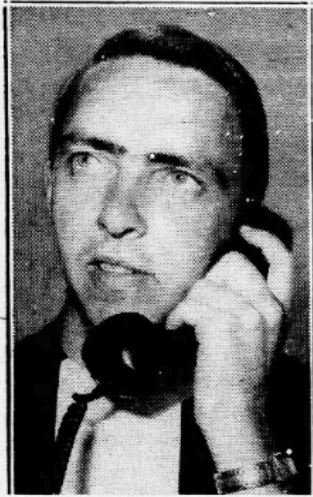


No Dissension Permitted at St. Mary's HS

By ARTHUR MULLIGAN

The Rev. Brother Donald Richard, principal of St. Mary's Boys' High School in Manhasset, doesn't hold with student dissension, and anyone who doesn't like things the way they are at St. Mary's can go elsewhere.

In a forthright declaration that comes too late to serve as an ex-



Brother Donald Richard

ample to vacillating college presidents, Brother Donald says:

"We will not tolerate student rebellions, dictates or demands—regardless of their current popularity in some areas.

'To be Taught—Not Teach'

"We have the highest regard for student interests, for their problems, for their needs; we do not dismiss them lightly. We also recognize that students are not always objective and not always correct in their opinions.

"In fact, it is in view of both of these premises that any school exists. In short, it must be understood that our philosophy incorporates the basic principle that students attend school to be taught—and not the other way around."

Brother Donald's remarks were contained in a letter to parents in connection with registration for the fall term. Some 600 such letters were sent out and the response has been sensational. Everyone seems to agree that it's time someone took such a stand.

Expects Parents' Cooperation

The principal also stated in his missive that "it is imperative that all students attend St. Mary's voluntarily" and that anyone who "wants out" be permitted to transfer.

He said he expected complete cooperation from the parents in respect to having students conform to school regulations.

Brother Donald, who was born Donald Loiseau in Worcester, Mass., has been principal at St. Mary's since last September. He has been a Marist brother since 1949 and previously taught at St. Mary's from 1955 to 1960.

He says that his letter reflects his own philosophy acquired during 17 years of dealing with teenagers.

"I think if they (the students) recognize reasonableness, they will accept it," he said. "They don't really expect permissiveness."