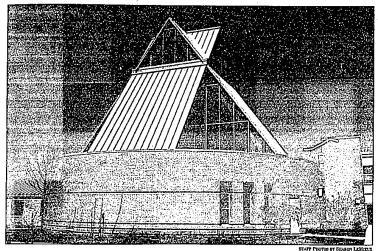
Dedicated

Sisters of Mercy share new chapel and renovated center



Powerful: The new McCauley Center Chapel was ready for the Sisters of Mercy to celebrate

The Sisters of Mercy and guests gathered Sat-urday for the dedication of the newly con-structed McAuley Center Chapel and the blessing of the completed renovations of McAuley Center, the retirement home for the Sisters of Mercy on I Mile.

Mercy on 11 Mile.
The afternoowns highlighted with a tour of the
McGauley Center and the Sacred Heart Chapel, as
well as a chance for guests to meet with the sistera, Prayers and a performance by the Grail
Singers of Am Arbor concluded the event.
Overcrowding prompted the renovation and

additions to the McAuley Center. "The primary concern was to expand the space in the infirmary," said Sister Patrice Klein, RSM, regional community leadership coordinator of the project. "Before renovation, 31 sisters were living in a skilled nursing unit designed to accommodate 24."

The infirmary renovation converted an existing ward into private rooms, improved handicapped accessibility, upgraded nursing stations and added space. The center also includes space for group activities, as well as a courtyard for the sisters to



On tour: Peggy George, a former nurse at McAuley, gets a tour from Sister Mary McFarland. They are looking at the chapel's altar.

enjoy the outdoors.

The nurses desk allows direct vision of all three wings of the nursing unit. Offices for the director of nurses and clinical supervisors office that is shared with staff nurses is also available.

The center also includes a living room, dining hall, library and periodical room, as well as administrative offices, an activity department and gift shop. A medical/nursing suite is available for sisters in the residence.

The new chapel is considered by the sisters a powerful place to pray." The new circular chapel, which seats about 120, features a cross suspended from the ceiling and has an open design inspired by the Mercy Cross. Glass walls serve as a natural backurop for the cross, allowing in the shifting light of day and evening. Architect Constantine George Pappas designed the new chapel. "It is unbelievable if you

go there at dusk because you can sit there with no lights on and literally see the sky and the moon come right through the glass."

The award winning chapel has been featured in a recent issue of CAM Magazine, published by the Constructions Association of Michigan. The front cover features "Architect Constantine George Papapas" Divine Creation."

The Sacred Heart Chapel was built on the site of the original chapel ghich was outgrown soon after the Sisters of Mercy Come to the McAuley Center. A temporary chapel was becated in the area recently renovated for the Residence Nursing Clinic. The original site was then used as a living room until the space was demolished two years ago to make room for the new chapel. The chapel was completed in time for Easter Sunday services in April.





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