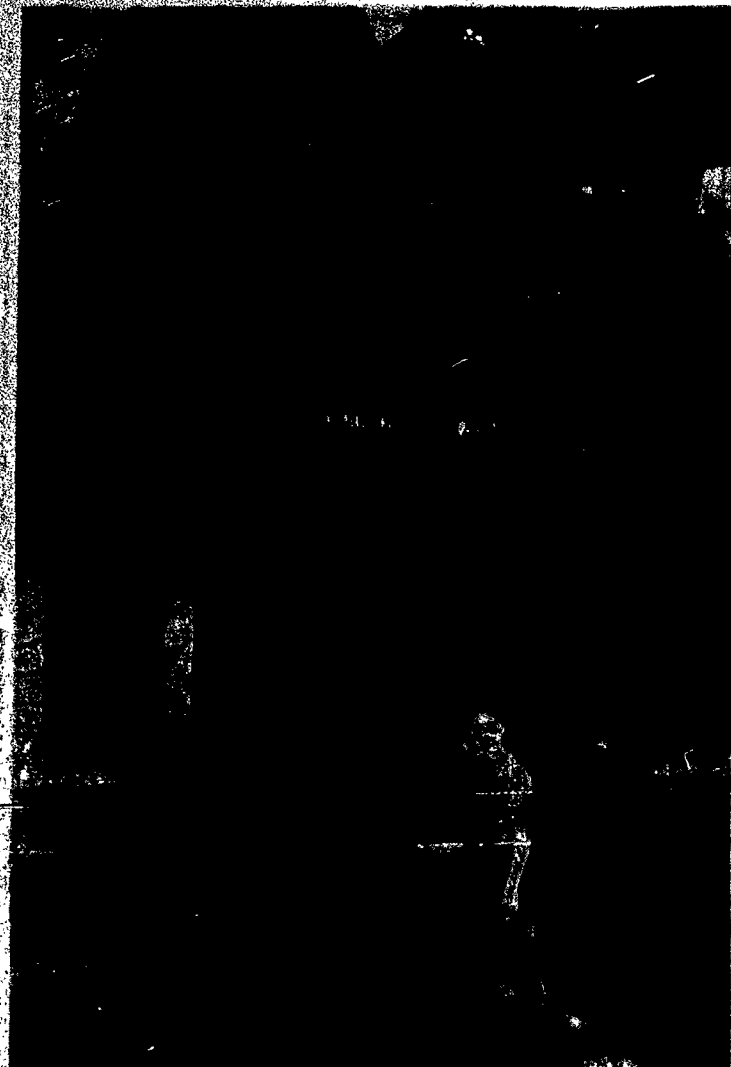


Long History of Catholicism in Yates County Recalled at Church Centenary



BEAUTIFUL INTERIOR OF THE CENTENARY CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL IN PENN YAN

History records that just 100 years ago—in 1850—the first Catholic Church building in Yates County was erected in the little village of Penn Yan.

This event will be commemorated at Centenary ceremonies in St. Michael's Church, Penn Yan, on next Sunday, Oct. 1.

But the story of Catholicism in Yates County goes back far beyond that 1850 date. It begins first in pre-Colonial days, when missionaries braved the wilderness to bring the doctrines of the Church to the Seneca and Keuka territory.

Some seven generations ago, in the 1780s, two French Catholic settlers moved into the section, and Catholic services were held in their homes.

By the time the Village of Penn Yan came into existence, the influx of Catholics began, so that by 1874 there were some 15 Catholic families in the village itself. Fathers Bradley and O'Flaherty came from Geneva to celebrate Mass for the early settlers.

TODAY, SOME 350 families in St. Michael's parish, with a complete parish plant including church, school, rectory, convent, parish hall, playground and cemetery, look back to the parish pioneers with appreciation and gratitude for their strong loyalty to the Faith.

It was in 1849 that Catholicism in Penn Yan began a campaign for funds for a church building. Their efforts were approved by Bishop John Timon of Buffalo, Diocese, of which Penn Yan then was a part.

In those days one of the leading Catholics of the community was Thomas Hendrick, who had come to the area from Ireland. His was to become one of the most famous family names in Penn Yan history.

Hendrick opened his home to Catholics of the vicinity, gave impetus to Catholic life in the area, and was in great measure responsible for the erection of the first church building.

ON A SITE donated by Abraham Wagener in Pine Street, the Catholics built a little frame structure where they might worship. On its completion in 1850, Bishop Timon appointed the first resident pastor. Still clearly written on the first page of the parish's Baptismal Register are these words:

"I hereby certify that I became Pastor of the mission embracing Penn Yan, Yates County, on the twenty-sixth day of September, 1850—Michael Gilbride, Pastor."

In 1868 Penn Yan became part of the newly-established Diocese of Rochester under its first Ordinary, Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid.

St. Michael's parish early responded to Bishop McQuaid's plea for Catholic schools. In 1862 a school was erected and staffed by Sisters of St. Joseph. It began at once to be the important influence in the community that the Bishop had predicted.

GROWING TO nearly 300 families by the turn of the century, the parish had need of a larger church building. Under the direction of the then pastor, the Rev. Martin Hendrick (1899-1915), the present church building was begun on a site in Liberty Street.

In 1901 the cornerstone was laid, and the following year, with much ceremony, Bishop McQuaid dedicated this new church to St. Michael the Archangel, with many priests of the diocese present.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Bernard Gommenginger (1915-22) the convent on Keuka Street was erected for the school Sisters.

When Catholics of Penn Yan boast of one of the most beautiful churches in the area, they give due credit to the Rev. John G. Killeen (1930-46), who reconstructed and embellished the present impressive church building in 1931.

High rank in the Catholic Church came to three priests which on Sunday is marking its 100th year of existence.

One became a Bishop, and the other two Monsignori. Two were brothers, the Most Rev. Thomas Hendrick, Bishop of Cebu, Philippine Islands, who died in 1908, and the late Rt. Rev. Joseph Hendrick, named a papal chamberlain by Pope Pius X in 1902, who served many diocesan parishes.

THE THIRD of the illustrious trio is the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Willard T. Craugh, Ph.D., rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester.

Monsignor Craugh was elevated to the rank of Domestic Prelate by Pope Pius XII in 1947. Son of the late Martin and Anna O'Keefe Craugh of Penn Yan, he is a graduate of St. Michael's School there, and Penn Yan Academy.

He studied at St. Charles College, Baltimore, and St. Bernard's Seminary, being ordained in 1924. Subsequently he obtained his doctorate and master's degree in philosophy at the Gregorian University in Rome.

Appointed to the faculty at St. Bernard's in 1927, he became rector in 1949. He has served as secretary of the Diocesan Matrimonial Tribunal and as Defender of the Marriage Bond in that court.

It was in the same year that the Parish Hall was built in the church basement, which over the years became a community center for youth of the village. For many years it has seen gatherings of parishioners, and has added to the strong parish spirit.

THE PASTORATE of the Rev. Hubert A. Bisky, 1949-50, saw further improvement in parish facilities. The area behind the school the former Village fair grounds — was equipped with modern playground facilities and opened to all children of the community.

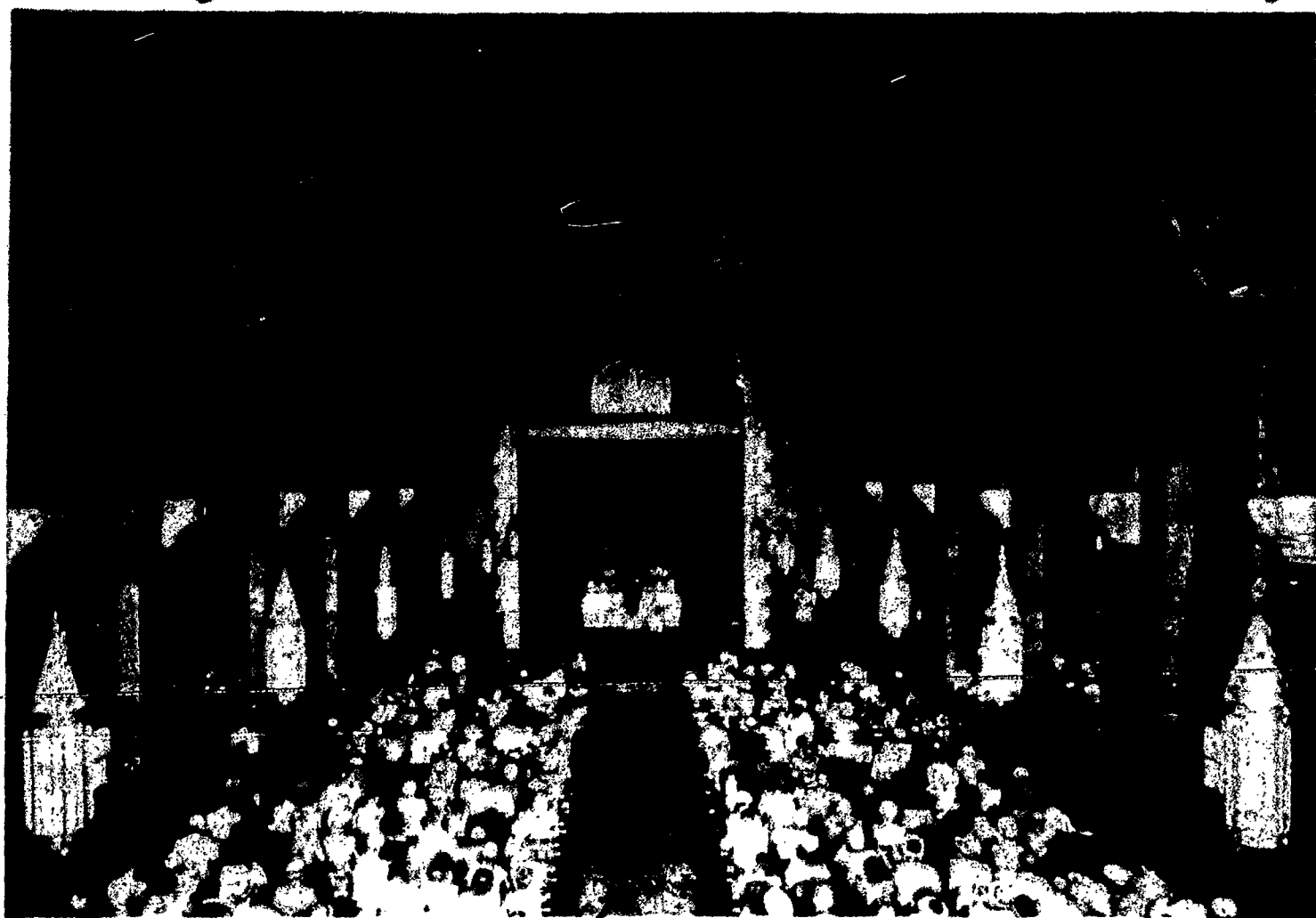
Transferred to Elmira in June, 1950, Father Bisky was succeeded as pastor by the Rev. Francis C. Waterstraat, former pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Moravia.

Into Father Waterstraat's hands fell the task of preparations for St. Michael's centenary ceremonies with the aid of the Rev. Raymond F. Moore, assistant pastor.

Present trustees of St. Michael's parish are P. Henry Flynn and Albert L. Kenville, Jeremiah Buckley and William Prendergast are auditors.

John Hyland is director of the parish choir, while organ duties are handled by Mrs. Sidney Short.

Closely woven into the history of St. Michael's parish is its mission — St. Andrew's Church at Dundee, where there are celebrated two Masses on Sundays during the summer and one during the winter. Four Masses are celebrated on Sundays at St. Michael's.



BEAUTIFUL INTERIOR OF THE CENTENARY CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL IN PENN YAN

Bishop To Preside At 16 Assistants Served Parish Mass Of Thanksgiving

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will preside and preach at a Solemn High Mass at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 1, in St. Michael's Church, Penn Yan, to mark the 100th year of that parish.

Celebrant of the Mass will be the Rev. Francis A. Waterstraat, appointed pastor of the parish in June.

Assisting priest to the Bishop will be the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Willard T. Craugh, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, a former parishioner of St. Michael's Church. Assisting deacon will be the Rev. Msgr. William J. McPadden, V.F., pastor of St. Stephen's Church, Geneva, and the Rev. Frederick G. Straub, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church, Auburn.

The Rev. Dr. John E. Murphy, secretary to the Bishop, will be master of ceremonies to the Mass. Book reader will be the Rev. Philip E. McEghan, chaplain of St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira.

THE REV. Hubert A. Bisky, 1949-50, and now pastor of St. Peter & Paul Church in Elmira, will be deacon of the Mass. Subdeacon will be the Rev. John P. O'Beirne, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Seneca Falls.

Master of ceremonies for the Mass will be the Rev. Raymond F. Moore, assistant pastor of St. Michael's. The Rev. James F. O'Connell, assistant pastor of St. Michael's, Rochester, and the Rev. Bernard C. Hanna, pastor of St. Michael's, Macedon, will be acolytes, with the Rev. Leonard A. Rev. Philip E. McEghan, chaplain of St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, as thurifer.

Near East Missions

Now is the hour — the hour of our annual appeal to members for this mission association. We chose the Feast of the Lily, Flower of the month of October, as our theme. Her childlike beauty of soul wins admiration of all who truly aspire to the love of God. Her own love of the missions should inspire all worthy children of God to imitate her interest in spreading the Word of God. An Annual Individual Membership is \$1. An Annual Family membership \$5. Perpetual membership for the individual is \$20, for the family \$100. On Oct. 3 remember The Little Flower and the missions.

The Children's Hour

Let get himself a job. The Poor Clares of Killoorkulam in S. Ireland need someone to help the boys for help. They are having a total strike because they are trying to put together a chapel and a convent. They need about \$1,000, so we're playing Little Bo Peep for them. Let 4 be the Feast of Francis of Assisi — a nice time to help the Poor Clares.

LITTLE BO PEEP

Went up the hill. And a lot of young men and women in the Near East are climbing the steep road to the service of God as priests and nuns. Much of the difficulty of the journey is financial. Most of these youngsters need help. We try to find it. For the seminarian \$100 yearly \$500 for the course. For the novice \$150 for a year, \$300 for both years. Can you give these Jacks and Jills a lift?

JACK AND JILL

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HUMPY DUMPTY

Fell apart so completely that he was beyond help even from all the King's horses and all the King's men. And the same is true of a lot of the equipment in the mission churches and chapels. Long wear in trying conditions is hard on vestments. Sooner or later they have to be retired. And replacement is a problem. \$50 will buy a set of vestments. \$1 monthly to our MONICA GUILD will go far towards helping us repair and replace altar linens.

A TEN O'CLOCK SCHOLAR

takes up as much space and costs as much as the fellow who comes at 8. And the scholars are many and the costs great for the school Father John Carroum is trying to finish in Bethlehem. The children of Bethlehem and their needs must surely appeal to all who honor themselves as followers of the Babe of Bethlehem. \$25 will be of great value to Father John. \$1 monthly to our BASILIANS, the school club, is a step along the road.

OLD MOTHER HU BRARD

found the cupboard bare. And smiling Mother Chaldeans of the Sisters of Charity in Jerusalem often has the same experience. The needs of all ages, classes and types are welcome at this asylum. No one is turned away. But a full cupboard is a problem. Share the stage with the Guardian Angels on their Feast, Oct. 2, and try to give \$15 to Mother Chaldeans.

BAA, BAA, BLACK SHEEP

is certainly not the attitude of the Good Shepherd Sisters towards the unhappy girls to whom they give shelter in Beirut. There is the attitude of the Good Shepherd who went out after the one lost stray, leaving the ninety nine. They deserve the help they need. Can you make \$15, or anything at all?

LITTLE JACK HORNER

sat in the corner. And he wasn't eating any pie. Or much else. He was a Refugee. Without our help he won't eat at all. \$10 buys a food package. \$5 some basic supplies.

OLD KING COLE

was a merry old soul. And well he might be. It's not so easy for the lepers. So we try to brighten their lives thru our DAMIEN LEPER FUND. Any gift is a great gift.

THE OLD LADY

who lived in a shoe hadn't nearly as many children as Holy Mother Church. And many of them are orphans, knowing no other mother. Our ORPHAN'S BREAD aims to help them. A few dollars, perhaps?

Send all communications to: Catholic Near East Welfare Association 480 Lexington Ave., at 46th St. New York 17, N. Y.

Center of Parish Activities in Penn Yan

Father Waterstraat, Pastor, Former U. S. Army Chaplain

The Rev. Francis A. Waterstraat, pastor of the centenary Church of St. Michael, Penn Yan, was appointed to that post June 18, 1950.

He had been pastor of St. Patrick's, Moravia, and St. Ann's, Owego, since April 9, 1946.

Father Waterstraat was born in Pittsford on Oct. 1, 1904. He attended Churchville High School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries, being ordained June 7, 1930.

First assigned to Holy Family Church, Rochester, as assistant pastor, he was named assistant pastor of St. Alphonsus Church, Auburn, on July 2, 1934. He also served as assistant pastor of St. Michael's Church, Rochester, in 1937-38, and Holy Trinity, Webster, from 1939 to 1942.

Entering the Army in 1942, Father Waterstraat was commissioned Chaplain with the rank of First Lieutenant. He was sent to Trinidad, where he stayed four weeks and then went to headquarters of the ground forces in Dutch Guiana, from where he served British and French Guianese by air.

After five weeks in Puerto Rico, he was assigned to the 205th Infantry in Panama and later was promoted to Captain. He served 42 months as chaplain. His next appointment was to Moravia and Owego.

Father Bisky Served Church in Penn Yan for Four Years

The Rev. Hubert A. Bisky served as pastor of St. Michael's Church, Penn Yan, from 1946 to June of this year, when he was transferred to the pastorate of St. Peter & Paul Church, Elmira.

Prior to his appointment as pastor of St. Michael's, Father Bisky had succeeded the Rev. John P. O'Beirne as administrator of St. Michael's during the final illness of the Rev. John G. Killeen, pastor since 1930, who died July 29, 1946.

Ordained in June, 1930, Father Bisky served for a time as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Rochester. In 1934 he was appointed associate director of Rochester Catholic Charities, which he left a year later to attend the Catholic University of America, where he was awarded a master's degree in social service work in 1936.

Later he was chosen in-charge of St. Michael's Catholic Charities, and in 1939 was assigned as assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church in that city.

Before going to Penn Yan in 1946, he served as assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Itasca, for three years.

13 Women of Parish Enter Religious Life

Thirteen women from St. Michael's parish in Penn Yan are recorded as having entered religious life. They include: Mother Mary Aloysius Hendrick, SSJ; Mary Hendrick, a Miss Narden; Mother Charlotte Hendrick, RSCJ; Sister M. Loyola Guller, SSJ; Sister Marie Anne Carroll, SSJ; Sister Marie Carroll, SSJ; Sister Catherine Hyland, SSJ.

St. Joseph Sisters Staff Parish School

St. Michael's parish in Penn Yan has seen 88 years of parochial school education under the wise guidance of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

On hundred sixty-one pupils now are enrolled in the parish school on Keuka Street.

Living in an adjoining convent are the four Sisters now staffing the school. They are Sister Mary Ephrem, SSJ, principal, Sister Mary Lucretia, Sister Mary Concessa and Sister Mary Cecilia.

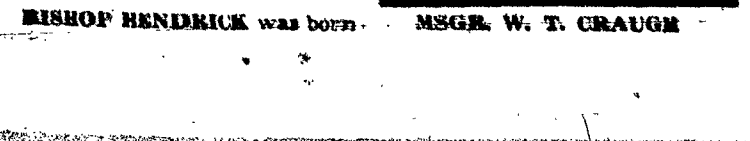
St. Michael Called Church Protector

St. Michael, the Archangel, one of the three angels mentioned by name in Holy Scripture was the patron of Penn Yan's centenary parish.

Interpreted from Hebrew, the name means, "who is like God." St. Michael's feast day is on Sept. 29. An additional feast day is celebrated on May 2, the Apparition of St. Michael.

Parish Picnic To Mark St. Michael's Centenary

Parishioners and friends of St. Michael's Church, Penn Yan, will celebrate the 100th year of the parish at a picnic at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1, on the parish grounds.



MSGR. W. T. CRAUGH



SCHOOL, ERECTED IN 1862

BISHOP HENDRICK was born...

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