



Barquilla de la Santa Maria

BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society -
Diocese of Columbus

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Apr. 30: St. Pius V

April, 2013



Father Charles Foeller blesses the new school bus at St. Pius, 1959.

St. Pius Mission, Moxahala, Perry County 1908-1989

(Concluded, from Vol. XXXVIII, No. 3)

Old Church and Cemetery

In 1920, while St. Pius Church was being improved, a group of members of the congregation took up a movement to care for the cemetery at the old site. It was announced that a "monument marking the historic spot on which the South Fork Catholic Church stands, near Moxahala, will be erected by members and friends of the congregation." The South Fork Cemetery Society of St. Pius Church had been organized in 1907 by

Father B. J. Mattes and the upkeep of the cemetery was attended to by the congregation. In August, 1918, the Society was reorganized by Father Sullivan and given the name of the South Fork Cemetery Association. Subscriptions were solicited from the survivors of those who were buried there. Officers were elected by the people and Cemetery Trustees appointed by Father Sullivan. It was also decided to remodel the old church and have Mass said there on Memorial day and All Souls' day. The majority

decided that the old church was a fitting memorial in itself.

At a meeting held in the new St. Pius' Church on Sunday January 18, 1920, the following officers of the Cemetery Association were elected: Frank McGonagle, President; Frank Hillis, Vice President; Mrs. Bert Teal, Secretary; Simon Kiener, Treasurer; Frank McGonagle, M. J. Forquer, and M. Carroll, Trustees.

It was decided at this meeting to sell the old St. Pius' Church at public auction on February 14. With the proceeds the trustees planned to enlarge and beautify the cemetery and church grounds and to erect a monument on the spot where the altar stood. "What more beautiful burial grounds can be found anywhere than dear old South Fork," remarked Mrs. Teal, the secretary. An effort was to be made to reach those living far and near, who had loved ones resting there, in raising the fund for the upkeep of the graves and beautification of the grounds. Mrs. Kiener, Mrs. Bett Teal and Mrs. Forquer were members of the Press Committee.¹⁷

It is not known what became of the church, whether it was sold, and if so whether it was removed intact or was removed as materials.

According to the late Genevieve Frison of Columbus, the cemetery gradually fell prey to time and vandals. "It was full of weeds and broken

headstones. Shortly after 1950 the descendants of R. J. McGonagle started a campaign to clean it up. A chain link fence was installed around the cemetery, the weeds and trash were cleaned up; and the tombstones were put in the places where they belonged. Many stones were unreadable and many were so broken they could not be repaired. These were put together and made a base for the statue of the Blessed Virgin which had been in the sanctuary of Old South Fork church. The township trustees keep the grass cut regularly."¹⁸

Mrs. Frisson was mistaken in saying tombstones were used as the base for the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is composed of the stairs and foundation stones of the old church. But the footstones from several graves do rest atop this base.

According to Genevieve, the township trustees were already cutting the grass regularly in the old cemetery by 1983. However, the property had not been transferred to them. In 2001 the trustees, needing income to help offset maintenance costs of the property, began to lay out new lots to sell. They then discovered they had no deed.¹⁹ Bishop Griffin "on behalf of the Literary Society of St. Joseph" transferred the property to the trustees on Sept. 26, 2001.²⁰ New lots and a new roadway were then laid out in the western portion of the property.



Monument in the South Fork Cemetery, 2012

Mission Population
from annual census reports

Year	School		Language				
	Souls	Children	English	Slovak	Hungarian	Polish	Italian
1926	125	?	110	15	—	—	—
1927	175	25					
1928	140	31	120	16	—	4	—
1929	110	20	100	10	—	—	—
1930	120	20	85	35	—	—	—
1931	119	26	101	15	—	3	—
1932	136	22	120	—	16	—	—
1933	75	25	60	12	—	—	3
1934	100	29	85	—	15	—	—
1935	85	26	65	—	20	—	—
1936	101	30	80	1	15	—	5
1937	77	26	60	—	12	—	5
1938	72	30	52	—	12	—	8
1939	63	22	45	—	10	—	8
1940	74	28	60	—	9	—	5
1941	72	24	54	—	10	—	8
1942	26	18	20	—	3	2	4
1943	35	13	24	—	3	2	4
1944	28	11	20	—	2	2	4

Mission Population
from selected
Status Animarum reports

	Souls	Children under 18
1972	60	11
1975	70	23
1980	50	12
1985	48	15



*Early mission member
James Kiener*

Education

Through the 1940s there was no real opportunity for children of the mission to receive a completely Catholic education. All the children attended public school but were taught catechism by the pastors on Sundays. There were between 20 and 30 children of school age until the parish population drop in 1942, when there were between 10 and 20.

Late in 1949 Father Grabaskas made some arrangements for Catholic education for “some of the youth in the far-flung district of the Parish.”²¹ But no school expenses were reported for the years 1950, 1953 or 1954. (Financial reports did not survive for 1951 or 1952.) In October of 1955 provisions were made to send the mission’s 22 children to school at St. Bernard’s in Corning, taught by Sisters of Charity, along with children from Shawnee, New Straitsville, and Glouster.

A bus formerly used by St. Vincent’s in

Columbus was donated to St. Pius by Rev. James Kulp.²² (Msgr. Kulp was in charge of the mission work of the diocese, whether diocesan, national, or foreign. He organized and operated the Missionary Cooperation Plan of the diocese.) From this time forward, the mission’s greatest expenses were connected with this educational effort for their children. For example in 1957 they spent \$800 for the driver, \$952 for maintenance, and \$68 for insurance or \$1,820, compared with ordinary income of \$2,068. In 1961 the mission paid \$350 in tuition to St. Bernard School in Corning, in addition to bus expenses of \$1,600, or \$1,950 out of total mission expenses of \$3,100.

A new school bus was purchased in Sept., 1959 for \$5,000. This was paid by a subscription taken up and a loan of \$3,000 from St. Rose Parish in New Lexington. The loan was paid off within two years. This arrangement ended in 1970 when St. Bernard School was closed and the children then



*Interior of St. Pius Church after remodelling of the sanctuary
(Photo by the late Msgr. F. Thomas Gallen)*

attended public schools and a county-wide Religious Education program.

In the mid-1980s, when St. Pius was a mission of St. Rose Parish in New Lexington, a few children attended the Catholic elementary school at that parish.

Final Years

As time spun into the 1970s and the mission population dwindled, so did activities. In 1972 there were no societies or programs at the mission except two sessions of an adult discussion group. In 1973 there was a Parish Council, with co-presidents Carl Trunko and Mrs. Patricia Smith. In 1975 Mrs. Wilbert Smith was President, but by 1985 there was no Council, "By their choice". However, all societies at the Church of the Atonement were open to members of St. Pius. At that time the area economy still depended almost entirely on coal mining. The older folks were staying put, while the younger ones had to move away to find jobs.²³

By July of 1988 it had been decided that around the following March 1 the Church of the Atonement would become part of the Consortium of Perry County Parishes, an effort to share resources, mainly clergy, among the many parishes in the county having small populations. St. Pius was

expected to close on June 1, 1989.²⁴ During its last fiscal year, July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989, the mission finances did not look too bad. Income from collections was \$5,910. The two largest expenses were \$2,893 for 20% of the pastor's salary and \$1,048 insurance. Third largest was utilities, \$407. No documentaion has been found, but the decision to close the mission probably was based on both the dwindling population and the dwindling number of priests in the diocese, whose efforts needed to be directed towards the care of larger congregations. It was noted that the area had a growing crime problem and that occult activity was increasing.²⁵

The mission remained open three months longer than had been expected. Its last public act was a Mass offered by Bishop Griffin on August 20, with priests of the Perry County Vicariate concelebrating, and its closing date was August 31.²⁶ As of that date, Father David Gwinner, Pastor at Crooksville, no longer was responsible for the property, but was responsible for the care of the people who had belonged to the mission and had become members of the Church of the Atonement.²⁶

The mission church was put up for sale in the mid-1990s and was sold in August, 1999, for \$35,000.²⁷ The next year the property was

purchased by Cindy Yeager, who turned the building into a home and studio where she made decorative glass. Over the next few years the glass was sold in many different states across the U.S., as well as in Canada, Europe, and even Australia.²⁸ The old church now is simply a residence.

The two angel statues that were purchased by the St. Pius congregation in 1920 now watch over those who enter and leave St. Mary Church in Lancaster.

NOTES

In the paper version of the March issue, page 116, column 1, Rev. "Bernard" J. Mattes should be Baltasar.

17) *The Catholic Columbian*, Jan. 30, 1920

18) *CRS Bulletin*, IX/1, January, 1983 p. 196

19) newspaper clipping of Aug. 22, 2001, Record Society files

20) Perry County Deed Record 273/2181

21) Jan. 5, 1950, Bishop Ready to Father Grabaskas

22) 1968 typescript history, Record Society files. It says this was 1956, but the parish financial report indicate 1955.

23) remarks in Status Animarum reports, Diocesan Archives

24) Status Animarum report, 1988

25) Father Gwinner to Bishop Griffin, Aug 29, 1989

26) Bishop Griffin to Rev. David Gwinner, Aug. 31, 1989

27) *Columbus Dispatch*, Nov. 20, 2002. Diocesan property book, Chancery.

28) <http://yeagerglass.com/the-story>

St. Pius Mission, Moxahala Baptisms, 1898-1912

(Concluded, from Vol. XXXVIII No. 3)

Due to technical problems, in this transcription the letter c with a caron, pronounced "ch", is shown as the symbol ċ.

1907

Apr. 28, Catherine Elvira, born Jan. 2, daughter

of James Dumolt and Deborah Crickbaum from Moxahala; spons. Charles Ratliff and Miss Gertrude Emilie Ratliff. BJM

May 5, Edward Martin, born May 1, son of Francis Forquer and Catherine Teal from Moxahala; spons. G. W. Teal and Margaret Teal. BJM Married in New Albany, Ind., in 1941.

May 5, Lawrence I., born apr. 24, son of Andrew Hillis and Joannetta McGonacle from Moxahala; spons. Albert F. Hillis and Catherine Carroll. BJM (Married at Shawnee in 1938.)

June 30, William, born May 8, son of Peter Carroll and Catherine Nelson from Moxahala; spons. Peter Carroll and Miss Frances Carroll. BJM

Aug. 25, Loretta, born Aug. 4, daughter of James Christian and Lucia Teal from Moxahala; spons. William Hillis and Loreta Chamberlain. BJM

Aug. 25, Ann, born July 23, daughter of Andrew Scholik and Mary Martiniszko from Moxahala; spons. William Hillis and Loretta Chamberlain. BJM

Sept. 13, John, born Sept. 4, son of John Kusařk and Ilka Ilona from Moxahala; spons. Stephan Valusařk and Anna Franřick. BJM

Nov. 29, Rosa, born Sept. 7, daughter of William G. Hillis and Eva Steiner from Moxahala; spons. Leo Hillis and Miss Nora Hillis. BJM

Nov. 29, Joseph Cletus, born Sept. 6, son of George Meikle and Alice Duffy from "Moxahala (South Fork)"; spons. Nicholas and Laura Duffy. BJM

Dec. 29, Thomas, born Dec. 5, son of John Fabriny and Bertha Kozclinřk from Moxahala (South Fork); spons. Mr. and Mrs. Garo and Agnes Hudak. BJM

1908

Feb. 23, Mary, born Jan. 29, daughter of Andrew Fabiny and Tary Bafek from Moxahala (South Fork); spons. Mr. & Mrs. John Fabiny. JBM

July 30, Joseph, born July 22, son of Joseph Oleniř and Bori Kipikasa from Moxahala; spons. John Chverla and Anna Chverka. JBM

Aug. 26, Edward, born Aug. 17, son of Edward

Poderinski and Agnes Fabiny from Moxahala; spons. Charles and Mrs. Trumko. BJM [These family names are spelled Podolinsky and Trunko on monuments at the South Fork graveyard.]

Aug. 29, Vincent, born Aug. 21, son of Hugh Kiener and Orië Brewster from Moxahala; spons. Mr. & Mrs. John Kiener. BJM

Sept. 27, Michael, born Sept. 10, son of Andy Haniak and Katie Fabiny from Moxahala; spons. Joseph Fabiny and Julia Trumco. BJM

Dec. 10, Ilona, born Dec. 5, daughter of John Kusik and Anna Undik from Moxahala; spons. Geroge Istok and Anna Franik. BJM

Dec. 25, Paul, born Dec. 19, son of Ambrose Hillis and Jennie McGonacle from Moxahala; spons. D. P. McGonacle and Mary McGonacle. BJM

1909

Apr. 25, Beatrice, born Apr. 15, daughter of R. S. Dowdy and Maud Brewster from Moxahala; spons. Hugh Kiener and Orië Kiener. BJM (Married in Tucson, Arizona, in 1944)

May 4, Robert Francis, born Apr. 19, son of Francis J. Hillis and Laura Sheeran from Moxahala; spons. Ambrose Hillis and Jennie Hillis. BJM (Married in Corning in 1938)

May 20, Joseph Oles, born May 12, son of William Jannszaitis and Mary Starinski from Moxahala; spons. Joseph Fabini. BJM

May 23, Joseph Ferdinand, born May 5, son of Joseph Trumco and Lucy Fabini from Moxahala; spons. William Forquer and John Blasco. BJM

July 11, Carl, born June 12 (June 1), son of Carl Trumco (Trumko) and Julia Fabini (Fabiny) from Moxahala; spons. Edward and Agnes Podolinski (Podolinsky). BJM [Parentheses indicate later corrections.]

July 11, George William, born May 19, son of W. G. Hillis and Eva Sterner from Moxahala; spons. Harry and Lucy Ratcliff. BJM

Aug. 8, Mary Irene, daughter of Arthur Shepherd and Teresa Kussmaul from Moxahala; spons. Mr. & Mrs. Peter Longstreth. BJM

Dec. 25, Julia, born Dec. 14, daughter of Charles Hudack and Agnes Fabini from Moxahala; spons. John and Bertha Fabini. BJM

1910

Feb. 6, Leo Francis, born Dec. 27, 1909, son of Edward Teal and Nellie [blank] from Moxahala; spons. Nicholas and Laura Duffy. BJM

Feb. 6, Agnes Josephine, born Dec. 25, 1909, daughter of Leo Meikle and Alice Duffy from Moxahala; spons. Wilfert Teal and Laura Duffy. BJM

Mar. 17, Margaret Minerva, born Feb. 23, daughter of George Talbot and Elizabeth Weiner from Moxahala; spons. Caroline and Linus Kiener. BJM

May 1, Thomas Ralf, born Feb. 17, son of Philip Meikle and Rose Billingsley from Moxahala; spons. Lucia Christian and William Forquer. BJM

May 1, Aedilia Rose, born June 21, 1906, daughter of same; spons. Alice Meikle and W. J. Forquer. BJM

Aug. 7, Mary Louise, born July 12, daughter of Ambrose Hillis and Jeanie McGonacle from Moxahala; spons. Frank Hillis and Laura Hillis. BJM (Married in Zanesville in 1933.)

Nov. 1, Margaret Mary, born Oct. 26, daughter of Frank Forquer and Catherine Teal from Moxahala; spons. Mrs. Margaret Haas and George Forquer. BJM

Nov. 20, Carl, born Oct. 21, son of Edward Polinski and Agnes Fabini from Moxahala; spons. Charles and Julia Trumco. BJM

1911

Feb. 5, Julia, born Jan. 4, daughter of Andy Fabini and Teresa Boviak from Moxahala; spons. Mrs. John Fabini and Bertha Fabini. BJM (Married in Columbus in 1935.)

Mar. 10, Rosa Agnes, born Jan. 11, daughter of William G. Hillis and Eva Sterner from Moxahala; spons. George Kiener and Lizzie Ratcliff. BJM

Sept. 23, Anna Violetta, born Mar. 14, 1892, daughter of Pearl A. Kocher and Louise

Bozman; wife of Wilfert Teal of Moxahala; spons. Kathryn Forquer and Simon Kiener. Nov. 5, Leo Robert, born Oct. 19, son of George Meikle and Alice Duffy from Moxahala; spons. W. J. Forquer and Mary Kiener. BJM Dec. 25, Agnes, born Dec. 11, daughter of John Fabini and Bertha Kozerniřk from Moxahala; spons. Andy and Tresa Fabini. BJM no date, George Washington, born March 13, 1839, son of Edward Teal and Nancy Koontz [no place]; spons. Margaret Carroll and James A. Kiener. BJM

1912

Mar. 3, Francis Leo, born Feb. 12, son of Henry Lee Benton and Tresa Sheeran from Moxahala; spons. Tom. J. Chadwick and Mrs. Chadwick. BJM Mar. 7, Lucy Ellen, born Dec. 11, 1911, daughter of George Talbot and Elizabeth Weiner from

Moxahala; spons. Nicholas Duffy and Mrs. Sara Duffy. BJM Nov. 17, Garnet Pauline, born Nov. 9, daughter of Wilfred Teal and Anna Kocher from Moxahala; spons. Albert Kiener and Nessa Christian. (Ceremonies supplied; previously baptized by James Kiener, Moxahala.) Dec. 1, James Walter, born Nov. 28, son of Frank J. Forquer and Catherine Teal from Moxahala; spons. Rhea Meikle and James W. Christian. BJM (Married in Corning in 1946.) Oct. 6, Mildred Irene, born Sept. 17, daughter of Thomas Kinsel (noncatholic) and Mary Sheeran from Moxahala; spons. Frank & Laura Hillis. BJM (Married in Somerset in 1947.) Oct. 6, Michael, born Sept. 28, son of Joseph Fabiny and Justina Gustina from Moxahala; spons. John Franzi řk and Julia Trumco. BJM

Abstracts from the *Catholic Telegraph*

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

January 21, 1860

A report on the obsequies of Bishop Neumann is carried in this issue.

The next Conference of Clergy of Columbus District will take place on Thursday, Feb. 15.

Subject — “De Vera Religione.”

Mass at 8 A.M., at which all are expected to be in attendance.

January 28, 1860

Collection for the American College, Rome: Rev. Mr. Duffy, Circleville, \$10.00 St. Mary’s Congregation, Mattingly’s Settlement (per Rev. Mr. Bender) \$15.00. We thank this small but spirited, congregation, so lately engaged in building a church, for this donation to the American College.

February 4, 1860

CONVERSION.— On the 22d of January, Mrs. Ernestine Weigand, wife of Dr. F. Weigand, was

solemnly received in the bosom of our Holy Mother the Church by the Rev. D. M. Winands, Pastor at Carrolton, Ky. [!] She was a member of the Lutheran Church.

February 18, 1860

Belair.

Rev. Mr. Jacquet has labored long and hard to build a church at Belair, Belmont co., four miles this side of the Ohio, from Wheeling. His efforts have been crowned with success. Knowing that the spiritual edifice is what is most important, he has taken great pains to build up this also. Yielding to his request, Rev. Mr. C. H. Borgess has just preached a Mission to the Catholics of Belair. The result was most satisfactory. One hundred and fifty-four received the Holy Communion, at the close of the Mission, in the most edifying dispositions. About the same number approached the sacred Table at St. Mary’s, Noble co., after similar preparation by the same zealous clergymen. The weather was unfavorable, but this did not prevent a large

attendance at the Missions. We understand Rev. Mr. Jacquet will henceforth devote two Sundays in the month, instead of one, to Belair.

February 25, 1860

We received on Monday, the 21st, a telegraphic dispatch from Rt. Rev. Dr. Whelan, Bishop of Nashville, announcing the death of RT. REV. BISHOP RICHARD PIUS MILES, in that city, on the afternoon of that day, after three days' illness.

Bishop Miles was born in Maryland, but was brought by his parents to Kentucky, in his early childhood. As soon as capable of choosing a state of life, he consecrated himself to God in the Order of St. Dominick, at St. Rose's, near Springfield, Kentucky, and remained most devoted to the Order and to his brethren to the last moment of his life. For many years he was pastor of congregations in Somerset and Zanesville in this diocese, where his zeal for the spiritual and temporal welfare of his flock, and his most kind and genial manners will never be forgotten. On the 16th September, 1838, Dr. Miles was consecrated Bishop of Nashville. He was the right man in the right place, and with the aid of a small number of devoted fellow-laborers he did, probably, all that could be done for the advancement of Religion in a state in which there were not many native Catholics, and but few inducements to Catholic immigrants. Nevertheless, he built a handsome Cathedral, established a hospital, and male and female schools, and neglected not any thing for the development of the resources of the state in the interests of religion. Bishop Miles suffered for many years from chronic headache and a severe cough. Foreseeing what has now happened he obtained for Coadjutor a man after his own heart with whom he was well pleased. Bishop Miles, we believe, was not far from his 70th year at the time of his decease. May he rest in peace!

March 10, 1860

At a meeting of the English-speaking Catholics of Cincinnati held on Sunday evening to express

sympathy with the Pope, Wm. S. Rosecrans, Esq. was elected to preside.

March 24, 1860

REV. DR. S. H. ROSECRANS, President of Mt. St. Mary's College, will deliver an address at the [first] anniversary of the "Catholic Institute," next Sunday evening, at Metropolitan Hall, corner of Ninth and Walnut streets. [According to the March 31 issue, he "gave a very graphic and beautifully written sketch of the Order of Mercy, and its efforts during the Middle Ages to relieve the Christians enslaved by the Musselmen."]

Information Wanted

Of William McDonough, who is said to have been a Stone-mason, and to have worked in Cincinnati about twelve years ago—and in Circleville. His wife died in the Lunatic Asylum. She is thought to have been a Protestant, he a Catholic. His children were placed in the Protestant, or city, asylum, where two of them died. Three other children were given by the managers to Protestant citizens of Miami county. One of those, now married in that county, is most anxious to hear of, or from, her father. Apply at Cathedral.

March 31, 1860

Wanted,

Information... Also, of ESTER M'GARR of Columbus. She was in St. Louis eight months ago. Mrs. M'Garr is in search of her daughter, and will be very thankful for any information sent in care of Mr. O'Neill, Sexton of the Cathedral, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Collection at Holy Cross, Columbus, for the American College at Rome: \$51.00.

(To be continued)

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