searching for a pic of the old St. Anne's church at the top of St. Anne's hill. Anyone out there who can help please send info to balk1224@yahoo.com.Thanks

NINA - August 13, 2009 - I AM TRYING TO FIND PEOPLE WHO WAS BROUGHT UP IN ST ANNES BRIGHTON HOVE LANSDOWN ROAD COVNET PLEASE LET ME KOWN ABOUT 1950 EARLY 60

Judy K. Nagle - August 30, 2009 - **My sister Mary, my brother Brain and I** lived at Mt. Saint Anne's in Worcester. I lived in the old orphanage as well as the newer cottages. The years were 1962-1964, I think. And 1971-1972 in the big girls' cottage with **Sr Marguerite**. I don't have fond memories. I do remember having to crawl on the floor at night in the old orphanage to sneak to the bathrooms. And I remember being paddled. And I remember having to line up at the bathroom door - in the evening - after we got ready for bed - with our day's underwear in hand - to show the nun. If our underwear were "dirty" we would be sent to bed in front of everyone! Not a great place for me, my sister or my brother. My email is judy.nagle@rcn.com

John A. Vayo - October 03, 2009 - my current e-mail address is jvayo1@bellsouth.net If anyone wants to chat with me about St Ann's I would appreciate to hear from you

Denise Marino - October 04, 2009 - Hi, this comment is for **Jack Daunais**, I am searching for a man named Jack Daunais who was stationed in Germany long ago and who knows a woman named Heidi Hess. If you are this Jack, I am searching for can you please contact me asap via email.
Denisedr54@comcast.net

Anne Queally - October 13, 2009 - St Anne's orphanage from 1964 - 1967 I was there with **my brother Kevin**, also the name of one of the sisters, remember holidays to St Paul's bay, and Dymchurch railway, would love to hear from anybody who was there during those years, my email:
annequeally@btinternet.com

CHERYL LAPLANTE - November 27, 2009 - I LIVED AT ST. ANNE'S FROM AROUND 65 TO AROUND 67/68 I REMEMBER THE **CAVANAUGH FAMILY** AND IF I REMBER RIGHT THERE WAS A BROTHER NAMED KEVIN. I THINK HE WAS MY "BOYFRIEND" EITHER THAT OR I TOOK HIM UNDER MY WING FOR A WHILE CAN'T REMEMBER I ALSO REMEMBER ALL THE SAME STAFF AND THE MOVE TO THE BIG HOUSE. IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW ME REMEMBER THE GIRL WHO SISTER ALICE USED TO LOCK IN THE CLOSET AT NIGHT AND I'D LAY ON MY BACK AND KICK THE DOOR FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE HOURS AND WHEN I FINALLY FELL ASLEEP SHE WOULD PICK ME UP AND PUT ME TO BED. THIS DIDN'T HAPPEN VERY OFTEN MOSTLEY WHEN I WAS FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF BECAUSE MOST PEOPLE GOT VISITORS AND I NEVER DID. SORRY IF I KEPT YOU AWAKE! DOES ANYONE REMEMBER JANIS OR BONNIE MCCORMACK? I CAN'T REMEMBER IF I MET THEM THERE OR AT WORC.DETENTION CENTER. I TOO WOULD ALSO LIKE TO FIND SOME PICS FROM BACK THEN I AM NOW 50 YRS. OLD AND HAVE NO PICS OF MY CHILDHOOD. I WAS ALSO A WARD OF THE STATE AND WENT INTO A FOSTER HOME BEFORE WE MOVED BACK TO THE GRANITE ST LOCATION. SO, I NEVER EVEN GOT TO SEE THE "COTTAGES" IF I REMBER RIGHT DIDN'T FR. ALFRED HAVE A WOODEN LEG OR WAS THAT THE FR. BEFORE HIM? WE ALL HAD NUMBERS ON OUR CLOTHES CUBBIES AND MINE WAS #3. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY LUCKY NUMBER!! I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO MIGHT REMEMBERS ME AND I'D LOVE TO TALK ABOUT OLD TIMES. MY E-MAIL IS sunfire4559@aol.com HOPE TO HERE FROM YOU SOON.....CHERYL

Christian Pierre - November 29, 2009 - I am looking for **ED Grautski** who was at St, Anne's Orphanage in Worcester Mass, at the same time as I was, I was one of the Hula-Hoop Dancers on the field at the Stadium Festival at holy cross, please contact me at my Email address redragontruck@aol.com

JAMES H. PAGE - December 17, 2009 - HELLO, I AM REVISTING THIS SITE AS I HAVE MET SOME ALUMNI FRON ST ANN'S ONE ALUMNUS IS **AL GAUTHIER** AND WE CONTACTED EACH OTHER, VERY GOOD CONVERSATION, I AM LOOKING FOR **DONALD FOUNTAIN & RONALD ST JEAN**, I WAS THERE FROM 1947 - 1952 MY EMAIL IS NUBYWINDS@VERIZON.NET

Al Gauthier - December 17, 2009 - Hi James, Will try once again to post on this site. It was great talking with you and remembering the past. hope to get together soon. told you about **Ed Latrell**, he thinks he remembers you and **David Rivenburgh**. My E-mail Is acgauthier@verizon.net

Harry (Ed) Latrell - December 22, 2009 - Does anyone know where **Paul Turner** is now (#29)? I am #28 and my **buddy Al Gauthier** was #27. Al found two or three of us that remember each other from the late 40s. Would like to find others and have get-togethers. email is emmelatch@aol.com

Rita Chauvin - December 23, 2009 - Hi, Thought I'd write a few lines, I was a border at St. Ann's Orphanage in 1947, from about Sept. to November. I was one of the fortunate ones I had an aunt that decided to take me in, I lived with her for nearly 6 yrs. Then my Dad remarried. Some of the things I remember are the large showers and how we were responsible for a child younger than you to care for. I remember the large bed area, white iron beds and the caged in porches where we had apples to eat maybe during recess. I was able to get a picture of the Orphanage from Catholic charities. There was an article in the

paper in 1963 about the 25th anniversary in 1947, it appeared in the Worcester Evening Gazette in 1963. I hope this helps some people. The Orphanage was torn down and the site has Holy Name High School there now on Granite St., the grotto is still there. I remember the nuns being nice to me, but of course I wasn't there very long. I was happy I had solved my problem because I didn't even know the name of the Orphanage I was in but I had 2 pictures of myself on the site of the orphanage and when I got the picture of the place I instantly knew it was St. Anne'. So good luck if this helps you. Fondly, Rita Chauvin

Ellen Bitters - January 03, 2010 - My **mother Margaret (Peggy Leighton)** was at St Ann's from about 1922-1933. Although she referred to it as a boarding school, she was an orphan. I had emailed the Sisters of Charity and was told that a fire in the 1940's had destroyed all records. Would love to hear from people with loved ones there in this time period. email to ironhead4@localnet.com

Al Gauthier - February 19, 2010 - Still looking to meet old friends that were at St Ann's from 1947 --1953. Have renewed friendships with **ED Latrell and Jim Page**, contact me at ACGAUTHIER@verizon.net

Bob - February 22, 2010 - I am looking for information regarding **Dorothy E. June** who may have been there in the mid 1920s. Any help would be sincerely appreciated. lorsimung@yahoo.com

Nina Alberici - April 05, 2010 - I'd like to know if anyone was in St. Anne's well brighton and hove 1950. Looking for **Ann Wall, Margaret Wall, John Thomson and Violet Carpenter Whitfield**. My name is Nina Alberici, if you or anyone remembers me, or names here please write back.

Chris Weinman - April 11, 2010 - I too am looking for information. My grandfather made his first communion at St Anne's in 1924. I recently came across the actual document. Any idea if the diocese of Worcester holds onto the records. Any help would be gratefully appreciated. Thank you. c_weinman@hotmail.com

Hailey - April 12, 2010 - I am trying desperately to piece together my family tree. I had **1 great uncle and 4 or 5 great aunts** that were in St. Anne's sometime around 1920 till? Are there any records from the early 1900's. Was anybody else there during this time period? Any help would be greatly appreciated. My email is moderndayruth41@yahoo.com

Jill Block - April 22, 2010 - I believe my grandfather **Leo Arthur Hebert and his sister, Bernadette**, were residents at St. Ann's from 1912 to approx. 1921. Just looking for information. Please email any info you may have to virgoj3@yahoo.com. thanks

Ed Grautski - May 17, 2010 - Looking to get ahold of **Jackie F** regarding pictures of Dick Clark with some children. I am one of those children. Picture was taken at Stadium Festival at Holy Cross College in late 50's. Girl in picture is named Marilyn and we were chosen to draw names for car giveaways. Connie Francis and Fabian were headliners and were photographed with Dick Clark and us. I can be reached at egrautski@canby.com. Thank you.

Sandy - May 17, 2010 - I was at St Anne's around '67 '68. Attended Holy Name for 10th grade. Fondly remember **Fr Alfred**. Also, the elderly **Sister Barry** who cared for us older girls. One of my sisters was on the same ward as myself and a younger sister was downstairs with **Sister Alice**. Other girls I remember are **Helen and Vicky and I think Donna**. We were there before the cottages. I've never been back but my sisters went to Fr Alfred's memorial. I loved the little theatre downstairs. Sang my heart out in the shower room. Great acoustics. Contact sgmbm007@fairpoint.net

Ed Grautski - May 19, 2010 - Looking to contact **Norm Lussier**. We attended St. Anne's at the same time and I, too, left in '59 and attended Working Boys Academy in Newton Highlands. Contact me at egrautski@canby.com

Kathy Shuller - May 23, 2010 - Does anyone know about Peter Nappellio? He is reported to be the photographer of some photos supposed to be on this web page. His daughter is searching for anyone that knew him.

Roger A. Chatell - May 31, 2010 - My grandmother **Jeanne d'Arc Lemoine** (1919-2006) was in St. Ann's Orphanage in Worcester from 1922-1926. Her father died before she was born, and her sister died at age 5 when my grandmother was just a baby. My great-grandmother put her three remaining children in the orphanage. My grandmother's brothers were **Romeo and Clarence Lemoine**. My grandmother was given the designation "BF30" for 'Baby Female #30.' She always had bad memories of the orphanage, with deep feelings of abandonment. Left there by her mother at age 3, she was separated from her brothers who lived on the boys' side. As the years went by, her brothers were brought back home one by one as my great-grandmother remarried, leaving my grandmother alone in the orphanage, finally returning home to be with her family when she was about 6 or 7. I would be interested in any other stories or pictures from the 1920's. I have posted some pictures that I have from 1923. I am at chatell@juno.com.

Thom Thomas - July 12, 2010 - Several months ago, I purchased a Casavant pipe organ from a church in Leominster. I now find evidence inside the organ that it was originally located at the orphanage of St Anne in Worcester. It was given by the friends of the orphans and probably moved to Leominster when the orphanage closed. Would love to hear from anyone who remembers it. thomcat85@aol.com

Cindy - July 24, 2010 - I remember **Aileen and Carolyn Cavanaugh**; remember always spelling your last name out loud as: CA-VA-NA-UGH for some reason. Anyways, I remember Granite Street School, Salisbury Street, and of course the orphanage with **Father Alfred and Sister Alice**, and Mother Superior, I think. I remember sitting on the stairs a bunch when I got in trouble and also my skinned knees one time when I refused to walk. It has been a walk down memory lane. Went back to see the mansion, think I did find it as when I looked in the window I remember "those stairs". Anyways, the rest just didn't look right as the group homes were put in its place, I think. Nice to see there is this website for us folks. It almost seemed like it never happened. In some ways the orphanage was better. I do remember feeling abandoned too when I first arrived at age 4 and stayed till about 8. It was back in 1965-1969 I guess, then a foster family took me in. Another story. Thanks. Will have to keep this bookmarked.

PAM - August 12, 2010 - I am trying to find out about my great-great uncle **Luther Fenner**. He was placed in an orphanage in 1905 with **his sister JENNIE Fenner his brothers- CHARLES FRANCIS Fenner HARRY JAMES Fenner EDWARD RAYMOND Fenner ESSEX WILLIAM Fenner** I know that they were put in an orphanage after their father died in 1905, and when their mother got remarried she was able to get all but Luther back, because he was adopted by an unknown family. I am not sure that it was this orphanage but it's the only one I can find in the area of Spencer, Mass... Anyone with any information please e-mail me at sheldie36@hotmail.com, in subject line please put Luther Fenner Thank You

Mary Lou (Mary) - September 02, 2010 - I wrote earlier about being at St. Anne's and would love to hear from anyone that was there when I was, around 1960. I was five and remember two sisters that I think were twins? I remember falling off a swing on that hill of a playground and hitting the cement. I found the some of the sisters scary, especially the one that cut my long hair off when I first got there. I have only one photo of me sitting on a footstool in front of a fireplace. I remember the older girls took care of us, bringing us to the spooky showers in the basement, and how we kept our panties on while showering. I remember a big dining room, a long hall type room lined with sinks to get washed at on the same floor as our white metal railing crib beds. I remember only one "party" for Xmas, I got a large doll that looked like me, I cherished it. Only to have to leave the doll and one beloved stuffed elephant behind when I left. I would really love to hear from anyone that was there when I was. I had dark brown hair and freckles.

Donna Conroy - October 15, 2010 - I am looking for anyone that might have been at St. Anne's from approx. 1937-1944 that knew **Donald V. Conroy**. He also went to live with a family last name of **Driscoll** in Cherry Valley, MA contact me at donna_m_conroy@yahoo.com

Jackie McFadden - November 04, 2010 - I lived at St. Anne's from 1979-1981, the state put myself and my sister's there. I was 8 and **my sisters Kristie** was 7 and my little sister **Peggie** was 5. Kristie and I was together in the same cottage, but Peggie were 5 so she was at the bottom of the hill. **Sister Susanne** was displeas with me another girl, **Tracey Nickles**, she got adopted the year before we left. I don't remember a lot from those days, I had it a parent who took anger out on us. I remember getting into a lot

of trouble through, I guess that was my way of acting out. I remember when Star Wars first came out, I had to be good for a week to go and see it. back then we had stars put next to our names if we were good and did not receive the paddle lol. then I went back there in 1990 right after Christmas, cause of my x husband beat me, and I had a son of my own. when I was there then, it felt creepy cause of the memoirs of my childhood. it was like there was ghosts/spirts everywhere. if anyone remembers me or my sisters please email me at sadlostsoul1971@aol.com thanks.

Pam - November 11, 2010 - My grandmother **Mary Miner** (age 5) and **her sister Helen** (age4) were placed at St. Ann's after their mother's death in 1918. My grandmother claimed the nuns were horrible and abusive. When my grandmother was of age to leave, she opted to stay another year to stay with her sister. My grandmother had to earn her room and board. Let's just say she worked like Cinderella. She had no happy memories in the 10 year she lived there.

Nancy D - December 28, 2010 - I posted something yesterday but now I don't see it. Trying to reach **Katherine Jackques Blackwood**, I am also trying to contact **Zoe Cinnotta**. I think we were at St. Ann's at the same time. My name at that time was **Nancy Landry**. Please contact me if you want to talk about our time there. My e-mail is: tiboyboxer45@charter.net. Hope I hear from you or anyone else who remembers me as well.

Carmen Roman - January 26, 2011 - My name is Carmen, I was in St. Anne's about 1955-1960. I don't remember any other Hispanic children there. I do remember when I came back to Brooklyn, I knew French. All the people that could fill in the blanks for me are dead. If there is anyone who was there during those years let's chat. I would also love to see photos of St. Anne's Orphanage. My memories are few and I need your help. You can email me at carmendeliar@yahoo.com or Facebook Carmen Roman Galindo. I live in Florida.

Bob Gauthier - February 13, 2011 - **My two sisters and I** were placed in St Anne's Orphanage between 1955 and 1958 when my mother and two sisters died in a fire. My memories were not very pleasant seeing that I was very sick most of time and received a number of injuries while at the orphanage. However, I do remember the event at Holy Cross College with Dick Clark, Annette and Mouseketeers, and Connie Francis. During this event a group of us from the orphanage were to perform some kind of dance on stage and I was one of the dancers. I believe that we were all dressed in white, but I'm not sure, but the shoes were white with reddish soles. However, I would not dance and started to cry while on stage. I remember Dick Clark and Annette coming over to me and asking me why I was not dancing. I do not remember what I said, but I do remember that the nuns were not too happy with me when we returned. I do have a newspaper article with picture that I have regarding the "May Merry Makers" from the orphanage who performed in Milford for the Milford Guild, Holy Family League of Charity. I am in this picture with **Lucille Laplante and Maurelle LeBlanc**. If anyone knows them, please let them know that I have this. If anyone has any photos of the event or orphanage, I would be interested in seeing them. Also, if anyone would like a copy of what I have send me an e-mail at jbobgauth@hotmail.com Thanks

Theresa - May 14, 2011 - I too was at the Salisbury St. house. I was 7 years old and my little sister and little brother were taken to **Sister Alice**. I have fond memories of that old house. I too spent a lot of time on those old stairs for misbehave. Shortly after we arrived, my sister and brother were placed in a foster home. I stayed and soon after Sister Alice and I moved to the cottage on granite. I was little and it seemed like I got there, then I moved to the other place. I lived there till I was 11 years old. I miss it sometimes. I'm so sorry I never got to go back and say, "thank you."

Pat Mc - May 18, 2011 - I am looking for information on a great aunt who spent some time at St. Ann's between 1913 and before 1929 when she married. She was either called **Alice (Viola) or Ida Andrews**. Does anyone know where any of these records actually ended up and if a fire is true? Any/all help greatly appreciated. I have been trying to track her for 30 years! genealogymonky@charter.net

Kathleen Peterson Shuller - August 17, 2011 - I am looking for ANYONE who remembers Peter Nappellio. He was the photographer at St. Ann's and passed away in 1974.

PAM D - August 21, 2011 - I did not live at St. Anne's, but my parents would pay for me to go there at lunch time, to get a hot lunch. I was a student at Granite St. School, and in those days, there were no hot lunches. I was there around 1966-1968ish. I fondly remember **Miss Shirley**, the huge room with all the beds, the shiny clean floors, the bathroom with all those sinks (I had my own) the playroom, and the nuns...always in their habits. Also, **Veronica Comeau, Helen?** I was also in a dance recital!

Sheila nelson - August 28, 2011 - I was there from 1948-56. Please contact me at candygirl24@suddenlink.net thx!

Diamond - October 06, 2011 - I am looking for **Candy Blaisdell** who posted a comment about the orphanage. I believe that Candy may be my aunt. My mom is **Gail Blaisdell**, and also grew up in the Worcester area in many orphanages, and as a result lost contact with Candy. My mom named my sister after Candy. If there is any contact info, please forward it to me. diamondwolken@gmail.com

Marion Rosenfield - November 19, 2011 - Wow! I just got through reading all these comments. In tracing my family tree, I found **Ester LaPrade** as a boarder at St Anne's in 1900 at the age of 9. While I am losing hope of finding any records, I have seen a glimpse of what it may have been like there. I also learned that maybe she was not orphaned because she was listed as a "boarder" in the Census. I thank you all for sharing your stories, they have touched me. If anyone has found records from that era, please email me at: mrosenfield23@comcast.net Thank you

Gail Kaplan - December 19, 2011 - I was taken to Saint Ann's when I was 4 and my brother **Lee (LaPrade)** was 7 my father had gotten custody in a divorce and he could not take care of us. My brother when he got older was sent to **Nazareth boys' home (somewhere in Worcester area)** the nuns were very mean and the only time we got treated well was when my Dad who was a bread man stopped and dropped off his day old bread, cakes and cookies. We were there in approximately 1944 - 1949 and then were placed in Foster homes. Till this day when a nun goes by, I get a terrible feeling in the pit of my stomach. When we got chicken pox, our hand was tied to the white metal beds so we could not scratch and all night you heard children crying. I hope all the kids found better times later in their lives.

Roger Gamache - December 28, 2011 - My dad **John Gamache and his sister Terry** were at ST Anne's in the 1930s. They went there because their older sister was one of the nuns **Sr Marie Jeanne Gamache**. My dad said it was a very sad time in his life his mother and father were too poor to care for them both but brought them home after a while. Always wondered where this place was.

Trish (Stanton) Duffy - January 18, 2012 - **Roger Gamache**. You didn't leave an email, but I have a funny feeling that we are related. I can't believe that I did not know that your Dad and sister were in St Ann's!!!! I wish I knew how to reach you. dduffy3@aol.com

Donna Chaisson - February 03, 2012 - I am trying to find Tracey Nichols who was at St. Anne's in the late 1970's. She used to spend weekends with me when she lived there before they closed. She would be in her late 30's now. Please contact me at dchaisson52@gmail.com.

Looking for the Valliere/ Valeire children - March 08, 2012 - Looking to find **James (Jim) N Valliere or his brother Dick** he also had and sister They were at a Children's Home between the late 50's and early 60's cru3inrt66@aol.com

Lisa Osowski - March 19, 2012 - I did not live at St Anne's, but I did live in the, rear and when I was maybe about 9 or 10 , I made friends with An older Girl who did live at St Anne's and she came to my house one time , seemed upset, I cannot remember why, but I always wondered what happen to her. So, if you recognize my name and want to say hello, please do oslowhoney2@aol.com

Dick Roche - April 07, 2012 - I was there in 1946 with my two brothers. Did not stay long. Maybe 4-6 weeks. I did not like the nuns that I came into contact with. If you wet your underpants, the nuns would hide them under someone else's pillow, and you had to ask as many kids as was necessary to find them. Nice touch. One of my brothers broke out. I was not a happy camper there.

Helen Dandrow - April 28, 2012 - **To Candy Blaisdell**, I was at the orphanage with a girl by the name of **Gail Blaisdell** is she any relation to you. We became fast friends because we had both been burned and shared our stories. If you know Gail, I would love to find out how she is. My email is stonetroy134@yahoo.com. I was there with **Sr. Alice, Sr. Roy, Miss Shirley and Sister Rainbow (who was the cook)**. I want to say 1961-1962 for several years. **Fr. Alfred** gave us our first communion and our confirmation at Notre Dame. **My two older sisters and I went to live with Fr. Alfred's family in Auburn, MA.** They were **Frank and Gertrude Berthiaume**. My sisters married and I went back to the orphanage at which time I returned to Granite Street by myself. I used to take the bus to go to school at Holy Name because they wanted me to continue to go where the Berthuims were sending me. I then went to Salisbury Street, but had to leave shortly after because I turned 16. It was not the most loving place to live, but it was not the worst place a person could live.

Dolores Gilman - May 03, 2012 - Message to **Paulette Berthiaume**: Just wanted to let you know how much I loved and appreciated your Uncle, **Father Alfred**. I was 11 years old when I got to St. Anne's and stayed there between 1963 and 1969. I have very fond memories of your uncle. He used to bring us to your house, I had met you. You and your family were very nice to all us girls. He used to drive us to the country playing Rock and Roll music on the radio, he took us swimming, to get ice cream and to your house, sometimes other friends' houses. He used to give us rides to the dances and then pick us up. He was the greatest, I would never have enjoyed my stay there as much as I did if it weren't for your Uncle. My job at St. Anne's was taking your Uncle's breakfast, lunch and dinner to him. I also, had the responsibility every weekend of changing out his linens in his room. These were the best chores of all the chores they had for us girls. I was honored to do these things for him and really happy and felt lucky that was chosen. Just wanted to let you know how much he was appreciated and well liked he was. I'm sure many other children felt the same. I will end up writing other comments and stories again when I have more time. Dolores Gilman

Debbie L - June 06, 2012 - Hi, I was wondering if the orphanage records are still available and where they might be found. I have recently been told that four of my cousins were brought to St Ann Orphanage in the 1950s when their parents passed away and would like to reach out to them.

Lisa Desjarlais - June 26, 2012 - I was there around 67/68 I remember playing with a little girl she and I were like shadows always together .I can't remember her name but she must have been in a bad accident as she was terribly burnt and had scars all over her body, When we left they, the nuns would not let me say goodbye to her, that has always haunted me I felt so bad for many, many years. I still think of her and wonder how she is. anyone that has any information about this girl please let me know we were about 5 at the time.

Sharyn Morin - June 27, 2012 - I was there 53to 54 I was in the little girls. I remember we all had to watch Lawrence Welk in the playroom.

Leo Gagnon - July 04, 2012 - I was at St. Ann's from 1945 to 1950. **My 3 brothers, Norman, Richard and Arthur** were also there but were with the younger boys (I was with the older boys). Although I missed home as I am sure, we all did, I have good memories on life there and of the nuns as well. I was in the choir and remember being part of a play done at the civic auditorium in Worchester. My fondest memories were of the kind families who took some of us into their homes for the holidays. A Couple of unusual events were when the Budweiser Horses rode up to the orphanage, I was impressed with their huge size. Another out of the ordinary event was when a huge rat somehow got into the older boys' day room. We grabbed mops and cornered him until the farmer from next door came over with his terrier. I won't go into details, but the problem was resolved in a few seconds. It's my opinion that living in an institutional setting at the orphanage made it easy for me to adapt to military life. I later spent 20 years in the US Navy. If the orphanage were still in existence, I would certainly go back and visit. For now, I will just have to be content with reading the postings of others who were also there.

Leonard Morin - July 30, 2012 - I was at St Anne's from 1951 to about 1954 or 55. I remember Some of the nuns there. I was in the younger boys' downstairs for a couple of years. The nun that took care of me

there was **Sr. Suzanne Gagnon**. Then after that I went upstairs to the older boys. The nun that took care of me there was **Sr. Therese Provencal**. As far as I know she was still living a couple of years ago. She had just become a nun when I was there. They also had lay assistants to help the nuns. There was a **Miss Ida and a Miss Christine**. I also remember some of the teachers there. There was **Sr Jeanne Proulx and a Miss Irene**. There was also **Sr Rose Fortin** who was in charge of the whole place. There was also another nun **Sr Marie Gosselin**, she worked in the kitchen as a cook. She had surgery to remove a tumor, but the surgery was not successful. There were two buildings and they were connected by an enclosed walkway. I also remember **Fr. Alfred Berthiaume, AA**. He was very nice. I remember when the tornado hit Assumption college in 1953. I also remember some of the kids that were there when I was. There was **Raymond Audubato, Richard and Joanne Seiffert**. If anyone want to contact me l_rmorin@yahoo.com. I am currently living in Albuquerque NM

Francis Welch - July 31, 2012 - I am trying to find information on my mother, **Doris Florence Dunn**, who may have been at this orphanage for the years of, (perhaps) 1920-1925. Her mother was **Lucy Elizabeth LaPradae** (1890-1918) her dad was **Willis Arthur Dunn** (1888-1960) - she was placed in the orphanage when her mother died. then when older she moved eventually to Sharon, Ma - which I have documentations of the following generations... franpatwelch@hotmail.com

Virginia (Vosburg) Geoffrion - September 09, 2012 - I never lived at St. Anne's, but when I was in the summer of my sophomore year of high school at South High (1979), I worked in the kitchen with a couple of the sisters. It was a really wonderful experience, and I met some very wonderful young people. I am sorry to hear about the passing of a couple of the nuns. By the way, when I worked for St. Anne's, it was located at 133 Granite St.

JOSEPH LAFORCE - September 23, 2012 - DOES ANYONE REMEMBER ME?... I WAS THERE IN 1955 AND BEFORE. I LEFT WHEN I WAS 13.

Tammy LeCuyer - October 10, 2012 - I am looking for a **Michael Desrosiers** that was placed for adoption in approximately 1978-1983. He would be my half-brother. Cannot ask my father as he passed away October 1, 2010 and the majority of his family has no clue that he even had kids...SURPRISE!! If anyone has any information, please email me at kkeefe@rocketmail.com also I have a Facebook account for anyone with the **maiden name Desrosiers or Collins**. My mother remembers St. Anne's vaguely. She didn't go there but she says she remembers **Fr. Alfred**.

Carolyn Cavanaugh - October 26, 2012 - Hi **Cheryl Laplante**, I remember you very well. I remember getting locked in the closet. Do you remember one time we were in together and we found the candy that **Sister Alice** had? She never made that mistake again. Remember all us saying the rosary at bedtime? Do you remember the large white venetian blinds in the dormitory? Sister Alice loved pulling them open to wake us up. That was on Salisbury Street. I hope you check back with this site sooner than I did. I don't have any pictures either. I do know that the Worcester Telegram, or was it the Gazette took pictures of us on holidays and when we went to the Red Sox games they were in the Worcester and the Boston paper. Maybe you can get copies through them. I had a picture of me giving **Fr. Alfred** a kiss on the cheek after he took me to see the Nutcracker Ballet. I lost that years ago, wish I still had it. It does suck not having any pictures of us when we were kids. I'm not sure if you went to the ball games. I'm sure you would be in the holiday pictures that the paper took, so try them. I also remember you **Cindy; Plimpton**? You had a crush on **my brother Billy**. I think you and **my sister Aileen** hung out together. It was **your brother Dwaine**, that swallowed a penny and the nuns turned him upside down and tried to shake it out of him. After that when he would annoy us, we would tell the sisters he swallowed something that he shouldn't have. Then we would sit back and watch the fun as they tried to get it out of him. LOL. Awe, what a fun time we had. Remember roller skating on that huge porch. Do you girls remember **Father George**, and the **councilors? Joan, Brian** and I can't remember the others. I have all ways wondered how all of us faired after we left the protection of the nuns. You can contact me if you want, my email is bryansmum@gmail.com.

Tracy - October 27, 2012 - My mamma, **Mary Lou Cyr** believes she lived there from 1960-1961 when she was five to six years old. she remembers the sisters well. She told me a story of the girls not believing one

of the younger nuns not having any hair. One morning in class the young nun pulled out a lock of beautiful blonde hair. She has only one picture of her and a group of children (both boys and girls) of all ages in what looks like it may be a front yard??? There is a white '56 in the background, but the building is not in the pic. She would be very interested in knowing how to get any documentation or records of her stay there. Please leave me a message with subject line of St. Ann's if you remember her. peacemom5@yahoo.com or tbeckham@lapazhospital.org Thank you :)

George Bradford - December 23, 2012 - I was there in the late 59 or 60. I had my first communion there. I entered foster care from St. Anne's. Seems I went to school very nearby. Mitchell school? 2nd grade maybe.

Laurie - January 09, 2013 - My grandmother and her sister was at Saint Ann's sometime off and on from 1918 to about 1930. Their Mom died in 1918 and their Dad couldn't care for the 3 young children ages 2-6 so they were boarders there. I don't think my grandmother liked it there very much. One time she was left in bed sick all alone all day in a very cold room. I can imagine how cold it must have been in those drafty big dorms with 50 beds all lined up in rows. Sometimes she was able to stay with other family during the summers. I'd love to hear of any other stories for the 1920's. Was the orphanage the school too or did the kids attend school nearby? I see in the 50s and 60s the kids had field trips. Did they do that in 1920s too? My grandmother learned French from living there. Did everyone speak French at the orphanage or were the nuns bilingual? You can email me at coastie113@gmail.com with any details or stories of the orphanage from 1918-1930 My gramma and aunt were **Helen and Mary Miner. (In French it might have been Menard)** I looked at the 1922 group photo and think they may be in it but it's hard to tell.

Al Bouchard - January 12, 2013 - My mother had a nervous breakdown and went to a sanitarium around 1939 when I was 9 years old, my father was an alcoholic. My father's brother, uncle **John Bouchard** was a priest in Methuen. I had a younger **brother Bob and a stepsister Loretta**. After my mother left, my step-sister was sent to a convent, my brother was sent to a foster home and I spent a while with my father at my grandfather's home, then some time with an aunt. After that I was sent to an orphanage for a while before 1941. I believe this may have been the orphanage. I have no memory of the time I spent at the orphanage except sleeping in a room with a great many other boys and often hearing crying at night. One vivid memory took place in the wintertime with a nun chasing me across the ice. I left there to go to a foster home for three years, then a private boarding school for three years until I graduated.

Barbara Lucier - January 26, 2013 - Hi to **Cheryl Laplante**. Oh, my dear how happy my heart is to see your name. I have wondered about you for years. I have pictures of you that I would love to send to you. Let's talk on Facebook or by email: lucier_barbara@yahoo.com I can't wait to tell Jim about this website so he can read what you wrote. We have never forgotten you.

Lauren - February 02, 2013 - I'm trying to find out if my grandfather was ever at saint Ann's. Does anyone know of any records from 1927-1930?

Joe Boudreau - February 19, 2013 - I was there sometime in the late 60's. I can't remember the dates. I remember **Sister Garniea and Miss Bea**. I was sent to a foster home and was really sad when I left. No, not sad--devastated. Everyone there was my family! Now I'm 57 and I wish I could go back.

Al Gauthier - March 20, 2013 - just want to change my e-mail address to acgauthier2728@yahoo.com anyone remember the reunion in 1966, would like to hear from you. I have a picture of the hobby room with a group of us boys with **Fr. Alfred & bishop Wright** this was taken some time between 1950-52? anyone remember this.

Jose Amaro - April 02, 2013 - Does anyone remember **Cuban refugee children** at St. Anne's between 1961 and 1963. **The Operation Pedro Pan** records at Barry University in Miami, Fl. indicate that at least one Cuban boy was placed at the orphanage. I would like to know his name, if anyone remembers. Also, is the old brick building at 133 Granite Street St. Anne's? Does anyone know? The building currently provides shelter for homeless families. Does anyone have a picture of the orphanage circa 1960s? If you

can assist me in finding an answer to any or all of these questions, please contact me at jose01010@hotmail.com

Johanna Fair - April 06, 2013 - My name at the time was **Johanna Sarrocco**. I was there when I was 8. it was in the 80s. I have very vivid memories. I remember the pool and I remember a girl I was sledding with broke her leg when I think we hit a tree. I also went back there as a young adult when it was a shelter as well. I was in states custody so that's why I was there when I was a kid.

Michael 'LaPorte' Loring - May 14, 2013 - Hello, I was there in 77-79. Our names were **Michael and Robbie Laporte**. I was in cottage E and my brother was in F. I remember all the nuns. I would get blamed for things I never did and punished by **Sr Margaret**. and I remember the pool. Does anyone remember when 2 liters were glass bottles. Well I remember a girl named **Tammy** I don't remember her last name was roller skating with two 2 liters of orange soda and heading back to pool had a wipeout on the concrete hold the 2 liters. And got all cut up. If anyone remembers me. Look me up on Facebook. My adopted name is now **Mike Loring**. Or email me at loringm@yahoo.com hope to hear from you.

Elizabeth Crosbie - May 28, 2013 - Hello, I lived in the cottages between 69-71. My father had died when I was 4 and my mother was unable to care for me once she developed cancer. I recall **Father Alfred** taking me to see her each Sunday after Mass. She passed one Sunday just after we had left her room. I didn't know it at the time, when the doctor had spoken with Father Alfred in the hallway. On the way back to the cottages he took me to the church. I remember his words of comfort when he shared with me that my mother had passed to heaven. He & **Sr. Helen** are the two I remember most helping me deal with my mother's passing. They both attended her services with me. I was later adopted by my uncle's daughter from California, who had taken in **my sister Rose** years prior. Rose had been living with a relative in CA. I later learned that family members had lost track of me because my mother's attorney had put me in St Ann's under my mother's maiden name, not my birth name. I remember the baseball & football games as well as swimming days and school. I also recall a paddle that hung up in the classroom in the shape of an alligator that was painted green. Don't ever remember it being used on anyone. One Saturday I was riding a bike down a hillside when **John Dalton** from the boys' cottage spooked me which caused me to fall off the bike. I was taken to the hospital and had to have my mouth wired shut for my jaw to heal along with stitches on my lip. Still have the scar over my upper lip. I recall a friend by the name of **Edith** that I had there at St Ann's. I live in Arizona but will be visiting Worcester this July. I plan to stop by and see if the cottages are still there and take a few photos. If anyone knows where Father Alfred is buried, I would appreciate knowing so I can pay my respects. **Paulette**, if you are reading this, please know that your uncle was a God sent to me at one of my darkest hours. Had it not been for him, his counsel & care, I know I would have lost total faith in God. To this day, I carry with me what he told me the day my mother passed, " Your mother is out of pain and in Gods loving arms. She promised you she will watch over you from heaven and that when you see a rainbow it will be her smiling down on you. God will protect and guide you, keep your faith in Him. Promise me you will pray daily and heaven will help you find peace. "(Father Alfred end quote) I promised him I would, he gave me a big hug and let me cry and we just sat there in the church for what seemed like hours. I wrote down this little conversation and took it with me in my old journal when I left St Ann's. I have kept that promise that I made that day to your uncle, Father Alfred. God has protected & guided me in my life since leaving St Ann's. I am thankful to both **Father Alfred & Sister Helen** for their years of service on my behalf. I can be reached at elizabethrod22@gmail.com if anyone would like copies of pictures, if the cottages are still there.

Marion (LaPrade) Rosenfield - June 22, 2013 - Just checking back with this site to see if anyone can tell me if there are any records remaining from around 1900 and where I might locate them. Looking for **Esther LaPrade**. Oh, by the way, I made contact with a couple of LaPrade cousins (twins) through this site. I couldn't believe when I met one how much he looked like my great Uncle. So, thanks again for starting this site! mrosenfield23@comcast.net

B. J. TUCKER - June 26, 2013 - LOVED St Anne's **Sister Roy**, early 1950-60. spiders_webberries27@hotmail.com looking also for pic of communion and need certificate too please how do we contact them?

Leo Blaquiere - August 24, 2013 - I was at St. Anne's from 57 to 62. I also had **two brothers, Joe and Paul** who also were there a little earlier than me. The two people I remember most were **Sister Alice and Miss Helen**. After I was taken back home, my mom was sick for a period of time, I attended both Holy Name grammar and high schools. It was unusual to see the orphanage every day for 3 years. Now I live at the bottom of granite hill off Massasoit road. The diocese of Worcester just sold the land a few years ago to the city of Worcester. **The old land is now part of the Broad Meadow Brook bird conservation, which is 400 acres large.** It seems I just can't get away from there.... I say that with a smile...

Pat - August 31, 2013 - Hi all, I have a couple of postings above. I was at St. Anne's early 1950's as well as **St. Agnes Guild. (Patty Bertrand) My sisters were named Maryann and Rosemarie Bertrand and brother Bobby Bertrand. Noel**, you did not leave an email address for contact. I do not have any pictures, but you stated you have a couple. Anyone else, I would love to have some pictures of the orphanage, nuns, S. Roy, Fr. Alfred, etc. or any of you for that matter if you were there early 50's. They can be scanned and emailed. Thanks so much. Please send email to peafreen@gmail.com and put St. Anne's Orphanage in the subject line. Thanks again. Posted Aug. 31, 2013

Kiki - September 01, 2013 - My father was left at the doorsteps of an orphanage in the Boston area in 1943 right after he was first born. Supposedly there was an article in the local paper about it, would have been September or so. **His adopted parents, Marie & Edward Berthiaume**, saw the article and adopted him. To **Paulette Berthiaume**, the funny thing about your story regarding the cows from the Jolicoeur farm - My father was adopted by the Berthiaume family and he married my mother in California whose maiden name is Jolicoeur.... Would like to know if there are any records from that time period or if the fire, I have been reading about on this page claimed those records. Please email me with any info at kmb3067@gmail.com

Beverly Kiefer - September 15, 2013 - Would like very much to communicate with fellow orphans from middle 40's to early 50's ---just found out about this site and am very excited God bless all the past and present orphans of the world.

Dee - September 17, 2013 - **Beverly**, you didn't leave a way to be contacted, hope you check the site again. dobmarshall@gmail.com Paul and I miss you. Please contact

Fran Lupis - September 19, 2013 - I was in St. Ann's from approximately 1949 to 1954 along with my 3 brothers. We were there for 5 years. My mother and father got divorced and instead of giving us to our father (who wanted us) she chose to put us in the orphanage. I have very few memories of the orphanage because I guess I chose to block them out of my memory. I was little and very heartbroken. I was separated from my brothers who were on the boys' side. I remember the rulers across the hands, the rows and rows of beds in one large room, the large dining hall, the cornflakes for breakfast every day, the swimming pool I almost drowned in and the terrible, terrible loneliness. My brothers were **Frank Lupis, Bob Lupis and Kenneth Hodgkins**. I'm not sure why at this time in my life I decided to look into the orphanage because all it ever brought me was pain. I am now 68 and I still cannot understand why I had to go to this place that to me was horrible and has affected me greatly most of my life. I read some stories about people who were there in later years after me and their stories don't seem to be as bad what it was like when I was there. If you know me and want to contact me, I am at: frannie_55@hotmail.com

Dee - September 19, 2013 - My **brother Phillip and sister Beverly** were at St. Ann's. In the late 50's **I went to a small private home run by the sisters of the Good Shephard. I was there alone with 32 other girls.** The Order of nuns and their beliefs had a lot to do with how things were. This 2 and a half year experience shaped my early adult life and left me confused about how the real world worked. It left me angry and with many warped expectations. My dad had custody after the divorce and because of his health wanted me to be nearer his home but he always made me feel like I had to choose between him and her. These kinds of places existed to fill a need for single parents who also had to work. They just didn't understand the special needs of the children who had to grow up without the constant love and support of a parent.

Teresa - September 30, 2013 - Hi, I am trying to find information regarding my mother and her siblings who I believe lived at this orphanage from about 1943 - 1950 or 1951. My Mom's name was **Teresa Mary Kittredge; her siblings names were Sally, Arlene, Charles and Kevin Kittredge**. If you knew them or have any information, please contact me at vtvt3123@verizon.net. Thank you and God's Blessings to all!

Margaret (Smith) Putnam - November 20, 2013 - I was at St Anne's in the 61 to 63 year time period. I went to providence St. Junior High, then to commerce high for the 10th grade and started the 11th grade but got to go home and live with one of my sisters and finished my schooling in Fitchburg. Would like to hear from all those that were at St. Ann's when I was there. My e-mail is gigs58@gmail.com. I remember there were 10 Cuban Children who were brought to St. Ann's **also Sr Roy, Sr Rainbow, Fr Alfred, Miss Shirley and Miss Margaret** the helpers. I Remember quite a few of the other girls and some of the boys who were there when I was. I will go through my old pictures but am not sure I still have the ones I had taken while there.

Gary Muse - November 21, 2013 - Hi **Joe B.** I remember you! 1966-1967. Was your family from Leominster? Were you an Alter-boy for Fr. Alfred? Were we in trouble a lot? I can remember one day we decided to take a walk . . . to Leominster. We made it to Sterling, but I had fun. I remember why we took that walk. You were my best friend there. I was there with **my sister Brenda**. Brenda could stay but I was taken out because of my age and I was placed in foster care. I was seriously bummed out and so was Brenda. I remember you telling me that you were from Leominster. Somewhere near the F&L (MART). I'm really bad with names but I can remember all the faces of the people, the day trips, the pool, the kitchen, the showers, the school, the dorm, Sunday Mass., the haircut. Cool. phenylalan@mac.com

Gary Muse - November 24, 2013 - I uploaded a few (really bad b&w) pictures from 1966-67. Maybe some of you will recognize the people in the photos. The link is <http://www.flickr.com/photos/49207615@N03/> I hope the link above works for you. I have more pictures, but I want my sister Brenda to identify them first before I load them too. May God bless. Gary

Mark Descoteaux - December 28, 2013 - My Mom just passed away June 7th, 2013 at the age of eighty. Mom was there for about ten years starting at around 1943. She told me that the orphanage created character in her life. Her friend there was **Annette Bernier** who she kept in contact with until her death. If anyone else can tell me about some good times they had while knowing my Mother I would appreciate it very much!

Lori D - December 28, 2013 - I am looking for information about my mother, **Marie Annette Rivard**, who lived here from approximately 1943-1949 when she left at age 16 to become a nurse. Her mother died when she was 10 and that is when she moved to the orphanage. She was from Fitchburg, Ma. If anyone has stories for me or photos, please contact me at FryeburgGreenery@yahoo.com thank you so much.

Lori D - December 29, 2013 - I left a message regarding my mom, Marie Annette Rivard and forgot to mention that my aunt **Thersa Rivard** was also with her for a couple of years. Any information regarding that time period (1943-1949) or photos would be greatly appreciated. FryeburgGreenery@yahoo.com

LA Schultz - February 03, 2014 - I lived at St. Anne's in Worcester 70-71 (my kindergarten year) attended Granite St school. I had **Sr. Alice**, 2 of my brothers also lived there, 1 had **Sr. Margaret** and the other had **Sr. Suzanne**. I would love to hear from anyone that was there around the same time. I also remember **Fr. Alfred (wooden leg)**, he was fantastic, I recall sitting on his lap and I would knock on his leg and he would get a hoot from that. I remember having to wait in lines to take showers and brush teeth and I also remember that we had to sing "Amen" the whole time we were showering/bathing. I also recall that one of the Sr's (either Suzanne or Margaret) would pinch my cheeks till they turned red. My email address is laschultz1966@yahoo.com

Mary K - February 12, 2014 - We are trying to locate 3 sisters who might have been in this orphanage from approximately the late 50's to say 62 or 63. Their names are **Elizabeth Steward, Marsha Steward and Lynn Steward**. Their half-brother from IN would like to contact them. Any information would be greatly appreciated. bbeyes@Comcast.net

Allison - March 03, 2014 - My mother was here in 1952 & 1953 (around this time, I think) with her brother. Her name was Dolores Brideau, and his name was Raymond Brideau. If anyone knew them, please contact me. aellia72@gmail.com

Samantha - April 11, 2014 - This is nuts I just read all of this & couldn't help but cry.

Jacob - April 14, 2014 - I am 36 years old, it is 2014. I loved reading these stories! **My Memere** (meme) was placed at St. Anne's and was raised by the Grey Nuns from Canada from the ages of about 12-16... Her and her sisters were placed there during the depression because their mother died, and my great grandfather couldn't afford to feed and take care of all the children on his own. This was common practice back in those days from what I've come to learn. I read on here that there was a baseball diamond close to the orphanage... That is great!!!! My memere taught me how to play baseball when I was a little boy, she said she learned from the nuns! WOW! She was a tough woman, never asked for a thing, could whip up a meal in minutes and I enjoyed every moment I had with her. I miss our big family meals that she used to cook, jeez, she never sat down, just made sure everyone else was fed and happy. I have tears in my eyes thinking about her. **My memere was buried with the rosary and small hand bible she got and used during those years at St. Anne's.** She always told stories about her childhood time there and they were always happy, good stories! I am so happy to read all of the things people have posted!

Shawn - May 10, 2014 - I am trying to see if anyone remembers an orphan at St. Anne's named **Henriette Jane Maclsaccs**. She would have been there from around 1930-1942. The story is that her parents were killed in a car accident when she was very young, and she was placed there. She left when she turned 18. If you have any info, please contact me at ssmith1110@aol.com.

Rozalia Williams - May 20, 2014 - Hi Everyone. I am one of only three African American girls who were boarders at St. Anne's in the mid 1950's. **To Jackie F.**, who posted in May 08, 2009 or anyone who may have contacted her, I'd love to know if that is my or one of my sisters in the photo you have. **I have a picture of me at a Christmas recital with a Santa Claus skirt on dancing with a little boy in a circle. Peter Nappellio is the photographer.** If anyone remembers us, please contact me at hiddencurriculum@aol.com. Love to you all. This site brings back memories.

Debbie Leenutaphong - May 24, 2014 - Four of my father's cousins were at the orphanage from about 1955. I am not sure how long they were there, unfortunately. Their names were **ERNEST DUBE, RAYMOND DUBE, JEAN DUBE and DIANE DUBE**. They were about 15, 11, 13, and 10 at the time they entered the orphanage. They were placed there because both of their parents had passed away and no other relatives could afford to take them in. My dad is 79 years old now and would love to get in touch with them. If you have any information on his cousins, please feel free to email me at debbie.leen@gmail.com. Thank you.

Nancy Tetreault - May 27, 2014 - My **brother Robert "Bobby"** and I were at St. Anne's from 57 to 59. I was in 4th grade with **Sister Mulligan**. He was an altar boy with **Fr. Alfred**. There was a boy named **Edward** who sat in front of me on class. I remember doing the hula hoop dance, and Dick Clark, Connie Francis and Fabian. The girls who slept next to me in dorms were **Nora O'Malley and Paulette Bradley**. My mentor was **Marilyn Langevin** she had a sister there also named **Carolyn**. Does anyone remember them? Please email me at nancyhutt@msn.com. We did a lot of singing and dancing for older folks at rest homes.

Erica - June 27, 2014 - My mother was here for a short time. She was born Sept. 15, 1956. She was adopted when she was about 6 months old. (March 1957) My adoptive grandparents never told us anything about my mother's biological family. From researching I have found the records were destroyed in a fire. I do know my mother's mother was young, she was a seamstress and lived in Worcester. My mother's name is **Mary Ann** and I don't know who gave her that name. I would love to find out any information. Please email me ezilembo@gmail.com Thank you.

Marie - June 30, 2014 - My brothers and I were sent to St. Anne's, I would say around 1965. To this day, I do not really know why. I only remember the name of **Father Alfred** who was nice to me. Sometimes I

would sneak down to the chapel and sing as loudly as I could. I didn't know anyone could hear me until a nun I did not know told me she appreciated hearing me. I also remember weird rules like wearing a night gown to shower and not being allowed to sleep with my hands under the covers. I had 3 brothers who, of course, were somewhere else in the building. They let me visit them once. It was not a very good time for me. I remember going to the public school down the hill. The orphanage kids always got blamed when things went wrong at school. One day my mother showed up and took us home.

Rita (Borden) Leanna - August 22, 2014 - I was there during 1945 -1950 my experience was not as bad as many children. I had good care. I was lonely most of the time so sometimes caused problems myself. I remember many things the grounds, the statue down the road, sometimes we had figure skaters entertaining, also remember the pony rides. **Sister Dubwa**. not spelt right I'm sure. There was a little girl I took a liking to **Simone** was her name anyone can contact me...bampamama@cfl.rr.com

Philip Robertson - September 30, 2014 - **Amy Burke (later Aimee Beauchamps Provencher) and Katherine Burke (later Katherine Moquin)** these sisters were residents starting around 1886. Any info would be appreciated. Please contact Philip Robertson at robertsonpr@gmail.com Thank you

Dolores Gilman - January 23, 2015 - Why does my story about St. Anne's keep getting taken out after being added, this has happened to my stories twice now, once today and once in 2014, there was nothing wrong with my story, I had only good things to say about St. Anne's.

Kathleen Cavanaugh Hale - January 25, 2015 - My mother, **Mary Salek, and siblings (Frank, John, Fred, Anna)** are believed to have been at St. Anne's from around 1932 to 1940. Seeking any information of any kind on St. Anne's or any of the children, especially my mother. They were boarders.

Mo Beucoup - January 27, 2015 - Very creepy and abusive place and those who don't admit that are being emotionally dishonest.

Jim Thomas - February 10, 2015 - I would like to ask a few questions of anyone staying at St. Ann's Orphanage in the mid to late 40's. I'm writing a story that involves a child placed there for a couple of years and would like to get some details about daily life and activities. If you feel like sharing - good or bad, ugly or pretty, anything at all - please email me at jimthomas@techie.com.

Pat F - February 15, 2015 - February 15, 2015 Hi all, I have a couple of postings above. I was at St. Anne's early 1950's as well as St. Agnes Guild. **(Patty Bertrand) My sisters were named Maryann and Rosemarie Bertrand and brother Bobby Bertrand**. Noel, you did not leave an email address for contact. I do not have any pictures, but you stated you have a couple. Anyone else, I would love to have some pictures of the orphanage, nuns, S. Roy, Fr. Alfred, etc. or any of you for that matter if you were there early 50's. They can be scanned and emailed. Thanks so much. **Katharine Blackwood** your email is no longer valid, plea send me one if you'd like to contact me. I have updated my email address. Please send email to peafreen@yahoo.com and put St. Anne's Orphanage in the subject line. Thanks again. Posted February 15, 2015

Michael Bywater - February 16, 2015 - I am interested in tracing my grandmother's time in an orphanage in or around Worcester circa 1905. Her name at birth was **Loretta Perley**. She was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. George Lord from NH (her maternal aunt). miketybywater@gmail.com

Michael Laporte - March 13, 2015 - My brother and I was there 77-79 closer to 80. I was in cottage E. My brother **Robbie** was in F. Any remember us? email me at msloring69@gmail.com

Diane Hillegas - March 19, 2015 - My mother and her brother were at St. Anne's orphanage from approximately 1946-1956? Her name was **Joann Seiffert** and her brother were **Richard Seiffert**. I see that a man named Leonard Morin knew them, how exciting to read. I will contact him. If anyone else knows of them I would love to hear from you. My contact info is princsd1@aol.com

Daryl J Brooks - May 04, 2015 - I was at St Anne's Orphanage at 133 Granite St Worcester MA. between 1954 and 1957. The Sisters of Saint Mercy were our protectors. I am interested in connecting with anyone who was there and can help put some of these pieces together. The orphanage has since been torn down. Are there any public records available to us to read or obtain? I can be reached at daryljbrosks@roadrunner.com. Thank you so much

Pat F - May 05, 2015 - I love reading these stories - even the sad ones. I've left a couple here; I was there approximately 1954-57. See posting above. Please remember if you want to be contacted leave your email or other contact information. Mine changed from a 2013 posting so I posted another with the updated email. If anyone knows how to contact any of the nuns who might still be alive, please let me know. Thank you. peafreen@yahoo.com

JoeM - May 07, 2015 - Collecting information about St. Anne's Orphanage Worcester, Mass. I will post the history I found in newspaper clippings on my new web site (not yet available) and Facebook. Submit stories with email address I have set up St.AnnesOrphanage.Worcester@gmail.com Website soon to follow. The web site and Facebook sites are dedicated to those who were residents of the Saint Anne's Orphanage in Worcester, Mass. I am trying to set up a web site to categorize pictures, newspaper clippings, documents, true stories, vague memories, vivid memories, dates, and anything else we can gather to share. Finding about this in Worcester, Mass. has proven to be a very difficult task. According to the library there many people have tried to get information but hit dead ends. My visit this past month found the same. I did find the location of some records but am not allowed to view them. So, I ask we gather together to find some of the answers we all seek. Daryl and Pat have already responded. I hope to hear from all who are interested. Thanks - PS I also have pictures of WWOR TV for kindergarten with 8 named children and a newspaper article from 1954-55.

Pat F - May 07, 2015 - Thank you JoeM...it would be awesome if we can get more information. If folks have a Facebook page, they can search for the St. Anne's Orphanage Worcester page to Like/Join.

Pat F - May 08, 2015 - **Jackie F.** if you come back please leave your email or some contact information so we can connect regarding the pictures you have. Thanks so much. peafreen@yahoo.com

Lourdes - June 28, 2015 - In reply to **Jose Amaro's** inquiry about **Cuban refugee children at St. Anne's in the early 60's. Yes, there were ten Cuban children ranging in ages from 6 to 16 years old who arrived at St. Anne's in May of 1962. We were part of the Pedro Pan 14,000 children exodus of the early 60's. The kids arrived in the US unaccompanied, their parents fearing communist indoctrination and their parental rights taken away by the Castro regime made the ultimate sacrifice and sent the children ahead; some families were never reunited.** I remember **Monsignor Harrington, Father Alfred and Sister Roy**, good decent people who cared for us and helped us during a most trying time. I regret having lost track of the other children, I wish there was a way we could somehow reunite; I have never forgotten them: **Jose Luis, Andres, Graciela, Raul, Ana Maria, Marta and Martin.** When people hear I had spent time in an orphanage while waiting for my parents to arrive in the US, they feel sorry I had, but I always tell them, "Don't, it was a good one." It was.

Mary D - July 05, 2015 - HI - I had a relative - a nun, **Adrienne Vigneault** that worked at St Anne's anyone know of her or where I might find any information about her? Thank you kindly in advance. -Mary

JoeM - July 08, 2015 - Hi to all, in response to Lourdes comment on June 28, 2015 - I have a newspaper clipping from that time that talked about these 10 Cuban refugees... picture included. I have set up a page on face book with photos from St. Anne's Orphanage and Mount St. Ann. You'll find the article in the Mount St. Ann photo album. Please email me with pictures, newspaper clippings, and your stories to St.AnnesOrphanage.Worcester@gmail.com I will post all that I can. FACEBOOK PAGE <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Annes-Orphanage-Worcester-Mount-St-Ann-Youville-House/1390062244655096>

JoeM - July 08, 2015 - Hello Mary D - Here's a place to start. Maria Gaumont Obit. Maybe there's a relative in there you might know.

<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=2209&dat=19840618&id=8ZdKAAAAIBAJ&sjid=UJQMAAAAIBAJ&pg=5645,3630014&hl=en>

Lorraine Belanger - July 16, 2015 - I have posted before - oh the memories - I was there when we went to Holy Cross College to see Fabian - I do not remember Connie Francis but I sure remember Fabian - I was a flower girl for the Bishop once - and got the silver candy under my hoodie cup on a Sunday and was the queen for the year. My brother got one too and was the King - I am sure that was the plan. I am still looking for **Linda Lesperance** if anyone knows what happened to her - she is the only friend I remember having - Also makes me think about the big box of toys that came out at times - you had to be quick or you got a doll but no clothes or the clothes with no doll - so many memories

Joseph Leger - July 19, 2015 - Yes, I was there when I was 4 yes old with **my brother Brian** in 1979. I have lots of memories from there. I remember sister Helen very nice and **Sister Mary** who used to be a cheek pincher! Dam I hated that. I remember riding a blue bike and swimming at the pool. I remember them playing classical music most nights. Girls slept in a big room across the hall. Making gingerbread houses. Playing with big cardboard bricks in the building at the bottom of the hill. I remember a lot. Funny I was going to the junk yard and I saw the building and thought wow that looks so familiar, so I drove around it and there it was the cottage. If anyone knows us or remembers similar things. Hit me up josephleger35@yahoo.com

Denyse Cadorette - July 29, 2015 - [There is a Facebook page for St. Anne's Orphanage....please give it a visit...](#)

L, Marie Wise - July 31, 2015 - My 3 brothers and I spent a short time at St. Anne's, thought, at the time, it seemed like a lifetime. It was winter of 1965, I think. I was in the 4th or 5th grade, the oldest and only girl in the family. I saw my brothers once while we were there, and I had no idea where my mother or father were. I got in trouble the first night for sleeping with my hands under the covers. I think I came with the clothes on my back so there was a shopping trip. I got 3 dresses; 2 for school and one for Sunday and 2 pairs of shoes; one for school and one for Sunday. Play clothes came from donations and never fit right. The creepiest thing to me was the shower room. Like a huge wading pool with multiple shower heads hanging from the ceiling (much like the gas chambers of Auschwitz. The pool was surrounded by little dressing rooms where we had to put on shower gowns so no one could see us naked while washing. Silliest thing I had ever seen! Some of the other girls were not very nice. One girl even stuck a huge thorn into my leg on the playground. We walked down the hill to go to the public school where whenever anything went wrong, "the orphanage kids did it." It was not the best time in my life. My only solace was sneaking off to the chapel and singing at the top of my lungs. That at good talks with Father Alfred.

Jose Amaro - August 11, 2015 - According to the Worcester Gazette, in June 1962 there were 10 unaccompanied Cuban refugee children, 5 boys and 5 girls, ranging from 6 to 16 years of age, at St. Ann's. My name is Jose Amaro. **I am a trustee an Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc.** (<http://www.pedropan.org>), a Miami (FL) based non-profit organization, that represents many of the nearly 15,000 Cuban children who were airlifted unaccompanied to the US between 1960 and 1962. If you are one the ten children, please, drop us a line. We want to know what became of you after you left St. Ann's. We can be reached at members@pedropan.org or at my personal email jose01010@hotmail.com. Thanks!

Susanne - August 26, 2015 - I'm trying to assist a good friend find her brother. They were at St. Ann's sometime around 1946. My friend **Barbara** was sent to live with a family friend, but her brother was adopted, and she never saw him again. His name is **David Allan Knox**. If anyone has information about how to find a child adopted from St. Ann's please email me. susannewit@att.net

Pat Aubin - September 17, 2015 - Was at St Ann's from 1958-1960 there was some good and Bad times Email is pataubin@live.com anybody is interested My name then was **Pat Cutty**. I knew **Jean Dube** I babysat her two boys in the late sixties

William White - December 16, 2015 - I have a question, I hope someone can help me with. I have a relative that has claimed they graduated from St. Anne's on Eastern Ave around 1949-1951, but the twist is they were not orphaned. They lived on Thomas Street and then on Normal Street. The last name of the family was Flagg, I would really appreciate anyone's help to explain if St. Anne's was a high school or not, thank you

Joe Gauthier - December 21, 2015 - Check this site out on Facebook: St. Ann's Orphanage Worcester, Mount St. Ann, Youville House. The children went to area high schools. Into the 1950s the children were taught through elementary grades.

Wes Newbert - January 16, 2016 - My mother in law was at St Anne's from 1926 - 1928 and my wife and I are looking for any pictures of the grounds. Any pictures that anyone could send would be appreciated. email Wnewbert@verizon.net Thanks

JoeM - January 26, 2016 - [To Wes Newbert - Tried your email address - it failed. Search on Facebook for St. Ann's Orphanage Worcester and you can view photos and history.](#)

Bev Ru - March 25, 2016 - Help find my friends birth Mother. He was born March 19, 1960 and was adopted from a catholic orphanage in Worcester, MA, not sure if this is the one but I am starting here. Maybe there is a site for this type of info. Parents looking for children or relative

Christine Maureen Trudelle - March 30, 2016 - Help!!! First and foremost, God Bless All of those mentioned above. I am 47 yrs. old. I am starting a family tree. I was told from my father, Robert Trudelle that my Great Grandmother was a Nun. The name listed on my Grandmothers Death Cert is **Philomena Canuel**. After doing a lot of research, I'm very confused. I grew up in California away from ALL of my family/ancestors. My only grandparent I've ever met and visited was my Memere' (Rita Mary Parent) that passed away in 2010. My Great Grandmother, " Philomena Canuel" born in Canada and Did marry the same man her sister Anna married. I was told that Elphege (Alphig, Elpfedge, etc.) Parent born in Maine in the 1900s approx. married my Great Grandmother Philomena Canuel After his first wife (Anna also supposed to be Philomena's' sister) died and he needed help raising his kids. He was able to go to the Nunnery and take her out. I have the records that can show this However, Philomena I found out was Not the actual Nun, it was her biological sister named Eugenie Turcotte is the Nun!! I'm confused. Philomena is my Great B Grandmother and I'm truly desperate. I saw this on my search due to possible names she may have had. I had this pic I found. I wish I knew it was her. BTW, Philomena was a Nun and very Happy I was told. She didn't want to leave the Nunnery. Philomena was a Sister of Sisters of Martha of Tre's Rivoire at St. Francis of Xavier. Rita Parent is on one census with her Father in Canada and I Believe Rita may have been adopted. Anyone that can help, I'd appreciate it. Contact me at ctrudelle@sbcglobal.net Thank You http://mv.ancestry.com/viewer/6b24db32-1847-4817-b860-cb0a658a893d/13613498/48579482331?_phsrc=NaK6873&usePUBJs=true Pic of my Possible Great Grandmother.

Tom Ingalls - June 04, 2016 - I too went to St. Ann's orphanage a couple times in the 50's when my mother was very sick. The first time was in 1955. I remember Christmas time. We all received the same gift. It was a toy car that had a lever on the side that could make the wheels spin. I was 8 years old at that time. When we would come back from the school day the nuns would put the Rosary on the radio, and we would sweep the floor. When they left the room, we would change the station and listen to rock and roll! So, many memories. The nuns where super nice and caring but very strict. Was also there in 1957 for a short time. My email is thosing@msn.com.

John C - July 12, 2016 - I was wondering if anyone can tell me where I can search for my orphanage records. I tried the state and they have my adoption documents, but not my orphanage records. I was at St Ann's sometime between 1957 and 1959. I can be reached at John39955@gmail.com Thanks!

Pat F. - July 27, 2016 - [Anyone here looking for info on St. Anne's Orphanage in Worcester, please search on Face Book for St. Anne's Orphanage Worcester. There is a ton of information, photos, stories, etc.](#)

John C - August 01, 2016 - I got the information I needed. Thank you to my fellow St Anne's resident for the information. I got what I expected to be my records from St Anne's and what **I got was an explanation because of my age (2) I was most likely at St Agnes**. The letter said the Catholic Charities does not have St. Agnes records. Until now I never heard of St. Agnes. Does anyone know anything about St. Agnes? John39955@gmail.com Thanks!

John C - September 04, 2016 - The person at St. Agnes said to contact Catholic Charities. CC are the ones who sent me to St. Agnes. I had hoped to find information about my past, but it sounds like my search has come to a disappointing end.

Pat F - October 02, 2016 - John C I don't believe the St. Agnes of today is the same Guild of St. Agnes that we were probably at. It was located on Vernon Street back then.

Don. Mongeau - October 15, 2016 - My sister and I were in St. Ann's in 1944 when I was 5yrs. I remember **Fr. Alfred** and the nuns

AL GAUTHIER - October 25, 2016 - **I would like to thank Joseph Massie and Rosalie Massie Blackburn for the book; The Ghosts of St. Ann's Past, Thank you. AL G.**

Karen Sanderson - December 29, 2016 - Hi. I lived at St Anne's in the early 70's with my brother **Mark (Pulsifer)**. happened on the web site about the orphanage and everything came rushing back to my memory like it was yesterday. I remember my fond times there even though it was not our real home. Sister M. was one of my favorites. There are many photos of me and my brother while we were there that I have seen that make me smile, they are the only photos I have seen of me and my brother young. I don't remember many kids but there is one his name is **Bobby** I believe; he is the kid who hit his head into the wheel barrel after I had a hot marshmallow hit me in the face at Camp Wind in the Pines. We have grown up through very difficult times very strong people. Maybe if you remember us you could email me at handinglove16@yahoo.com

Lisa - January 07, 2017 - does anyone know where the adoption records for St. Anne's orphanage from 1940 thru 1950 are now?

Dianne Rochette - January 17, 2017 - I never knew this website was here until a few days ago. Wonderful to share. I, younger sister & older brother stayed at St. Anne's in 1955, 1957 & 1959 for about 6 months each time. Mom would get sick a dad had to work, so this is where we stayed. I remember **Fr. Alfred** and going to basketball games at Holy Cross. Meeting Dick Clark. Loved to dance so at 6, myself and several other girls danced at Holy Cross stadium for a program there with Dick Clark. The last time I was there, one of my jobs was to roll the big white laundry buckets on wheels down to the laundry room with someone else. I still remember the flower border that went around the room. We were treated so well by sister and Fr. Alfred. Thank you for all sharing your stories.

JoeM (Joe Massie) - January 31, 2017 - Please visit our Facebook Page dedicated to St. Anne's Orphanage Worcester. My sister Rosie and I also wrote a book using all the great stories from past 'Residents' of St. Ann's Orphanage Worcester. We are providing a FREE copy of our book to past 'Residents' and family. More than 250 free books have been sent out so far. Also, please email us with your stories and photos to St.AnnesOrphanage.Worcester@gmail.com Thanks

Peggy Frend - March 02, 2017 - I was in all three buildings. I believe it to be 61-69. I remember my friends were **Donna, Elisabeth and Sharon. Sr. Alice, Sr Bernadette, Miss Shirley and Fr. Alfred and Sr. Bissonette as well as Sr. Hope as well as Sr. Ann**. They were all wonderful people. I went to visit maybe two times after I left and was saddened to see how it all fell to such a bad state. I remember giving everyone a run for their money while I was there. I miss them all.

Janette - April 30, 2017 - When I was a little girl living in Auburn my parents would invite children into our home for Thanksgiving. I can remember going to St Anne's with my Dad to pick up the children and bring them to our home. There were sisters **Claudette and Lauret C. and a boy named Joey K**. To this day I

remember them fondly and wonder how their journey through life progressed. I am 68 now so the years at St. Ann's would have been approximately 1955-58. I hope all are well today.

Ed Grautski - August 17, 2017 - Looking through postings, I see an old e-mail address was posted. For anyone interested it's e.grautski@gmail.com

Karen Sanderson (Pulsipher) - August 22, 2017 - Went by St Anne's Sunday Aug 20,2017, I'm so glad we have memories in our head because what a sad situation and state the orphanage is in. It has a big FOR SALE sign in front and is so overgrown with bushes you would not believe how it used to be if you did not live there for a short time in your life. You would think that they would bring it back to its glory and help unfortunate families and children that really need help such a waste of a fantastic area that some of us called home for a short while and got to enjoy as we grew up. I will always remember what St Anne's did for me and my brother (Mark Pulsifer) God Bless:)

JoeM (Joe Massie) - August 28, 2017 - Hello to Karen, we just had a 'Mini Reunion' there on Monday Aug. 14th. Please see our Facebook Page and email us your info to St.AnnesOrphanage.Worcester@gmail.com We'd love to hear from you and everyone who has been at SAOW or are a family member affected by SAOW. My sister, Rosalie and I wrote a book 'The Ghosts of St. Ann's Past' and are providing it for free for past residents, family members and those affected by SAOW. Please email us your address. Photos and more stories would also be appreciated. We have a good collection now and would love to make it a great collection. Thanks - Joe Massie

Gordon Dwane- March 03, 2018 - I may have been there in the early 60's. I was born in Worcester in 1960, was adopted in 63 or 64. Does anyone know if there were any records of adoptions and where I may look?

Mary aka Mary Lou - March 22, 2018 - I am still looking to find anyone that was there when I was. I wanted to find the twin sisters, redheads, if my memory is good. that I made friends with. I was called Mary Lou and had dark hair and freckles. I think I was around 1959- for a year or so, maybe earlier and later, can't recall. If anyone recalls me, please email me at mary114.mk@gmail.com. I did not have fond memories, felt scared there most of the time. I wrote here years back, about the scary showers in basement, and the big white cribs... would love to hear from those girls, or anyone that was there when I was.

Veronica Richardson - April 06, 2018 - My Mom was there as a boarder from 1933 to 1941. Her name is **Irene Stevens and her brother, George**, was also there. A younger brother was sent to a foster home. I never grew tired of listening to stories about the orphanage. **Sister Roy** was her favorite. The nuns were strict, but they did the best they could. Mom hated it there because she missed her Dad. I believe that she left around 1941 as she was of age to go to live with her father.

Jody Dyer - December 18, 2018 - Hello, I'm trying to find information on **Joni, Donnie, and Bob Asselin**. They stayed at St. Anne's while their mother received psychiatric care. Joni is now about 68-70 years old. I'm a writer and need information for a book about the family. Please email me if you remember **Joni, Donnie, or Bob Asselin**. Thank you! dyer.cbpublishing@gmail.com

Gail Maria - January 20, 2019 - This is a response to **Mary Lou (Mary)**. I also attended as a boarder during the years 1959 to end of school year 1962. I was born in 1953 so that would have made me about 6, I think, which would have put me in with the little girls along it's you. I too had a serious accident on the swings. I jumped off at the encouragement of my friends but failed, massively failed, to remember to duck for the return of the hard, wood seated swing. Knocked me out cold, took me to emergency where I received 14 stitches. My mother was furious when she came the following weekend as they hadn't informed her of the accident. A second health scare occurred when I contracted, what they said was, Scarlet Fever. That has never been confirmed and since one can no longer obtain accurate records, I will never know. I remember a chocolatier donating the broken pieces of a white chocolate merry-go-round to the children. It was been broken in transport to some event and was unusable, so we got it. My first taste of white chocolate. I was hooked. Also remember watching National Velvet on the TV Sunday nights in the dorm, then lights out. Folding our pillows in half to create a neat roll at the top of the bed once

properly made. Out of total fear, exacerbated by a recent kidney infection, I remember waiting far too long to ask permission to go to the toilet during class and wetting my underpants as I ran to the bathroom, flushing them down the toilet and going "commando" for the rest of the day. I was terrified I would be caught out for wetting my pants. Somehow, I never got busted for the missing undies. I remember hanging out at the grotto with the big girls who filched smokes from each other. I played prominent roles in at least two of the annual musical fund raisers. The first was in "black face" when we wore black stockings with the holes cut out for eyes and mouth. I was at the front of the parade that came down the aisle and up on to the stage. Can you even imagine getting away with that today? The second was a tribute to the Emerald Isle and again, I had a solo. The sisters made adorable green and white check pinafores with white blouses beneath. I can't believe I remember that. Thing is, that hunger for performance never went away but didn't fully come to fruition until my early 30s when I took up voice, officially, and have been involved in many very successful music projects since. I am a professional vocalist. I never thought of my time at St. Ann's fondly. Not because it was so strict, or so bad, or even so lonely.... it was because my mother dropped me there so she could, in my child's mind "go gallivanting out all on her own without having to worry about a young child as she was recently divorced. She would have been just 24 years old. Now, of course, I know that she did the right thing for both of us. I had two trips to the hospital for kidney infection and measles before I was even four years old. She struggled to take care of us while working full-time in 1960's Boston. I was very well taken care of at St. Ann's minus the skull crack up and the fever. Some very important moral seeds were sown while I was there. I went on to attend parochial school all 8 years until High School in the 9th grade. I don't practice the catholic religion even after all those years in the shadow of Catholic oppression, because that's what it became as I grew older and more aware of what was being said and how it was being delivered. Then came Pope John XXIII and the Vatican Council and things began to change but not enough for me to continue on as a Catholic. As a Christian, yes, but not as a Catholic. Anyway, that's my memory of my two year experience there. My mother married again, and I will never forget the day she and her new husband arrived, in a 1959 Corvette convertible, where I sat on the rumble seat between them. I felt FREE for the first time in my young life. I have never looked back. Thanks, you sisters for your kindness and your care. For your faithfulness and devotion to God and your work. I have been blessed by these strong women.

JoeM (SAOW) - April 24, 2019 - Hello to all, Our Family & Friends of SAOW (St. Ann's Orphanage - Worcester) are eager to read your stories posted here, on our Facebook Page and website. Please visit our Facebook Page and email us your info to St.AnnesOrphanage.Worcester@gmail.com We'd love to hear from you and everyone who has been at SAOW or are a family member affected by SAOW. My sister, Rosalie and I wrote a book 'The Ghosts of St. Ann's Past' and are providing it for free for past residents, family members and those affected by SAOW. Please email us your address (to be used only for book mailing). Including photos and more stories would also be appreciated. We have a good collection now and would love to make it a great collection. Thanks - Joe Massie (Lester & Rosalie LaFontaine SAOW 1954-55)

Kathy - October 27, 2019 - Hi, is there somewhere to find out if someone was at St. Ann's Orphanage in 1944. A friend was born in 1944 and was given to orphanage by his mother at birth. He was in orphanage for 2 years before he was adopted. He was born in Athol, MA and his mother was from Gardner. He still lives in the same area so was around that area his whole life. Wondering what orphanage he could've been at from birth to 2 years of age in that area. Thanks for any help!