

100 Years for Stanley Parish

Rushville, Stanley — There is a reason for the double dateline on this story.

For years Catholics in these two Finger Lakes communities have done things together, and now that it's time for one of the parishes to celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding, the other is celebrating and rejoicing with its neighbor in the same fashion.

The parishes are St. Mary's in Rushville and St. Theresa's in Stanley. St. Theresa's, the baby in the family, will host the celebration of its 100 years on Sunday, Sept. 28.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will preside at a Mass of Thanksgiving at 2 p.m. and a jubilee dinner will follow at 5 p.m. in the Town Pump Restaurant.

A souvenir booklet for the occasion even recounts the history of the two groups as if they were one.

It was the railroad that brought St. Theresa's into being. For years, the small number of Catholics in the Stanley area attended Mass in various of the surrounding communities, including Rushville.

But with the advent of Irish immigrants who worked, especially, on the Canandaigua and Corning Railroad the need for Catholic services in the town became evident.

Mass was celebrated for the first time at the home of the Driscoll family in 1875. In November of that same year

Father James A. Connelly was named pastor. (He resided, by the way, in Rushville).

It was Father Connelly who in 1876 built the church. St. Theresa's was designed by architect John King Jr., cost \$4,500, and was the first religious structure in the town. Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid himself laid the cornerstone on Aug. 7 of that year.

Father Connelly was succeeded by Father J.W. Hendrick in 1878. The brother of a bishop and a native of neighboring Penn Yan, Father Hendrick built a rectory in Stanley in 1882. Since that time, priests serving Rushville and Stanley have lived in that rectory. A brief, four-month tenure as pastor was held by Father J. Magin in 1884.

Father D.W. Kavanaugh, was appointed pastor of the two parishes in 1884. During his pastorate a lot was purchased for St. Theresa's Cemetery.

Father Kavanaugh was followed in 1888 by Father J. Butler, who in turn was followed in 1890 by Father James T. Dougherty. During his time, the parish debt of \$1,200 was erased, and a new organ, baptismal font, Stations of the Cross and vestments were purchased.

Ensuing years saw a rapid turnover in pastoral appointments. Among those who served the communities of Stanley and Rushville were Fathers J. Hopkins, William Payne, C.F. O'Loughlin, Michael Wall, James Keenan, Alex. McCabe, Thomas Carroll and John Masseth.

Father William Rafferty was named pastor in 1920. On Oct. 18, 1926, St. Theresa's noted its golden anniversary. The day included a celebration of Confirmation, an anniversary Mass and a gala dinner, attended by Bishop Thomas F. Hickey, a host of clergymen and laymen from the area. It is recorded that Washburn's Hall, the site of the dinner, could not accommodate everybody.

In 1927, Father Rafferty was succeeded by Father Charles Walker. Among the pastors who followed him were Fathers Joseph Dissett, William Killackey, Edward Ball, Theodore Winteroth, Irving Sullivan, William Ayres, Leo Hastings and Francis Harding.

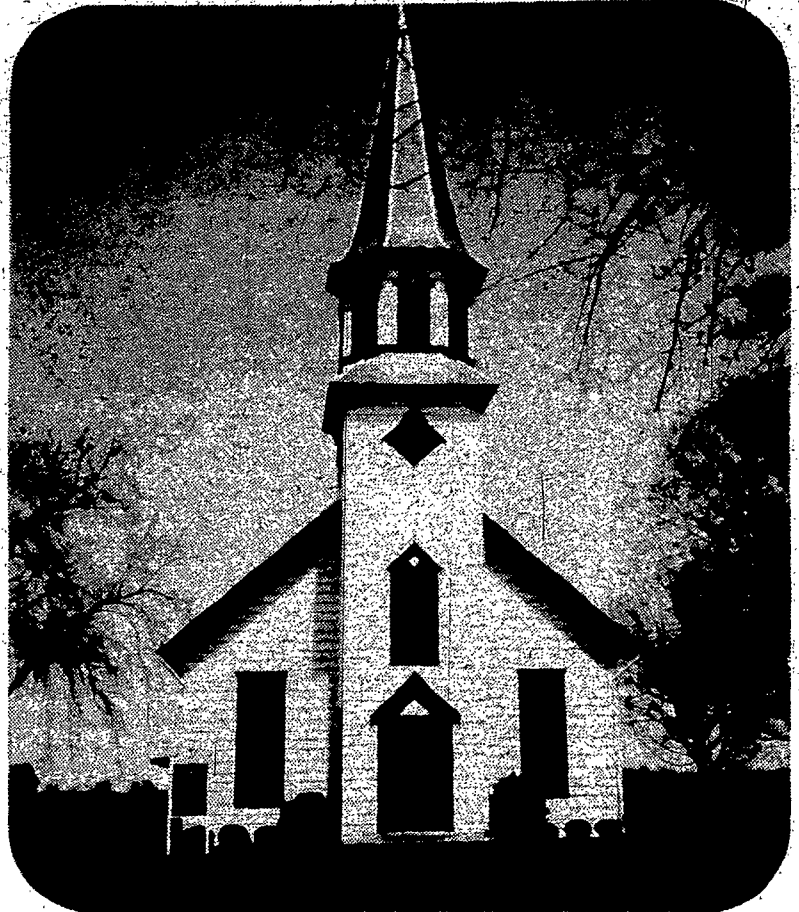
Father Harding's pastorate began in 1954, and during his tenure the rectory was refurbished and a new heating plant and a new floor were installed in the church.

Father Harding was followed in 1958 by Father William Darcy Bolger who made extensive renovations in the church, including the installation of a new ceiling and the remodeling of the sanctuary.

It fell to Father William Riefer, who was appointed pastor in 1964, to again remodel the sanctuary according to the norms promulgated by Vatican II.

Father Riefer was succeeded in 1967 by Father T. Paul Murley, now pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Victor.

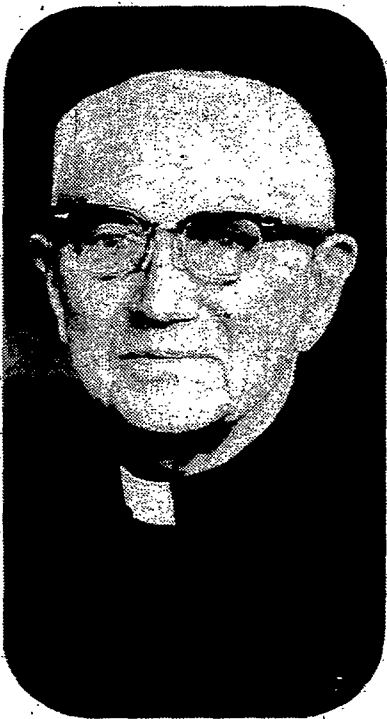
Father Murley made extensive changes in the living room of the



rectory and installed the china cabinets in the dining room. number of other accomplishments.

Father Norbert L. Nolan was named pastor in 1971. He has replaced the organ in the church, repaired the stained glass windows and installed new pews and a new carpet. He has also extensively remodeled the rectory and the parish hall, among a

It was estimated earlier this year that the joint parishes number more than 130 families. These figures do not reflect the influx of summer worshippers who attend the churches from May until September.



Happy Birthday!

Msgr. George W. Eckl, who was pastor of St. Andrew's Parish on Portland Avenue for more than half a century, will be 98 years old Friday. The parish will celebrate on Saturday night, with a buffet supper and dancing from 8 until 1. Anyone who wants to go should call the rectory, 342-8686. Msgr. Eckl was born Sept. 26, 1877, in the Holy Family neighborhood, and was ordained out of St. Bernard's Seminary on June 6, 1901. He went to St. Andrews in 1914 and stayed until 1965. A few years ago, he moved up the street to St. Ann's Home, where he pursues a vigorous, active life. Happy Birthday, Monsignor Eckl!

FLAG RITES

In Citizenship Day ceremonies at Sacred Heart School, Mrs. Daniel Lyon, Americanism Chairman for the American Legion Auxiliary, presented the school with an auditorium flag; Wednesday, Sept. 17. Bishop John E. McCafferty accepted the flag for the school.

St. Bernard's Has New 'Image Builder'

A whole new dimension was added to St. Bernard's Seminary last Spring. The school set up an office for alumni relations and recruiting seminarians from other dioceses.

And they hired a layman to do the job.

He is 26-year-old Matthew Paratore, the first layman to graduate from a Catholic University with the new degree of Master in Church Administration (a new title, he humbly admits, for old Canon Law). He is an enthusiast for programs at St. Bernard's.

The school, he explains is now a facility in the Rochester Center for Theological Studies, an amalgam of Protestant and Catholic institutions for ministerial training, including Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Bexley Hall Episcopal Seminary and Crozer Theological Seminary.

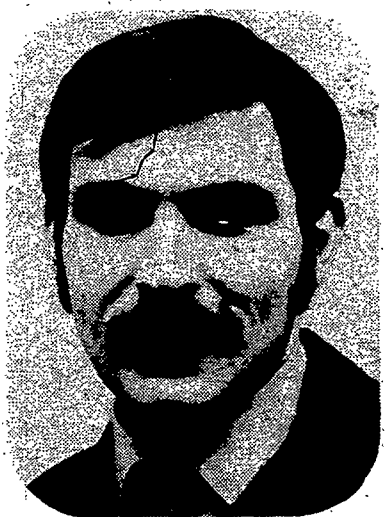
He explains that the center "was formed so a man might take the best advantage of scholars." He also sees the center filling a "valuable ecumenical necessity" in broadening the perspectives of ministry students and deepening their appreciation for their own traditions. These traditions, he says "are something to build on — a past foundation for the future."

Paratore is responsible for bringing the possibilities of an education at St. Bernard's to the attention of bishops and seminarians of other dioceses and for developing lay alumni's interest in the Alumni Association. (Laymen were admitted to the association about six years ago.)

Many of the old stereotypes of seminary education are dead, he said.

"People have an image that's dead," he said. "I am the image builder. The whole process is to project the seminary as it is today, not 50 years ago, nor 50 years from now."

Seminaries educate laymen, religious and priests in theology, he explained, and they also train priests for a pastoral ministry.

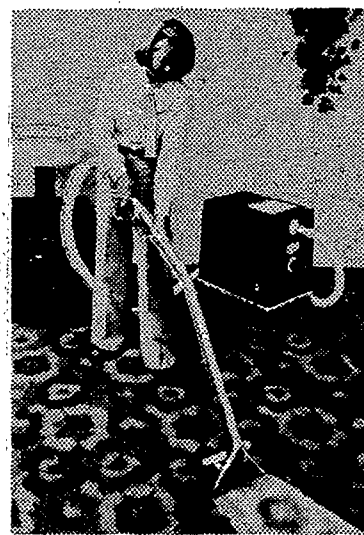


MATTHEW PARATORE

The unique contribution of the seminary atmosphere is that it develops a person to spiritual maturity in social consciousness and in faith, he said. "Spirituality is integrated through the whole program."

Paratore is married to Joan Roswell of Elkridge, Md.

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