

Why Molloy?

Why Then?

Why US?

The setting as excerpted from *Long Island Our Story*, a true coffee table edition, as published by Newsday in 1998 -- p.337, sets the stage!

In 1957 Bishop Walter Kellenberg became the first Bishop of the newly formed Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre. The Diocese was formed by Pope Pius XII and included Nassau & Suffolk counties. We were a spin-off from the Brooklyn Diocese but still under the auspicious of the Archdiocese of New York. This newly formed Diocese was headquartered in Rockville Centre, L.I. as St. Agnes Church had all the prerequisites to be a Cathedral at the time it was built. This marked a new day for Long Island!

Monsignor Peter Quealy, Pastor of St. Agnes had envisioned this transition when the Church was originally conceived. He also bought the land on which Mercy Hospital and Molloy College stands today. Even the original stately old mansion that housed the first class of students – ‘915’ North Village Avenue was part of that track of land. Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy died a year before the new diocese was formed and thus the College was named in his honor. Quealy Hall was our first residence for the next two years and by our graduation in 1959 we spent our senior year in Kellenberg. These were the first two buildings that were built and occupied for the first graduates – The Pioneers!

This completes the Cameo Legacy Story as we were the first eligible High School students to graduate in 1955, and able to embark upon this journey in a timely fashion. Those of us living in the vicinity could now avail ourselves of a Catholic College education on a campus close to home. What a privilege to be among the first to be educated in the Dominican tradition of the Order of Preachers – Molloy style! All of these values are reaffirmed today within the Mission Integration and Development that is presently being implemented on campus.

And now you know the rest of the story...

– Joan Heide Class of ‘59