

Elmira Church's 75 Years Reviewed

Reveals Parish As Leader In Many Fields

St. Mary's Parish, Elmira, which is observing its Diamond Jubilee during the week of May 2 in connection with the pastor's Silver Jubilee and the school's Golden Jubilee, has had but four pastors during its 75 years of service to God in the southern portion of Elmira.

(Story of celebration on Page 1, this issue.)

Each pastor made a distinguished contribution to the parish's development. Predecessors of the Rev. Thomas J. Toole, who has presided over the parish since January, 1944, were the late Rev. Jeremiah J. Moriarty, the late Rev. Michael O'Dwyer and the founder, the late Rev. James McManus.

From the earliest records of St. Mary's Parish, there is a notation in Father McManus' own handwriting that he was appointed pastor to St. Mary's in Elmira on Feb. 19, 1872, where he served as pastor until April, 1880, when he was transferred to St. Joseph Church, Batavia, where he died in 1882.

The original property of St. Mary's parish was purchased August 21, 1871, when James and Mary McCroden transferred to Rev. James McManus for \$1,600, one acre of land at Franklin and Fulton streets. On August 21, 1875, this same property was transferred to the Most Rev. Stephen Vincent Ryan, Bishop of Buffalo, in consideration for a mortgage of \$6,000 made to John A. Root, Jr.

The first transaction was completed with the County Clerk of Chemung County on Jan. 19, 1874, and the second with the same on August 27, 1875.

CORNERSTONE of a new St. Mary's Church was laid by Bishop Ryan of Buffalo on Oct. 5, 1873. When finished the church was estimated to cost approximately \$25,000. The parish experienced a severe setback on Dec. 4, 1873, when a strong gale knocked down the new structure, injured three workmen and resulted in a loss of \$8,000.

With various Church societies participating the new church was dedicated August 15, 1875, by Bishop Ryan. Sermon was by the Rev. Father Rice, president of the Academy of Our Lady of the Angels, Buffalo.

The present school and convent were built during the pastorate of the Rev. Michael O'Dwyer who succeeded Father McManus in 1880.

Father O'Dwyer was early interested in the Elmira Reformatory and in April, 1894, was declared "pronounced in his opinion of the worth of the Reformatory." In an article in the Elmira Daily Gazette and Free Press, in February, 1895, he organized the St. Mary's Aid Society to care for the needy in the parish.

Even as early as 1897, St. Mary's parish was interested in athletic events for youth. The parish school had a football team which played St. Patrick's and St. Mary's won 8 to 0.

THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOL building with entertainment hall annex costing approximately \$13,000 and the convent estimated to cost about \$5,000, opened in June, 1898. Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid of Rochester dedicated the Convent and School August 28, 1898.

The 26 years of fruitful work of Father O'Dwyer came to a close when he died on Feb. 22, 1908, and was succeeded by the Rev. Jeremiah J. Moriarty.

Father Moriarty was associated with St. Mary's for more than 40 years as assistant pastor, administrator and finally as pastor.

As assistant to Father O'Dwyer, the records show, he was instrumental in having the new school built. It was a work close to Father Moriarty's heart as he had been a school teacher in earlier years.

He completely redecorated the church about 1912 and erected new altars and new altar railings. He purchased new statues for the sanctuary and installed new confessionals with the general cooperation of his people.

Father Moriarty purchased a new organ for \$29,000. The two new stained glass windows were placed in the sanctuary as the gifts of Patrick Cusick and Ellen Sullivan.

In Father Moriarty's time, the playground was built and property was purchased to square off the land belonging to the parish. Electricity was installed in the convent under his direction.

Father Moriarty established

High Altar to Be Consecrated



This beautiful and carefully designed high altar in St. Mary's Church, Elmira, will be solemnly consecrated by His Excellency Bishop Kearney during the Jubilee Week on May 3. In the insert is the Rev. Thomas J. Toole, pastor, with his two trustees, W. H. O'Neill, left, and J. S. Maloney. The sanctuary view of the newly redecorated Church, shows the new oak pews, the gothic vault sanctuary ceiling, and the altar and steps of Tennessee marble. A rubricated correct metal tabernacle and gold lacquered brass candlesticks are on the altar. The oak baldiehn over the altar is 25 feet high, set with delicate medieval carvings and surmounted by a statue of the Blessed Mother, patron of the church.

the Holy Name Society in the parish and instituted one of the first Catholic Boy Scout Troops in the diocese. Under the direction of the Rev. George Predmore, he started the men's and women's choir and a vested boys' choir which sang in the sanctuary.

It is felt that the intense devotion of the people of St. Mary's parish for frequent Holy Communion is due to the encouragement of Father Moriarty.

Extensive improvements, institution of the fulltime recreation program, advancement of parish societies as well as the increasing spiritual activity in St. Mary's parish have been the result of the present pastor's work today.

(Stories on improvements and the athletic program under Father Toole's direction are in adjoining column.)

Besides the many improvements already made, Father Toole is planning a new rose window over the organ and four new confessionals in the rear of the church.

On March 30, 1948, the large lot adjoining the church fronting on Franklin Street between Fulton and Pleasant Streets was purchased for \$5,000.

With a complete parish plant, developed by pastors, assistants and parishioners, St. Mary's Church enters the next 25 years well equipped to carry on God's work, the present parishioners believe.

Elmira CDA To Greet New Members

Official reception of a class of new members into Court St. Rita, Catholic Daughters of America, will be held in their rooms, 118 E. Church St. Elmira, Sunday, Apr. 25 at 3 p. m.

District Deputy Margaret Barre, of Corning will assist Grand Regent Prudence McMahon and her officers. Some officers and members of Addison and Waverly courts will also participate in the ceremonies.

St. Mary Pastor To Observe His Silver Jubilee

The Rev. Thomas J. Toole, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Elmira, who is observing his silver sacerdotal jubilee, in the triple celebration at his church in May, was born in Geneva, Oct. 14, 1896.

He attended St. Francis DeSales Grammar School and Geneva High School from which he was graduated in 1915. He took his college course at Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass., where he received his M. A. degree in 1924.

Father Toole studied for the Holy Priesthood at St. Bernard's Seminary and was ordained June 9, 1923.

His first assignment was as assistant pastor at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Ithaca. Early in September, 1924, he left for study at Cambridge University, England, where he pursued a course in English and public speaking.

AFTER HIS RETURN in 1927, he taught English at Aquinas Institute, Rochester, in 1928 and 1929. He was appointed Assistant Pastor of Holy Family Church, Auburn, in July, 1929. In September of the same year, Father Toole was named to the Department of Bible and Religion and was on the staff until July, 1944.

His appointment as first resident pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Elmira Heights, was in January, 1935. His present appointment as pastor of St. Mary's, Elmira, came on Jan. 11, 1944.

Aiding Father Toole in arranging the Jubilee celebrations are St. Mary's assistant pastors, the Revs. James C. Lane and Leo E. Lynch.

One of the first diocesan priests to enter the Army Chaplain Corps in World War II, Father Lane was born in Auburn, where he attended St. Mary's School and Auburn High School.

He studied for the Holy Priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries and was ordained at St. Patrick's in Rochester, June 15, 1935.

His first assignment in July, 1935, was as Assistant Pastor of St. Michael's Church, Newark. In January, 1941, Father Lane was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Chaplain's Corps, U. S. Army. Called to active duty in March, 1941, he was assigned to the First Armored Division at Ft. Knox, Ky.

Father Lane served overseas in the African and Italian Theaters for 28 months. Upon his return to the United States, he served 18 months as Assistant Service Command Chaplain at Dallas, Tex., and for one year as Assistant Fifth Army Chaplain at Chicago, Ill.

He was placed on the inactive status in the officer's reserve corps with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in June, 1947. Father Lane was assigned as St. Mary's Assistant Pastor in July, 1947.

A graduate of St. Anthony's school Elmira, Mr. Quatrano is a graduate of Southside High School. After attending Cort and State Normal and Springfield, Mass., College, he took the boy guidance and leadership course at Notre Dame University and obtained his bachelor of science degree at the American College of Physical Education at Chicago.

He served 11 years with the Elmira Neighborhood House and has been camp director at Camp Villa Maria among other connections in youth work.

Bishop Plans First School Reno (RNS) Bishop Thomas K. Gorman of Reno has announced completion of plans for the construction of a Catholic high school here which will be open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. It will be the first of its kind in the state.

Assistants



FATHER LANE



FATHER LYNCH

The Rev. Leo E. Lynch, Assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Elmira, was born in Rochester, May 23, 1918.

He started grammar school in the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary School, Brockport, and completed his primary course at St. Theodore School, Gaica.

Father Lynch studied for the Holy Priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries and was ordained by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney on Dec. 18, 1943. He was appointed Assistant Pastor of St. Mary's on Jan. 11, 1944.

St. Anthony's Men Set Breakfast May 9

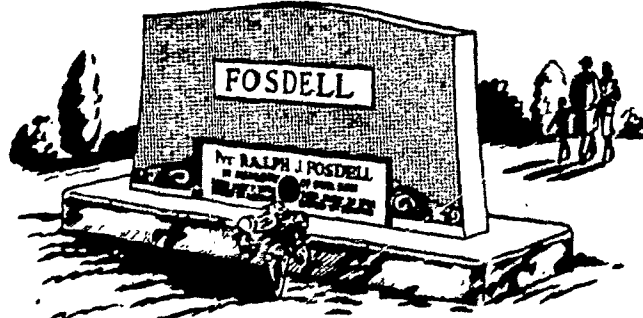
Annual Mother's Day Communion breakfast sponsored by St. Anthony's Holy Name Society will be held on Sunday, May 9, at the Langwell Hotel, Elmira.

Edward Rose, Sr., and Carmen Rossi are co-chairmen. They will be assisted by Samuel LeMark, Adolph Cirulli, Philip Marino, Anthony Mason, Anthony D'Andrea, Thomas Maycumber, Ralph Saravullo and Joseph DeNunzio.

Scholarship Fund Boosted At Bake

Corning — Rufus Smith was general chairman in charge of the indoor clam bake, sponsored by the college scholarship committee of the Corning Council Knights of Columbus Sunday afternoon at the Home. About 150 were in attendance.

Assisting Mr. Smith were George Bobrik, Charles Casterline, Harry Malo and John Murawick.



Memorial Day... GENERATIONS TO COME WILL REMEMBER YOUR TRIBUTE

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Elmira Lay Groups Unite for Huge Mary's Day Rally

The Catholic Laity of Elmira will hold a mass demonstration on "Mary's Day," Saturday, May 1 in Winter Park commencing at 11:45 a. m.

The Catholic Laity of Elmira will hold a mass demonstration on "Mary's Day," Saturday, May 1, in Winter Park, commencing at 11:45 a. m.

This great outdoor spiritual activity is being sponsored by the Catholic War Veterans of Chemung County, all parish Holy Name Societies, Elmira Council and Elmira Assembly, Knights of Columbus. An invitation is extended to all Catholic church organizations, parochial school children and scouting groups to participate and assemble at Winter Park at least 15 minutes before that start of the program.

School's Golden Jubilee Emphasizes Nun's Work

Fifty golden years of sound Catholic education are being completed this year by St. Mary's School, Elmira where Sister Herman Joseph is principal.

Sister Herman Joseph can well take a gratifying part in the school's Golden Jubilee celebration in May for she has presided over the school as principal for 42 years of the 50.

St. Mary's school, which now trains more than 400 children, under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph, was dedicated by Bishop Bernard McQuaid on August 28, 1898. The first Bishop of Rochester also solemnly blessed the convent.

The Bishop in his dedicatory address said that most careful attention must be paid to the instructors who are placed in charge of the schools, both as to their educational and religious training.

Bishop McQuaid complimented the parish of St. Mary's upon their new structures and expressed the opinion that none better could be found in the diocese.

Down through the years the school has turned out men and women who have been a credit to their alma mater in Elmira and in other places to which their vocations and avocations took them.



SISTER HERMAN JOSEPH

French "Garde Releve" New York (RNS). A drive to obtain materials useful in constructing trailers has been successfully ended in France by the Corps Catholique, according to information reaching War Relief Services of the National Catholic Welfare Conference here.

CHEMUNG CANAL TRUST COMPANY

Elmira, N. Y.

Founded 1883

Statement of condition of close of business April 12, 1948

RESOURCES	
Cash on hand and due from Banks	\$ 2,309,241.64
U. S. Government Securities	12,982,794.19
State, County and Municipal Securities	1,946,264.90
Other Bonds and Investments	617,000.15
Real Estate Mortgages	777,137.87
Loans and Discounts	5,266,251.61
Bank Building (less Reserve for Depreciation)	187,207.58
Other Resources	124,063.13
Furniture and Fixtures	180
	\$16,293,281.97

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 800,000.00
Surplus	2,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	800,000.00
Reserves:	
For Contingencies	\$185,264.89
For Interest Taxes, Etc.	148,083.20
	413,348.12
Other Liabilities	44,613.67
War Loan Deposit Account	284,902.68
Deposits	34,287,964.88
	\$36,289,208.54

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