

Elmirans To Join In Old Home Day At Bentley Creek

Bentley Creek, Pa. — Many Elmirans are expected to participate in the annual picnic and Old Home Day of St. Agn's parish on the Bentley Creek church grounds, Sunday, July 30.

The Rev. William Burchill, pastor, announces a varied program to entertain the large number expected to return for a day of reunion and reminiscence.

Old Home Day traditionally marks a reunion of former residents and descendants of the early settlers who now reside in Elmira and the nearby towns of New York's Southern Tier and Northern Pennsylvania.

A turkey and ham dinner will be served throughout the afternoon. Games and amusements will be provided for young and old. In the evening there will be round and square dancing.

THE ANNUAL gathering recalls the founding and early history of the nearby Pennsylvania parish. Although the original church was located at Ridgebury, in recent years most of the Catholic families have departed and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church at Ridgebury is now a mission church to St. Agn's at Bentley Creek where the present pastor now resides.

Local Catholic tradition says the first white man known to have penetrated the Ridgebury-Bentley Creek section was Catholic, Stephen Drake, a scout for Samuel de Champlain, French founder of Quebec, who explored the Wyoming Valley in 1613. In 1675 a French Jesuit, Father James Pierson traveled through the Wyoming Valley.

The Rev. James Pelletier, a German Jesuit in 1781 traveled up the Susquehanna River from Baltimore, Maryland, as far as Elmira, ministering to Catholics in remote places. He later became founder of Georgetown Academy, now Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

In 1835, a large number of Irish settlers aided in the construction of the canal extending from Williamsport to Green's Landing. Some of them settled in the hills of Ridgebury, on land owned by Charles Carroll of Carrolltown, Maryland, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The first white families to settle there were the McCarthys, Driscolls, O'Learys, Cairns, Chambers and Deamonds. The settlement flourished and attracted additional Irish families in the great migration to the U. S. from Ireland during the potato famine of 1840.

The first Mass in the settlement was celebrated in the home of Daniel Cain on the present site of the James Leary farm. The Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Francis O'Rilly, whose duties carried him through five northern Pennsylvania counties on horseback.

In 1847, before Elmira boasted a Catholic Church, a Colonel Scott donated \$750 for the construction of a small chapel near the site of the present Ridgebury Church. Until the year 1890 priests from Towanda and Athens served the church. The present church at Ridgebury was erected in 1893 and that of Bentley Creek in 1895.

At Mass in Brookdale Residence



With Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Caveney, seated, in this group of Brookdale parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church, Ithaca, who on July 16 were privileged to assist at Holy Mass celebrated in the Caveney's home in their own town.

Mrs. Eschrich's Rites Conducted At St. Salome's

Funeral services were conducted for Mrs. Barbara Stucker Eschrich, Friday, July 22, from the Burns-Ianna Funeral Home and St. Salome's Church. She died Tuesday, July 18, 1956.

Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by her son, the Rev. Edward J. Eschrich, pastor of St. Salome's Church, Rochester, Rev. Edward M. Scheid was deacon and Rev. Raymond Wuest, subdeacon.

Present in the sanctuary were: Rt. Rev. Magr. William Hart, P.A., V.G., the Rt. Rev. Monsignor George W. Eckl, Edward J. Byrne, F. William Stauder, John B. Sullivan, Lawrence B. Casey.

Also present were: The Reverend Fathers, George Weinman, Frank Mason, Frank Hoefen, John Bauman, Bernard Kuchman, Albert Geiger, Peter Jankowski, Bernard Newcombe, John Newcombe, Eugene McFarland, Joseph Gorman, Gerald Ventura, Jacob Rauber.

The Reverend Fathers Nicholas Alletto, Frank Klehammer, Arthur Florack, George Schmidt, Robert Deobertis, Joseph Donovan, Frank Valuckotius, John Muckie, Raymond Wahl, Michael O'Brien, William Schifferli, George Kolb.

Bearers were: Franklin Eschrich, Glenn Eschrich, Paul Eschrich, Arthur Behringer, Jack Medico and William Foley.

Besides Father Eschrich, Mrs. Eschrich leaves another son, Frank A. of Orchard Park; two sisters, Marie and Elizabeth Stucker of Milwaukee, Wis.; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mass Celebrated In Home Near Ithaca, First Time

Ithaca — Another outpost has been established in the Diocese of Rochester with celebration of Mass in the town of Brooktondale, on Sunday, July 16.

For the first time in the history of Immaculate Conception parish, here, the Mass was celebrated by the Rev. James F. Baker, assistant pastor in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Caveney in Brooktondale, a part of the Ithaca parish.

This is the first of a series of Masses to be celebrated periodically in towns of the Ithaca parish, according to the Rev. Dr. William J. Byrne, pastor. Father Byrne will offer Mass in Newfield on Sunday, July 30 and another Mass to be celebrated by the Rev. Paul A. Morgan in Danby is being scheduled.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Caveney are the oldest Catholics in the town. They moved to Brooktondale April 16, 1898 two days after their marriage in Bridgeport, Pa.

Except for the years 1905 and 1906 when they lived in Swartwood the Caveney's have lived in Brooktondale. Mrs. Caveney is a native of White Church. Mr. Caveney, who was born in Candor, lived in Brooktondale for some years before his marriage.

Three of their five children are living and they have three grandchildren.

Others attending the first Mass in Brooktondale were Francis Caveney, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Caveney and son Charles, Mrs. Mary Pancoe Miss Ann Grater of Syracuse, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Max Murray, Mrs. Ralph DeLong and daughter Sandra; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Arsenault, Mrs. Howard Tutton and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Raponi.

First Degree



The Rev. Edward Mcweeney, O.P., of Columbus, O., who has just earned the degree Doctor of Political Science at Freiburg, a representative of War Relief Service-N.C.W.C. in the French Zone of Germany. Fr. Mcweeney is the first American to win a high degree in a German university since the war. (NC Pictures)

Final Rites, Held For 2 Corningites

Corning — Mrs. Betty Jane Kapral, 25, of 261 Sly Ave. died Thursday, July 20, 1956, in Corning Hospital. She was born in Pennsylvania, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Plumley. She was united in marriage with Joseph M. Kapral in December, 1944. She was a member of St. Mary's Church.

Besides her husband and parents she is survived by one son, Larry, grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baker of Waller, Pa.; two brothers, Walter Plumley of Corning and Earl Plumley with the U. S. Navy.

Funeral services were held from the home Monday at 8:30 a. m. and at 9 o'clock in St. Mary's Church. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Corning — Stephen Riley Sullivan, 5, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Sullivan Jr., of 215 Seneca St. died unexpectedly Monday, July 16, 1956 in Corning Hospital. He was born in Olean, the son of Walter J. Sullivan Jr. and Mignon Riley Sullivan.

Besides his parents he is survived by three brothers, Walter J. Sullivan III, T. Gregory Sullivan and David Hunt Sullivan, all at home, his maternal grandmother, Mildred Willard S. Riley of Olean, paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Sullivan Sr. of Corning.

Funeral services were held from the home Thursday at 8:30 a. m. with a Mass of the Angels at 9 o'clock in St. Vincent de Paul's Church. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

2 Couples Mark Golden Jubilees

Fifty years of happy married life are being commemorated by two couples in Corpus Christi parish.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Hillen gas, 78 Woodward St. will be honored on their golden wedding anniversary by their family at dinner on next Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank I. Cunningham, 820 Main St. East observed their golden wedding anniversary at a reception in Corpus Christi Hall Sunday.

Hillengas, who was employed in the record room of the city engineer's office for 20 years, retired in 1935. He is 75 and his wife is 72. They have four sons and four grandchildren.

Mr. Hillengas has been for many years a member of St. Eusebio Ladies Auxiliary of Knights of St. John.

Cunningham is one of the oldest electricians in the city. He holds a 50-year membership pin with the Electricians Union and is chief electrician for Loew's Rochester Theater.

Mrs. Cunningham was prominent as a concert and church singer in Rochester and Ithaca prior to and after her marriage. She is a graduate of the Ithaca Conservatory of Music.

The Cunninghams have five children, 8 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Boys' Town Willed Boehme Estate Share

Father Flanagan's Boys' Home at Boys' Town, Neb. was left one-fourth of the residue of the estimated \$10,000 estate of Herbert G. Boehme, 251 Mulberry St. under his will, admitted to probate by Surrogate Witmer.

Mr. Boehme, a retired electrician, died July 1. His estate included \$100 in realty and an estimated \$10,000 in personal property. After specific gifts of personal effects, the residue was left in varying proportions to the home for youths founded by the late Father Flanagan and to 16 relatives of Mr. Boehme and of his deceased wife. The will was drawn Feb. 8, 1949.

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Mercy Student Named To Red Cross Class

Barbara Moore of Our Lady of Mercy High School is one of four members of Rochester Chapter's Junior Red Cross attending the Youth Training Center being conducted by the American Red Cross Eastern Area at Cazenovia Junior College until August 4.

With her are William G. Britton, John Marshall High School; Neil F. Aunanslata, Madison High and Kathleen Nellis of Brockport Central School. They were all elected from the membership of the Inter-High Junior Red Cross Councils.

This Red Cross Training Center, one of six conducted in the United States this summer, includes representatives from many states of the Eastern seaboard.

A number of courses in the ten-day period cover every phase of Red Cross services, as well as the Junior Red Cross services.

Picnic Mapped By Equity Knights

Plans are being advanced for the Annual Picnic of Court Rochester, Knights of Equity, scheduled for Sunday, August 20, at Westminster Park off River Road.

The program to run from 2 to 11 p. m. will be highlighted by sports, dinner and dancing.

Heading the committees is Norbert McCarthy as general chairman. Others heading sub-committees are Robert P. Kieran, transportation, Raymond McCarthy, refreshments; Florence O'Connell and Andrew Hickey sports and Mrs. Florence O'Connell, prizes and publicity.

Reservations are being made by calling Chairman McCarthy, Culver 5115-M or F. M. O'Connell, CUlver 6621-W.

Oppose Vatican Envoy San Francisco—(RNS)—Delegates to the 46th World Conference of Seventh-day Adventists here unanimously passed a resolution requesting that President Truman not appoint a successor to Myron C. Taylor as Presidential representative to the Vatican.

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