

Farmer Village Church Founded a Century Ago

Interlaken — Next Sunday, Nov. 23, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will celebrate with the parishioners of St. Francis Solanus the centenary of the foundation of their Church.

The Catholic community in the area traces its origin to the influx of Irish settlers in the late 1830s and 40s. At that time Interlaken was called Farmer Village. It was the completion of the Erie Canal which made Farmer Village a trading center for the surrounding area. The village was also known as a boat building center.

In 1849, Father Michael Gilbride, pastor in Ithaca, celebrated the first Mass in Farmer village, at the home of Thomas King.

During the 1850s Father Gilbride and Father William Gleason set about the work of constructing churches in Trumansburg and Ovid, both of which served the residents of Farmer Village.

In 1872 Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, the first bishop of Rochester officially entrusted the Catholic congregation in Farmer Village to the parish of St. James the Apostle in Trumansburg.

The first pastor of St. James was a Franciscan, Father Gilbert Nuonno. When Father Nuonno took charge there were 30 Catholics in Farmer Village. Services were held in the Town

Hall and occasionally in the Universalist Church.

In 1874 the cornerstone for St. Francis Solanus Church was laid and the completed church was dedicated in 1875.

Following Father Nuonno, Father Angelo Lugero and then Father Michael T. Madden assumed the pastorate of St. James.

Father Madden's tenure lasted 28 years. During that time the village changed its name to Interlaken. Father Madden was succeeded in 1909 by Father T. J. Harrington, who was succeeded in 1920 by Father E. Joseph Esser.

Father Esser's tenure lasted until 1935, when Father G. Stuart Hogan assumed the pastorate.

During Father Hogan's 11-year reign, St. Francis was thoroughly remodelled. He was succeeded in 1945, by Father Leonard A. Kelly. During Father Kelly's time, the church was again remodelled, an organ installed and Bishop James E. Kearney administered the Sacrament of Confirmation in the church. The Confirmation was the first to be held there since 1877. Father Kelly also erected a center for catechetics in Interlaken.

Also during Father Kelly's pastorate, the Capuchin Fathers established a house in the area under the direction of Father

Bede Scully, OFM cap. Father Scully helped on weekends at St. Francis Solanus.

In 1954 Father Francis Marks succeeded Father Kelly. After two years of shepherding souls in Interlaken, Father Marks was asked by Bishop Kearney in 1956 to relinquish St. Francis Solanus, which was then raised to the status of a parish and entrusted to

the Capuchin Friars, under the direction of Father Gereon Lindsay, OFM Cap.

In 1958 Father Gereon was succeeded by Father Anselm Leahy, OFM Cap., who in turn was succeeded by Father Harold Higgins, OFM Cap., in 1961.

Father Harold's pastorate lasted until 1970 when Father

Bennett Devine, OFM Cap., was named pastor. During Father Bennett's pastorate the parish council was formed.

In 1973, the present pastor, Father Bertrand Scully, OFM Cap., was named. Father Bertrand is the brother of Father Bede, the first Capuchin to serve at the parish.

COURIER-CALENDAR

Seton 80 — Meeting tonight at 8:30 with Mrs. Peter Formicola of Firestone Drive.

Thanksgiving Mass — Corpus Christi, E. Main at Prince, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25; refreshments afterward.

Youth Mass — Sponsored by Holy Apostles Youth Council, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Holy Apostles Church, 530 Lyell Ave. Coffee house, entertainment to follow.

Spaghetti Dinner — Sponsored by Nazareth Academy Athletic Association, 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, school cafeteria, 1001 Lake Ave.

Roast Beef Dinner — A benefit for Bishop Kearney Marching Kings, 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, school cafeteria, 125 Kings Hwy. S. \$2.50.

Musical Noontime — Hochstein Music School's Wednesday program presents Kinloch Nelson, classical guitarist, today, 12:15-12:45 p.m. Next Wednesday: Stanley, Chepaitis and Theresa Keene, violin-piano duo. Free.

A Hole in the Head — Arnold Schulman comedy performed by

Bishop Kearney High School students, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21, 22, at school, 125 Kings Hwy. S. Admission \$2, half-price for senior citizens.

Christmas Bazaar, Ham Dinner — At St. Lawrence parish hall, 1000 N. Greece Rd. Hand-made items, baked foods, white elephant sale, Saturday, Nov. 29, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m., with dinner after 5:30 p.m. Mass; Mrs. Peter Grant in charge.

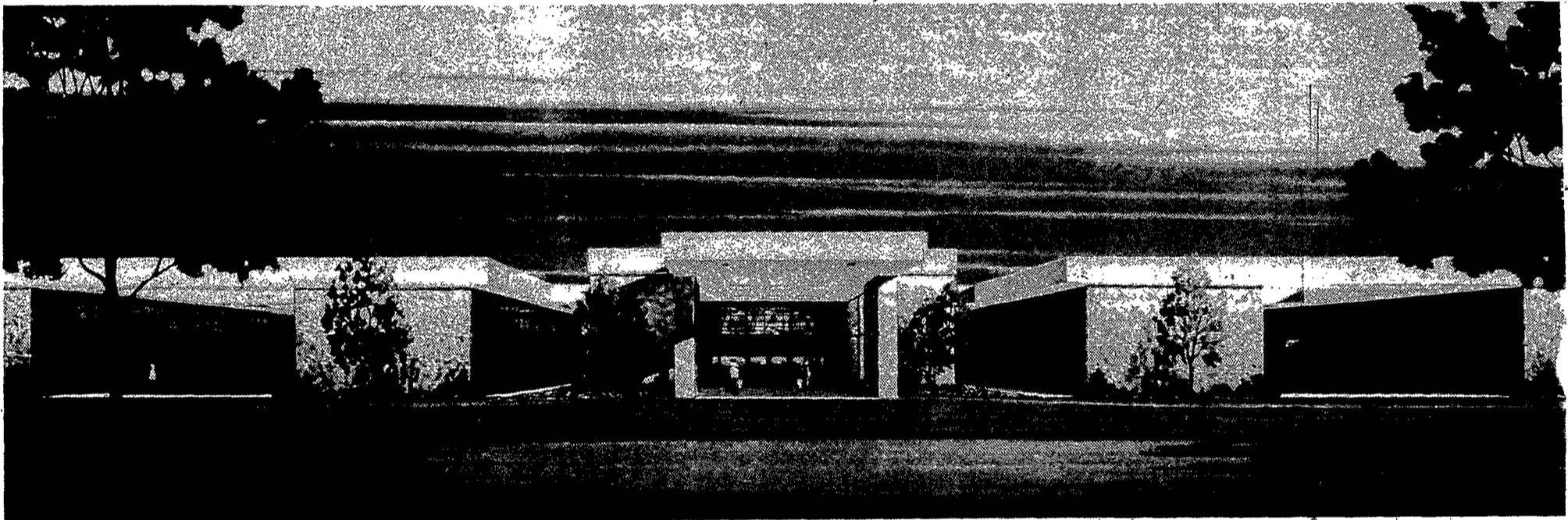
Turkey Festival — Sunday, Nov. 23, 1-6 p.m., St. Jude's Church hall, 4100 Lyell, featuring two live 30-pound turkeys, stuffed animals, boutique of hand-made items, hots, hamburgs, 10-cent cotton candy, games.

Harvest Bazaar — At St. Stanislaus, Sunday, Nov. 23, beginning at 3 p.m.; featuring turkeys, hams, stuffed animals, house plants, etc.; Mrs. Marie Budnik in charge for Holy Name of Mary Society.

Parish Festival — St. Margaret Mary school hall, 401 Rogers Pkwy., 7-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22. Mens Club benefit for youth activities, Jerry Peters chairman. Turkeys, records, stuffed animals, candy; special gift shop for children, school band concert at 7 p.m.

Deadline

Calendar items should be mailed to the Courier-Journal Calendar Desk, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Deadline is Wednesday noon, one week ahead of the publication date.



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