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CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH RECORDS

EARLY DIOCESAN HISTORY

(Continued)

Continued here are news stories of the Columbus Diocese published in the "Catholic Telegraph" of Cincinnati during the years from 1868, when the diocese was established, until January, 1875, when the "Catholic Columbian" was first published as the new diocesan paper. These stories, as well as those in last month's "Bulletin", are given here through the courtesy of the archives of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

One of Bishop Rosecrans first pastoral letters was issued in early 1869. After some visitation of his diocese the Bishop had first-hand experience of the needs of the priests and people. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that his letter outlines the scarcity of priests and the need for vocations to the priesthood. It announces the first Pentecost collection for seminarians.

April 28, 1869.

OFFICIAL

Letter of the Right Reverend Bishop Rosecrans to His Clergy and People.

Venerable Brethren, the clergy:

You are as well aware as we of the necessity our diocese is in of a greater number of priests. During the past six weeks one priest has died away from his home on a mission in the fulfillment of his hard duties. Two more have left the diocese. Many of you have missions taxing you above your strength and clamoring piteously from residential pastors. We must have an increase of laborers, the harvest is so abundant.

You are also aware that there is no lack of vocations among us, but only of the means to educate the candidates. We have no seminary, but the seminary of Mt. St. Mary's-of-the-West has been open to us on generous terms. Our seminarians there have accumulated a debt on the diocese since March 3, 1868, and this must be discharged by the collection of Pentecost. Please spare no effort to make this as great as possible.

Beloved children of the laity, your own salvation and that of your children depends on the priests of the Church. Where there are no priests there can be no Sacrifice, no sacraments, no correct religious instruction and, consequently no salvation.

When you are asked, therefore, to help educate candidates for the priesthood you are not solicited to perform an act of pure liberality but of justice to yourselves and to your children. Those you educate, consecrated to God, have henceforth no interest to serve but yours. They have no fortune to make or offices to gain or family to build up. To offer the Holy Sacrifice for you, to administer the sacraments to you, to instruct your children, to guide yourselves in assiduous labors, to wear out their strength till death releases them is their whole life. Of just judgement it must be pronounced that not you but others are the patrons and benefactors.

They appeal to you not as beggars on your bounty, but as thoughtful providers demanding the means to meet your own wants. They do not ask you to help them but to help yourselves. They form no separate caste living in idleness or in the search of selfish schemes, but they live to baptize, to instruct, to give spiritual relief, to dispense the Body and Blood of Christ, to sanctify marriage and arm the dying against the last great assault of the enemies of the soul. What gift of God have you so good as the gift of Catholic Faith? What treasure can your children have from you equal to it in value? What shall it profit you or them to gain the whole world if their souls should be lost for want of pastors to break to them the Bread of Life?

We have now about 15 seminarians in various stages of advance in their studies. Since the creation of this diocese no collection has been made for their aid. We have no resources but in your voluntary contributions. Almost daily we meet youths whose hearts have been turned away from the world by the Holy Ghost and who need but the means of education to go on uncontaminated to the altar, and are constrained by our indigence to send them sorrowing away.

We beg you, therefore, beloved children, by the charity of the great High Priest who laid down His life for us, to come forward with one heart and aim, each to the full extent of his ability, in the holy work of educating our candidates for the priesthood.

In conclusion, we request all pastors of congregations to establish or receive the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in their congregation as soon as possible. The Rev. G.H. Ahrens, chancellor, will give any information they may need and make application in the proper order for the annuals awarded to each decade of members.

The peace of Christ be with you.

+SYLVESTER H. ROSECRANS
Bishop of Columbus

Columbus, April 26, 1869.

March 24, 1869

St. Patrick's Day in Columbus.

Columbus, March 18, 1869. St. Patrick's Day was celebrated here by a Solemn High Mass by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans as celebrant, assisted by the Very Rev. J. B. Hemsteger, Revs. Ahrens, Tortus, Hildebrand and Specht. The panegyric on the patron saint was delivered by the Bishop. In the evening there was a festival for the benefit of St. Joseph Cathedral, now in the process of erection, which was very largely attended.

The new St. Mary's church, under the care of Father Specht, has been decorated with the Stations of the Cross in oil, including a very neat and tasty frame.

The fine general appearance of St. Mary's church seems to have wakened up the Holy Cross congregation. I notice a most beautiful iron fence of the latest style and notion has taken the place of the old wooden rickety one that has seen service for, I think, 20 years in front of the pastoral residence. There is strong talk of enlarging Holy Cross church and making improvements generally about the building which are very necessary for the safety of the congregation.

Work is still going on in a small way on St. Joseph Cathedral with hopes for a more extended push in a few weeks. The Rt. Rev. Bishop is doing all in his power with others helping this coming spring.

April 21, 1869

Rev. J. Heimo who attended St. Genevieve's, Millersburg, and Napoleon in Holmes county, died on the 12th inst. from disease contracted by severe missionary labors, aged about 50 years. Rev. J. Brent gave him the last sacraments and said the Funeral Mass on the 14th. Rev. Father Arnold, of Canton, also attended the funeral. The deceased was a humble and laborious priest.

Rev. Magnus Eppink is temporarily appointed to St. Nicholas church, Zanesville, and Rev. J. C. McSweeney, to St. Mary's, Delaware.

April 28, 1869

Diocese of Columbus, Confirmation.

On Sunday, April 11, Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans celebrated Pontifical High Mass in Holy Cross church. The Rev. J. B. Hemsteger, V.G., assisting as assistant priest; Rev. G. H. Ahrens, deacon; Rev. J. Hildebrand, subdeacon. After Mass the sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 65 persons.

On the Sunday following, April 18, after Pontifical Mass, in which the Rev. Francis Specht was assistant priest, and the Rev. B. Kemper of St. Augustine's church, Cincinnati, was deacon, and the Rev. J. Hildebrand, subdeacon, 44 were confirmed.

Confirmation has been given since Easter in the chapel of St. Mary of the Springs to 14. One lady was baptized at the end of the retreat, made her First Communion and was confirmed on the Sunday it closed.

May 19, 1869

Church of the Assumption in Portsmouth. Blessing of the Cornerstone.

The German Catholics of Portsmouth have been long in need of a larger church. The lot was bought some years ago. The schoolhouse was built and the foundations of the church commenced; but the work was suspended for temporary lack of means. This season, however, it is to be resumed and prosecuted with vigor.

On Sunday, 9th last, the cornerstone was blessed under the invocation of the Annunciation by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans of Columbus in the midst of a very great crowd of people of all denominations. The Rev. Father Otto Jar, O.S.F., of

St. Francis church, Cincinnati, the Rev. F. Karge, pastor of the church, the Rev. A. O. Walker, of Holy Redeemer church, and the Rev. C. F. Shelhammer, of St. Peter's, Lick Run, were the clergy aiding in the ceremony. The Rt. Rev. Bishop made a short address from the platform, and Rev. Father Otto preached a powerful discourse in German on the immutability of the Catholic Church.

The crowd was very orderly and attentive, and the day being kind, the whole festival passed off satisfactorily. In the evening of the day there was a lecture in the church of the Most Holy Redeemer on the supernatural character of the Church, the building being filled to its utmost capacity.

Confirmation at St. Mary's, Vinton County.

On Thursday the 11th inst. Pontifical Mass was celebrated at St. Mary's, Raccoon, and 68 persons, 6 converts were confirmed. The Rev. M. J. Ahern, the devoted pastor of this congregation, has spent nearly four months in preparing his band of spiritual children for the reception of the sacrament. Miss Mary O'Donohue, after three months of assiduous teaching, has succeeded in forming a very creditable choir and the spent and the spirit of the congregation is exceedingly edifying.

A short time ago a young man named Edmund, feeling his end was approaching sent for the Catholic priest to the great scandal of his friends and neighbors in Wilkesville. He was instructed, received all the sacraments, and his body interred in the Catholic cemetery by the good Catholics whose companionship he had sought truly. The only reason he gave for desiring to die Catholic was that such had been his determination ever since he had been nursed in the Sisters' hospital during the war.

The feast of Pentecost was solemnized in St. Patrick's church by Pontifical Mass and Vespers, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans officiating, and the Rev. Messrs. Francis Goupl and H. A. Gallagher being assistant priest and deacon, and Mr. William Ready, subdeacon. The Bishop preached morning and evening, and after Vespers administered the holy sacrament of Confirmation to 171 persons, mainly children of the schools, but including also some 14 or 15 converts. One of the converts was a young lady, daughter of a Methodist preacher, baptized only the day before. St. Patrick's congregation is now so large that the speedy opening of the Cathedral seemed an absolute necessity, but the work is beset with pecuniary difficulties and though certain to go through, is yet very much retarded.

May 26, 1869

Diocese of Columbus. Official.

The opening of the Jubilee proclaimed by our Holy Father Pope Pius IX to incite the faithful throughout the world to pray fervently for the blessing of God on the Council to begin on the 8th of December will be, in this diocese as in Rome, on the 1st of June. The clergy will observe and faithfully execute the directions of the Holy Father regarding the prayer to be added in the Mass every day, excepting on doubles of the first and second class. We also recommend them to say the Mass de Spiritu Sancto on Thursdays, and also say some prayers, five Our Fathers and five Hail Marys or the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and the Memorare at the end of every Mass, public and private, that the people may have part in the same devotion and aid in seeking the triumph of truth throughout the entire world by their supplications to God.

The pastors of congregations must regulate the visits to the churches and dispense with them according to the necessities of the locality. Religious visit their own chapel three times. In Columbus the three churches must be visited. Beginning with the Sunday within the octave of the Ascension must be reserved for

the retreat of the clergy, for which it is hoped arrangements will be successfully made and notice published.

By Order of the Bishop.

May 26, 1869

Delaware. We have a new clergyman here in the person of Rev. J. McSweeny since our last letter to you. This is quite an accession to Delaware. He is seemingly a very zealous and amiable gentleman. - Tralee.

June 9, 1869

In letters of May 1st His Eminence Cardinal Barnabo says to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans of Columbus: "I did not fail to communicate to the Holy Father what you say to me with regard to the Ecumenical Council, and I am now glad to let you know that in view of the circumstances laid before him His Holiness has vouchsafed to dispense you from the obligation of attending it."

August 25, 1869

Chillicothe.

The splendid new church of St. Mary's in this city was dedicated Sunday morning, August 15, the feast of the Assumption, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Purcell, assisted by the pastor, Rev. Murray, Rev. Messrs. Ryan of Marietta, O'Brien of Jackson, Ahern of Wilkesville and J. F. Callahan of All Saints church, Cincinnati.

A solemn Mass was celebrated by Rev. Mr. Murray, Rev. Messrs. Callahan and Ryan being deacon and subdeacon, Rev. Mr. Ahern, master of ceremonies; Subdeacon of the Cross, Rev. Mr. O'Brien. The other officers were students of the seminary here in vacation; the architect, Mr. Hardy, of Columbus; Mr. John Cody of Chillicothe, superintendent.

In the afternoon there was Solemn Vespers at St. Peter's and 80 were confirmed. This church is entirely out of debt, as are also the priest's house, the school-house, and the house of the Sisters who teach the young girls. For 18 years we have had to record the good order and piety of the congregation under the devoted care of the pastor, Rev. Edward Lieb, who is now assisted by Rev. Mr. Feldhaus, who, from Chillicothe, attends St. Mary's, Waverly, where we anticipate the best first fruits from the young priest's ministry and the good will of the members of the congregation.

In the evening at St. Mary's, Chillicothe, Rev. Mr. Callahan was greeted by a large and appreciative audience. The subject of the lecture, "Catholic Education," was well and ably presented.

September 8, 1869

Diocese of Columbus, Episcopal Visitations.
Sunday, September 26, Mt. Vernon.
Tuesday, September 28, Danville.
Wednesday, September 29, St. Michael's.
Sunday, October 3, St. Mary's, Lancaster.
Sunday, October 10, Logan
Sunday, November 7, Steubenville.

September 15, 1869

Diocese of Columbus. Miltonsburg, Woodsfield and Wills Creek.

The beautiful brick church in Woodsfield, Monroe county, was dedicated under the invocation of St. Sylvester on Sunday, 5th inst. with much solemnity. Early in the morning a procession of carriages and people on horseback was formed at Miltonsburg and moved over 6 miles of hill and valley to Woodsfield in excellent order, being swelled by a number joining in as it passed along. Reaching the church at about half past 9 a.m., the ceremony of blessing was at once performed, the Rt. Rev. Rosecrans officiating. The Rev. N. Pilger, pastor and builder of the church, the Rev. Damian Klueber, St. Mary's, Enoch, the Rev. William O'Brien, newly appointed to St. Mary's, Beaver, Rev. Charles Hahne, of St. Emmanuel's church, Dayton, Rev. N. A. Gallagher, of St. Patrick's church, Columbus, assisted.

At the dedication Rev. D. Klueber celebrated Solemn Mass, assisted by Rev. Messrs. Kahne and O'Brien, deacon and subdeacon, and Rev. N. A. Gallagher, master of ceremonies. After the Gospel the Rt. Rev. Bishop preached. In the afternoon there were Solemn Vespers, and the Rev. C. Hahne preached in German. The Rt. Rev. Bishop confirmed 32 persons from Woodsfield and Drane's Nest. The choir from St. Mary's, Beaver, led by the accomplished teacher, Mrs. Maggie Walsh of Bellaire, furnished the music. The clergy are deeply indebted to Mr. Hefel for hospitality.

On Monday morning, September 6, Solemn High Mass was celebrated in St. John's, Miltonsburg, by Rev. Charles Hahne; Rev. Messrs. Gallagher and O'Brien being deacon and subdeacon. The Rt. Rev. Bishop preached in English; the Rev. Father Hahne, in German.

Thirty were confirmed on Tuesday. In the morning Solemn High Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's, Wills Creek, by Rev. N. A. Gallagher, Rev. Messrs. Hahne and O'Brien, being deacon and subdeacon. After Mass the Rt. Rev. Bishop briefly addressed the confirmands who were drenched with rain, and confirmed them, 30 in number.

St. Joseph's church has been greatly improved and is now really a credit to the excellent congregation which always maintains a school although it has no resident priest.

(To be continued)

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ST. REMIGIUS CHURCH, COLUMBUS,
SACRAMENTAL REGISTER, 1837 - 1846

(Concluded)

By Donald N. Schlegel

Year 1845, Continued.

382. 26 August: Barbara Katharina, daughter of Joseph Wehler and his wife, Katharina Voll. Sponsors: Nicolaus and Katharina Götzelmann. W. Schonat.
383. 31 August: Joseph, born 28 February 1845, son of Samuel Buscher and his wife Laura born Stephens. Sponsors: Joseph Rothenfels and Barbara Christ.

W. Schonat.

[Samuel "Bushier" was a farmer in Truro township in 1850; he was born in Germany around 1817. (p. 353)].

384. 4 September: Katharina, born 2 September 1845, daughter of Karl Bär and his wife Barbara born Mark. Sponsors: Paulus Käli and M. Buchert.
385. 8 September: (in Delaware) John, born 19 August 1845, son of William Doran and Catherine born Stockes. Sponsors: Johann Getreu and Gertrude Klee.

Year 1845, Continued.

386. 10 September: Caroline, born 9 August, daughter of Ludwig Henselmann and his wife Elisabetha. Sponsors: Wilhelm Kaufmann and Barbara Volpert. W. Schonat.

387. 14 September: Maria Eva, born 6 September 1845, daughter of Jacob Frank and his wife Elisabetha born Engler. Sponsors: Johann Rohrenbeck and Eva Ender. W. Schonat.

388. Same Day: Cecilia Emma, age four years, daughter of Frank Moray (deceased) and his wife (widow) Juliania. Sponsors: Joseph Müller and Barbara Miller.

389. Same Day: Peter, born 13 September 1845, son of James Berry and His wife Anna. Sponsors: Terrence McGuire and Rosa McGuire. W. Schonat.
[James Berry was born in Ireland around 1814; in 1842 he was in New York and in 1850 he was living in Ward 1 in Columbus (p. 771). "T McGuire" lived on the north side of Rich street between Front and Scioto streets in 1843.]

390. 21 September: Caroline Christina, born 6 September 1845, daughter of Phil. Frey and his wife Maria Anna born Zimmer. Sponsors: Ludwig Frey and Margaretha Zimmer. W. Schonat.

391. 2 October: William Richard, born 23 September 1843, son of William Henry Howe and Mary Anne, born Boyd. Sponsors: Nicolaus and Katharina Hanauer. W. Schonat.

392. 5 October: Rose Anna Elizabeth, born 5 September, daughter of James McGuire and his wife Margaret born Keorn[?]. Sponsors: Edward Fitzsimon and Anna Berry. W. Schonat.

393. 19 October: Margaretha, born 16 September 1845, daughter of Johann Lang and his wife Louisa born Kaiser. Sponros: Paulus Käli and Margaretha Lang. W. Schonat.

394. 20 October: Joseph Anton, born 17 October 1845, son of H. Metz and his wife. Sponsors: Joseph Metz and Christian Kiepes[?]. W. Schonat.
[The "H." here apparently represents the German "Herr." Georg Metz, born in Germany around 1806, immigrated to Ohio with his family in 1850. John Metz, Georg's brother, was a shoemaker in 1843, residing on the west side of Third street near State street. (See Franklin county Will Book C., p. 439.)]

395. 24 [sic!] November: (in Delaware) Maria Anna, born 26 October 1845, daughter of Johann Kreck and his wife Helena born Dömmel. Sponsors: Adam Müller and Maria Kirchner. W. Schonat.

396. 16 November: Joseph, born 12 November 1845, son of Michael Voll and his wife Anna born Geist. Sponsors: Joseph and Katharina Voll.
[Michael Voll, probably this child's grandfather, was born in Germany around 1793. He, his wife Katharina, daughter Katharina, and son, were living with Joseph Voll, wife and child in 1850. (Wd. 5, p. 394) Joseph was a foundry-man, born in Germany around 1819.]

397. Same Day: Flora Maria, born 15 November 1845, daughter of Joseph Schneider and his wife Katharina born Miller. Sponsors: Adam Schmidt and Flora Frank. W. Schonat.

398. 16 November: Veronica, born 27 May, daughter of Nicolaus Schöp and his wife Carolina born Kessler. Sponsors: Jacob Frank and Veronica Miller. W. Schonat.

399. 30 November: Johann Joseph, born 19 September 1845, son of Nicolaus Götzelmann and his wife Katharina born Ilm. Sponsors: Johann and Eva Ender. W. Schonat.

400. 7 December: Johann Georg, born 3 December 1845, son of Johann Siefert and his wife Barbara born Reinhardt. Sponsors: Georg Reinhardt and Maria Utz. W. Schonat.

Year 1845, continued.

401. 28 December: Elisabeth, daughter of G. Becherer and his wife A.M. Born. Volsk.

Year of the Lord 1846

402. 1 January: Maria Anna, born 23 October, daughter of Johann Frey and Maria born Uri. Sponsors: Peter Uri and M. A. Frey.

403. Same Day: Maria, born 29 December 1845, daughter of Lucas Mercle and Margaretha born Uir. Sponsors: Matthias Mercle and Maria Frey.

404. Same Day: Anna Margaretha, born 25 November, daughter of Johann Jochum and Margaretha born Becker. Sponsor: Theresa Frech.
[Johann Jochum was a tailor, born in Germany around 1814; he and his young family immigrated around 1845. (1850 Wd 5, p. 383)]

405- 3 January: Peter and Jacob, born 27 December, twin sons of Michael Buchner and Maria Anna born Jahn. Sponsors: Jacob Frank and Veronica Jahn, and Maria Elisabeth Frank.
[Michael "Bickner" was a brick mason, born in Germany around 1810; in 1850 he was living in Montgomery township. (p. 807)]

407. 11 January: Johann, born 9 January, son of Johann Rohrenbeck and his wife Carolina born Frank. Sponsors: Johann and Maria Frank. W. Schonat.

408. 6 January: Mary, wife of Dennis Corcoran. Sponsor: Mrs. Corcoran. W. Schonat.

409. 15 January: Arminia, born 17 December 1845, daughter of Theodore Leonhard and his wife Catherine born Malbeuf. Sponsors: Maria Leonhard and Charles Malbeuf. W. Schonat.

410. 18 January: Francisca, born 4 January 1846, daughter of August Ilgert and his wife Rosina born Brosmer. Sponsors: Michael Zaengerle and Maria Kali. W. Schonat.

411. Same Day: Nicolaus Ignatz, born 8 January, son of Ignatz Fitterer and his wife Helena born Weingart. Sponsors: Alois and Angela Wölfel. W. Schonat.

412. 22 January: Johann, born 19 January, son of Franz Stecher and his wife Kunigunda born Ziegelmaier. Sponsor: Martin Illich. W. Schonat.

413. Same Day: James, born 31 October 1845, son of R. Harrison and his wife Anne. Sponsor: Mary Railey. W. Schonat.

414. 23 January: Wilhelmina, age 8 months, daughter of Johann Zettler and his wife. Sponsor: Maria Anna Zettler. W. Schonat.
[Johann Zettler and his wife Maria were living in Ward 4 in 1850; he was a teamster, born in Germany around 1815. (p. 517)].

The End

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Note. This issue of the "Bulletin" concludes volume VII - and seven years of publication. Memberships for the calendar year 1982 are now due.

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A HOLY AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS
TO ALL OUR READERS. MAY 1982
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