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SAINT BARNABAS, DEAVERTOWN

MORGAN COUNTY, OHIO

1822-1870

In an elevated area of the picturesque hills of York township in northwestern Morgan county, Ohio, lies a small village named Deavertown, so-called after the family Deaver, prominent there through many decades. It was to this locality in the early 1800's that some Catholics came from Loretto, Pa., where they were part of the flock of the famous missionary Rev. Demetrius A. ("Prince") Gallitzin. Apparently, the group was not very large. Although there was growth in the number of Catholics for some years, decline came with the arrival of the railroads in Zanesville and the Crooksville area of Perry county.

The Catholic Mission was one of the oldest in the State of Ohio. Records start in 1822. The first church was built of logs in the "Black Oak district"(1). which was a little under two miles north of the village. Philip Longstreth, progenitor of a long line of that name, owned 123 acres there. He donated two acres for the church and cemetery. Still there, the cemetery is somewhat neglected.

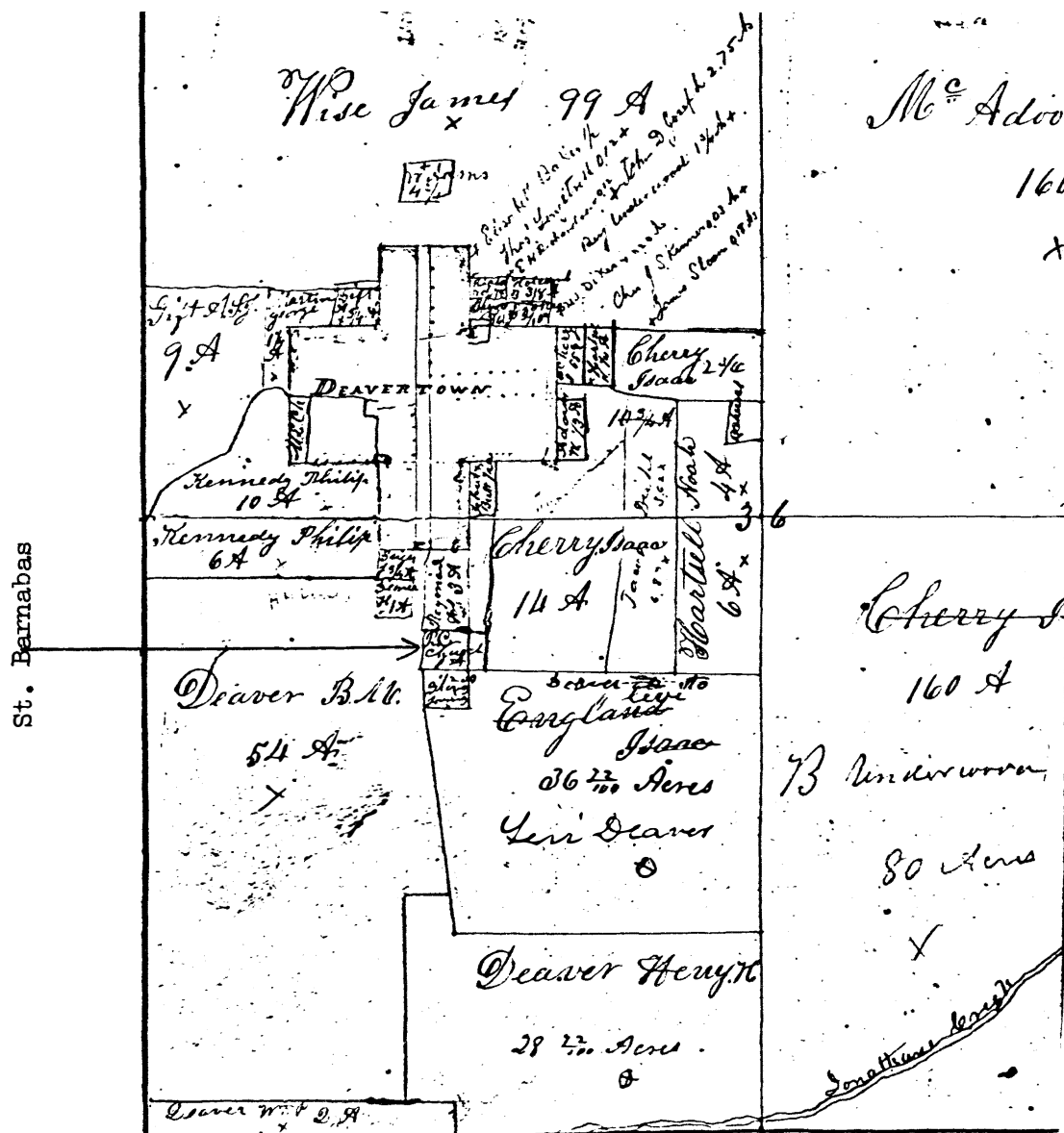
The church was known as St. Barnabas, and sometimes given as being on Jonathan's Creek (2). It was probably built about 1821. A small register of baptisms for St. Barnabas from 1822 to 1837 is preserved at St. James' church, McConnellsville. The little mission was attended by the Dominican Fathers of St. Joseph's, Somerset. Prominent among them, and probably the pastor, was the well-known missionary, Rev. Nicholas Dominic Young, O.P. Other Dominican Missionaries who visited St. Barnabas during the early years, were Revs. J.B. DeRaymaeker, F.X. Marshall, James I. Mullon, Daniel O'Leary, J. V. Bullock, J.G. Alleman, J. H. Clarkson and T.G.V.D. Broek.

The national Catholic Directory listed St. Barnabas for the first time in 1833. Until 1839 it was designated as being attended from St. Joseph's, Somerset. In 1834 the Directory gave Father Bullock as pastor.

It was an historic event for the little mission when Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati, on a visitation trip of his diocese, came to Deavertown in May, 1834. He tells the story of his stop there in a letter he wrote to the Catholic Telegraph of Cincinnati(3). The letter was dated "St. Barnabas, Morgan County, May 14th." After recounting his visit to Somerset, St. Patrick's [Junction City], and Rehoboth, the Bishop wrote: "St. Barnabas, or the church of Jonathan's Creek, is nine miles from Rehoboth. It is an humble log building, like most of

the dwellings in its immediate neighborhood. Its bleak situation reminded us of the stable of Bethlehem, and that the God who truly honored both by His presence loves the poor. Notwithstanding the shortness of the notice given and the severity of the weather which was really very cold, there was a tolerable congregation assembled on Tuesday. There were some First Communions and eleven were confirmed. The Catholics of this place are chiefly immigrants, or movers from congregations formed at different intervals of time and space, by Rev. Messrs. Gallitzin(4), Zocchy(5), Debarth(6) and the present pious Bishop of New York (7). Their simple manners and unaffected piety and virtue are the best eulogium of their once zealous pastors. The Bishop, forbidden by his previous engagements to linger among these primitive people as long as we could have wished, left here on Wednesday, accompanied by the Very Rev. N. D. Young, for Newark, Sapp's settlement and Zanesville....."

The little log church seems to have burned down (8) about 1838. Property was then bought in the southern part of the village itself (See map) (9).



Deavertown is no larger today than it was in 1838, and the lot purchased for the church in 1839 is still at the south edge of the village on the east side of the road. The Deed(10) shows that Bishop Purcell bought one acre from Joseph Reiman and his wife, Catharine, for \$70.00. It was signed September 23, 1839, and witnessed by John Geiger and Philip Longstreth, Jr., both members of the parish. It was notarized by James Longstreth, Justice of Peace.

The location of the previous log chapel was Section 24 of Township 14, while the new property was in Section 36. The Lot number was 22, and is so designated on the old York township Plat book of 1869 at the county Court House, McConnellsville, county seat of Morgan county.

Not much is found in the History of Morgan County, Ohio, written in 1886 by Charles Robertson. He merely states, "In 1838 the catholics built a church. The society was weak and became extinct in 1870" (11).

On the Lot in Deavertown was built a brick church. The brick are said to have been made on the east end of the one-acre tract. Some of the stones and brick used have since become a part of the small brick house which now stands on the lot.

It seems that after the church was built some burials were made in the east end of the church ground(12). However, most burials were in the cemetery north of the village.

Very little is known about the Mission after the church was built in 1840. The annual Catholic Directory of 1841 listed it as being attended from Marietta. In a letter of Sept. 17, 1840 (13), Father James W. McCaffrey wrote from Marietta to Bishop Purcell: "I have been Rt. Rev. F. in the district of Deavertown and Sunday Creek (14) for the last two weeks, everything is getting on tolerably in those places. I left Deavertown Church in the following state viz. the contract was made between the committee and the Mason to commence laying brick on the 4th or 5th inst. also a contract was entered on between the Carpenter and said committee to put on the Roof etc. and make the House secure before Winter. Yet I cannot depend to this people, being so cold in religious zeal, speaking generally, which is owing no doubt to the manner they have heretofore been neglected by Clergymen. Some are very anxious for a resident Priest amongst them etc...."

"Should Rev. Mr. Olivetti (15) go to Deavertown before your visitation let him enquire for Mr. A. Gossman (German) or Mr. George Geiger, Frenchman, who will entertain him and show him his Mission, he or I should be there preparing the youth for Confirmation before your expected visit there. I know those people would sooner have an english Priest among them, but if you will, I will endeavor to visit them as usual once and awhile....."

Apparently the Bishop's "expected visit" did not occur until the following October. The baptismal register at Chapel Hill shows that the Bishop baptized James Burgoon, 35, on October 14, 1841. John Geiger was the sponsor. Most likely the new church was completed, and the Bishop dedicated it.

Information for the years following is meager. What there is comes from the annual Catholic Directory. From 1842 to 1849 the Mission was under the care of Father Aigidius Olivetti who was at St. Francis', Chapel Hill. Curiously, the Directory labelled the Deavertown church St. Michael's in 1843 and again in 1849 when Father Timothy Farrell took charge at Chapel Hill.

Another strange listing in the Directory began in 1850 when the Deavertown parish was named "St. Francis, Morgan County." This continued through 1855. It was not until 1857 that the Directory gave it the correct title of St. Barnabas.

Father Cornelius Daly was in charge during 1850 and 1851. He was also pastor of St. Francis, Sunday Creek [Chapel Hill], and St. Peter's, Monday Creek [old Stone church near Shawnee]. No priest is given in the Directories of 1852 and 1853. During 1854 and 1855 the Dominican Fathers took care of the Mission.

From 1857 to 1859 Father James Monahan, who had charge of St. Peter's, Monday Creek, visited Deavertown. Thereafter, 1860-1870, the Directory gives St. Barnabas as attended from Chapel Hill. After the establishment of the Diocese of Columbus in 1868, Father Joseph Brogard, who was stationed at Chapel Hill, listed St. Barnabas as his mission in his diocesan census report. The little mission must have deteriorated greatly, for Bishop Rosecrans sold the property October 17, 1870, to Amos Cloman and Henry H. Turner for \$475.00 (16).

And so the life of St. Barnabas Mission came to an end. The cemetery north of the village alone remains. There is no special book of Sacramental records for St. Barnabas; however, a survey of the records of St. Francis, Chapel Hill, reveals that all of the Deavertown records were included as they occurred. Names in the Chapel Hill registers are evidently of Deavertown Catholics.

The baptism records of 1822 to 1837, now at St. James', McConellsville, and the tombstone inscriptions of the St. Barnabas cemetery, will be given in a future "Bulletin".

- (1) Miss Mary Deaver, now 90, of Crooksville, gives this title to the area where the log church is believed to have been built and where the cemetery is still located north of Deavertown. Miss Deaver has for some years written historical notes about the village and her family.
- (2) Jonathan's Creek was a small brook which ran just southeast of the village.
- (3) "Catholic Telegraph," Cincinnati, May 23, 1834, p. 105.
- (4) Rev. Demetrius A. ("Prince") Gallitzin.
- (5) Rev. Nicholas Zocchi.
- (6) Rev. Louis de Barth de Walbach.
- (7) Bishop John Dubois.
- (8) Opinion given by Miss Deaver.
- (9) 1859 Plat Book of York township, Morgan county, Ohio.
- (10) Morgan county Deed Books, Vol. J, p. 20.
- (11) History of Morgan County, Ohio, by Charles Robertson, 1886, p. 525.
- (12) Testimony of Miss Deaver.
- (13) McCaffrey to Bishop Purcell, Sept. 14, 1840, Purcell Letters, University of Notre Dame Archives.
- (14) Sunday Creek was the name for St. Francis, Chapel Hill.
- (15) Father Olivetti became pastor of Chapel Hill.
- (16) Morgan county Deed Books, Vol. 18, p. 290.

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ST. REMIGIUS CHURCH, COLUMBUS  
SACRAMENTAL REGISTER, 1837 - 1846  
(Continued)

By Donald M. Schlegel

Year 1840, continued

126. Same day: Joseph, son of Georg Smith and Margaretha Kemble. Sponsors Johann Ender and Car. Cec. Frank.

[There were several George Smiths in Columbus, at least two of whom appear in St. Remigius records. This Georg Schmidt was born in Germany around 1802 and immigrated with his wife and son around 1837. In 1850 he and his family were living in Ward 5, along with Ignaz and Elizabeth Jacobs. (p. 395)]

127. Same Day: Ceremonies supplied for Johann, son of Adam and Veronica Taff. Sponsor Elisabetha Rapp.  
[Adam's surname Jahn was omitted by Father Young. See entries 84, 165, 249, and 343.]
128. Same Day: Ceremonies supplied for Joseph, son of Peter Swarz and Elisabetha Sucher. Sponsors Fridolin Mutter and Barbara Swarz. J.M. Young

#### Year of the Lord 1841

129. 3 January: Maria Margaretha, daughter of Johann F. Zimmer and Christine Whitmer. Sponsors Simon Hagner and Maria Anna Zimmer.  
[Johann Zimmer was a drayman residing on the west side of Front street near Mound street in 1843.]
130. 6 January: Johann, son of Georg Studer and Regina his wife. Sponsors Jacob Rinehard and Katharina Herman. J.M. Young
131. 7 February: Anna Mary, daughter of John Hogarty and Lucy Crump. Sponsor James McGerry.  
[John "Hogerday" was living in Jefferson township in 1840. (p.89)]
132. 8 February: John Andrew, son of John Wilking and Adeline (or Magdalene) Miller. Sponsors John Schoenbride and Frances Wilking. J.M. Young  
[John "Willgen" was living in Ward 3 in 1840. (p. 228) John "Wilkins" was a broom maker residing on the south side of South street near High street in 1843.]
133. 9 February: Anna Rosina, daughter of Andreas Konig and Maria Tuchtmitter. Sponsors Friederich Hanemann and Eva Rosina Hahneman. J.M. Young  
[Friederich "Heneman" was living on the south side of South street between Front and Scioto streets in 1843. In 1850 he was living in Montgomery township; he was born in Germany around 1800. (1850, p. 819)]
134. 28 March: Philip, son of Isidor Fry and Francisca Doll. Sponsors Fred. Mutter and Maria Buike.
135. Same Day: Agnes, daughter of Klemens Byer and Agnes Dull. Sponsors Georg and Barbara Rinehard. J. M. Young
136. 25 April: Maria Carlina, daughter of Johann Hauner and Elisabetha Christ. Sponsors Johann Seefert and Maria Christ. J.M. Young  
[Johann Hoerner was a shoemaker, born in Germany around 1800. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 429)]
137. 25 April: Mary, daughter of Patrick Rogers and Emily Rogers. Sponsors Michael Rogers and Mary Wolfel. J. M. Young  
[Patrick Rogers or Rodgers was living in Franklin township in 1840 and in 1850. He was born in Ireland around 1810. (1850 p. 533)]
138. 2 May: Elisabetha Sybilla, daughter of Constantin Engler and Katharina Bauer. Sponsors Lorenz Beck and Elisabetha Engler.  
[Constantin Engler was born in Germany around 1816. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 376)]
139. 20 June: John William, son of Ignatius Wheeler and Joanna Gnadenbusch. Sponsors Gallus Wülfel and Mary Wülfel.
140. Same Day: Joseph, son of Franz Kalliecker and Katharina Vogel. Sponsors Jacob Vogel and Mariana Swa[...].
141. Same Day: Magdalena, daughter of Bernard Klaus and Anna Maria Zimmerman. Sponsors Johann Beird and Anna M. Zimmerman. J. M. Young  
[Johann Breit or John Bright was a shoemaker, born in Germany around

Year 1841, continued

1802. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 388) In 1843 his residence was on the east side of High street between South street and South Public Lane.]
142. 27 June: Catherine, daughter of Frederick Fishinger and Melinda his wife. Sponsors Heinrich Lotz and Katharina Slitt. J.M. Young
- 143- 24 ----: At Bellepoint, Delaware county, Melinda Anne, aged five years,
144. and Anne, around two years old, daughters of John Watson and Pamela Bogan. Sponsor Walter Bogan. J. M. Young
- [John Watson was living in Berkshire township, Dealware county, in 1840. (p. 186) Walter Bogan was a carder, born in New Jersey around 1815; in 1850 he was living in Marlborough township in Delaware county. (p. 358)]
145. 1 August: Mary Joanna, daughter of John Weaver and Katharina Fry. Sponsors Joseph Wölfel and wife.
146. Same Day: Maria Barbara, daughter of Jacob Shole and Maria Anna his wife. Sponsors Andreas Schole and Barbara Bishof.
147. Same Day: Richard, son of John Hogarty and Lucy Crump. Sponsor Wolfel. J. M. Young
148. Same Day: Catherine, daughter of Timothy Sullivan and Mary Nigan. Sponsors Patrick McAdam and Mary Derrick. J. M. Young
149. 22 August: Maria Regina, daughter of Andreas Trautman and Dorothea his wife. Sponsors Friederich and Regina Hineman. J. M. Young
150. 12 September: Elisabetha, daughter of Valentin Hersheimer and Margaretha Keefer. Sponsor Elisabetha Keefer. J. M. Young
- [Valentin Hettesheimer was a grocer, born in Germany around 1816. (1850 Wd. 3, p. 593) He sold groceries at the central market and later at his own store. In 1843 his residence was on the east side of Scioto street near State street.]
151. 4 October: Anne [?], daughter of Frederick Bobbet and Dorothy Hyle, born 28 September 1841. Sponsor John Hyle and wife. B. Shorb
- [Frederick "Bobbitt", born in Germany around 1813, was living in Montgomery township in 1850. (p. 827)]
152. 24 October: George William, born 27 August, son of Peter Derrick and Mary Smith. Sponsors Frederick Smith and Josepha Gerber. J. M. Young
- [Peter Derrick was a butcher, born in Pennsylvania around 1817; his wife was born in Germany. (1850 Wd. 4, p. 521) They were in Columbus in 1840. (p. 2260)]
- 153- 26 October: Joseph and Katharina Christina, both born 19 October, 1841,
154. children of Georg Bauman and Sibilla Erenhard. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and Christina his wife. J. M. Young
155. 30 [sic] November: Karl, son of Bernard Birck and Maria Redd. Sponsors Johann Braid and Margaretha his wife.
156. Same Day: Mary, daughter of Peter Collins and Elizabeth Malone. Sponsors Joseph Malone and Sarah Russell. J. M. Young
157. 3 November: Franz Joseph, born 1 November 1841, son of Alois Wölfel and Angela Winegartner. Sponsors Franz Joseph Winegartner and Martha Wölfel. J. M. Young
- ["A. Woolfull" in 1843 was a wagon maker residing on the south side of Cherry street east of Front street. "Frank Winegard" was a confectioner, born in Germany around 1818. (1850 Wd. 4, p. 471)]
158. 21 November: Margaretha, daughter of Joseph Hammer and Elisabetha Hoffman. Sponsors Franz Reich and Maria Sybold. J. M. Young
- ["Francis Rig" was living on the north side of Town street near Fourth street in 1843. Sybold should be Leibold - see marriage #24.]

Year 1841, continued

159. 28 November: Anna Maria, daughter of Jacob Sherringer and Teresa his wife. Sponsors Klemens Baer and Josepha Gerber. J. M. Young  
["Mary" was buried by Rev. W. Schonat on June 24, 1847, aged six years.]
160. 28 November: Jacob, born 20 November 1841, son of Ludwig Keller and Anna Maria Schreiner. Sponsors Jacob Frank and wife. J. M. Young  
["Louis Kellar" was a stone mason, born in Germany around 1817. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 464)]

Year of the Lord

1842

161. 7 January: Johann Friederich, son of Friederich Freyer and Theresa his wife. Sponsors Johann and Eva Hahnemann. J. M. Young
162. 8 January: Maria Anna, daughter of Karl Klitt and Margaretha Diedrick. Sponsor Mrs. Hock wife of Leonard. J. M. Young
163. 9 January: Georg Joseph, son of Joseph Rodenfels and Barbara Breidenback. Sponsors Georg and Barbara Rinehard. Born September 27, 1841.  
[Joseph Rodenfels was a grocer, born in Germany around 1820. (1850 Wd. 4, p. 506) He was living in Montgomery township in 1840. (p. 195)]
164. Same Day: Elisabetha, daughter of Michael Senacki [?] and Anna Shuster. Sponsors Lau. Beck and Salome Steinmez. J. M. Young
165. Same Day: Jacob, son of Adam Jahn [?] and Veronica Sapp. Sponsors Jacob Frank and wife.
166. Same Day: Franz Leonard, son of Joseph Radle and Anna Ackermann. Sponsors Leonard and Elizabeth Hock. J. M. Young
167. 6 February: Anna Maria, born 3 January 1842, daughter of Peter Brauns and Susanna Kock. Sponsors Bernard Trott and Laura Trott. H. D. Juncker
168. 6 January [sic]: Christina, born 11 January, daughter of Johann Lang and Louisa Kaiser. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and Christina Jacobs. H. D. Juncker  
[Johann Lang was born in Germany around 1802. (1850 Wd. 4, p. 529)]
169. 13 March: Edward, son of five weeks of Johann Jacobs and Magdalena Kraus. Sponsors Laurence Morath and Appolonia Gangloff.
170. Same Day: Heinrich Ludwig, born 19 February, son of Cornelius Jacobs and Christina Gangloff. Sponsors Anton Gangloff and Maria Anna Zettler.  
[Mr. Gangloff was probably the later Rev. Anthony Gangloff, O.P., who was born in Alsace or Lorraine around 1822, was ordained at St. Joseph's in Perry County in 1849, and died in Cincinnati on June 9, 1864.]
171. Same Day: Heinrich, son of Lorenz Beck and Theresa Engler. Sponsors Constantin Engler and Salome Steinmetz. J. M. Young  
[Lorenz Beck was a tailor, born in Germany around 1806. (1850 Wd. 2, p. 653) In 1843 his residence was on the west side of Front Street near Rich Street.]
172. 3 April: Margaret, daughter of Andrew Perry and Louisa Fry. Sponsors Heinrich Fry and Maria Fry. [Unsigned; in handwriting of J. M. Young]

Year 1842, continued

173. Same Day: Margaretha, daughter of Nicholas Hornhow and Louisa Vogelsang. Sponsors John Pirong and Maria Leopold.  
[John Pirong was a cabinet maker, born in Germany around 1819. (1850 Ward 4, p. 505)]
174. Same Day: Caroline, daughter of Ludwig Fries and Maria Miller. Sponsor Adeline Wilking.
175. -----: John Joseph, son of John Brigmon and Anna Maria Styles. Sponsors John Joseph Olding and Sophia Bisick.  
[John Joseph Olding of Franklinton died in August, 1859, survived by his widow and brothers and sisters. Herman Steineke was executor and Lorenz Beck was witness to his will. (Franklin Co. Will Book D, p. 181)]
176. -----: Elisabetha, daughter of Peter Hinterscheid and Wilhelmina Heckman. Sponsors Heinrich Trience and Anna Schuster.  
[Above numbers 172 through 176 were unsigned, but in the handwriting of J.M. Young.]  
[Peter "Hindershit" was living in Montgomery township in 1840. (p. 201) In 1850, Wilhelmina "Kindenscheit" and family were living in Ward 5 in Columbus; they had immigrated from Germany around 1839. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 416)]
177. -- April: Joseph Wilhelm, born 8 October 1841, son of Conrad Kemzel and Katharina Wölfel. Sponsors Gallus and Maria Wolfel. H. D. Juncker.  
[Conrad Kempel was born in Germany around 1819; Katharina was born in Pennsylvania around 1821. In 1850 they were living in the First Ward in Cincinnati. ("Campbell" family on census page 14)]
178. 8 May: Michael, son of Peter Wittman and Barbara Fetter [Felter?]. Sponsors Michael and Anna Lunz.  
[Peter Wittman was born in Germany around 1813 and immigrated with his young family around 1839. They were living in Montgomery township in 1840 (p. 200) and in Ward 5 in 1850 (p. 438)]
179. Same Day: Elisabetha, daughter of Paul Kahly and Agatha Pettrick. Sponsors Morritz Bisick and Sophia Andrews.
180. Same Day: Katharina, daughter of Joseph Miller and Regina Suger. Sponsors Georg Schneider and Anna Maria Klaus. J. M. Young
181. 5 June: Joseph, born 16 March 1842, son of Adam Weissbecker and Victoria Rod. Sponsors Stephan Burcklie and Katharina Lotz. H. D. Juncker.  
[Adam Weissbecker was born in Germany around 1805 and immigrated with his wife Katharina and young children around 1838. Katharina died on October 16, 1839 and was buried in Franklinton cemetery with two of her young children. In 1840 Adam married Victoria Roth at St. Remigius; the census found "A. Wesebaker" in Jackson township. (p. 136) By 1843, Adam "Wesebaker" was living at the northwest corner of South and Scioto streets in Columbus. Adam and Victoria were living in Ward 4 in 1850. (p. 549)]
182. 19 June: Maria, daughter of Fridolin Schumacker and Maria Anna Dorn. Sponsors Lucas Markley and Maria Uri. J. M. Young
183. 10 July: Joseph, born 29 May, son of Philip Fry and Elisabetha Brosmer. Sponsors Heinrich Fry and Eva Ilshit.  
[Philip Frey, a farmer in Jefferson township, was born in Germany around 1812 (1850 p. 257), a son of Joseph and Margaret Frey.]

(To be continued)