

Holy Ghost Church Notes 100 Years

Coldwater — Centenary observances begin this week at Holy Ghost Church with craft projects displayed in the school and a concert in the church, Sunday, at 7:30 p.m.

The parish will officially be one hundred years and one day old on July 4 when the nation celebrates its bicentennial. July 3, 1876 was the effective date of the parish incorporation and the appointment of the first resident pastor, Father F. Kraus.

The German immigrant community of Coldwater had been growing for more than ten years. In fact the group had constructed a school some ten years earlier on land donated by Leonard and Euphemia Vogel.

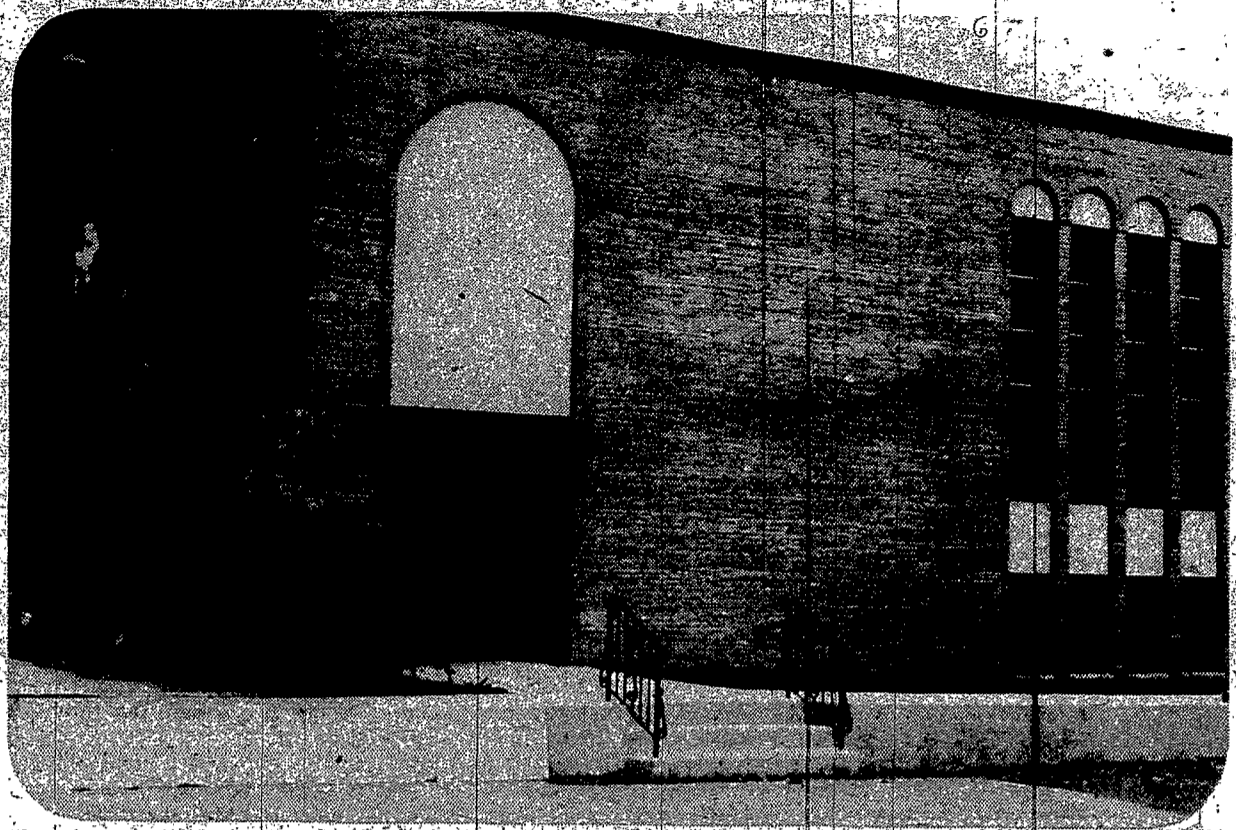
Catholics in those days would walk the eight to ten miles for Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Church in downtown Rochester.

Occasionally, priests from that church, most notably a Father Rosenbauer, would visit the community for the sacraments.

Father Kraus, an ailing man, was transferred back to Rochester less than a year after his appointment, and the parish was relegated to the status of out mission of St. John the Evangelist in Greece, a situation which held until 1909.

During the late 1800s, the community had so grown that a new church was required and construction began in May 1906. In July of 1908 Father Peter Erras was appointed to be the second resident pastor of the parish. The school, which had also been growing, in 1918 was staffed by School Sisters of Notre Dame. In 1931 the church was redecorated.

When Father Erras died in 1936, Father



The contemporary face of a centennial church.

Joseph C. Wurzer was appointed pastor.

In 1938 the school burned to the ground. Yet a year later a new school was consecrated by Bishop James E. Kearney. Father Wurzer died in 1943 and Msgr. Lyons administered the parish until the appointment of Father Albert Geiger in 1943.

During his pastorate, the church was renovated and redecorated, additional property was purchased and the school grew apace.

Father Geiger retired from his post in 1968 and Father Edward Steinkirchner was ap-

pointed pastor that year. Father Geiger died in 1971.

Father Steinkirchner, on assuming his post, at once encouraged the establishment of a parish council.

In 1970 the group made plans for an increased income campaign, and in 1972 plans were made and bids taken for a thorough renovation of the Church.

A celebration of rededication was held in 1973, presided over by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, in a church to which had been added two new wings and completely renovated interior.

Ithaca College Chapel Is Dedicated

Ithaca — The Herman and Florence Muller Memorial Chapel was dedicated recently at Ithaca College. Father Philip Liot and Sister Jean Bellini, SSJ, Catholic chaplains, said that the chapel will give students a religious place to worship on campus.

The chapel, designed by Anton J. Egner of Ithaca and Lawrence Perkins of Evanston, Ill., can be used by all faiths and has two conference rooms plus office space for the Protestant, Jewish and Catholic chaplains at Ithaca College. The altar and lectern are portable so the area can be used for other functions, such as lectures, liturgical dramas and chamber music recitals.

Students will no longer have to use the student union or the music hall for religious services. Seven weddings and a Bar Mitzvah already have been scheduled.

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