

History
of the
Church of the Blessed Sacrament
Thirtieth Anniversary
1902-1932

Reverend Thomas J. Connors
Rector

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MOST REVEREND JOHN FRANCIS O'HERN, D.D.
Present Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester

Foreword

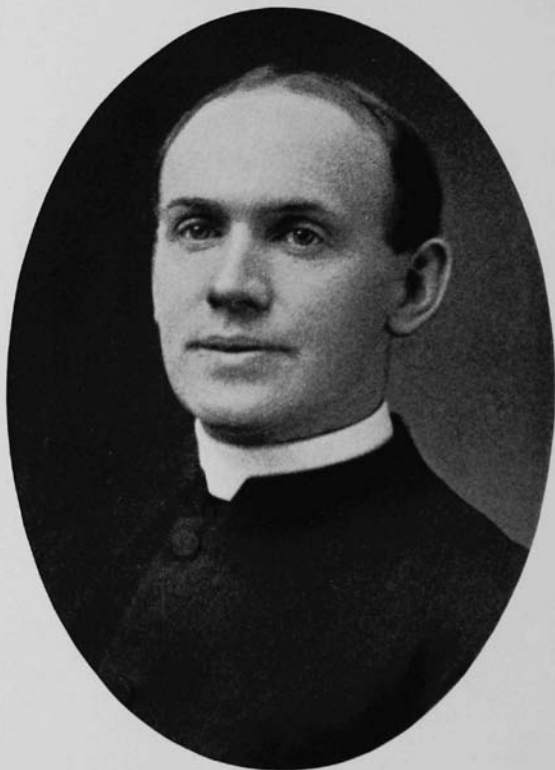
As so many of our close friends and classmates in the priesthood have passed from life, we have felt it a duty, before it is too late, to prepare a brief history of this parish. No other pastor has played a part in its life. No one else knows it as we do. It is the story of a tender babe that has, in the course of thirty years, become a strong and vigorous youth.

Only the principal events in its history have been recorded. If space permitted, many additional notes of interest would also be printed. Some mistakes will probably be found; some names, perhaps, missing; some things passed over that should be mentioned. Our memory, in some instances, has probably failed us. Do not allow anything that we have written to hurt or offend you. May Our Divine Saviour generously bless each and every one of you. When we, too, are called away, to return no more, we beg of you to remember us, not with tears, but with prayers.

THOMAS F. CONNORS

History
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Church of the Blessed Sacrament
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REVEREND THOMAS F. CONNORS
RECTOR



REVEREND THOMAS F. CONNORS
Rector of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament—1902

THE BEGINNING

When we were appointed by the Right Reverend Bernard J. McQuaid, D.D., to organize a new parish in the southeastern section of the City, it was planned to build on the east side of Rutgers Street, about half-way between Monroe Avenue and Harvard Street. But before final negotiations for the purchase of necessary land were completed, it was discovered that there were restrictions in the deeds, which would not permit the erection thereon of buildings for Church and School purposes.

Consequently, no time was lost in securing the piece of land at the corner of Monroe Avenue and Rutgers Street. The frontage on Monroe Avenue was 151 feet and that on Rutgers Street, 211 feet. The purchase price was \$6,500.00. This was the only site east of Oxford Street and north of Monroe Avenue in this particular section that could be purchased for this purpose. No time was lost in visiting the Catholic people who were to make up the new parishioners. Many of them informed us that they would help us financially to start the new parish, but would still continue as members of Churches where they had always been faithful attendants. Others told us that a Church and School were not needed in this section. Soon, everything was made ready for the laying of the corner-stone.

LAYING OF CORNER-STONE—NOVEMBER 3, 1901

Copied from "Union and Advertiser," November 2, 1901

The above is a good representation of the new Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Sacrament, situated at the corner of Monroe Avenue and Rutgers Street, the corner-stone of which will be laid tomorrow afternoon. The ceremony will take place at 3 o'clock and will be performed by Bishop McQuaid. A large number of priests will be in attendance and the people of many parishes will gather to witness the event.

The Church is designed, as have been all the Roman Catholic Churches of Rochester built in recent years, to serve both as a church and school until such time as the congregation feels itself able to build a new church. It partakes little, therefore, of any form of church architecture, being rather colonial in style. It is two stories in height, with a basement, the latter finishing six feet above grade. The building is 122 x 48 feet, and the basement is of Medina stone, the upper stories being of red brick with yellow pressed brick trimmings. It will cost, when completed, about \$22,000. It will be heated by hot water and lighted by both gas and electricity. The lighting and ventilation are especial features of the building and it is, in these respects as in



OLD CHURCH AND SCHOOL
Photographed on Day of Dedication—April 13, 1902

others, a distinct improvement over all other buildings of the kind in the city.

Its outward appearance will be attractive. There will be a gable on the front, one on the side and a dome in front and two on the side. The roof will be of stained shingles and tin.

The basement will be used for meetings of societies. On the first floor will be located the school rooms, six in number, each 19 x 28 feet in size. The plans show that the light and ventilation in these rooms will be all that could be desired. It will have a seating capacity of 600, exclusive of the gallery. The interior will be plainly finished and the altars, there are to be three, will be of the simplest character. There are many Catholics in the confines of the new parish, and the membership of the church will be large from the start.

The pastor of the church has been already appointed in the person of Rev. Thomas F. Connors, a young priest who has served as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church since his ordination. He was left in charge of the parish by the death of Rev. T. C. Murphy, and managed its affairs from the time of Father Murphy's death until Rev. J. J. Leary, the present pastor, took charge of the parish. His signal success in the manifold and trying duties which devolved upon him doubtless led Bishop McQuaid to choose him as the one to start the new parish. Father Connors has made many friends in St. Mary's Parish and throughout the city who will wish him success in his new position. His devotion to the interests of his church and people, his unflagging zeal for the priestly office and his large tact almost seem to make these wishes superfluous. The new church starts under most happy auspices, and it is not doubted that the auguries of its beginning will be unfulfilled."

PRIESTS PRESENT AT CORNER-STONE LAYING

Building operations were soon started, and the corner-stone of this building was laid November 3, 1901. Bishop McQuaid officiated at the corner-stone laying. Others present were the following: Rev. J. J. Leary, M.R., Rector of St. Mary's Church; Rev. D. J. Curran, Rector of Corpus Christi Church; Rev. T. A. Hendrick, Rector of St. Bridget's Church; Rev. M. J. Hargather, Rector of St. Michael's Church; Rev. F. R. Rauber, Rector, and Rev. L. Hofschneider, Assistant at St. Boniface Church; Dr. Hanna, Dr. Breen, Dr. Meehan, Father Lapham and Angelo Lugero, all of the faculty of St. Bernard's Seminary; Rev. George V. Burns, Assistant at the Cathedral; Rev. F. C. Oberholzer, Rector of Holy Redeemer Church; Rev. A. A. Notebaert, Rector of Our Lady of Victory Church; Rev. J. F. Winters, Assistant at Corpus Christi Church; Rev. E. A. Rawlinson,



RIGHT REV. BERNARD J. McQUAID, D.D.
First Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester—1868–1909

Assistant at St. Mary's Church; Rev. T. Szadinski, Rector of St. Stanislaus Church; Rev. William Kessell, C.S.S.R., Rector of St. Joseph's Church; Rev. J. J. Donnelly, of Victor; Rev. J. J. Quinn, of Mt. Read; Rev. J. J. Bresnihan, of Churchville, and the Reverend Thomas F. Connors.

The clergy present accepted the invitation of the Smythe family, following the ceremony, to dine at their home at 746 Monroe Avenue, corner of Rutgers Street. This is the residence now owned and occupied for many years by the family of Doctor McGovern.

DEDICATION—APRIL 13, 1902

At the dedication on Sunday, April 13, 1902, the Venerable Bishop again delivered the address. Bishop Hickey, who at that time was the Rector of the Cathedral and Vicar-General of the Diocese, was invited to sing the Mass and preach at the services in the evening. On account of illness, he was unable at the last moment to accept the invitation. The celebrant of the Solemn High Mass was Rev. William Gleeson, M.R., Rector of St. Mary's Church, assisted by the Rev. A. M. O'Neill, Rector of the Immaculate Conception Church, as Deacon, and Rev. Leo Hofschneider, as Sub-Deacon. At the evening services, the sermon was delivered by the Rev. A. M. O'Neill, and the edifice was filled to overflowing with parishioners and friends.

The name—Blessed Sacrament Church—was given at the request of the Pastor. This name was given, because of the great love Bishop McQuaid instilled into the minds and hearts of the students at St. Bernard's Seminary for Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

MANY CHANGES SINCE 1902

When we started the organization of the parish, this section of the City had more or less the appearance of a country village. There were very few residences on the east side of South Goodman Street, extending from Monroe Avenue to Park Avenue. East of Monroe Avenue bridge, which spanned the old Erie Canal, the number of houses could be easily counted. Kondolf's Ice Pond occupied the land that is now known as Westminster Road and Barrington Street. South of Milburn Street, that section known as Edgerton, Vassar, and Berkeley Streets, did not exist. A footpath led to Culver Road, on the land that is now called Canterbury Road.

There were several fine residences on Oxford Street and many vacant lots. Rutgers Street, between Monroe Avenue and Harvard Street, had possibly ten houses built thereon. Dartmouth Street and Westminster Road (not affected by the ice-pond) had very few. Thayer Street was not on the map. Both Vick Park A and Vick



INTERIOR OF OLD CHURCH
Photographed on Day of Dedication—April 13, 1902

Park B were quite fully developed. But, beyond Vick Park, eastward, such streets extending to Park or East Avenue were sparsely settled. Besides Westminster Road, we might mention such streets as old Bates Street, now called Berkeley Street; Vassar, then called Geyer Street; Milburn, known at that time by the name of Sibley Street; and Barrington, then called Bowen Street.

It might be recalled also that many residential streets in the parish today did not exist or were sparsely settled when we began to organize the Blessed Sacrament Parish. For example, Cornell, Wilmer, Harper, Laburnum Crescent, Crossman Terrace, Shepard, Alliance Avenue, Werner Park, Belmont, Avondale Park, Hinsdale, Rosedale, Suter Terrace, Luzerne, Stratford Park, Palisade Park, Audubon, Beverly, Calument, Darwin, Ericcson, Faraday, Homer, Morningside Park, East Boulevard, Douglas Road, Hawthorn, and Girton Place, were among the number referred to. The same could be said regarding Donlon Street, Alvin and Regent Place.

Field Street, at that time, was like a country road. On either side was a footpath, leading to the old Pinnacle Cemetery. As far as we can remember, in 1902, less than a dozen houses had been built on this street. The old home occupied by Patrick Bell, superintendent of the cemetery, still stands, his spirit keeping silent watch over those who are now sleeping their last sleep in the "City of the Dead."

Pembroke and Lansdale Streets were unknown. Henrietta Avenue, as it was then called, had a number of houses. But Wilmington, and Benton (east of old Clinton Avenue) and the greater part of Asbury Street, also Sycamore, Fountain, Pinnacle Road, and Avon Place were as infants in swaddling clothes. Likewise Crawford, Mulberry and Rockingham Streets, east of South Goodman Street, being parts of the Ellwanger and Barry Tract, had hardly as yet been planned. This was true also of Highland Parkway and Summit Drive.

Such streets as Caroline, Benton, Linden (then called Yale), extending between Clinton Avenue and South Goodman Street, were developed, and have not shown a great many changes in all these years. Bly and Raymond Streets, however, have materially increased in their number of residences.

Moreover, Harvard Street, which begins at Meigs Street, did not extend as a street beyond Westminster Road. A few houses had been built on Culver Road. Park Avenue, in this section, had the appearance of a deserted village. Boardman Street, Sumner Park, Wilcox, Pearl, and Richard Streets, were at that time fairly built up; also, Brighton, Cambridge, and Harlem Streets.

BRIGHTON IN THOSE DAYS

There were no beautiful homes in Brighton thirty years ago and, beyond the section of Highland Avenue, red-painted houses dotted both sides of Monroe Avenue. These were occupied by the families of men who were employed at the "Brick-yards." The Catholic people in this section were nearly all of Irish extraction, and were mainly communicants of St. Mary's Church. They thought it no sacrifice to walk a distance of five miles or more every Sunday to attend Mass.

We had reason to remember the residents of Brighton at that time, because we administered the last rites of the Church to nearly every one of these good old people, when they were passing from this life. In making parochial visits or attending the sick, we felt quite proud in riding to their homes on our bicycle. Later on, we dared to rent a horse and buggy at the livery stable, and found it hard to practice humility as we held the reins of old Dobbin galloping along the unimproved roads in this country district. But, they were happy days; and, whenever a call was made, we were always welcomed by the members who lived in the outlying districts of the then new parish.

OPENING OF SCHOOL—SEPTEMBER, 1902

In September, about two hundred and twenty (220) children enrolled as pupils of the school. Five teachers of the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph were appointed as instructors, the Principal being Sister M. Columba, and the others, Sister Eleanor, Sister Brendon, Sister Benigna, and Sister Clara Marie, long since called to her reward. Very soon afterwards it was necessary, because of the rapid increase in the number of children, to appoint additional teachers.

FIRST CLASS OF HOLY COMMUNICANTS

MAY 10, 1903

BOYS

ADWEN, STEPHEN
BOYLE, JOHN
BELL, EDWARD
BELL, JOHN
BENARD, LOUIS
BRETT, JAMES
BUFFORD, FRANK
CRYSTAL, JOHN
COLBERT, HARRY
CONNOLLY, JAMES

GIRLS

BROTSCH, MATILDA
BRAIRTON, ANNA
BROWNE, NATALIA
BRENNAN, MARY
BECKWITH, MARGARET
BRUCK, FRANCES
CORBITT, AGNES
CHRIST, LUCY
CULLEN, MARY
COLLINS, ANNA

FIRST CLASS OF HOLY COMMUNICANTS

(Continued)

BOYS

DOSER, LOUIS
FOLEY, EUGENE
FAHY, CLARENCE
GAGNER, ROBERT
HARTWEIGH, OSCAR
JACOBS, JOHN
KINSKY, HERMAN
KOHL, LOUIS
McGRATH, JOSEPH
McGRAW, WILLIAM
MESSERSMITH, HARRY
NORMAN, JOSEPH
ROSS, GEORGE
SCHLOSSER, MAX
SNYDER, HARRY
TOBIN, JAMES
WEILAND, HARRY

GIRLS

CULHANE, ELIZABETH
CHISM, MARGARET
COLLINS, MARY
DEMME, MADELINE
ESSER, CLARA
FISHER, ANNA
FITZGERALD, CATHERINE
GEYER, OLIVE
GEEN, ADA
GAY, MABEL
HELPER, MARY
HANEFY, MARY
KIERNAN, MARGARET
MULROY, MARTHA
McDONALD, MARY
McGRATH, TERESA
McGRATH, ANNA
NAGELTY, ELLA
NASH, MARGARET
REDDY, ELLA
REDDY, EMMA
SCHANTZ, EVA
SLATTERY, MARGARET
VAN ECK, TERESA
WAHL, LOUISA

FIRST CONFIRMATION CLASS—JUNE 7, 1903

ADWEN, GEORGE JOSEPH
ADWEN, STEPHEN HERMAN
BELL, EDWARD RAYMOND
BELL, JOHN MARTIN
BENARD, LOUIS HENRY
BIRMINGHAM, RAYMOND JOHN
DOYLE, JOHN HENRY
BRENNAN, BERNARD JOSEPH
BRETT, JAMES WILLIAM
BROTSCH, FRANCIS VICTOR
BROWER, HOWARD JAMES
BUFFORD, FRANCIS MARTIN

BUFFORD, PATRICK JOSEPH
BURNS, JOHN EDWARD
BUSSEY, GEORGE HENRY
BARRY, LOUISE ELLA
BECKER, AGNES MARY
BECKWITH, MARGARET MARY
BRAIRTON, ANNA CATHERINE
BRENNAN, MARY ANNA
BRETT, MARY ANNA
BROTSCH, LUCY HELEN
BROTSCH, MARY MARGARET
BROTSCH, MATILDA MARION

FIRST CONFIRMATION CLASS

(Continued)

BRUCK, FRANCES GENEVIEVE	HUNT, CHARLES JAMES
BROWNE, NATALIA MERCEDES	HUNT, FRANCIS PATRICK
CAREY, EDMOND CHARLES	HAHN, JOSEPHINE MARY
COLBERT, HENRY TIMOTHY	HANEFY, MARY CECILIA
CONNELLY, JAMES BERNARD	HARTNETT, FLORENCE MARGARET
CULLEN, MARTIN JAMES	HAYWOOD, MARY MARCELLA
CURRAN, EDWARD JOSEPH	HELPER, MARY LORETTA
CURRAN, JOHN PATRICK	JACOBS, JOHN NICHOLAS
CORBETT, AGNES LORETTA	KELLMAN, CHARLES JOSEPH
CHISM, MARGARET MARIE	KNAPP, LOUIS GERALD
COLLINS, ANNA CECILIA	KOHL, LOUIS THOMAS
COLLINS, MARGARET CATHERINE	KRIEGER, EDWARD JOHN
CULHANE, ELIZABETH BRENDAN	KINSKY, HERMAN JOHN
CULLEN, MARGARET GERALDINE	KELLMAN, AGNES CECILIA
DEMPSEY, JOSEPH EDWARD	KIERNAN, MARGUERITE ANNA
DOELL, HENRY CONRAD	KUNOW, LUCY MARY
DONNELLY, BERNARD JAMES	LEARY, JULIA BRENDON
DOSER, LOUIS JOSEPH	LEARY, MARY CAROLINE
DEMME, MADELINE OLIVE	LOUGHNEY, MARY CECILIA
DEMME, GERTRUDE ELEANOR	McGOVERN, MATTHEW RAYMOND
DeRow, MARTHA JOSEPHINE	McGRATH, JOSEPH WILLIAM
DONNELLY, GRACE ELEANOR	McGRATH, WILLIAM LAWRENCE
DOYLE, HELEN MARY	MESSERSCHMITT, HENRY WILLIAM
DOYLE, MAUD HELEN	MULROY, PATRICK JOHN
ESTERHELD, FRANCIS XAVIER	MURRAY, WILLIAM FRANCIS
ESSER, ANNA MARIE	McDONALD, MARY ELIZABETH
FAHY, CLARENCE EDWARD	McGLENN, CLARA ISABELLE
FISHER, JAMES THOMAS	McGOVERN, JANE CECILIA
FOLEY, EUGENE BERNARD	McGRATH, AGNES LORETTA
FOLEY, WILLIAM JOSEPH	McGRATH, ANNA LORETTA
FISHER, ANNA MARGARET	McGRATH, THERESA PAULINE
FITZGERALD, JENNIE FRANCES	MULROY, ANNA NORA
FITZGERALD, CATHERINE CECILIA	MULROY, MARTHA THERESA
GAGNER, ROBERT PATRICK	NORMAN, HARTLEY THOMAS
GAGNER, ANNA CATHERINE	NORMAN, JOSEPH FRANCIS
GAY, MABEL MARGARET	NAGELTY, ELLA MARGARET
GEEN, ADELAIDE MARY	NASH, ELIZABETH FRANCES
GEYER, OLIVE CATHERINE	NASH, MARGARET BRENDON
GRADY, GERTRUDE ELIZABETH	O'LEARY, MARY FRANCES
HANEFY, JOHN BERNARD	

FIRST CONFIRMATION CLASS

(Continued)

PECK, JOHN HENRY	SANNE, CECILIA MARY
PHELAN, ALICE GERTRUDE	SCHANTZ, EVA THERESA
RILEY, GEORGE FRANCIS	SCHEY, CLARA ELEANOR
ROCKTASCHER, HERMAN LEO	SHAFFER, JOSEPHINE MARY
ROSS, GEORGE JOHN	SLATTERY, MARGARET JULIA
REDDY, ELLA MAGDALEN	TOBIN, JAMES THOMAS
REDDY, EMMA MARY	VAN ECK, CLARA ELEANOR
ROSS, CATHERINE MARY	WEILAND, HENRY JOSEPH
ROSS, MARY ELIZABETH	WEIS, RALPH COLUMBA
SCHLOSSER, MAX JOHN	WAHL, LOUISE LORETTA
SNYDER, HENRY JOHN	YORKEY, FLORENCE LOUISE

A large number of converts were among those who were confirmed on this occasion.

FIRST GRADUATES

First graduation exercises were held June 28, 1903. The address was given by Rev. A. M. O'Neill, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church. There were thirteen in the class.

BIRMINGHAM, STUART	GAGNER, ANNA
DEMME, GERTRUDE (deceased)	GRADY, GERTRUDE
DIXON, ANNA	HANEFY, JOHN
ESSER, CLARA	MCGRATH, CHARLES
FITZGERALD, JENNIE	MULROY, ANNA (deceased)
GEYER, DELBERT	O'LEARY, CHARLES

SLATTERY, ALICE

OUR FIRST ALTAR BOYS IN 1902

GEORGE ADWEN	JOHN HANEFY
BERNARD BRENNAN	ROLAND McDONALD
JOSEPH DEMPSEY	WILLIAM MURRAY
BERNARD DONNELLY (deceased)	CHARLES O'LEARY
FRANK ESTERHELD	RALPH WEIS
DELBERT GEYER	HENRY WEILAND

These "young" men made up the first altar boys thirty years ago. They were most faithful in the performance of their duties, and we always had reason to be proud of them. With the exception of one, they are all still living and, we believe, very loyal to their holy religion. One of them, William Murray, was recently elected Mayor of Alameda, California. If our memory serves us correctly, Roland McDonald was the Master of Ceremonies.

FIRST TRUSTEES

William Foley and Peter F. Weis were the first trustees. Later, Mr. Weis resigned, and was succeeded by George E. Geyer. After Mr. Foley's death, Charles J. Chism was appointed as his successor. When Mr. Chism passed to his reward, Thomas F. Sharkey was named to succeed him. Mr. Geyer and Mr. Sharkey are the present trustees.

FIRST AUDITORS

Joseph P. Doyle and J. Emil Esser were the first auditors of the Church. They served faithfully for many years, and after their deaths, William F. Shafer and James M. Mangan, the present auditors, were appointed in their places.

TWO FAITHFUL SENTINELS

Many of those who were numbered among the first parishioners will recall two young men who, for several years, stood like faithful sentinels at the door of the Church. They received the voluntary seat offerings from those who attended the Children's Mass, also from others who did not rent sittings. One has already passed from this life, Edward J. Madden. The other, Charles J. McCarthy, is broken in health, and resides with the other members of his family at 98 Field Street.

FIRST USHERS

For the first few years after the organization of the parish, Richard T. Ford, and Charles S. Rauber, and later, Judge Benjamin B. Cunningham and Thomas P. McCarrick, were the ushers and collectors. They are still loyal members of this parish.

FIRST MARRIAGES, BAPTISMS AND DEATHS

The first couples married in the Church on Monroe Avenue were Arthur J. O'Neil and Mary Keele; Dr. James T. McGovern and Theresa Lennon. The first infant to be baptized was Mary Grace Herbert; the second, Theresa Anna Sercu (now deceased). The first person to be buried from the new Church was Josephine M. Appleby.

FIRST LAWN SOCIAL

The first social affair to gather funds for the newly organized parish was held by the Alumni Association of St. Mary's Church in September, 1901. (This Association was effected by the writer, while in charge of this parish.) Between seven and eight hundred dollars were raised. It was held on the newly acquired property, at the corner of Monroe Avenue and Rutgers Street.

FIRST BAZAAR

Early in 1902, while the first church and school building were being erected, a bazaar was held in Old Fitzhugh Hall, opposite the City Hall building. The managers were Mrs. Joseph P. Doyle and Mrs. Hugh J. Dolan. It netted between five and six thousand dollars. We were unable to attend, on account of illness.

FIRST MISSION—OCTOBER, 1903

During the second year, a mission, lasting two weeks, was given by two Jesuit Fathers—Father McGinney and Father Donovan—both of whom have gone to their Heavenly Reward.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS—JUNE, 1902

The Sunday collections during the first year were not very large. For example, for the five Sundays in June, they were as follows: \$26.68, \$20.86, \$16.55, \$23.84, \$16.25. This was in 1902. In 1927, preceding the building of the new school, when conditions were prosperous, and before the parish was divided, they would often reach the sum of \$1,300.00. In the beginning, it was known as the penny collection, because nearly every one who attended Mass on the Lord's Day contributed a penny. Now it enjoys the more dignified name of "Sunday Offering."

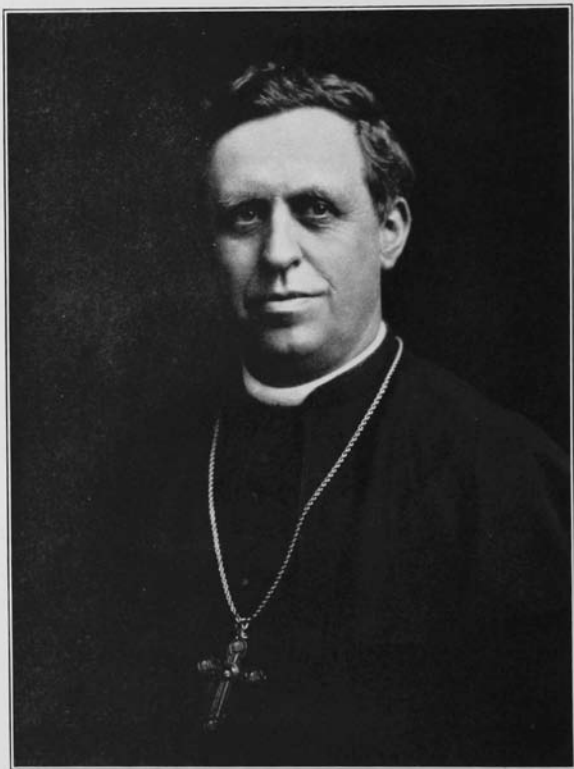
PROPERTY PURCHASED FOR FIRST RECTORY— 1904

In 1904, a site on the east side of Oxford Street, near Monroe Avenue, was purchased, and a frame rectory was built thereon the following year. The lot was purchased for \$1,800.00, and the rectory completed for a little less than \$6,000.00. From the fall of 1901, until the rectory was ready, we lived at 6 Sumner Park. The rent of this temporary residence was \$25.00 per month.

PROPERTY PURCHASED IN 1905 FOR CONVENT

In 1905, the residence at 256 Rutgers Street, almost opposite the present convent property, was purchased at a cost of \$5,300.00. It was occupied for three years as a convent for the Nuns, and was sold later for \$6,800.00.

Although the school had been opened in September, 1902, the sisters continued to live at the Mother House, on Jay Street, until this time. It was often a great hardship for them, especially in winter, to make these trips. The Monroe and Lake Avenue street cars were their means of conveyance for these three years.



MOST REVEREND THOMAS F. HICKEY, D.D.
Second Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester

PLANNING FOR NEW CHURCH ON OXFORD STREET

Because of the rapid growth of the parish, and the increase in the number of children attending school, it was deemed advisable to plan for another building to be used as a Church edifice, and the converting of the present building into rooms for school purposes.

No time, therefore, was lost in securing two valuable pieces of property situated respectively at 524 and 538 Oxford Street. They were purchased in July, 1908, at a cost of nineteen thousand dollars (\$19,000.00). The property at 524 was owned by the Soule Estate. It was a large double frame house, carrying a mortgage of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), and was sold to the Church for that sum. The property at 538, a large brick house, was purchased from Mrs. Ada H. Baker at a cost of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000.00). Between these two pieces of property was a lot fifty (50) feet in width, and about one hundred sixteen (116) feet in depth, deeded many years previous by A. B. Lamberton to the City of Rochester for the purpose of continuing Wellesley Street (old Boyd Place) eastward. This piece of land was never formally accepted by the City; and for many years, doubt remained as to the valid and legal possessor of it. But, according to a court decision, in a case similar to this, it was declared that such property legally reverted to the adjacent property owners.

Consequently, through the purchase of these two pieces of property, at 524 and 538 Oxford Street, the Church came into possession of the lot formerly owned by A. B. Lamberton. However, some delay was made necessary on account of certain matters effecting this lot that had to be cleared up before the banks would consent to loan money for the building of the new Church edifice thereon. The Common Council passed a resolution declaring this piece of land, which was being used as a private right-of-way, to be formally and legally closed. Moreover, quit-claim deeds were given by Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Wheeler, of 255 Rutgers Street, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wheeler, of 259 Rutgers Street, the rear of whose property abutted said piece of land.

CORNER-STONE OF NEW CHURCH BLESSED, SEPTEMBER 19, 1911

Plans were drawn for the new Building by Gordon and Madden, and in June, 1911, ground was broken and work begun. The large double house at 524 Oxford Street was demolished to make room for the new edifice, a part of which would stand on this site.



CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Dedicated December 22, 1912

On September 19, 1911, Sunday afternoon, in pleasant weather, the corner-stone was laid. Right Reverend Thomas F. Hickey, D.D., officiated at the ceremony, assisted by Very Rev. D. J. Curran, V.G., and also Pastor of Corpus Christi Church, and Rev. J. J. Hartley, D.D., Rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, Rev. A. B. Meehan, D.D., of St. Bernard's Seminary, was master of ceremonies. At three-thirty, several hundred members of the Holy Name Society, the members of the building committee, and two lay trustees, the clergy and the altar boys escorted the Bishop from the present Blessed Sacrament Church, on Monroe Avenue, which had served as a place of worship for the past ten years, to the site of the new edifice.

In the course of his strong and effective sermon, the Bishop stated that the tendencies of the day were to forget the great doctrines of the Church; but, he added, such tendencies would never gain foothold in the new Church. From its pulpit the tenets of the Catholic Faith, the sacredness of marriage and its inviolability, the Ten Commandments—no more and no less—with the lasting doctrines of the Catholic Faith, would always be preached.

The work of completing the new church building progressed rather slowly on account of the delay in getting the stone, and it was not until December 22, 1912, that the Church was ready for dedication.

DEDICATION OF NEW CHURCH

Services appropriate for the occasion were held both in the morning and the evening. The Right Reverend Bishop was present at both services. In the morning, the ceremony began at ten-thirty. Students from St. Bernard's Seminary and St. Andrew's, and also altar boys, escorted the Bishop from the rectory to the Church.

A number of priests were present on this occasion. The Right Reverend Bishop was celebrant, and the assistant priest was Very Rev. D. J. Curran, V.G. The Deacons of Honor were the Rev. J. J. Hartley, D.D., of St. Bernard's Seminary, and Rev. Simon FitzSimons, M.R., Rector of St. Mary's Church. The Deacon of the Mass was Rev. Mathias Hargather, of St. Michael's, and the Sub-Deacon, Rev. John F. Boppel, of St. Boniface. The Master of Ceremonies was Rev. Andrew B. Meehan, D.D., and his Assistant, Rev. W. E. Cowen, D.D., both of the faculty of St. Bernard's Seminary. Present also in the Sanctuary were the Rev. Thomas F. Connors, Rector, and his Assistant, Rev. Daniel P. Quigley; also the Rev. A. M. O'Neill, M.R. Rev. M. Krischel, Rev. John P. Brophy, Rev. John H. O'Brien, Rev. Andrew J. Byrne, Rev. William Frank, Rev. P. McArdle, and Rev. John Muckle.

Gorsline and Swan were the mason contractors, and the H. P.



INTERIOR OF NEW CHURCH

This photograph taken during Passion week

Sickels Company did the carpenter work. Heating was done by the Barr and Creelman Company. Electrical work and fixtures by Wheeler-Green Company.

INTERIOR OF NEW CHURCH

The building is constructed of gray sandstone quarried at Amherst, Ohio, and capped with litholite. All the window tracery, arches and spans throughout the Church proper, are also made of litholite.

The columns of the Church are of the same material as the exterior. The ceiling is of Georgia pine, faced with oak, and heavily stained.

All the stained glass figured windows in the Church were designed under the supervision of Herman J. Butler, and made by the Pike Stained Glass Company.

The large Sanctuary window, representing "The Nativity," was made by the same company, of Rochester, N. Y. The designs, and sketches for the window, were the work of Frank Von Der Lacken and Herman J. Butler, teachers at Mechanics Institute. The window was donated by Mrs. F. A. Maselli, in memory of her husband. Mrs. Maselli became a convert to the faith while a member of this Church.

Since the completion of the Church, many donations of aisle and Clere-story windows were made. The following donated the large Clere-story windows: Memorial to World War Soldiers, by our parishioners; Rosary Society; Young Ladies' Sodality; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Kreag; Mr. and Mrs. William F. Shafer; Mrs. Theresa Stupp; Anna Smith, in memory of her sister, Mrs. O'Connell; Frank B. Rae; and Edgar A. Dayton.

Those who donated the lower (smaller) windows were the following: Mr. and Mrs. John A. Hayes; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Mason; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. McCarthy; Mr. and Mrs. John McSweeney; Thomas P. McCarrick; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Wegman; Mr. and Mrs. Martin F. Shafer; Dr. and Mrs. F. H. Goddard; Pupils of Blessed Sacrament School; Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Anarney; Mr. and Mrs. George W. Rogers; Miss Zelig Leyork; Furlong Family; Holy Name Society; Memorial to Edwardo Fernandez; Mrs. Mary Goodman, in memory of her husband; Mary Furlong, in memory of Benjamin and Frances Furlong; Memorial to Michael Kolb; Memorial to John Connor; Reverend Thomas F. Connors.

The large window over the entrance, representing the Crucifixion, was donated by the Holy Name Society. It cost, at that time, about \$3,000.00.

The Sanctuary Lamp was donated by Miss Ella Curran, of the Immaculate Conception Parish. Later on, Miss Curran became a Religious of the Order of Charity in New Jersey.



REV. DANIEL P. QUIGLEY
former Assistant

Died September 23, 1922

Stations of the Cross for the new Church were made by the Sibbel Statuary Company, of New York.

Nearly all the interior wood-carved work, including the statuary, was executed by the firm of Ross and Company, of East Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The beautiful pulpit was donated by a Mr. and Mrs. Kurtzman, who came to Rochester from Buffalo, and resided in this parish for a short period of time.

The carved statue, representing St. Anthony, was donated by Mrs. F. A. Maselli. Other statues donated later were as follows: St. Ann, by Mrs. Raymond Ottman, in memory of her parents; St. Thomas, by the Rosary Society; St. Theresa, by Mr. and Mrs. John J. Ottman; St. Francis of Assissi by Mr. and Mrs. Harry D'Annunzio.

The subscription raised for the new Church amounted to over \$30,000.00; and the bazaar, held just previous to the dedication in the new building, to about \$8,500.00.

The cost of the new Church, including furnishings, etc., was approximately \$175,000.00.

SECOND BAZAAR IN 1912

During the week of Thanksgiving, 1912, a bazaar was held in the new Church building. It was in charge of Mrs. Daniel T. McLean and Miss Mary Clark. (If our memory has deceived us in this matter, we beg to be forgiven.) The purpose of this bazaar, was to raise additional funds to pay on the indebtedness of the new Church. It netted about \$8,500.00. Suppers were served each evening, and people from all sections of the community attended. It was necessary to hold the bazaar at this particular time, because the dedication of the new edifice took place the following month.

NEW COUNTRY PARISH

It might interest some of our parishioners to recall the fact that, at the request of Bishop Hickey, the parish in Henrietta was organized through our feeble efforts, in 1911. It was the same year that the new Church on Oxford Street was being erected. The Church stands on the east side of South Avenue, about seven miles from the center of the City. It was given the name of the *Church of the Good Shepherd*. We remained as its pastor for a year, and then resigned. Not having an automobile, we found it a difficult task to look after both parishes at the same time. The Reverend Victor J. Hurley, who temporarily acted as an assistant at the Blessed Sacrament Parish, is the present rector. The people who make up this parish are principally of good German and Irish stock.



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, HENRIETTA, N. Y.
Dedicated February 6, 1912

PARISHIONERS SHOWN IN MOVING PICTURES

On Palm Sunday, in March, 1918, a picture was taken of the people who attended various Masses at the Blessed Sacrament Church on that day. Unfortunately, on account of darkness, it was impossible to get a picture of those at the first Mass at 6 o'clock. (In 1918, the order of divine services was: 6, 7, 8:15, 9:30, and 10:45 A. M.)

This film brings to view the members of the Holy Name Society leaving the Church in a body. They had received Holy Communion on that morning. It also shows the children who made their first Holy Communion on the preceding Holy Thursday. These boys and girls are now young men and young women. In the course of these fourteen years, since that film was taken, several hundred who appear on it, have already passed from this life.

We never look at the film without realizing more and more that the Army of the Dead in the parish is fast growing. Death seems to be no respecter of persons anywhere. This film is still preserved, and will be shown at certain intervals.

A MEMORABLE EVENT—1924

February, 1924, will ever be a memorable event in the history of this parish. Throughout Monroe County, all of the Catholic parishes were assigned a definite quota, which they were to raise for the building of Aquinas Institute, a high school for our boys.

This and another parish were given the largest quota of any of the Churches—\$50,000.00. No committees were organized here, no plans devised, no meetings of parishioners called to get ready to raise this enormous sum. Some of the members of the parish became nervous, and felt that there was no chance to secure the amount asked. They could not understand why there were no organizations to prepare for this important drive—collecting \$50,000.00.

And many will remember the occasion. On two succeeding Sundays, in answer to our personal appeal from the pulpit, \$95,000.00 was pledged. On the first Sunday \$85,000.00 was reported, and on the following Sunday \$10,000.00. It was, indeed, a memorable event.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT 514 OXFORD STREET

It has often happened that beautiful ecclesiastical edifices have depreciated in value, and their appearance made to suffer, because of undesirable buildings being placed in close proximity to such structures. This so often could not be avoided, because there were no restrictions to protect these edifices from encroachment.



REV. DENNIS V. LANE
former Assistant

Died January 17, 1931

With this thought in mind, and not knowing what the future might bring, we deemed it the part of wisdom to protect our Church property, through the acquisition of the residence immediately to the north, at 514 Oxford Street. It was owned by Mrs. Edward J. Maier, and was secured in 1926 for \$15,500.00. In all probability, at a later date, this site will serve a very practical purpose.

PURCHASED FOR A RECTORY

Because of the fact that the rectory on Oxford Street was also to be razed for the new school edifice, at this same time (1927), the purchase of another residence for the priests of the parish was made necessary.

The property that is now being used for their home, at 269 Rutgers Street, was purchased at a cost of upwards of \$20,000.00. A number of changes had to be made before it could be used for its present purpose. While not modern, it answers our needs at present.

RESIDENCES PURCHASED FOR THE NUNS

When it was finally realized that the old school building had about served its purpose, and that a modern structure would soon have to be erected at the corner of Monroe Avenue and Rutgers Street, it was necessary to provide suitable accommodations for our teachers. Five buildings were to be razed, three on Monroe Avenue and two on Oxford Street. The two on Oxford Street were the rectory, which was built under our supervision in 1905, and the convent house, directly north of the rectory, and which was acquired in 1908.

Accordingly, in 1927, two houses situated at 243 and 247 Rutgers Street were purchased for the use of the Sisters of the community. The prices paid were \$16,000.00 and \$14,500.00. On account of the increased number of Religious in the community, it was necessary to acquire both residences. The lots of these pieces of property are directly in the rear of the Church and extend to its east wall. Moreover, by being the owners of both places, the Church edifice may be lengthened if it is ever necessary to do so. In pleasant weather, the Sisters find much pleasure and enjoy the privacy of their "little park" directly back of their homes.

The Sisters occupied the property at 538 Oxford Street from 1908 until its demolition in 1928.

PREPARING FOR THE NEW SCHOOL

In February, 1917, the three double houses, situated at 700, 706 and 712 Monroe Avenue, at the corner of Oxford Street, were purchased from Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Kreag for the sum of \$25,000.00. These houses were taken nearly six years previous, in the name of Mr. and

Mrs. Kreag, to be held by them until the Church was able to have them transferred to the Church corporation. This property was secured for the purpose of building a new school some years later.

Because of the crowded conditions existing in the old school building on Monroe Avenue, it soon became necessary to provide for more suitable accommodations for these children. It is true that there were some inconveniences suffered for the time being, but the parents patiently manifested a kind spirit in the meantime. Plans were drawn by J. Foster Warner, with Leo J. Ribson, a member of this parish, as associate architect.

The new school building has eighteen available classrooms. Eight of these rooms are on the second floor, and ten on the third. In addition, the office of the principal and that of the nurse are on the second floor, as well as the library and teachers' rest room. The large auditorium on the first floor, with the running galleries on three sides, can easily accommodate over 1,200 persons. It serves many practical purposes, and is a great asset to the parish.

In the boiler room are two 100-horse-power boilers which carry steam heat to school, Church, rectory, two convent residences and garage. The "Iron Fireman" is a great help to the human fireman, because the coal is not shoveled, but electrically forced into the fire-boxes. By the use of this system, it is possible to send, in a few seconds, in zero weather, sufficient heat into the different buildings. Because of this unified system of heating, the expense for fuel, each year, is reduced to a minimum. The accumulation of ashes or clinkers is never seen in the boiler room. With a little additional effort, it is kept just as neat and clean as a well appointed living-room in any house.

The cost of the new school structure, with its many appointments was approximately \$225,000. Additional improvements, including subway leading from the school to the Church, also driveways, razing of old Church and school building, etc., amounted to about \$25,000.00.

DEDICATION OF NEW SCHOOL BUILDING— MARCH 25, 1928

The "Dedication" of the new school building took place on Passion Sunday, March 25, 1928. Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D.D., officiated. Rt. Rev. A. B. Meehan, D.D., was master of ceremonies, and the deacons of honor were the Rev. Arthur Hughes and Rev. John F. Boppel. The Holy Name Society acted as guard of honor. The following priests were present, as copied from the *Times-Union* of the following day: Rev. Andrew Byrne, John Brophy, William E. Cowen,



BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL
Dedicated March 25, 1928

D.D., Ignatius Cameron, Joseph Cameron, William Donovan, John F. Boppel, William Cannan, Joseph Dissett, Joseph Esser, Peter Erras, Thomas E. Duggan, Paul Gaffney, Joseph Gefell, Albert Geiger, Eugene Golding, Philip Golding, Stuart Hogan, Ray Haggerty, William Hart, Victor Hurley, George Kalb, Francis Kunz, Ignatius Kleina, Francis Luddy, Edward Lyons, Dennis Lane, Rt. Rev. A. B. Meehan, D.D., Norman Margrett, Alexander McCabe, Henry Manley, Patrick J. McArdle, T. J. McGuire, C.S.B., Alphonse Norebaert, John Neary, George Predmore, John P. Quinn, Herbert Sturmer, John B. Sullivan, Adelbert Schneider, George Schmitt, Leo V. Smith, George Weinmann, Theodore Winterroth, John Sellinger, James Wood, George Vogt, P. G. Vonder Meulen.

Services held in the Blessed Sacrament Church preceded the ceremony of dedication. An address was given by Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D.D.

PRINCIPALS OF OUR SCHOOL

When the school work was begun in September, 1902, Sister Columba was appointed the first principal. She remained here for twelve years, and was succeeded in 1914 by Sister Hilary. Then, when she was called to serve elsewhere in the diocese, Sister Valerian took her place. This was in the year 1926. Since that time, Sister Julia has been the principal. So that, during the thirty years of the history of the school, there have been just four principals. Moreover, nearly all the graduates have been pupils of Sister Maurina who came here as a teacher long, long ago.

RAZING OF OLD CHURCH AND SCHOOL BUILDING

For some time after the completion and use by the pupils of the new school edifice, the old building stood unoccupied. Some members of the congregation hoped that it might serve the purpose of a recreational center for our young people. But it was found that the cost for alterations would exceed the original cost of the building, and would not even then be very satisfactory for this purpose.

Moreover, as there was more or less congestion on Sundays for the parking of automobiles, it was decided, with the permission of our Bishop, to have the old building demolished, and the space made available for autos. This took place in August and September, 1930. Between forty and fifty cars can be parked in this space at one time.

Also, because of the leveling of this property, the new school building and adjacent Church property stand out to better advantage.



REV. THOMAS E. DUGGAN
Assistant

Died July 20, 1929

The securing of additional light and fresh air is a great asset and blessing for both pupils and teachers.

LARGE ORGAN PURCHASED

In the year 1902, shortly after the opening of the Church, an old organ, purchased from St. Michael's Church, was installed. It served its purpose faithfully for nearly twenty-seven years.

On Easter Sunday, March 29, 1929, a new organ was used at the different Masses for the first time. Tom Grierson and J. Ernest Mock kindly favored us with their services for this occasion. On Sunday evening, April 14, it was dedicated. A fine program of sacred church music was rendered. Mr. Grierson presided at the organ. Edward J. Leinen, our director, took charge of the singing, and the Rev. Leo C. Mooney delivered the sermon. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed. The entire program was broadcast gratis through the courtesy of Station WHAM and it was greatly enjoyed.

The organ was made by the Wurlitzer Company of North Tonawanda, N. Y., at a cost of \$10,000, and it is considered as one of the finest types of its kind in the Rochester Diocese. An Easter collection of about \$5,000, to help pay for its purchase, was contributed by the parishioners.

The organ that was heard for so many years by our parishioners was installed afterwards in the Sacred Heart Chapel on Prince Street. It was purchased by the former graduates of the Academy for this purpose.

ORGANIZATION OF BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Under the direction of Frank Melville, assisted by his father, a boys' band of sixty pieces was organized last October. At the same time, a mixed orchestra of forty pieces was also perfected. These boys and girls meet each week for rehearsals.

The uniforms purchased for the members of the band were somewhat costly, but it was an investment of Church funds that will mean much by way of encouragement to these boys. Both the band and orchestra will be heard this spring and summer at public gatherings. A musical training will always be a valuable asset to their education.



REVEREND WILLIAM J. AYERS
Assistant at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament

ASSISTANTS AT THE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT—1902–1932

REV. WILLIAM J. AYERS
REV. EDWARD J. BYRNE, S.T.D.
REV. WILLIAM E. COWEN, D.D.
REV. PETER CRELLY
REV. THOMAS E. DUGGAN (deceased)
REV. WILLIAM DAVIE
REV. LOUIS EDELMAN, S.T.B.
REV. GEORGE F. EISLER
REV. GEORGE B. FISCHER, C.S.C.
REV. WILLIAM FRANK
REV. JOHN GEFELL (deceased)
REV. WILLIAM E. HAYES
REV. VICTOR J. HURLEY
REV. WILLIAM J. KILLACKY
REV. JAMES KEHOE
REV. DENNIS V. LANE (deceased)
REV. JOHN E. MASSETH
REV. EDWARD J. O'BRIEN
REV. JOHN PETTER, S.T.B.
REV. DANIEL P. QUIGLEY (deceased)
REV. LEO V. SMITH

Some of the above named priests, while holding other appointments, also assisted us on Saturdays and Sundays. Others were appointed as permanent and regular assistants, and remained here for a longer or shorter period of time.

Doctor Cowen, of the faculty of St. Bernard's Seminary, has rendered faithful service here in one way or another for a great many years. Father Killacky served as a regular assistant for the longest time; practically ten years. Father Duggan, Father Lane and Father Quigley were each with us for about four years—the other assistants, for lesser periods of time.

YOUNG MEN FROM THIS PARISH ORDAINED TO THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD

REV. JOSEPH ESSER (1914), Pastor at St. Michael's, Trumansburg,
New York
REV. THOMAS WHEELWRIGHT, C.S.S.R. (1916), Retreat House, Long
Branch, New Jersey
REV. FRANCIS LUDDY (1917), President of St. Andrews' Seminary

- REV. LEO G. SCHWAB (1918), Assistant at St. Patrick's, Elmira, N. Y.
REV. WALTER J. KOHL (1922), Professor at St. Andrews' Seminary
REV. NORMAN MARGRETT (1924), Assistant at St. Mary's, Auburn,
New York
REV. WILLIAM J. DEVEREAUX (1924), Assistant at St. Mary's, Canandaigua, New York
REV. MICHAEL COSTIGAN (1925), Chancellor of Rapids City Diocese, South Dakota
REV. EARL RITZ (1926), Assistant at St. Aloyisous, Auburn, N. Y.
REV. MAYNARD CONNELL (1927), Preparing for professorship at St. Bernard's Seminary
REV. LEO SMITH (1928), Assistant at Immaculate Conception, Ithaca, N. Y.
REV. GEORGE FISCHER, C.S.C. (1929), Teacher at Notre Dame University
REV. CHARLES McMILLEN, O.F.M. (1930), Franciscan Monastery, New York City

PREPARING FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

Edward R. Dempsey and John Reddington are studying at St. Bernard's Theological Seminary. Louis Dowd, Jr., is studying at the Jesuit Novitiate at Los Gatos, California.

The following were sent by us to St. Andrews Preparatory Seminary, as aspirants for the holy priesthood, and are registered there at the present time.

BURNS, RICHARD
CONNELL, CHARLES
GUEST, PAUL
HERBERT, HOMER
MENG, WILLIAM
MURPHY, EMMETT
KELLARD, RALPH
RANNEY, LOUIS

REDDINGTON, THOMAS
SAALWACHTER, HAROLD
SCHIFFERLI, WILLIAM
SMITH, WILLIAM
THRASHER, FRANCIS
WHALEN, JOHN
WALL, PETER

SOME OF THE YOUNG WOMEN WHO HAVE ENTERED RELIGIOUS ORDERS

ANTISDALE, ELIZABETH
ANTISDALE, MARY
ASELIN, AUDREY
ASELIN, TERESA
ASHE, FLORENCE

BARRY, AGNES
BARRY, ELIZABETH
BRODNER, LEONA
CONWAY, GRACE
DAILOR, JANE

DONAHUE, CATHERINE
DRUMM, RHEA
ENDER, MARTHA
ENGERT, JOSEPHINE
ESTERHELD, MARIE
FARRELL, MARY
FLEETEN, SALLIE ANNA
GEYER, MARIE
GLEASON, MARION
HAHN, REGIS
KALB, ROSE
KASEMAN, KATHLEEN
KEATING, MADELINE
KEENAN, AGNES
KEENAN, DOROTHY
KOHL, MARION
KRAMER, ELLA
LINDNER, ANNA
MALONEY, ANNA
McGRATH, CATHERINE
McGRATH, LORETTA
McGRATH, MARTHA
McGRATH, CATHERINE A.
McINTYRE, ROSE

MARGRETT, LAURA
MEISCH, HELEN
MERKEL, MARY
MILES, IRENE
MURPHY, LUCY
NORMAN, EDITH
NORMAN, ELIZABETH
O'BRIEN, MARY
RANNEY, MARY
RYAN, ELAINE
SCHANTZ, EMMA
SCHANTZ, DOROTHY
SCHANTZ, FLORENCE
SCHANTZ, HELEN
SCHUTTE, MARTHA
SMITH, MARIE
SPILLANE, ALICE
SWEENEY, HELEN
TIERNEY, JANE
TOLAN, MARY
TSCHIEDERER, MARGARET
TOWNSEND, PEARL
WELCH, DOLORES
WHALEN, CATHERINE

Additional names of young women, who consecrated their lives to the service of Almighty God, as Religious of different communities, are still missing from the above list. We have been unable to remember them, and regret this very much.

BAPTISMS—MARRIAGES—DEATHS

The words of Almighty God addressed to the first couple—"Increase and multiply and fill the earth"—have not fallen upon deaf ears in this parish. According to the Baptismal Registry, there were approximately 3,000 baptisms performed during the past thirty years. This, of course, includes adults, as well as infants.

In that same period of time, there were about 1,500 couples who were joined in wedlock and who promised to love and help one another until parted by death. We had hoped that the number of marriages might be larger.

The list of deaths—1,500—seems very large, but it is true, nevertheless. Very few homes in the parish, in the course of a quarter of a



REVEREND JAMES J. KEHOE
Assistant at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament

century, or longer, were not visited by the Angel of Death. Both adults and infants were called, and the list never grew smaller.

We knew so many, who are no longer among the living. We stood at the bedside of hundreds and hundreds, as they passed from this life. We administered to them the last rites of the Church. We pressed, so often, to their lips, the sacred crucifix; and we stood in silence as they closed their eyes for the last time. We hope and pray that they are now with the Blessed Ones in Heaven. And we trust that when we, too, are called away, we may be found worthy, one day, to meet again, before God's White Throne, all those whom we loved and remembered so well as parishioners in this life.

1,269 BOYS AND GIRLS HAVE ALREADY GRADUATED

The first class to graduate numbered thirteen. It was in June, 1903. Their names appear elsewhere in our Parish History. We have not missed one exercise of graduation since that time, and have personally presented a diploma to every one who has passed from the school as a graduate during these thirty years. The number of graduates is already 1,269. We hope that sixty-five more will be successful in their examinations in June, so that their names may be added to this large list. A class picture was taken each year since 1903. In this way, we try to recall the boys and girls, just as they were, while pupils of the Blessed Sacrament School. A number have already been called to their reward. As far as we are able to remember, they are as follows:

BOYLE, JAMES
BRENNAN, THOMAS
BURNS, EMMETT
COTTER, EDWARD
DAWSON, MARY
DEMME, GERTRUDE
ENNIS, ARLENE
FAGAN, MARION
FARRELL, WILLIAM
FINN, HELEN
FINN, PHILIP
FITZGERALD, CATHERINE
GRIFFIN, GUILFORD
GUMBRECHT, HANNAH
HAMMELE, LOUIS
HANEFY, MARY
JOHNSON, RUTH

KIERNAN, JOHN
KORTS, RAYMOND
LEARY, HELEN
LEARY, JULIA
LEFROIS, HOWARD
LEFROIS, MARGARET
MAIER, FLORENCE
MASON, FREDERICK
MULROY, ANNA
MURPHY, HAROLD
NAILOR, LAWRENCE
NOLAN, THOMAS
PEARTREE, RAYMOND
ROBINSON, MILDRED
ROGERS, GERARD
SCHEFFEL, BARBARA
SCHEFFEL, JOSEPH

SARGENT, FRANCIS
TWAMLEY, ELMER
WALSH, MARION

WEGMAN, ROBERT
WELCH, MARIE
WILSON, GEORGE

It is our sincere and heartfelt prayer that a meeting of the above has already taken place in Heaven, and that no one is found missing from that blessed reunion.

THE ROSARY SOCIETY

In the first year of the life of the Blessed Sacrament parish, 1902, the Rosary Society was organized. It began with a very limited number of members. Today, there are practically one thousand who belong to this Society.

Between three and four hundred have died since its organization, but others have taken their places. Fifty leaders assume the responsibility of interesting themselves in those who make up the respective bands, or units of the Rosary Society.

When a member dies, a high Mass is offered for her soul. Moreover, a Mass is celebrated each month for the living and one for the deceased members. Even though their relatives or friends may neglect or forget to remember them after death in prayers, or in having Masses offered in their behalf, the Society, like a loving mother, never forgets them. In addition, rosary beads are furnished gratis to the members. The money that is received from the monthly dues of ten cents is used for the care and furnishings of the Sanctuary and altars.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

The Holy Name Society in this parish numbers at present about 800 members. The purpose of this great organization is to respect the Sacred Name of Our Lord, and to discourage indecent and filthy talk and conversations. The members are also encouraged to receive Holy Communion a number of times during the year. In some places, they are asked to partake of this Great Sacrament each month.

The different presidents of the Holy Name Society of this parish since its beginning are as follows:

J. A. KREAG (deceased)

FRANK T. HELLEN

CHARLES T. HAGGERTY (deceased)

THOMAS F. SHARKEY

They are placed in the order in which they were elected. Being a Society organized throughout the world for the spiritual good of its members, the election of different officers has always been of secondary importance in this parish. It is a cause of regret that there are some men still, including both young and old, also fathers and sons, whose names are not found in this list of 800 members.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY, LONG,
LONG AGO

ADWEN, GEORGE	ESTERHELD, FRANK
BROWNE, HOMER	ESTERHELD, ED.
BIRMINGHAM, W. H.	ESTERHELD, JACOB
BIRMINGHAM, STEWART	EFFINGER, ANDREW
BIRMINGHAM, FRANK	ESSER, E. J.
BRETT, THOS.	FITZPATRICK, HARRY
BECKER, FRANK W.	FOLEY, WM.
BRAIRTON, MICH. J. SR.	FISHER, J. F.
BRAIRTON, MICHAEL JR.	FISHER, JAMES
BUCKLEY, T. J.	FISHER, GEO.
BABCOCK, J. E.	FITZGERALD, ED.
BRENNAN, BERNARD	GLEICHAUF, AUGUST
BACH, M. J.	GAY, J. H.
CARTON, WM.	GEYER, CHAS. H.
CHISM, CHAS. J.	GOYETTE, JOSEPH
CONNELLY, ED.	GEYER, DELBERT
CURRAN, JAS.	GRADY, WM. F.
CONWAY, E. F.	HUNT, J. F.
CORBETT, P. W.	HAYES, M. M.
CONNORS, JOHN	HELLIS, AUG.
CARTON, JAMES	HANEFY, JOHN
CARING, WM.	HELLIS, JOHN
CLUNNEY, JOHN	HALL, W. L.
CONNOLLY, PAT'K.	JACKSON, FRED A.
CRAMER, CHAS.	JACKSON, ARTHUR
CRAMER, FRANK	INDLEKOFER, H.
CURRAN, JOHN	KNAPP, WALTER
CONWAY, E. C.	KOHL, JOHN
CORBETT, W. J.	KNAPP, LINUS
DOYLE, JOHN	KNEALE, WILLIAM
DELANY, WM.	KOHL, LEWIS
DRISCOLL, W. H.	KREIGER, CHAS.
DEROW, FRANK SR.	LOEB, ED. J.
DEROW, FRANK JR.	LANG, EDWARD B.
DAWSON, FRANK	LEARY, MICHAEL
DAWSON, D. F.	MARCOTTE, FRANK D.
DUFFY, W. J.	MURRAY, WM.
DEMPSEY, ED. J.	MARTIN, JOHN
ESTERHELD, GEORGE	MADDEN, J. E.
ESTERHELD, FRED	MURPHY, DANIEL

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

(Continued)

MALONEY, W. J.	RYAN, J. C.
MURPHY, M. P.	REID, HERBERT
MCDONALD, ROLAND	RICKARD, M. J.
MCINTYRE, T. A.	RINGEY, GEO.
MCGRATH, JAS. W.	REBHOLZ, C.
MCCARTHY, W. D.	STUPP, JOSEPH
MCCARTHY, CHAS. J.	STEPHENSON, GEO. SR.
MCDONALD, ROBERT	STEPHENSON, GEO. JR.
MCCARTHY, JOHN P.	SCHREINER, L.
MCGRATH, CHAS. J.	SCHREINER, AUGUST
NORMAN, THOS. J.	SMITH, J. F.
NOLAN, E. P.	SIMPSON, HENRY
NEIL, M. H.	THOMAS, FRANK
NOWATSKI, L.	TRNKA, ALOIS
NOWATSKI, A.	WEGMAN, A. J.
O'LEARY, W. E. J.	WEILAND, HENRY
O'LEARY, J.	WEIS, P. F.
O'LEARY, CHAS.	YATTEAU, FRANK A.
O'BRIEN, M. H.	YORKEY, RAYMOND
PAINE, IRVING	ZORNOW, A.
PEER, R. W.	ZORNOW, RAYMOND
POWERS, R. G.	ZORNOW, THEO.

The above list was copied from the *Parish Monthly* of July, 1905. About forty of this number have died since that time.

DIFFERENT PRESIDENTS OF THE YOUNG LADIES' SODALITY—1902-1932

CARAGHER, MARY	HOWLAND, MARY
COCHRANE, SARAH REILING	LEARY, MARGARET
CORBETT, BESSIE CONWAY (deceased)	YEPSON, ANNA MCGUIRE
DEMPSEY, FLORENCE	MCGUIRE, DELLA
DOWLING, ELLA	MCINTYRE, ROSE P.
FRIEDEL, CATHERINE	McLOUGHLIN, ELEANOR
FURR, FLOY RAFFERTY	MONCADA, MARIE RILEY
HARTNETT, GERTRUDE	NEWMAN, ELLA STEVENSON
HAYES, ANNA	SLACK, NELLIE
	WELLER, EDITH FAHY

Perhaps one or two more names should be added to this list. Every

one of the above was a faithful president. The Sodality has been a great blessing to the parish during all these years. These young women have raised thousands of dollars for different church purposes. It should be the pride and desire of our girls and young women to be members of a Sodality that has the "Virgin of Purity" as its model and protectress.

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY

Early last fall, a number of the women met to organize a Society for the cause of Charity in the parish. They knew that many would need care and assistance, in one form or another. They also realized that, in addition to his many duties, a great hardship would be imposed upon the pastor in trying to meet the constant demands and calls from the unfortunate and unemployed.

Accordingly, the work was systematized, and different members assumed many of the responsibilities that would naturally fall on his shoulders. In this way, every case has received attention. Hundreds and hundreds of dollars have been expended in the work of relief. The hungry have been fed, the naked clothed, the sick visited, the children in school cared for, and those out of work, in many instances, given temporary positions.

When the cold weather passes and conditions become less serious, what blessings will come to those members of this Society, who spared themselves in no way that others might be made less sorrowful. "*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.*"

SOCIETIES OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association and Ladies' Auxiliary of the Knights of St. John are organized and doing good work in this parish. They have their meetings in one of the school rooms, and both are made up of practical Catholic members who do much good in their aims and purposes.

The L. C. B. A. Association carries insurance policies for its members from \$250.00 to \$1,000.00. At death, no delay occurs in paying the beneficiaries the amount covered by the policy.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. John is most faithful also in caring for the sick members. For a very small premium, the members receive financial or sick benefit insurance for a larger or shorter period of time.

A FRIENDLY SPIRIT

When we first came into this section of the City to establish a Church and school, some opposition, on the part of outsiders, unexpectedly manifested itself. It was feared that the erection of such buildings in the neighborhood would be a detriment to the community. Our plans were upset for the time being, but everything changed after a few years.

We told the neighbors, not of the Catholic faith, that they should not fear. It was not only our intention to carry on God's work here, but also to erect buildings that would enhance the value of their own. Years have passed and our promises were not made in vain. Today, a beautiful spirit of good-will exists among all classes in this community. When sickness or death enters their homes, we often pay a visit at such a time, to extend sympathy, and we are always greeted kindly. Both Sisters and Priests have many warm friends among the residents of this section of the City.

RELIGIOUS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CONVENT

The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament Convent, at present, number thirteen. Sister Julia is Superioress. Other members are the following: Sister Agnes Leona, Sister Angela Marie, Sister Aurelia, Sister Denise, Sister Dominica, Sister Eunice, Sister Imelda, Sister Joanico, Sister Joseph, Sister Marie Pauline, Sister Maurina, and Sister Victorine.

VALUATION OF THE CHURCH PROPERTY

On account of the present economic depression, it is more or less difficult to place a valuation on the property of the Blessed Sacrament Church. However, a conservative estimate would be somewhat over six hundred thousand dollars. The space reserved for the parking of automobiles, and the adjacent lot at Monroe Avenue and Rutgers Street are considered very valuable pieces of property. The present indebtedness is a little above one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

THE THREE HOSPITALS

The Blessed Sacrament parish, by reason of its location on the east side of the river, is near three large hospitals, the Park Avenue, the Genesee, and the Highland Hospital. The beautiful and kindly spirit shown by the officials of these hospitals to the priests who minister

to the sick patients of the Catholic faith is all that could be desired. From our own observation, everything is done that those of our belief may not die without the consolations of their holy Religion. Their cooperation in this regard merits our commendation and sincere appreciation.

THIS PARISH TWICE DIVIDED

Several years ago, when plans were being made for the erection of a Catholic Church on Humboldt Street, territory forming a part of the northeast section of this parish was detached. It helped to form the parish of Saint John the Evangelist. The Reverend John B. Sullivan has been the pastor since the beginning of its organization.

Within the past four years a second division was made. The section known as Brighton, beginning at Highland Avenue and extending eastward, was taken from the Blessed Sacrament parish. It was annexed to other territory to form the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes. The first and only pastor has been the Reverend Frank W. Mason.

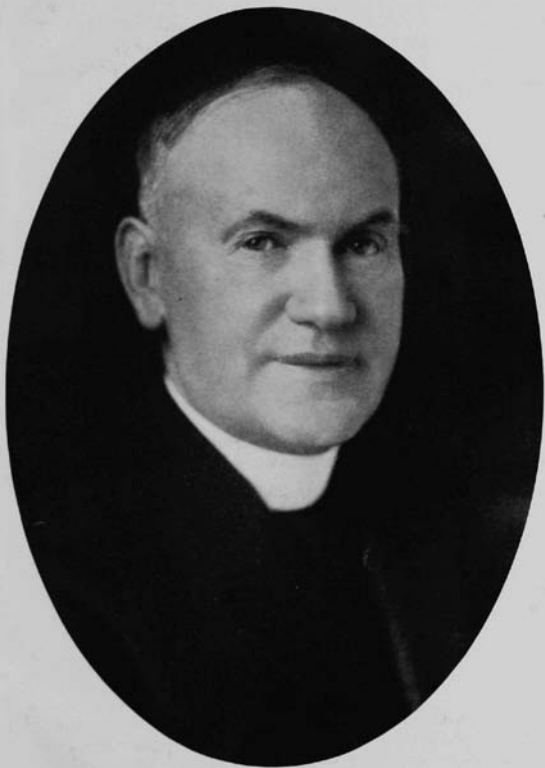
THREE PRIESTS STILL REMEMBERED

A beautiful trait so often noticed in the hearts of Catholic people in a parish is the love they have for the young priest who is appointed to be an assistant. Not only the children but also the older members in the congregation are drawn to him. They flock, in large numbers, to his confessional. They like to see him in the sick room, and at the Altar, and in the pulpit. They watch and admire him in his every priestly act.

For this reason, we know that many will be pleased to see, in this parish history, the photographs of three who were ever held in deep love and affection as assistants at the Blessed Sacrament Church—Reverend Daniel P. Quigley, Reverend Dennis V. Lane, and Reverend Thomas E. Duggan. Even though death has separated them from us, they will not easily be forgotten.

THE CHOIR

The members of our Choir, under the direction of Edward J. Leinen, are rendering ecclesiastical music each Sunday in accordance with the teachings of the Church. We know that their good work is appreciated by the parishioners.



REVEREND THOMAS F. CONNORS
Rector of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament—1932

A Final Word

During the past thirty years, the people of this parish, in many instances, have made great sacrifices. Their pastor has never had any reason to find fault or complain. Important undertakings, through their cooperation and support, have been accomplished. Some, to whom these words apply, have been called from this life; others, sooner or later, must follow them.

Whatever was needed for the cause of religion and charity in the parish was willingly given. For every sacrifice that was made, the Lord one day will bestow a rich reward. At the hour of death, the kind and generous-hearted person need not fear to meet his or her Maker.

THOMAS F. CONNORS
Rector

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Gaylord Bros., Inc.
Makers
Syracuse, N. Y.
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