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## Bishop Hartley Recruits Scholars — and Does Well

by Lou Fabro, Sr.

*This story is based on a talk delivered to the Catholic Record Society on September 24, 2006.*

Bishop Hartley turned to recruiting to line up teachers for St. Charles in his determination to establish a first-class faculty for the school he founded in 1924. Hartley fondly referred to St. Charles as “the seminary,” a segment that no longer exists, but the institution thrives today as St. Charles Preparatory School.

To provide some perspective for this presentation, we need to point out that Bishop Hartley founded St. Charles to serve as a seedbed for priestly vocations. He conceived the operation of the school with what was described as three departments: a 4-year college preparatory high school, a 2-year college, and a 2-year seminary. Later the college and seminary were blended together as a single unit.

When the first high school class was graduated in 1927, he opened the college, which was incorporated in accordance with Ohio law and made operational with a single freshman class. Not until three years later, did the college—or the college-seminary—have four class levels.

To house this new learning center, Bishop Hartley spared no expense to construct a sturdy and attractive school building, and personally monitored its construction. Costing \$240,000 to build – all in donated funds reportedly from three wealthy families — it was the largest capital

project in his 40-year reign (1904 to 1944) as bishop. For comparison’s sake, the recently completed 27,000-foot addition to the original building for the student commons and student services & fine arts center cost \$5.5 million.

The original structure was far more than a standard school building with classrooms. It had apartments for the teachers (all priests), dormitories for high school students, and individual rooms to house seminarians, plus a convent for nuns who handled housekeeping and other duties. The original building also included a lovely chapel and kitchen and dining facilities for students and residents. In keeping with Hartley’s vision to build a classic structure for the ages, it’s a beautifully designed building.

### Primary Purpose

While the bishop’s goal for St. Charles was to be an institution that would foster priestly vocations, Hartley faced the reality that the enrollment of boys seeking to become priests would be relatively small. To sustain the school financially, therefore, it would be necessary to attract students not inclined to the priesthood but who would want to pursue a college preparatory education. Thus the school’s goal, as described in its earliest prospectus, was to give “students a complete, thorough, and sound classical training.” With this training, the prospectus continued, “the young man is equipped to take up the specialties of the profession of his choice.”

Still, Hartley was hopeful that the priesthood would be the selected profession of many students. And a good number followed that path. Up to the year 2000, nearly 300 priests obtained their high school or collegiate educations, or both, at St. Charles, the school he founded and nurtured.

#### Need for First-Class Faculty

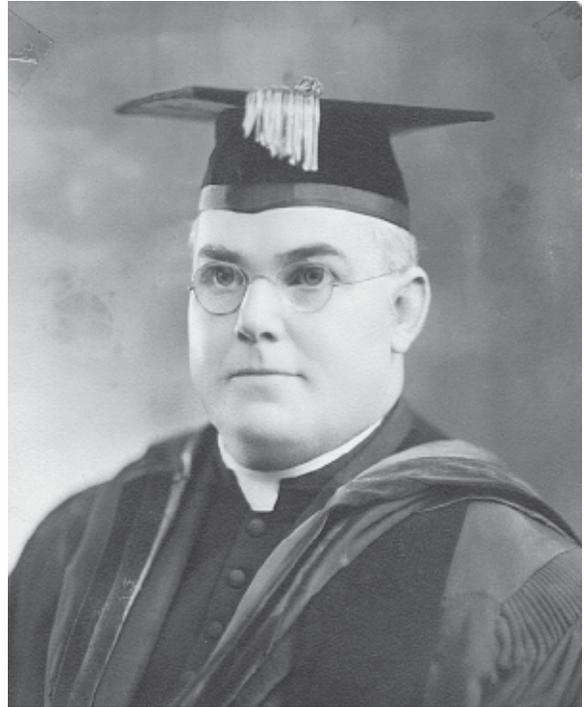
Because he envisioned a college preparatory school and a college-seminary with high academic standards, Hartley needed to attract a first-rate faculty. Since St. Charles became operational gradually during an eight-year span, time was on his side to assemble that top-quality faculty. That required a recruiting effort, which wasn't uncommon among bishops in those days.

Hartley sought learned priests and seminarians from wherever he could attract them—other dioceses as well as locally. Thus, the first full faculty of 11 priests announced for the preparatory school and college in 1929 included eight priests from outside Ohio. Two were from Massachusetts (Albert Culliton and John Kerrigan), one was originally from Maryland (Joseph Weigand), and five were from Pennsylvania (Edward Leinhauser of Pottsville, Joseph Cousins of Pittsburgh, Paul Glenn of Scottsdale, Raymond Bauschard of Erie, and William Dowd of Philadelphia). Three were from Ohio (Peter Foy, Edwin Murphy, and Herman Mattingly).

Salaries for priest-teachers at St. Charles, incidentally, were quite modest until around World War II—\$25 per month plus room and board. Of course, the economy was much different during this low-income and Great Depression era.

#### Msgr. Glenn—A Standout

In this early group of scholars, Paul J. Glenn stands out. To use a favorite sports term, Msgr. Glenn could be likened to a “superstar.” He was a man of great brilliance and remarkable ability. A graceful and big man with a dominant presence,



*Rev. Msgr. Paul T. Glenn (1893-1957)*

he was a superb teacher who typically conducted his lectures without notes. He also was a prolific and exceptionally talented writer. He was a magnificent speaker and scholar of the first rank. He gained a national reputation writing books and newspaper columns and with his radio talks.

For many years he wrote a weekly column for the Columbus diocesan newspaper. “When writing an article for the newspaper, he would in 15-20 minutes complete a very clear and expressive article,” commented Msgr. Lawrence J. Corcoran, one of many former students of Glenn. “How fortunate we (students) were to have such great teachers like Msgr. Glenn and Doc Cousins,” Corcoran said.

As if his schedule were not enough to keep any ordinary person busy, Dr. Glenn also was a school administrator, serving as rector of St. Charles Seminary for 12 years and prior to that as president. In all, he served for 30 years at St. Charles where he helped establish and advance the school’s lofty academic and religious standards that continue today. Busy as he was teaching, writing, and running a seminary, Msgr. Glenn, who was foremost a priest, helped on

weekends at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Parish, where his sermons were cherished for their clarity and learning. (In addition, he spoke Italian, which endeared him to many parish members who were of that heritage.)

He also was in great demand for his Lenten sermons and at retreats, novenas, and special occasions like jubilees. He fielded and accepted numerous invitations to teach philosophy in summer sessions at other colleges.

#### Glenn's Textbooks

Glenn, who had earned doctorates in philosophy and sacred theology, was widely known as the author of a series of textbooks on various branches and topics of philosophy. At one time, his books were used as texts in Catholic colleges across the U.S. and in several other countries, including India, China, East Africa, England, and Canada. He was working on two more books at the time of his sudden death in 1957.

His first book, *History of Philosophy*, was published in 1929 and his second, *Dialectics* came out the same year. He wrote eight more books during the next 10 years and his last in 1944. (The remaining books were *Ethics*, *Criteriology*, *Sociology*, *Psychology*, *Ontology*, *Theodicy*, *Cosmology*, and *Introduction to Philosophy*.) Glenn's books identified him as "President of College-Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo, Columbus, O." There were many reprints of his books. For example, his book, *Apologetics*, first published in 1931, was in its twelfth printing in 1949.

It was a bit amusing to read recently an article in the *Columbus Dispatch* that quoted people who explained why they did not believe there is a God. One said that there's no proof for a God. That could raise a question of "who knows what a 'thought' looks like and can someone prove it exists?" In his book, *Apologetics*, Dr. Glenn offered five rational and persuasive proofs for a God, each explained in clear and understandable terms.

Glenn had a gifted memory, which is illustrated in a story told many years ago. While

watching Shakespeare's *Macbeth* on television, Glenn suddenly grimaced. Responding to a friend's question of why the pained expression, Glenn said the lines were "chopped up." He then proceeded to recite the lines word for word correctly. That wasn't surprising to Msgr. Corcoran, who commented recently that he had been told Glenn had once memorized all of Shakespeare.

Msgr. Glenn died on a Saturday as he was setting off to visit his home and family in Pennsylvania. His death on April 27, 1957 was followed five days later by the death of Columbus Bishop Michael J. Ready, a former classmate of Glenn at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa., and who had elevated Glenn to rector of St. Charles.

The death of Glenn, a week before his 64th birthday, was described by *The Catholic Times* as "the end of an era at St. Charles where he served almost from its beginning." The newspaper offered this description of him: "His humility in sharing his learning with others was one of his most outstanding characteristics. His ability as a sacred orator, as an educator, and as an author ...was always of such caliber as to be called illustrious."

He was a remarkable scholar indeed.

#### Msgr. Wolz

Another remarkable scholar who served with rare distinction at St. Charles was not an import from another state or diocese. He was born in Columbus, only a half dozen miles or so from St. Charles, in what is now popularly known as German Village. George T. Wolz was educated at St. Mary Grade and High School and was in the first class that graduated from St. Charles College-Seminary in 1931.

Like Glenn, Msgr. George T. Wolz was a big man who seemed to envelop and dominate any room he entered. He captured and held everyone's attention with his powerful voice. He possessed tremendous knowledge. He was said to have a photographic mind. As was Dr. Glenn, Wolz was blessed with brilliance. Legend had it

that during his years at the Gregorian University in Rome he accumulated the highest grades of anyone who had gone there - at least up to the time he studied there during the mid-1930s. To put that in proper perspective, priest candidates at that university come from everywhere in the United States. Someone once wrote that Wolz's mind was piled high with knowledge as were the various places he lived piled high with books. I remember going into his apartment at St. Charles once and was stunned at being surrounded with books stacked on shelves from the floor to the ceiling on all four walls.

#### Wolz in the Classroom

In a way, Bishop Hartley also recruited Wolz to serve at St. Charles. After his ordination in Rome in 1934, Wolz continued his education in Europe where he said he "studied at the feet of the masters." Hartley in 1937 requested he give up his studies and return home. As a fellow priest commented, "Reluctantly, but obediently, he returned and began a teaching career which spanned over 30 years at the old College of St. Charles Borromeo."

Wolz was a gifted linguist fluent in at least



*Rev. Msgr. George T. Wolz (1909-1983)*

a dozen languages and had a working knowledge of many more. His specialty—maybe I should say one of his specialties—was mideastern languages. He subscribed and read daily at least one Arabic newspaper. And, of course, being of that heritage, he loved German. He once noted to a *Columbus Dispatch* reporter that when he began the first grade at St. Mary in 1915, German was spoken in the school and kids in all eight grades had to study that language.

That brings to mind a humorous incident during a freshman religion class at St. Charles in 1945 when Wolz asked "does anyone in here know any German?" As classmate Bob Albert recalled the incident, some kid raised his hand and proceeded to butcher a comment in German. After a moment of nervous silence, Wolz glared down from his desk on its elevated platform and said to the hapless student, "After this, you will keep your impure, unholy, and unwholesome Irish tongue from that beautiful language." Wolz had a humorous bent and liked to tell his students that the Irish people came from the lost tribe of Israel.

On another occasion, he called on a student to relate a rule he had described a day earlier about the Greek language. The student stood and confessed he couldn't remember it. Whereupon, Wolz replied, "You aren't permitted to forget one comma, one syllable, one sentence of what I've taught you."

A superb teacher, Wolz taught both high school and college courses at St. Charles. He succeeded Glenn as rector in 1957 and served in that position until 1969. It was commonly said that priest candidates taught by Wolz were the best prepared for advanced studies in Scripture and other seminary courses. Bishop George A. Fulcher, a St. Charles Prep (1940) and College (1944) graduate, said Wolz was the best teacher he had anywhere at any level. And Fulcher was an eminent scholar and renaissance man in his own right.

Msgr. Wolz died in 1983 after a long illness at the age of 73.

## Msgr. Cousins

Msgr. Joseph A. Cousins lived a relatively short time—he was only 47 when he died in 1949—but his strong affection for St. Charles made a lasting impact that lives on in school songs, on its stage, and in cherished school tradition. Msgr. Corcoran, a 1935 graduate, noted “Doc. Cousins had great influence at St. Charles.” And a 1936 graduate, O. Paul Gallo, said flatly “Father Cousins was the spirit of St. Charles.”

Cousins conveyed that spirit in words he wrote for the school’s *Alma Mater*, which he composed in 1928, a year after Hartley assigned him to the school’s faculty. He followed up two years later by authoring the verses for the *Baccalaureate Hymn*.

Born in Pittsburgh, Cousins earned bachelor and master’s degrees at St. Mary’s College in Emmitsburg, Md., and earned a doctor’s degree in philosophy at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Bishop Hartley ordained him in May, 1927, and assigned him to St. Charles when the college opened its first classes the following fall.

### Cousins’ Culture

A multi-talented person, Cousins was a very cultured man. He was an author, dramatist, publicist, radio producer, and an educator. First and foremost, he was a priest who counseled students aspiring to the priesthood and others who were undecided.

St. Charles has long been noted for outstanding stage productions. They are a legacy of Cousins who established early in his career at this school the St. Charles Stagecrafters as a laboratory for the college drama course. “The college class did everything,” recalled Msgr. Robert Schmidt, a 1935 St. Charles High graduate. The class “produced the play, designed and created the scenery and costumes, did the lighting and stage direction.” Msgr. Healey, a 1936 grad, summed up, “We didn’t learn just how to act; we learned all phases of theater work. We learned stagecraft.”

As school enrollment grew, Cousins invited



Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Cousins (1901-1949)

the prep school students to participate on the stage with the collegians. He also staged more elaborate productions, notably those written by Shakespeare. St. Charles students acted out all female roles when Cousins ran the show. That males played female roles, Cousins explained, was a custom that was in accordance with Shakespeare’s time.

### Emphasis on the Stage

Why so much emphasis on stage productions? Cousins wanted to train future priests to stage plays. He envisioned plays to be an effective teaching tool. Impressed with Cousins’ literary knowledge, skill, and commitment, Bishop Hartley authorized the construction on the St. Charles campus a separate “modern theater”—still standing—and reportedly took complete charge in overseeing the project. The theater building was completed a few months before the surprise December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, which vaulted the United States into World War II.

Skilled in social graces, Cousins used his influence to organize the St. Charles Mothers Club. Members met socially for lunch and card games, but also used their talents to make and alter costumes for the stage plays and helped with school social functions.

Msgr. Cousins taught Greek, which was a required two-year course in the high school until 1945, and a requirement in the college. He also taught English and drama and served as dean of studies. In addition, he served for a time as associate editor of the diocesan newspaper, *The Columbus Register*, helped out at various parishes, including Holy Rosary and Immaculate Conception, and was a part-time English professor for 14 years at St. Mary of the Springs College and at other colleges during the summer months. He founded the weekly radio program, *Hour of Praise*, which was broadcast in Columbus.

He gained wide notoriety for directing annual pageants in which hundreds of Catholic high school students participated. Those were staged in the stadium that now houses the Columbus Clippers baseball team. His last pageant, an original play that he wrote, was entitled the *Golden Secret of Green Acres*, the theme of which was that work is not a curse as popularly supposed, but a blessing. Instead, work is performed ultimately “for the honor and glory of God.”

Cousins died two weeks before the play was to be presented. The founder of the noted

Blackfriars Guild of New York was called in to direct the production. “His work,” commented the *Columbus Dispatch* after his death, “contributed substantially not only to the advancement of his church, but also to the intellectual and cultural life of the community. His career was marked by an intense devotion to duty and selfless expenditure in the best tradition of his historic faith. The talents which Msgr. Cousins brought to his work were outstanding... That he chose to use them within the framework of an ecclesiastical pattern, with only imponderables as his reward, is one more reassuring evidence that the spirit of sacrificial religious idealism still lives in our materialistic age.”

Because of the sharp decline in priestly vocations, St. Charles College-Seminary remains inactive. But St. Charles Preparatory School is flourishing with capacity enrollment. It adheres to and is committed to Bishop Hartley’s dictum of providing students “a complete, thorough, and sound classical training” that enables a graduate to pursue “the profession of his choice.” Accordingly, St. Charles makes a conscious effort to assemble and retain a talented teaching staff.

## Zanesville St. Nicholas Parish Deaths, 1844-1867

(Continued, from Vol. XXXII, No. 2)

### 1858

20 Feb. died in the Lord John Michelfeller, age 55 years. Aug. Berger  
 2 August died in the Lord Hellena Rothecker. Aug. Berger  
 9 Sept. died in the Lord John infant of Francis and Magdalena Roll  
 20 Sept. died in the Lord Louisa infant of Francis and Magdalena Roll.  
 29 Sept. died in the Lord Elisabetha, infant of John and Maria Durant.  
 1 October died in the Lord Franz Jacob, infant of Andreas and Barbatra Mähling.  
 5 October died in the Lord Magdalena, infant of Andreas and Barbara Mehling.

5 October died in the Lord Catharina, infant of George and Elisabetha Roll.  
 17 October died in the Lord Peter, infant of “Libarius” and Barbara Resch.  
 21 October died in the Lord Peter, infant of Peter and Juliana Gelz. Aug. Berger  
 21 October died in the Lord Andreas, infant of Jacob and Margaretha Resser.  
 27 October died in the Lord Andreas, infant of Caspar and Magdalena Rott  
 27 November died in the Lord Andreas Harmuth.

### 1859

2 January died in the Lord Louis Fix. Laid to

rest the next day.

- 3 January died in the Lord Emma Matilda, infant of Jacob and Elisabeth Osche.
- 17 January died in the Lord Magdalena Roll, laid to rest the 19th of the same month by Rev. Father Cubero, [O.] S.D.
- 26 January died Georg, infant of Heinrich and Elisabeth Schweizer.
- 9 Feb. died and was buried on the following day Magdalena Wilhelm, wife of Matthias Freymann, about 54 years and 9 months old. F. J. Goetz
- 12 March rested in the Lord and on the second day following were buried Theresia Grether wife of Caspar Dietenbeck, [blank] years old, and George Hack, husband. FJG
- 7 May, rested in the Lord and was buried the next day Constant Stehle, 39 years 9 months and 10 days old. FJG
- 16 May died and was buried the following day Elisabetha, daughter of Sebastian Bohn and wife Theresia Gruber, about three years and three months old. FJG
- 13 June died and on the day following was buried Anna Maria Weidig, 3 months old. FJG
- 15 August died and on the day following was buried Widemann, seven months old. FJG
- 24 August I buried Joseph Roll, about 9 months old. FJG
- 14 September died and on 16 September was buried Anton Saup. FJG
- 22 October I buried infant Emma Freymann, three days old. FJG
- 16 December died in the Lord Andreas Beckert, about 55 years old. A. Berger
- 20 December I buried Ferdinand infant of Henry and Kunigunda Rogge. Aug. Berger

### 1860

- 8 April Catharine Heggshaus died in the Lord, and on 9 April was buried by me. Cath. Heggshaus was about 23 years old. G. Uhling
- 21 [no month given] Eugenia infant of [blank] Wiedemann died in the Lord, about two

months of age; and was buried the same day. G. Uhling

- 18 August died and on the 20th [*vilesima* for *vigesima*] was buried Francis Tahler, born 13 April, 1805. A. Hechinger
- 17 September died and 11th [*sic: undecesima*] was buried Francis Woelfel, born 2 Nov., 1841. A. Hechinger
- Joseph Seubert, born 2 Jan. 1860, died 26 Sept. 1860. A. Hechinger
- Louisa Elisabeth Hoff, born 25 Sept. 1859, died 4 Oct. 1860. A. Hechinger
- Francis Weidig, born 16 Apr. 1860, died 8 Dec. 1860. A. Hechinger

### 1861

- Maria Rack, about 70 years old, died 7 Jan. 1861. AH
- John Edward, son of John Amer and Maria Dietenbeck, born 30 April 1859, died 20 Jan. 1861. AH
- John William, son of Henry Rogge and Maria Emmet, born 21 Jan., 1861 (or 1860?), died 5 Feb. 1861. AH
- Theresia, daughter of Michael Freyman and Barbara Stab, born 13 Feb., 1861, died 25 Feb. 1861. AH
- Martha, daughter of Joseph Grether and Marianna Gassmann, born 23 March 1861, died 23 or 24 March, 1861, baptized by a layman. AH
- Henry, son of Francis Bott & Magdalena Stehle, born 31 Jan. 1853, died 4 Apr. 1861. AH
- Maria, daughter of Francis Bott & Magd. Stehle, born 4 Dec. 1854, died 11 Apr. 1861. AH
- Maria Elis., daughter of Adam Kraus and Elisabetha Schener, born 28 Nov. 1860, died 17 Aug. 1861. AH
- Peter Schramm, about 47 years old, died 26 Aug., 1861. AH
- Frederick Kottonbrook, born 25 Dec., 1806, died 23 July 1861. AH
- Louisa, daughter of John Albert and Catharina Eva Rink, born 29 Jan., 1855, died 16 Oct.

1861 AH

John Michael, son of John Albert and Maria Eva Rink, born 29 Jan., 1859, died 21 Oct. 1861. AH

5 Nov. died and the following day was buried Susanna Kihn, about 80 years old. AH

4 Dec. died William Dames, son of James Dames and Margaet Schaefer, born 19 Feb. 1861.

24 Dec. died Anna Keller, born 11 May, "1869", daughter of Peter Keller and Maria Wolpert.

### 1862

16 Feb. died Martin Hosan, about 73 years old.

19 February Carolina Weber, wife of Michael Weber and daughter of Martin Haeffele and Joanna Schlegel, age about 29 years, in the communion of the Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to God, whose body on the 21st of the same month was buried by me Anton Hechinger pastor, holy confession and viaticum and holy oils conferred by me.

17 March died Joseph Kronenbitter, son of Andreas Kronenbitter and Maria Hinger, born 15 March 1861, buried on the 18th of the same month.

20 March died Anna Maria Elisabeth, daughter of Joseph Schmid and Margareta Klein, born 18 May, 1858; buried on the following day.

[German] Child of Jacob Maier.

[Latin]

[blank] April died Ann Catharina, daughter of Francis Horn and Maria Weiss, born 19 Jan., 1861; buried on 28 April.

8 May died Regina Dietenbeck, age 77 years and 3 months in communion with Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to God and her body on the 9th of the same month was buried by me, Anton Hechinger, holy confession and viaticum and holy oils conferred by me.

12 May died Jacob, son of Jacob Hoosan and Elisabeth Roll, born 4 Feb. 1861; buried on 13 May.

Elisabetha, daughter of Francis Joseph and Agatha Hoffer, 11 years old, was buried in June.

7 July died Flora Catharine, daughter of Peter Durand and Elisabeth Brucker, born 16 March, 1862; buried the next day.

(To be continued)