

The Franciscan Handmaids of Mary, one of America's three predominantly black orders of Catholic nuns, was founded in Savannah, Georgia in 1916. The Handmaids moved to Harlem in 1924 at the invitation of Cardinal Patrick Hayes. At that time, blacks were moving into Harlem and the cardinal wanted to open a day nursery for the children of working parents. The St. Benedict Day Nursery remains the order's primary charity.

The New York Times, 13 October 2001

Deborah Natsios and John Young - Architect
 Hardie & Associates - MEP Engineer
 Anchor Consulting PC - Structural Engineer
 Johnson Design Consulting - Code

1985-97

ST BENEDICT DAY NURSERY

Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary

**15 West 124th Street
 Harlem, NY NY**

Renovation of historic pre-school in existing five-story brownstone attached to convent. Includes 5 classrooms, new commercial kitchen, new elevator, new enclosed fire stair.

