

REV. MSGR. H. E. MATTINGLY
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COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215DISCONTINUED 19TH CENTURY MISSIONS
OF SOUTHEASTERN OHIO

The zeal and sacrifices of the missionaries who served the parishes, missions and stations of Ohio during the 19th century should be recorded in letters of glowing splendour. It need not be repeated that the earliest and greatest efforts for the Church in all of Ohio was in the southeast quadrant and that the burden of the labors was born almost entirely in the first years by the Dominican Fathers who set up their center of activity at Somerset in Perry County. It is not surprising, then, to find that Perry County could boast of the greatest number of early missions. But the zeal of the Dominican Fathers extended to the neighboring counties as well; indeed, there was no boundary to their apostolic labors. A study of the annual Catholic Almanac and of its successor, the Catholic Directory, provides a long list of scattered places visited regularly by hardy missionary priests.

The first attempt at a national Catholic almanac was published in 1817. It had little informational or instructional value. The next such publication appeared in 1822. Eleven years passed and in 1833 it began what has been its continuous appearance, except for two years during the Civil War. It is now the prestigious Official Catholic Directory. For the purposes of this study the title Catholic Directory will serve to indicate Almanac or the Official Catholic Directory, of whatever year.

In this study the focus will be on that one-fourth part of Ohio which was at its inception the Diocese of Columbus, and part of which is now the Diocese of Steubenville.

Though the loyalty of the people to their Faith was matched only by the zeal of the missionaries, there was always a toll taken by the rigors of pioneer life and long separation from religious consolations. Realizing this, the missionaries made every sacrifice to seek out Catholic settlers. The readiness of the priests to serve is evident from the great number of stations, missions and parishes recorded in the pages of the annual Catholic Directory from 1833 to 1900. Some, it is true, continued until 1900 and were discontinued later. This will be indicated.

Naturally, none of the early log chapels could now be expected to be standing. And almost all of the discontinued chapels and churches are gone. However, the original log chapel built in Monroe Township, Coshocton County, still stands, though faced over with an imitation brick material and used as a residence. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Elizabeth and located near Kilbuck Creek. The little mission was attended from Newark in 1857, the year it was first recorded in the Catholic Directory.

A number of factors contributed to the disappearance of many of the earliest missions. Most of the early settlers were engaged in farming. But the building of the highways, the opening of the Ohio canal system, the coming of the railroad, the mining industry, - all contributed to change this. People naturally concentrated where there was employment, abandoning the heavy burden of trying to provide a living from the reluctant hills by farming. This left mission chapels, and even some parish churches, without sufficient attendance to warrant continuance.

From the pages, then, of the annual Catholic Directory comes to light "the glory that was" in a long list of now almost forgotten stations, missions and some few parishes established during the 19th century in southeastern Ohio. Indeed, there may well have been more than those listed in the Directory. An example of this is the little mission which was known as St. Joseph's, Greer, in the far western part of Holmes County. Even though there was a church, a cemetery, and possibly a rectory there, it is not mentioned in the Directory except in 1843 and 1844 when there is notice of "a German settlement 12 miles from Mt. Vernon attended by Rev. John Lamy who resides at Danville."

The designation of some missions changed as the years went by. Thus the present mission of Glenmont, Holmes County, was first given as Napoleon; later it was Black Creek; then it became Pictoria, and finally, Glenmont. Every effort has been made to identify the present location of where the now discontinued missions once were. In most instances they were supplanted by other better locations. When possible this will be shown.

Places known to have had a resident pastor, if only for a short time, will be designated as parishes (P). Those that were given a saint's name in the Directory will be considered as having had at least a chapel and will be designated as missions (M). Those for which nothing was given in the Directory but a location will be considered merely as stations (S).

The years given for each mission are those during which they were listed in the Directory; and they are inclusive. This does not necessarily mean that any particular mission was not established until the year it was listed. Some, surely, were in existence for several years before appearing.

Communication was not as rapid in the 19th century as in the present era. It is only natural, then, that there were inaccuracies in the Directory reports. The publisher had to depend upon the Bishops for information about each diocese. By the time of publication many changes could have been made. However, it is hoped that additional information obtained through reliable research will make complete the story of this past glory.

(Note: This survey covers the period of earliest records in the Directory and continues up to 1900. Those known to have been discontinued after that date will be listed, but instead of giving a closing year this fact will be indicated by inserting asterisks (****) instead of the year. The listing is by counties.)

Athens County

1. Chauncey, Dover Twp., St. John the Baptist.....1843-1849 (M)
Attended from Deavertown, Perry Co., for many years
Chauncey was listed as St. John the Baptist beginning
in 1845. In 1849 there was a double listing: St. John's,
Chauncey, and St. John the Baptist, Athens County.
2. Chauncey, Dover Twp., Our Lady of Sorrows.....1850-(**) (M)
The mission at Chauncey was attended over the years from
Deavertown, Pomeroy, Chapel Hill and Logan. Later
discontinued. A new parish, St. Jude's, has been
established in Chauncey in recent years.
3. Big Run, Rome Twp.....1876-1882 (S)
4. Canaan(s)ville, Canaan Twp.....1876-(**) (S)
5. Coolville (Coalville), Troy Twp.....1876-1882 (S)
6. Doanville, York Twp.....1876 (S)
7. Hull P.O., Lodi Twp., St. John,.....1876-1884 (M)
This is the first designation of the mission known
later as Anthony.
8. Stewarts, Rome Twp.....1876-(**) (S)
9. Bessemer, York Twp.....1881-1882 (S)
Bessemer, according to an old atlas, was located on the
county line between Hocking and Athens counties, and is
probably the present Buchtel.
10. Floodwood, York Twp.....1883-1897 (S)
11. Anthony, Lodi Twp., St. John's.....1885-(**) (M)
This is the later designation of Hull above.

Belmont County

1. St. Mary's.....1854-1856 (M)
This mission was listed as in Belmont County for
three years. The priest in charge also took care of
St. Patrick's, Washington, Guernsey County. In
1857 and thereafter it was listed as in Noble Co.
2. Belmont, Goshen Twp.....1871-1884 (S)
This mission was listed as attended from Bellaire.
3. Glencoe, Richland Twp.....1871-1882 (S)
Attended from Bellaire.
4. Stewardsville, Richland Twp.....1874-(**) (S)
Attended from Bellaire.
5. Warnock, Smith Twp.....1880-(**) (S)
Attended from Bellaire.
6. Burton.....1883-1884 (S)
This station, given as in Belmont Co., was listed
for two years only. Attended from Batesville.
7. Burr's Mills.....1885-(**) (S)
Attended from Batesville, this station continued
after 1900.

Carroll County

1. St. Fidelis.....1835-1839 (P)
This mission was given as in Carroll County and attended from Canton. In 1839 it appeared to have the status of a parish. No longer listed in 1840. In 1841 and 1842 Waynesburg is listed with a pastor. From 1843 to 1847 St. Fidelis "near Waynesburg" is listed. It does not appear in 1848-1850. But from 1851 to 1853 Rev. J. Muckerheide is in charge of Waynesburg, Carroll County, St. Fidelis.
2. Lodi, Brown Twp., St. Francis Xavier.....1851-1883 (P)
Lodi was located just east of Malvern, the present name of the parish.
3. Dell Roy, Monroe Twp., Sacred Thirst.....1884-1888 (M)
4. Sherrodsville, Orange Twp., Sacred Thirst.....1885-(**) (M)
Attended from Canal Dover, then from Marges, and later from Mingo Junction, and the Cathedral. This mission was later dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi.

Coshocton County

1. Plainfield, Linton Twp.....1843-1855 (M)
Attended from Zanesville. It seems the priests of Zanesville were attending St. Mary's, Linton Twp., wherein Plainfield is located.
2. Linton Twp., St. Mary's.....
Not listed as such, but well known to have been a Coshocton County mission. See above.
3. Wills Creek, St. Ann's.....1853-1869 (M)
Through the years this mission was listed as being attended from Zanesville, Marietta (!), Newark, Canal Dover and Coshocton. The name of the church was not listed from 1865-1868. In 1870 it became Wills Creek, St. Mary's. (See below).
4. Killbuck, St. Elizabeth's, Monroe Twp.....1857-1892 (M)
For several years this mission was listed as St. Elizabeth's and St. Mary's. It was not the present town of Killbuck, but was located some miles north and a short distance from Killbuck Creek.
5. Franklin, St. Nicholas.....1861-1868 (M)
Attended from Coshocton except in 1865 when it was cared for from Canal Dover. Not listed in 1869. (See Wills Creek, St. Nicholas below).
6. Wills Creek, St. Nicholas.....1870-1887 (M)
This listing is undoubtedly the foregoing St. Nicholas, Franklin.
7. Wills Creek, St. Mary's.....1870-1887 (M)
Both St. Mary's and St. Nicholas were listed under Wills Creek in Coshocton Co. from 1870-1887. After that date they were combined to form the present Wills Creek, Our Lady of Lourdes.

8. Spring Mountain, Monroe Twp., St. Rose.....1893-(**) (M)
St. Rose's was the successor to St. Elizabeth's,
Killbuck Creek.

Delaware County

1. Lewis Center, Orange Twp. St. Aloysius.....1868-(**) (M)

Fairfield County

1. Rush Creek, Berne Twp., St. Joseph's.....1854-1861 (M)
This mission was also designated as Berne Twp.,
or merely as St. Joseph's, Fairfield County. It was
attended from Lancaster.
2. The "Philip's Church".....
This was another name for St. Joseph's, Rush Creek.
3. Geneva, Rush Creek Twp., Sacred Heart.....1857-(**) (P)
Not to be confused with Rush Creek, Berne Twp.
Geneva was attended from Lancaster in 1857. It then
had its own pastor until 1874 when it was attended
from Sugar Grove. It was later attended from St.
Mary's, Bremen.
4. Amanda.....1874-1876 (S)
Not listed in the Catholic Directory, but it was
attended twice a year by Rev. J. B. Schmidt, Lancaster.

Franklin County

1. Taylorstown.....1864-(**) (S)
Attended from Columbus until 1893; then it was
cared for from St. Joseph's, Jersey, Licking County.
2. Worthington.....1864-(**) (S)
Attended from Columbus for many years.
3. Columbus, Chapel of St. Pius.....1878-1880 (M)
Attended from Sacred Heart. Its location not given.
4. Galloway, Prairie Twp., St. Cecilia.....1883-(**) (M)
Attended from Columbus. This mission was the predecessor
of the present St. Cecilia's, Norton Road, Columbus.
5. Columbus, Sacred Heart Chapel.....1885 (M)
This was the Chapel of Columbus Catholic College.
6. Columbus, St. Cyprain's.....1912-(**) (P)
This parish was not established during the 19th
century. It has since been discontinued.

(To be continued)

FUNERAL OF FATHER ROONEY AT CHAPEL HILL (1)

Rev. Father Rooney (2), Pastor of Chapel Hill Church, died at the parsonage in that place on Saturday morning and was interred at Chapel Hill Cemetery on Monday afternoon.

Rev. O'Boylan (3) of Corning sang Mass. The funeral sermon was delivered by Rev. Father Mattingly (4) of McConnellsville, in an eloquent discourse which was followed by a few touching remarks by Bishop Watterson of Columbus. Bishop Watterson and the following clergy were present: Rev. Fathers Heaney (5), Mulhane (6), Meschenmoser (7), Heery (8), Sullivan (9), Slevin (10), McGerk (11), and several others whose names we could not ascertain.

Father Rooney was pastor at Chapel Hill for seven years. He was loved and revered by his people as was attested by the largest assemblage ever gathered at a funeral in Perry County from all parts of this and adjacent counties.

- (1) From "The New Lexington Herald," August 7, 1884.
- (2) Rev. Thomas Rooney died Saturday, August 2, 1884.
- (3) Rev. Bernard M. O'Boylan, pastor at Corning, Ohio
- (4) Rev. Jerome B. Mattingly, pastor at McConnellsville, Ohio.
- (5) Rev. James Heaney, O.P.
- (6) Rev. L. W. Mulhane, of the Cathedral, Columbus.
- (7) Rev. Philip Meschenmoser, St. Rose, New Lexington, Ohio.
- (8) Rev. Patrick Heery, St. Dominic's, McLuney, Perry County, Ohio.
- (9) Rev. William H. Sullivan, St. Patrick's, Junction City, Ohio.
- (10) Rev. J. J. Slevin, Zaleski, Ohio.
- (11) Rev. John McGuirk, St. Patrick's, Columbus.

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CHAPEL HILL, ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

Baptism Records (Continued)

1841

- May 30. Rose Anna, daughter of John and Brigitt Cunningham. Sponsors: Thomas Duffy and Anna Mourtough.
- June 2. Martin, son of ----- Kenney. Sponsors: Michael McCullough and Brigitt -----.
- June 2. (Ceremonies supplied) James, son of Hewgh and ----- Greaslin. Sponsors: Daniel Braslin and Catherine -----.
- June 4. Alice, daughter of John and Helen Daily. Sponsors: Nicolaus Welch and Helen Lion.
- June 4. Catherine, 15 years old, daughter of John and Eve Crasy(?). Sponsors: Edward Dulan and Mary -----.
- June 4. (Sub conditio) Richard George, 36 years old, son of Christopher Morassen. Sponsors: Richard and Margaret Geordan.
- June 4. Catherine, daughter of William and Catherine Devis. Sponsors: Edward Kensley and Catherine Crogan.

- June 13. James, son of Edward and Brigitt Mcloy. Sponsors: William and Catherine Mcloy.
- June 15. Mary Eugenia, daughter of Patrick and Mary Feagan. Sponsors: George Thompson and Elehonora Hos-----.
- June 20. Mary Helen, daughter of Thomas and Helen Skennen. Sponsors: Thomas Walpol and Mary Skennen.
- June 20. James, son of William Kreecbarm, 15 years old. Sponsors: John Olan and Alice Burk.
- June 20. Mary, daughter of William and Barbara Kreebam, 10 years old. Sponsors: John Olan and Alice Burk.
- June 20. Richard, 11 years old, son of William and Barbara Kreekboum. Sponsors: John Olan and Alice Burk.
- June 23. Andrew, son of Peter and Brigitt Gallagher. Sponsors: Peter Gallagher and Ann Wales.
- June 24. James, 12 years old, son of Joseph and Mary Rachel Cross. Sponsor: Aeg. Olivetti.
- June 24. Joseph, 10 years old, son of Joseph and Mary Rachel Cross. Sponsor: Aeg. Olivetti.
- (date?) Emmanuel, son of Joseph and Mary Rachel ----- Sponsor: Aeg. Olivetti.
- (date?) (Sub conditione) Mary Ganes(?), age 25 years, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Games. Sponsors: Edward and Anna Sheredan.
- June (?) Hewgh, son of John and Catherine McCabe. Sponsors: Matthew and Anna Walpol.
- July 13. Helen, daughter of James and Mary Han-----baw. Sponsors: Hieremius Arrington and Elizabeth (T)urner.
- July 15. Mary Julia, 19 years of age, daughter "quondam" of James and ----- Hiler. Sponsors: Michael McGraw and Catherine Bury.
- July 15. Mary Anna, legitimate daughter of the above Mary Julia Hiler. Sponsors: John Powers and Brigitta Gallagher.
- July 15. (Sub conditione) David, 20 years of age, son of David and Helen Genkins. Sponsors: John Wales and Elizabeth Morassen.
- July 15. William, son of Hieremia and Anna Skely. Sponsors: Patrick McKewn and Brigitta Konlan.
- July 16. (Ceremonies supplied) Brigitta, daughter of Edward and Mary Kondrik. Sponsors: James Collins and Mary Newgent.
- July 18. Henry, son of Patrick and Catherine Masterson. Sponsors: Michael Molligan and Elizabeth Walpol.
- July 18. Mary, daughter of Frederick and Sara Ann Gosman. Sponsors: John and Freny Gosman.
- July 26. John, son of Michael and Mary Ann Brena(?). Sponsors: John Skennan and Catherine Walpol.
- July 26. William, 5 years old, son of John and Emilia pr. Prenah. Sponsors: John Skennan and Catherine Walpol.
- July 26. Ruben, 3 years of age, son of John and Emelia Prenah. Sponsors: John Skennan and Catherine Walpol.
- July 26. Mary Anna, 11 years of age, daughter of John and Emelia Prenah. Sponsors: John Skennan and Catherine Walpol.
- July 26. Philip, 7 years of age, son of ----- and Emelia Prenah. Sponsors: John Skennan and -----.
- July 26. Michael, 9 years of age, son of ----- and Emelia Prenah. Sponsors: John Skennan and Catherine W-----.

(To be continued)

Acquisitions and Gifts

"The Hour of Praise," weekly radio program produced in 1949 under the direction of Mosnignor Joseph A. Cousins, Ph.D. Eighteen reels, gift of St. Charles School.

"Provisional Statutes for the Third Synod of Columbus, May 26, 1885." Booklet. Gift of St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Notes on the Early Settlement of the North-Western Territory by Jacob Burnet. Derby, Bradley & Co., Publishers, Cincinnati. 1847. Gift of St. Charles School.

The World's Columbian Catholic Congress and Educational Exhibit. Published by J. S. Hyland & Co., Chicago. 1893. (Contains an address by Bishop Watterson.) Gift of Rev. Leo Lawler.

Mother of Churches, a History of St. Mary's Church, Hagerstown, Maryland, by Rita Clark Hutzell. Published by St. Mary's Parish. 1976. Gift of Bishop Herrmann.

History of Perry County, Ohio, by Clement L. Martzolf. New Lexington, Ohio, 1902. Gift of George T. Drake, Columbus, Ohio.

The Catechist and the Catechumen by Monsignor Joseph A. Weigand. Published by Benziger Brothers, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago. 1924. Gift of Bishop Hettinger.

Sermons Delivered during the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore, October, 1866, and Pastoral Letter of the Hierarchy of the United States, together with the Papal Rescript and Letters of Convocation; a Complete list of the Dignitaries and Officers of the Council; and an Introductory Note. Published by Kelly & Piet, Baltimore. 1866. (This book contains a sermon delivered by Bishop Rosecrans at the Council. The book was presented by him to St. Aloysius Seminary, Columbus. It is the gift of Bishop Hettinger to the Record Society.)

The Teaching of Religion by Rev. Roderick MacEachen, D.D. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1921. Gift of St. Charles School.

MacEachen's Course in Religion: Religion, First Manual by Rev. Roderick MacEachen, D.D. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1921. Gift of St. Charles School.

MacEachen's Course in Religion: Religion, Second Manual by Rev. Roderick MacEachen, D.D. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1922. Gift of St. Charles School.

Complete records of the St. Pauls' Beneficial Society of St. Mary's Church, Columbus, Ohio. This collection includes financial reports and minutes of meetings beginning with the organization of the Society in 1876. The collection is a gift of the St. Pauls' Beneficial Society.

Archbishop Lamy, an Epoch Maker. by Judge Louis H. Warner. Santa Fe New Mexican Publishing Corporation. Santa Fe, New Mexico. 1936. Gift of St. Charles School.