



# URSULINE SISTERS OF LOUISVILLE

## Historical Timeline

**1535**

Angela Merici founds Company of Saint Ursula in Brescia, Italy.

**1691**

Ursuline Convent in Straubing, Bavaria opens.

**Oct. 31, 1858**

The Ursulines of the Immaculate Conception of Louisville, Kentucky, were founded as an independent monastery from the Ursuline Motherhouse in Straubing, Bavaria. Bishop Martin J. Spalding of Louisville sent Father Leander Streber, OFM, pastor of St. Martin Church, to Bavaria to seek sisters to teach German children in his parish and other parishes in the diocese. Three Ursuline Sisters— Mother Salesia Reitmeier, Mother Mary Pia Schoenhofer and Sister Mary Maximilian Zwinger— arrive in Louisville, Kentucky from Straubing, Bavaria. The sisters immediately begin teaching at St. Martin School at Shelby and Gray Streets.

**1859**

Sisters open Ursuline Academy, a school for girls (closed in 1972).

**1861**

Sisters begin teaching at other parish schools in Louisville.

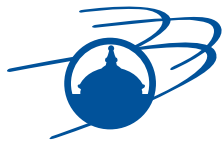
**1864**

Ursuline Sisters receive "incorporation in perpetuity" as Ursuline Society and Academy of Education from the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

**June 25, 1868**

Mother Salesia Reitmeier, the founder and first superior of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, dies at age 36.





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**1868**

Sisters begin staffing schools in Indiana.

**1870**

Sisters begin staffing schools in Western Maryland.

**1874**

Five sisters answer request to staff Mount St. Joseph Academy in Daviess County, Kentucky.



**1877**

Sacred Heart Academy opens on Workhouse Road (now Lexington Road).

**1895**

Thirteen sisters establish an independent Ursuline Foundation in Paola, Kansas.

**1912**

Sisters in Daviess County become an independent congregation; known as the Mount St. Joseph Ursulines.

**1915**

Sisters begin staffing schools in Ohio and West Virginia.

**1916**

Sisters begin staffing schools in Western Nebraska.

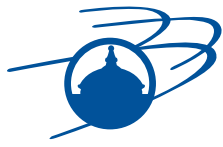
**1917**

Dedication of new Motherhouse on Cherokee Drive (now Lexington Road).



**1918-1919**

Ursuline sisters join other religious women taking care of the soldiers at Camp Taylor, Louisville, during the flu epidemic.



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**1921**

Sacred Heart Junior College opens on Lexington Road (later becomes Ursuline College.)

**1937**

On the Lexington Road campus, sisters house refugees from the Great Flood of the Ohio River.

**1938**

Ursuline Sisters of Columbia, South Carolina, join the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville. Sacred Heart Junior College expands to a four-year college for women; renamed Ursuline College.



**1956**

Ursuline Speech Clinic opens (closed in 1996).

**1958**

Ursuline Sisters of Pittsburgh join Ursuline Sisters of Louisville.

**1959**

Angela Merici High School for girls opens in southwest Louisville (closed in 1984).



**1964**

First Louisville Ursuline missionaries arrive in Peru, South America.

**1967**

Ursuline Montessori Pre-School opens.

**1968**

Ursuline College merges with Bellarmine College.

**1970**

Ursuline School of Music and Drama opens.



**1977**

Marian Home opens (closed in 2010).



## Historical Timeline



**1980**

Associate Call Program established.

**1984**

Angela Merici High School and Bishop David High School consolidate to become Holy Cross High School.

**1986**

Ursuline Child Development Center opens.

**1990**

Ursuline Sisters enter into sponsorship of the Ursuline Campus Schools (now Sacred Heart Schools).

**1997**

Angela Merici Center for Spirituality opens.

**2008**

150th Anniversary of the presence and ministry of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

**2010**

Marian Home is closed.

**2017**

Celebration of the centennial of the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception in the Ursuline Motherhouse

**2018**

50th Anniversary of the Ursuline College-Bellarmino College merger; Bellarmine University and Ursuline Sisters of Louisville celebrate with "Year of Ursuline" events

**Present**

The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville continue their ministries in education, healthcare, parish, pastoral, spirituality, social services, social justice, volunteer and prayer in 3 states and Peru.