



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Holy Childhood Dedicates Lobby to Sr. Seraphine Herbst, SSJ Conference Suite to honor Fr. Edward P. Callens**

*(Friday, September 6, 2013 - Rochester, NY)* Holy Childhood will dedicate its newly renovated lobby in honor of **Sister Seraphine Herbst, SSJ**, the agency's Executive Director Emeritus on **Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM at the agency**, located at **100 Groton Parkway in Henrietta**. In addition, a conference suite will be dedicated to **Father Edward P. Callens** as part of the celebration. The lobby and conference suite upgrades were made possible through a series of fundraising events to honor the agency's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the funds dedicated in Sister Seraphine's name, as well as major gifts made by generous local foundations and individual donors.

"The lobby renovation serves to increase safety and security for those we serve, while at the same time allowing visitors to have immediate and easy access so that they might witness the tremendous programs at work," stated agency President and CEO, Donna M. Dedee. "Holy Childhood has long been known as one of the most welcoming and open environments in greater Rochester and for most of Holy Childhood's history, all who enter have been greeted by the open arms of Sister Seraphine. So it only makes sense that her name remains affiliated with a warm, welcoming environment into the future."

Sister Seraphine was a teacher and administrator at the agency for 50 years before her retirement in 2011. Father Callens was pastor to Our Lady of Victory Church from 1952 - 1967, Holy Childhood's original location in downtown Rochester. A donation in honor of Fr. Callens and his family was designated for the creation of a new office and conference suite off the main lobby. The event will also recognize the support of the Davenport-Hatch Foundation, C.O.I. Inc., E.G. Sackett Co., Vargas Associates, Nichols Construction Team, Messner Carpeting, and the volunteer committees who assisted in raising the funds for the renovation.

Holy Childhood is a non-denominational, non-profit agency, which serves more than 200 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, in its school program (ages 5-21) and in its adult workshops, which serve people from age 21 through retirement. Services include individualized education, sheltered employment, vocational training and diagnostic and treatment services. For more information about the agency visit [www.holychildhood.org](http://www.holychildhood.org) or call (585)359-3710.

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