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# Glimpses of The Franciscan Sisters in Ironton

The followers of St. Francis of Assisi are said to have had six values of life: fraternity, minority, poverty, humility, prayer, and mission. The first five of these values are, more or less, internal to the religious community. A parish or diocese, however, can see how the Franciscan mission of going into the world as heralds of peace and penance is carried out. The Sisters of St. Francis of Our Lady of Lourdes, from Rochester, Minnesota, served continuously in Ironton and Lawrence County for nearly a century, from 1878 to 1972. While we cannot provide a flowing story of their mission, we have records that provide an outline and some glimpses of their valiant educational efforts at St. Joseph and St. Lawrence parish schools as well as their Sacred Heart Institute.

Franciscan Sisters first came to that southern region of the Diocese of Columbus in 1872. These were Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate from Joliet, Illinois, whose superioress was Mother Mary Alfred Moes. They came to staff the schools of the German St. Mary parish in Portsmouth. In the fall of 1874 additional Sisters came to staff the schools of the English-speaking parishes of Holy Redeemer in Portsmouth and St. Lawrence in Ironton. They stayed only one academic year at these two posts. Near the end of 1877, while Mother Alfred was working in Rochester, Minn., the Bishop of Chicago cut her off from the Joliet congregation, of which he was the ecclesiastical superior, and Mother Alfred founded a new congregation headquartered in Rochester. The Sisters then teaching in Portsmouth joined the new congregation and it was these Rochester Franciscans who became a seemingly permanent presence at the German parishes in the two towns.[1]

### St. Joseph Parish

The school at St. Joseph Parish in Ironton opened in 1865, just a year after the church was blesssed. It was taught by laymen.[2] The parish owned four lots running from Second to Third Street, in the middle of the block between Adams and Jefferson, on the south or upstream portion of Ironton's downtown. The frame church was on the middle two lots, facing Second Street. (See page 283, below.) The school, at least by 1877, was on the southernmost of the lots, also facing Second Street.[3] In 1878 Mother Alfred was offered and accepted this school. Four Sisters arrived on August 25, 1878, namely Sisters Francisca Collet and Columba Pribyl with novices Isidore Coughlin and Joseph Dempsey.[4] It is not known with certainty where they lived at first, but it probably was in the brick convent, measuring 36 by 17 feet, which by 1886 stood directly behind the church, on Third Street.

The parish and school grew and prospered, so that by 1883 a new schoolhouse was needed. A two-story brick building, measuring 60 by 26 feet, with two classrooms on each floor, was built in 1883. It stood directly south of the convent, facing Third Street.[5] This was the school building until 1924 and

then it was used by the Knights of St. George until 1937. It was razed in 1942.

We are given a glimpse of the Sisters' Third Street convent as of January 21, 1886, by a list of chattel property of St. Joseph's Congregation that survives in the diocesan archives:

Kitchen

1 cook stove & utensils, 4 flat irons, 1 table, 3 chairs, and 1 lamp

Dining Room

1 table, 2 table cloths, 4 chairs, 1 rocker, 1 safe, 1 clock, rag carpet

Parlor

1 cushioned rocker, 1 sociable, 6 cushioned chairs, 1 table, carpet, 1 stove, 4 window shades

Upstairs

7 chairs, 1 table, 3 wash stands, 4 bedsteads & bedding, 1 bureau, 1 stove, 2 carpets, 1 altar, 14 pictures of the stations, 1 statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Private property of the Sisters consisted of 1 bird & cage, 1 large lamp, 8 pictures, 1 crucifix, 1 upright piano & stool, and 1 organ & stool in the school house.[6]

A spate of telegrams dated July 5 to 15, 1886, survives that indicates the anxiety felt in Ironton at that time. They were sent by Sister M. Francis, Mr. Peter Newman, and Father Boden (St. Joseph's pastor), all directed to Father T. J. O'Reilly, Bishop Watterson's secretary, asking if the bishop would be home to meet with them. The todo apparently was associated with the purchase of the remaining unowned lot between the parish property and Adams Street on the north. It was purchased on August 18 for a price of $3,500.[7] The price seems to indicate that the house on the corner of Adams and Third was already standing at the time. This house became the Sisters' convent and was used until 1924.[8] The convent on Third Street, though not old, was razed to make way for the new church, which faced Adams and ran south along Third. (To make room for the new church, dedicated in 1889, the old frame one was moved south to stand directly behind the school and became a parish hall. This old church probably had been damaged in the flood of 1884. The 1913 flood reached 54 inches in the new church and was only fourteen inches higher than that of 1884.[9]) This convent housed five Sisters in 1900 and six in 1910 and 1920. The sixth Sister was brought to Ironton to teach high school courses.

It is known that a commercial course was offered by the Sisters as early as 1897, for two diplomas exist that were awarded to its graduates in 1898.[10] A high school, beginning with just the ninth grade, was opened in 1909. The Sisters opened the school but Father John J. Schneider, the pastor, had difficulty getting the children to stay after eighth grade. Bishop Hartley, in line with the earlier decrees of the country's bishops, refused to allow Catholic students to attend the public school. The Sister sent to teach ninth grade did her best, but very soon the bishop advised the pastor to relieve her of teaching Chemistry, Latin, and Christian Doctrine, for she was worried about the work load. The Sisters had established a training school to develop high school teachers, but apparently it was not yet fully preparing them. Father Schneider in the spring of 1910 again contemplated closing the high school but Bishop Hartley talked him out of it.[11] Soon the high school expanded to two years. It did not expand to four years until 1925. The Sisters were teaching 212 children in 1916.[12]

The seven lots making up the west side of South Sixth Street between Quincy and Chestnut were donated to Bishop Hartley in 1922. This is only a few blocks, amounting to half a mile, from the St. Joseph parish site, but is on higher ground. In 1924 construction was begun on a new St. Joseph School there, where it would be out of danger of floods. Most of the existing houses on the property were moved but a large one at the south or Chestnut Street end was saved to be a convent for the Sisters.[13] The school opened in September 1925 for both the elementary and the high school, which the Sisters now extended to four years. After St. Joseph Church was damaged again in the 1937 flood, church services were held in the school auditorium until the present church at Fifth and Chestnut, behind the convent, was completed in 1949.

In the fall of 1952 a Central Catholic School System was inaugurated, including the schools of St. Joseph and St. Lawrence in Ironton and St. Mary in Pine Grove. St. Ann in Chesapeake joined later. That fall grades 3 through high school of the two Ironton schools were combined, with grades 3-6 at St. Lawrence and 7 through 12 at St. Joseph. Two years later the first two grades were added to the system. The Franciscan Sisters, with the two pastors, were largely responsible for the development of St. Joseph's Central Catholic High School, an institution admired, respected, and loved.[14]

The Sisters of St. Francis withdrew from the upper grades of the school system in 1970 and from the lower grades in 1972. They were replaced in the lower grades by the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity from Carrollton, Ohio.[15]

**St. Lawrence Parish**

The school of St. Lawrence O'Toole parish had a more chequered history than that of St. Joseph, being served successively by lay teachers, Dominicans, Franciscans, Sisters of Providence, Sisters of St. Joseph, Dominicans again, and finally the Franciscans from Rochester. This history shows what a difficult situation the Franciscans eventually came into.

The school was started in 1864 and was taught by lay teachers. It was a one-room school across the street from the Lawrence Street School, between Lawrence and Buckhorn.[16] This was two blocks north of the church, which was on the northwest corner of Seventh and Centre streets.

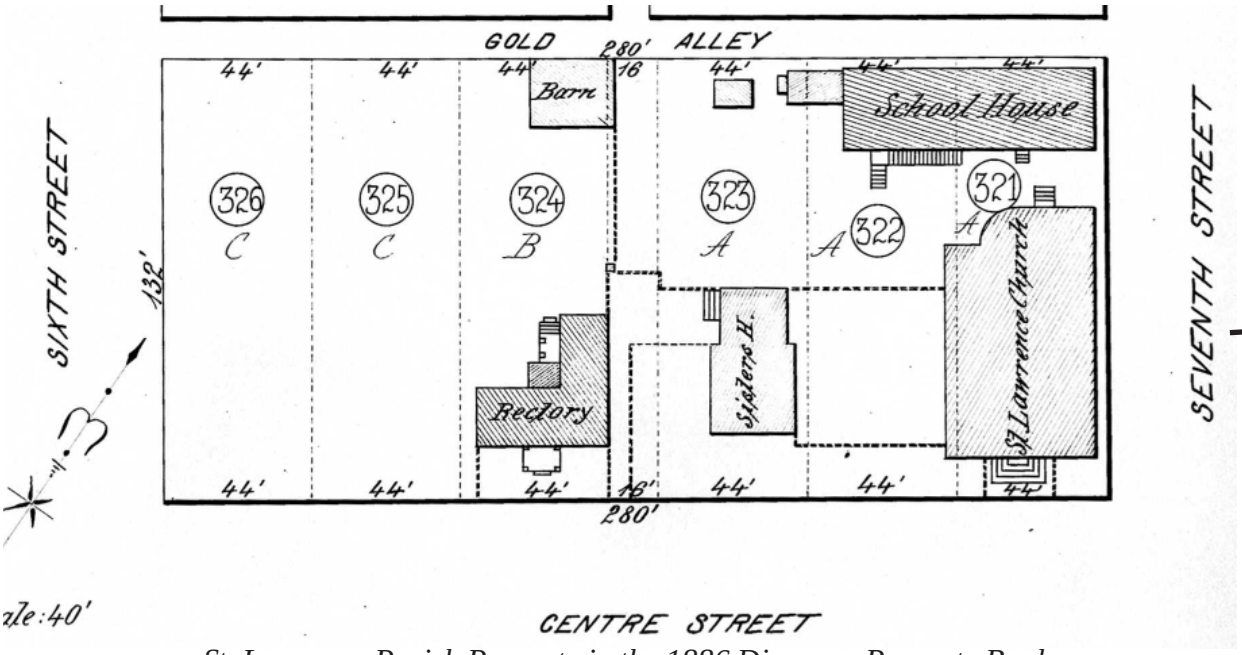
Dominican Sisters from Columbus came to staff the school in the fall of 1872. They stayed only two years, withdrawing in 1874.[17] It is not known whether their school was the one on Lawrence Street or the one on the parish property. No record of the construction of the latter seems to have survived. One account says it was built in the time of Father Bric, who arrived in 1876. It was in place by 1877, a two-story frame structure about 75 by 24 feet that stood at Seventh Street and Gold Alley behind the church, its length along the alley. The convent probably was the two-story brick house facing Centre Street, standing west of the church, that was in place by 1877. (The frame rectory stood west of the convent. The convent and rectory, though not marked as such, both appear on the 1877 map of Ironton; both lots were owned by the parish from the 1850s. More detail is found in the 1886 diocesan property book.)

In the 1874-1875 academic year five Sisters of St. Francis from Joliet were at the parish, four to teach and one to keep house. The Franciscans did not get along well with the Irish priests. Miscommunication between them and the pastor, Father William O'Reilly, apparently contributed to the latter's recall by Bishop Rosecrans early in 1875. By that May the Sisters were owed $547 by the parish. The new pastor, Father Daniel O'Brien, thought the Sisters were young, inexperienced, and not remarkably efficient as teachers. In addition, there was trouble in July when Father O'Brien bought a piano and wanted one of the sisters to play it for him, in his house.[18] Father O'Brien "commanded" the Sisters to leave Ironton sometime between July and October.[19]

The next teachers were Sisters of Providence from St. Mary's of the Woods, Indiana, who are known to have been there in December, 1876. They were said to have been "excellent educators, as the improvement and appearance of the children bespeak." They apparently stayed through the 1878-1879 academic year, through very difficult economic times, when the furnaces and mills of the town were not running. The school enrollment was 230 that year.[20]

Sisters of St. Joseph from Baden, Pa., taught St. Lawrence school from 1879 to 1891.[21]

Dominican Sisters from Columbus returned in 1891.[22] Father James Cotter, the pastor, was already searching for sisters to replace the Dominicans in August, 1897 and had asked the Rochester Franciscans if they would come. The parish was running in the red each year and had a debt of $11,000 at the time and some parishioners thought it would be best to close the school.[23] The Dominicans remained one more year, until mid-1898, at which time they withdrew and the parish closed




*St. Lawrence Parish Property in the 1886 Diocesan Property Book*
*(Archives, Diocese of Columbus)*

the school, still indebted to these Sisters for over $1,100.[24] Over the next few years the parish did its best to try to pay the Dominicans and other debts and in 1903, at the urging of Bishop Moeller, began looking again for Sisters to reopen the school.

Sometime after 1890, in Father Cotter's time, a new convent was built (even the parish financial reports do not indicate just when).[25] This no doubt was the larger house that replaced the old convent on the same site, as shown on the 1928 fire insurance map.

St. Lawrence School reopened in the fall of 1905, with the Rochester Franciscans in charge. In 1907, at the urging of Bishop Hartley, a movement to erect a new school building was begun. Plans were ready by January, 1909. Bishop Hartley wrote Father Cotter to hurry along, saying, "If you don't hasten I'm afraid the old one will fall down." The cornerstone was laid that spring and the school was opened that fall.[26] It was on the site of the old church at Seventh and Centre. A new church, the present one at Sixth and Centre, had been completed in 1891. The new school immediately included a high school course of some kind, perhaps only a one- or two-year course as the Franciscans conducted at St. Joseph.[27] The convent housed five teaching and one domestic Sister in 1910 and four teachers and one domestic in 1920, 1930, and 1940.

According to the parish history booklet, a two-year commercial course was offered by 1915. The Sisters taught the day students but a lay teacher taught the night school. This closed in May, 1918.

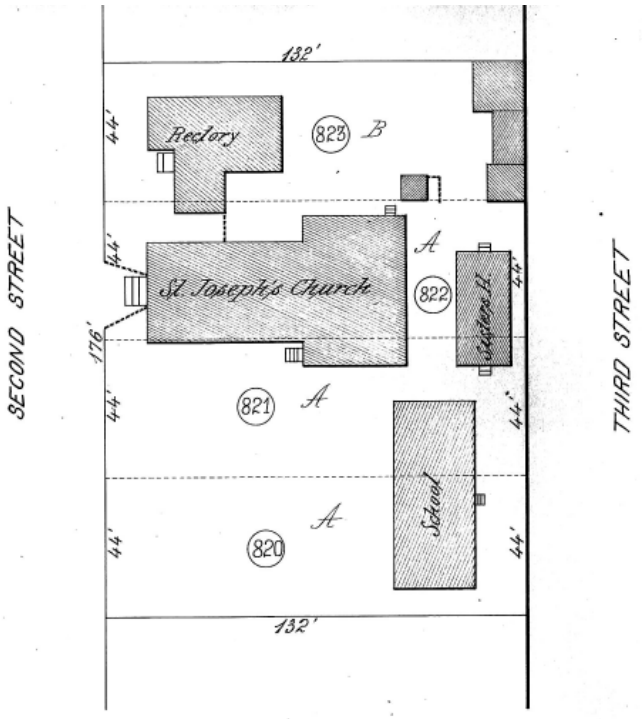
St. Lawrence School was combined into the Central Catholic School System in 1952 and 1954, as described above.

### Sacred Heart Institute

More remarkable than the parish schools, because very unusual, was the Sisters' foundation south of Ironton formally named the Sacred Heart Institute but known within the congregation as "the Farm." Through the years two short accounts of this institute were written by Sisters of the Congregation. One by Sister Francis Ann was made available to Joseph R. McCarthy for preparation of the 1964 St. Joseph Parish centennial booklet. Another, written in 2003 by Sister M. Lonan Reilly, was sent to the Record Society by the archivist, Sr. M. Goergen, in 2017.

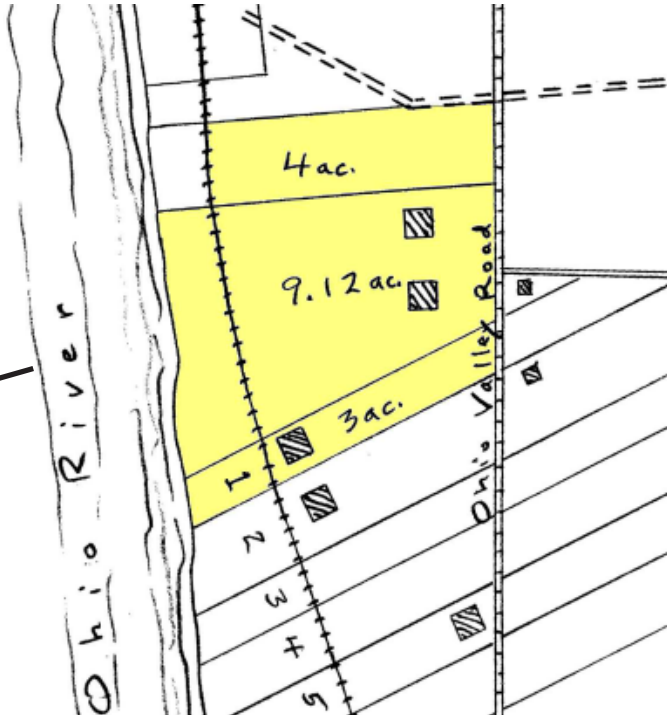
On June 25, 1883, Mother Alfred Moes, superior at Rochester, purchased a three-acre tract of land from George W. Keyes and his wife Isabella for $1,750.[28] This was on the west side of the pike




*St. Joseph Parish Property in the 1886 Diocesan Property Book*
*(Archives, Diocese of Columbus)*

*Second site of St. Joseph Parish*




*Shading indicates the property of the Sacred Heart Institute (based on deeds and the 1887 atlas).*

that in time became South Third Street, opposite to and a short way south of the present Lorain Street, and ran down to the Ohio River. The Scioto Valley Railway ran across it, parallel to the river. This site was 2 miles from St. Joseph Church, 2 1/2 miles from St. Lawrence, and 1 3/8 miles outside the city limits of that time. (By 1900 the city limits had been extended to include the site.)

The purchase was noted in a local newspaper of June 28, which stated, "This venture, we understand, is under the especial encouragement of St. Joseph's Catholic church. The project involves the establishment of a school or college for the education of Catholic youth. The present design is to erect without delay a building to cost five or six thousand dollars, to be so constructed as to add to it, when the demand for increased facilities arise. The land lies beautifully and it will be a handsome place for an educational enterprise."[29]

In his 1964 centennial history of St. Joseph Parish, Joseph McCarthy speculated that, in light of her previous history, in purchasing this land Mother Alfred might have been preparing a place to start anew if events might make that necessary. She had left the Notre Dame Sisters in Milwaukee to join the Holy Cross Sisters in Indiana; then left that congregation to form the Joliet Franciscans; then in 1878 she formed the Rochester congregation. In 1882 her bishop wrote to her that she had no status and, if she feared complete rejection by this bishop, she may have been preparing a place in which to start over another time. In any case, this did not come about.

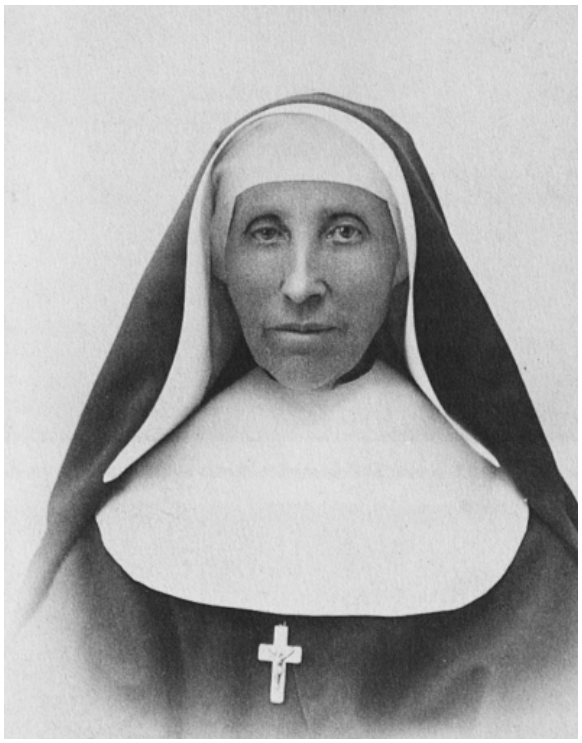
On May 25, 1885, Mother Alfred purchased another tract of land adjoining the first tract on the north, for $7,560, from the trustees of the creditors of John Campbell. It measured 463 feet along the pike and ran west to the low water mark of the Ohio River. This tract contained 9.12 acres between the pike and the railroad.[30]

The 1887 Lawrence County atlas shows two substantial buildings on this property, towards the pike, and another on the original property, near the railroad. There in 1886 Sisters Isabelle Heim, Loretto Koch, Salome Tloczynska (or Valeria Joczinska), and Martha Brefeld settled in to staff the new Institute. Sacred Heart Institute served as a convent, a sort of local motherhouse, for the Sisters working in the Ohio Valley. Besides teaching in Portsmouth and Ironton, Franciscan Sisters from Rochester came to teach in Ashland, Ky. in 1878, Pine Grove, O. in 1880, Woodsfield, O. in 1883, Cincinnati in 1885, Paris, Ky. in 1886, and to Ripley, Pomeroy, and Wills Creek, O. The Sisters would gather at the Institute in the summer to attend classes, renew vows, make retreats, and vacation. They also grew some of their food for the season there. The Institute had a beautiful orchard and grape arbors extending from the pike to the building, which sat back near the railroad tracks (and so was the building on the original property). This was much more convenient than making the long and expensive trip to Rochester each summer.[31]

The creation of the Institute was well timed to provide summer classes for the Sisters. In the mid-1880s Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati, and doubtless other bishops, began to require teaching Sisters to take an examination. Mother Alfred knew that her Sisters were not prepared for that and had to bring themselves up to the necessary standards.[32]

On February 11, 1887, if Mother Alfred had had any thoughts of "starting over" these were abandoned. She transferred all of the congregation's property that had been in her personal name, including the Sacred Heart Institute, to the new Academy of Our Lady of Lourdes of the County of Olmsted, Minnesota, under which title the congregation had been incorporated.[33]

That July a meeting of the corportation was held in the academy in Rochester. Those present voted to establish a school at Ironton. Twenty-two Sisters who were not in Rochester met at the Institute on July 15 and also were in favor of erecting the school. That September 8 another four acres, more or less, was added to the Institute with the purchase for $3,500 of the next property north, measuring 264 feet along the pike and running 645 feet back to the railroad right-of-way. This apparently was intended to be the site of the new school, which was referred to as being in the Woodland area.[34] (Woodland still



*Sister Barbara Moes,*
*Superior of the Sacred Heart Institute*
*(Courtesy of Assisi Heights Archives)*

is the name of the large cemetery in that vicinity.) Father Boden of St. Joseph Parish wrote to Bishop Watterson in January 1888 that the Sisters' plans were for a higher institute. There then were two sisters and two candidates in the house.[35]

Sister Barbara Moes, sister of Mother Alfred, became superior of the Institute in 1888 and remained such until 1895 (she died at the Institute that November). Mother Alfred also lived there, from February until August 1890. She returned in 1894 and became superior herself in 1895 and was such until the summer of 1898, though it is not known how much she actually lived there.[36]

There apparently was a school at the Institute for a short time. McCarthy in 1964 noted, "One former pupil there, still alive as this is being written, says she went to school there from 1898 to 1900, 'when the school was closed.'"[37] It must have been late in 1899 that the superior general of the congregation wrote to Bishop Joseph Cotter of Winona, ecclesiastical superior of the Rochester Franciscans, requesting permission to close "the little school at the Ironton Farm." The Bishop gave his permission in a letter dated January 12, 1900.[38]

The enumerator for the 1900 federal census on June 15 found three sisters at the Institute, namely Johanna Simon (Sister Mary Ferdinand), Katherine Joyce (Sr. Mary Ignatius), and Susan Laudner (Sr. Mary Baptist). All were in their forties; Sisters Mary Ferdinand and Mary Ignatius each gave her occupation as teacher and Sr. Mary Baptist was the housekeeper.[39]

According to Sister M. Lonan Reilly's account the Institute closed in 1900. The property remained intact, with the real estate taxes paid, until about 1906. It was about then that 2.17 acres of the original 3-acre lot was taken by the Ashland & Ironton Bridge Company. The company's intention was to build a railroad bridge to connect Ironton with Ashland, Kentucky, to facilitate development of Eastern Kentucky coal fields. The bridge never was built. Nevertheless, the company condemned the remaining 0.83 acre of this lot in 1908. The two larger lots were sold by the Academy of Our Lady of Lourdes to the Ironton Iron Company on May 18, 1907.[40] According to McCarthy, the last iron furnace ever erected in Lawrence County was built on the site. It now is largely empty.



The St. Joseph Centennial history gives a list of 165 Franciscan Sisters from Rochester who taught in the parish school up until that year, 1964. If the Sisters who taught at St. Lawrence, those at the Institute, and those who served during the remaining eight years were counted, no doubt well over two hundred would be found. The Sisters from Rochester created a most remarkable record of dedication to their mission in a small city in Ohio.

NOTES


1) Kraman, Sister Carlan, O.S.F., *Odyssey in Faith*, Rochester: Sisters of St. Francis, 1990, pp 133-134, 149, and 159.
2) Hartley, Rt. Rev. James J., *Diocese of Columbus: A History of Fifty Years, 1868-1918*; Columbus: 1918, p 327.
3) Ironton map in E.L. Hayes e.a., *Illustrated*

*atlas of the Upper Ohio River and Valley from Pittsburgh, Pa. to Cincinnati, Ohio*, Philadelphia: Titus, Simmons & Titus, 1877. Viewable on-line at the David Rumsey Map Collection, www.davidrumsey.com

4) Kraman, *op. cit.*, p 159.

5) McCarthy, Joseph R., *Centennial of Saint Joseph Church, Ironton, Ohio*, 1964, pp 11-12, which cites also a paragraph in the *Ironton Register*, Aug. 2, 1883.

6) Archives, Diocese of Columbus (hereafter ADC), Bishop Watterson Papers, Jan. 21, 1886, Ironton, St. Joseph Congregation. Appraisal of chattel property of the parish and Sisters, and private property of Father Boden. Signed by Rev. W. F. Boden, Peter Newman, and C. F. Hanicken

7) Lawrence County Deed Record 44/233.

8) McCarthy, *op. cit.*, p 11.

9) www.irontoncatholicchurches.com/Content/HTML/StJosephChurch/. Willard, Eugene, *Standard History of the Hanging Rock Iron Region*, Lewis Publishing, 1916, I/336-337.

10) http://irontoncatholicschools.weebly.com/st-joseph-high-school.html

11) ADC, Bishop Hartley to Mother Matilda, Rochester, Minn., Sept. 17, 1909. Bishop Hartley to Rev. John J. Schneider, Ironton, Sept. 17, 1909 and May 28, 1910.

12) Willard, *op. cit.*, I/335-336.

13) Hartley, Rt. Rev. James J., *The History of the Diocese of Columbus, Volume II, 1918-1943*; Columbus: 1943; p 73. *125th Anniversary of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton, 1852-1977*, p 23.

14) http://irontoncatholicschools.weebly.com/st-joseph-high-school.html. *125th Anniversary* p 36.

15) *125th Anniversary* p 36. Father Francis Brown's *A History of the Roman Catholic diocese of Steubenville*, 1994, pp 232-233, gives reasons for the Sisters' withdrawal.

16) *125th Anniversary* p 15.

17) Mullay, Sister Camilla, O.P., *A Place of Springs*; Columbus: Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs, 2005, pp 97, 106. Burton, Katherine, *Make the Way Known*, New York: Farrar, Straus & Cudahy, 1959, p 270.

18) See the *Bulletin* of January 2009 for Father O'Reilly. ADC, [Rev.] Daniel O'Brien, Ironton, to Bishop Rosecrans, May 25, 1875; and Sr. M. Francis, Ironton, to "Rev. and dear Mother," July 27, 1875.

19) *The Catholic Columbian*, Oct. 30, 1875. ADC, Mother M. Alfred, Convent of St. Francis, Joliet, to Bishop Rosecrans, November 5, 1875.

20) *The Catholic Columbian*, Dec. 9, 1876 and Jan. 30 1879.

21) Information supplied by Kathleen Washy, archivist, Sept. 11, 2013.

22) Mullay, op. cit., p 137. Burton, op. cit., p 270. *125th Anniversary* pp 20-21.

23) ADC, Rev.J. H. Cotter, Rector, St. Lawrence Church, Ironton, to Bishop Watterson, Aug. 3, 1897.

24) ADC, 1901 parish financial report.

25) Hartley, 1943, *op. cit.*, pp 324-325. ADC, Bishop Hartley to Rev. James H. Cotter, July 17, 1907. Bishop Hartley to Rev. J. H. Cotter, July 1, 1908. Bishop Hartley letter book 4, page 65, (about Jan,. 12, 1909), Bishop Hartley to Rev. James H. Cotter. Bishop Hartley to Rev. James H. Cotter, Apr. 23, 1909; June1, 1909; and Aug. 16, 1909. Bishop Hartley to Sr. Superior, St. Lawrence School, Ironton, Sept. 14, 1909.

27) ADC, Bishop Hartley to Rev. J. H. Cotter, Oct. 12, 1909.

28) Lawrence County Deed Record 41/18; part of lot 1 of the subdivision of land of Mary J. Argo in Upper Township.

29) newspaper clipping (lacking title), Briggs-Lawrence County Public Library.

30) Lawrence County Deed Record 43/67.

31) Account by Sr. M. Lonan Reilly, 2003, kindly provided by Sister Mary Goergen.

32) Kraman, *op. cit.*, p 174.

33) Lawrence County Deed Records 45/50 and 45/52.

34) Kraman, op. cit., pp 165, 172. McCarthy, op. cit., p 13, based on Sisetr Francis Ann's account. Lawrence County Deed Record 46/114.
35) ADC, Rev. W. F. Boden to Bishop Watterson, Jan. 30, 1888.
36) Kraman, op. cit., pp 178, 198, 199 and 201-202. McCarthy, *op. cit.*, 13.
37) McCarthy, *op. cit.*
38) Sr. M. Lonan Reilly's account.
39) U. S. 1900 census, Ironton, Ward 6, South Third St., family 555. A note from Sr. Mary Goergen provided the religious names of the three sisters.
40) Lawrence County Auditor's Duplicate, Ironton City, books for 1905 through 1910, page 80 in each book. Lawrence County Deed Records 89/88 and 94/539.

## Milford Center, Sacred Heart Congregation
## Baptisms, 1869-1900

(Concluded, from Vol. XLII, No. 9)

**1883**, continued

Nov. 22 Walter Scott, born Oct. 20, son of John Kennington and Margaret Richter; spons. James Cunnin and Caroline Richter. Alfred D. Dexter

Dec. 24 Mary Matilda, born Apr. 25, daughter of Michael Powers and Ann Clark; spons. Michael D. Cunningham and Johanna Powers. ADD

Dec. 26 Teresa, born Dec. 23, daughter of Denis and Mary Sulivan; spons. Timothy Sulivan and Julia Sulivan. ADD

**1884**

May 21 Helen, born May 19, daughter of Patrick Welsh and Catherine Dorsey; spons. William Deneen and Margaret Egan. ADD

**1885**

Jan. 29 John Leo, born Jan. 28, son of Andrew Peters and Elizabeth Strapp; spons. John Dea and Mary A. Dorsey. ADD

Mar. 29 James, born Feb. 14, son of John Connors and Ann Moloy; spons. Francis Jefris and Rose Moloy. ADD

July 23 Pearl Daniel, born July 9, son of Michael Egan and Margaret Moloy; spons. John Kennington and Mary Egan. ADD

**1886**

May 30 Francis, born Apr. 26, son of Francis Connor and Ann DeLong; spons. William Deneen and Rose Moloy. ADD

Aug. 15 John Thomas, born June 23, son of Michael Grady and Mary Morgan; spons. Thomas Kenny and Helen Kenny. ADD

Sept. 20 [no place listed] Walter Charles, born Aug. 2, son of Michael Dee and Mary Hinton; spons. John Dee and Ann Dee. ADD

Dec. 3 Thomas, born Nov. 30, son of Patrick Welsh and Catherine Dorsey; spons. Michael Murphy and Ella Welsh. ADD

**1887**

Feb. 30 John, born Nov. 15, 1886, son of Owin Hammond and Julia O'Donald; spons. John O'Donald and Mary Sherington. [ADD]

June 27 Elizabeth Teresa, born June 11, daughter of Andrew Peters and Elizabeth Strap; spons. John Kennington and Mary Kennington. ADD

**1888**

Feb. 17 [no place listed] John, born Feb. 14, son of Michael Egan and Margaret Moloy; spons. Timothy Egan and Rose Moloy. ADD

**1889**

Aug. 14 Frederick William, born August [blank], son of John O'Dea and Jacoba Tully; spons. Patrick Kelly Jr. and Bridget Kelly. ADD

**1890**

June 29 Ann, daughter of Mitchell and Mary Ann Daibo, born June 16; spons. Mrs. Patrick King. John F. Hickey

Oct. 13 Denis William, son of Denis Creedon and Mary Sullivan, born October [blank], spons. John F. Hickey and Julia Sullivan; in Creedon's own house in Milford Center. JFH

**1891**

Mar. 1 George Cyril, son of John Malloy and Clara Hammond, born Feb. 22; spons. Andrew Peters and Hannah Clifford. JFH

**1892**

Jan. 10 Mary Elizabeth, born Dec. 28, 1891, daughter of Francis Richter and Essie Neal (Protestant); spons. John and Maggie Kennington. J. G. Venneman

Apr. 23 Paul Raphael, born Apr. 13, son of Andrew Peters and Elizabeth Strap; spons. John Clifford and Caroline Richter. JGV

Apr. 11 Andrew, born Apr. 10, son of Patrick Connoly and Honora Sheahan; spons. Eugene King and Mary Dorsey. JGV

Oct. 9 Alfred Lyle, born Sept. 15, son of Daniel Hinton and Ida Spring; spons. William Hinton and Caroline Richter. JGV

**1893**

Mar. 19 Joseph Otto, son of James Powers and Mary Hall, born May 18, 1883; spons. John Powers and Mary Powers. JGV

May 21 Helen born Apr. 11, daughter of Michael Grady and Mary Moran; spons. Michael Welsh and Mary Keating. JGV

**1894**

Jan. 13 Anselm, born Dec. 29, 1893, son of Daniel Clifford and Julia King; spons. Eugene King and Catherine Long. JGV

**1895**

Aug. 24 Norma Lucille, born July 17, daughter of Francis Richter and Essie Neal; sons. John Kennington and Teresa Richter. JGV

**1898**

Aug. 14 Ann, born July 7, 1896, and Mary, born Nov. 17, 1897, daughters of Philip Herre and Catherine Nuba; spons. Bridget Slattery. JGV

**1900**

Apr. 15 Catherine, born Nov. 17, 1899, daughter of Philip Herre and Catherine Nuper; spons. Abigail Sullivan. JGV

Apr. 15 Francis, born Dec. 22, 1899, son of Francis Richter and [blank]; spons. Isabella Thompson. JGV

**Milford Center Marriages, 1882-1900**

1882, Aug. 16 John Connors and Mary Molloy. A. D. Dexter

1885, Sept. 14 Henry Guisinger and Mary O'Donnell. ADD

1885, Nov. 5 Michael Dee and Mary Hinton. ADD

1887, July 7 Daniel Hinton and Cecilia Spring (convert). ADD

1891, May 7 John Dee and Lottie Reed (not baptized) John F. Hickey

1893, Aug. 9 Orris Moore (non-baptized), son of J. E. Moore and Etta Elliot, with Mary Brown, daughter of Elisha Brown and Elizabeth Hinton; witnesses Catherine Finck and Abbie Brown. J. G. Venneman

1896, Mar. 5 (no place listed) Daniel Clifford and Stella Crawford (lately baptized); wit. William & Ann Powers. JGV

1896, Oct. 3 John T. Smith, son of Thomas Smith and Catherine Smith, with Elizabeth Donohue, daughter of Joseph Donohue and Elizabeth Bray; wit. J. Sieber and Kate Finck. JGV

1896, Nov. 25 John Joseph Strapp, son of Walter Strapp and Margaret Meagher, with Joanna Clifford, daughter of Daniel Clifford and Julia King; wit. John Clifford and Caroline Richter. JGV

**Milford Center**
**First Communions and Confirmations, 1883-1886**

1883: Timothy Egan 15, Patrick Dee 16, Hanna Clifford 15, Mary Creeden 13, and Julia Creeden 12.

Sept. 12, 1885: Daniel Deneen 14, Patrick Deneen 12, Daniel Dee 14, John Hinton 13, William Hinton 12, and John Clifford 13.

Confirmed on — 1886 by Archbishop Elder; sponsors Jms. McDonald and Mrs M. Kenedy.

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