

After a 10 year effort

St. Ann's Publishes History

Hornell—“St. Ann’s of Hornell—127 Years A-Growing,” a history of the parish, has been completed after months of research, writing and editing by its co-authors, the late Father Thomas Kane and Carol L. Shilkett, PhD.

The book, now available, is illustrated by John C. Menihan, a widely known Rochester artist.

Work on the parish history began almost 10 years ago, when Father Kane was at St. Ann’s, at the request of Father James C. Lane, then pastor of St. Ann’s. Father Kane began assembling and evaluating parish documents, dug through newspaper files, visited with older parishioners and studied county records at Bath. He was transferred to Moravia

where he died before the history could be published.

Miss Shilkett, an active St. Ann’s parishioner and associate professor of English at Alfred University, revised and edited Father Kane’s material and brought the history up to date, emphasizing the directions of the Church since Vatican II.

The book is dedicated to the Sisters of Mercy, “who have given to the Hornellsville Mission a century of labor and love.”

Father Robert C. MacNamara, St. Ann’s pastor, writes in the foreword: “what has happened in St. Ann’s in the past hundred years is truly a part of the American experience. The people in this history have passed on to us both our faith and the structure of a vital parish. Their con-

tributions to the spirituality of our community and country are significant. Their backgrounds and struggles are deeply moving and should motivate prayers; tracing their anguish and growth from early beginnings should bring us to a new vision of both the parish today and the mission of the Church in 1977.”

The book’s opening chapter deals with events from 1789 to 1849. It was in 1843 that Father Benedict Bayer, a Redemptorist from Rochester, celebrated Mass at the home of Thomas Doorley of Webb’s Crossing. Doorley later was the first subscriber to the fund for the construction of a church, and in 1849 mortgaged his farm for the purpose.

It was in 1868 that the cornerstone for St. Ann’s Church at its present site

was laid. The dedication took place on April 11, 1869, and, as the Hornellsville Tribune reported, “Bishop Stephen Ryan (bishop of Buffalo, of which St. Ann’s was a part), speaking from the step before his chair, and leaning on his pastoral staff, gave an eloquent address which lasted 95 minutes.”

The history reflects the ethnic background of the parishioners, with a description of the church’s bell, “baptized of St. Patrick,” and the devotions in honor of Beato Angelo, who came from Furci, birthplace of many Italian parishioners.

A prominent part of the history is given to the development of St. Ann’s School and the book lists its principals from 1871. It also includes the names of Hornell residents who entered religious life.



Looking over St. Ann’s newly published parish history are (from left), John C. Menihan, Carol Shilkett and Father MacNamara.

Ellen McCormack To Speak Tonight

Hornell—Ellen McCormack, a Long Island housewife who became nationally known as a presidential candidate, will be the principal speaker at the third annual Hornell Area Right to Life banquet May 18.

Mrs. McCormack of Merrick, Long Island, will speak at the 7 p.m. dinner at the Big Elms Restaurant.

Her appearance was arranged by Father Benedict Riccardo, OFM, associate pastor of the Cure of Ars Church in Merrick, and chaplain of the Right to Life group to which Mrs. McCormack belongs. Father Benedict is a son of Felix Riccardo of 10 East Ave., Hornell, and a brother of Sister of Mercy Mary Antoinette.

Mrs. McCormack’s platform as a presidential candidate emphasized pro-life issues, stressing the importance of human life at all stages of existence, from conception.

She has stated that she is “absolutely against abortion in any case. I am for the rights of the unborn to be allowed to live. Society has turned away from better solutions by offering abortion.” She also took a stand on the need for women who believe in “traditional values to express themselves to neutralize what the feminists are doing in their name.”

Mrs. McCormack, although defeated in her nomination bid, maintains the importance for the “average man and woman to become involved in political life, since politics is too important to be left solely to the relatively few professional politicians.”

Mrs. Barrett Rock and Mrs. Byron Kulander of Alfred are co-chairmen of the dinner. They can be contacted for reservations, or Mrs. Richard Kull or Mrs. James Giglio of Hornell.

Development Council Started

Elmira—St. Joseph’s Hospital opened Hospital Week, 1977, with a dinner introducing the membership of the newly formed hospital Development Council, Monday, May 9. The council, comprising 50 members dedicated to “working toward fulfillment of long-range objectives” of the hospital, is chaired by Richard H. Evans, a member of the hospital Board of Directors.

The new organization makes St. Joseph’s one of only 500 hospitals in the country that have a development council, Evans noted. He said that the council will increase contact with the community, assisting in community relations and in fund development.

The council consists of four committees. The Deferred Gifts Committee is chaired by John H. Fasset; the Community Relations Committee is headed by Mrs. James Hersch; William S. Bushnell is chairman of the Foundations and Corporations Committee, and John Gough will head the Annual Support Committee.

Judge Daniel J. Donahoe, chairman of the hospital Board of Directors, outlined the purposes and objectives of the council, which include education, review, evaluation and support for St. Joseph’s.

Council chairman Evans noted that the council “will develop as community ambassadors of St. Joseph’s, providing input and improving communication of information that has for so long gone unheard by those we serve. You will be educated to what a hospital is all about and will educate others to the assets available through a community hospital such as St. Joseph’s, sharing in its pride and problems as well.”



Sister Vincent Joseph, receiving a plaque in honor of her 55 years service to St. Joseph’s Hospital, from Sister Martha Gersbach, hospital administrator. Looking on, from left, are Sister Marie Michael, assistant administrator, and Stanley J. Douglas, hospital community relations director.

Sr. Vincent Joseph, 150 Others Honored

Elmira—Sister Vincent Joseph Miles was honored for 55 years of service to St. Joseph’s Hospital at the hospital’s annual employee recognition dinner May 10.

A Corning native, Sister Vincent Joseph was among the early graduates of St. Joseph’s School of Nursing, and joined the hospital nursing staff in 1922. Sister has served on nearly all of the floors either as an apostolic visitor or as purchasing agent. She also served as day and night supervisor and was pediatrics charge nurse. Sister was presented with a plaque by Sister Martha Gersbach, St. Joseph’s administrator.

Nearly 150 employees were honored for their years of

service to the hospital. They were cited as being those who “Put the Care in Health Care,” the theme of Hospital Week, May 8-14.

Included among the honorees were Sister Regina Wolfe, medical records; 45 years; Ruth Mace, nursing education, 35 years; Sister St. Joseph Creighton, nursing service, 30 years; Sarah Herman, environmental service, 30 years; Margaret Bergh, Johanna Gorsky, Frieda Lubnow and Marion Saunders, nursing service, 25 years.

Pins also were presented to the employees celebrating 5, 10, 15 and 20 year anniversaries with the hospital. Those who retired during the past year also were honored.

Regional Highlights

Seneca-Cayuga Region
The Seneca-Cayuga Regional Human Development Committee has scheduled a picnic election of officers for 6 p.m. on July 22 at the home of Mrs. Marion Hoadley, Auburn.

The Auburn-area parishes will again sponsor a city-wide Bloodmobile. The date

has not been announced as yet.

The St. Alphonsus Human Development Committee marked Operation Bread Box week with a banner hung in downtown Auburn and a sharing supper. Money raised during the week will be sent to three Third World nations to help improve their agricultural programs.

SOUTHERN TIER AUBURN-GENEVA

ND Alum Off To Oxford

Elmira—Fiona O’Connor, a 1976 graduate of Notre Dame High School currently attending Trinity College, Washington, DC, has been selected to participate in a study program at Oxford University, England. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. O’Connor, 805 W. Third St., Elmira, will be one of nine participants in the Trinity College Oxford program. Ms. O’Connor will attend Oxford from October 1977 through June 1978, during which time she will participate in a series of independent tutorials, concentrating on English literature and British history.

ANOINTING RITE

Seneca Falls --The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered Sunday at St. Patrick’s, during a Mass for the sick and infirm that begins at noon. All who would be willing to provide transportation, and those who need rides, are asked to call the rectory.

Fr. Walawender Ordained May 7

Auburn—Father Andrew Walawender, OFM Conv., the son of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Walawender and brother of Mary Walawender, of Auburn, was ordained a priest on May 7 at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Albany by Bishop Howard J. Hubbard, D.D., Bishop of Albany.



FR. WALAWENDER

Father Andrew is a graduate of St. Hyacinth’s School and Mt. Carmel High School, Auburn. Upon graduation from high school in 1967, Father Andrew entered the Conventual Franciscan Novitiate of the St. Anthony of Padua Province in Ellicott City, Md. for one year. From 1968-72, he studied at St. Hyacinth College and Seminary in Granby, Mass., where he received his B.A.

Before beginning his theological studies, Father Andrew taught at Kolbe High School in Bridgeport, Ct., for one year. He studied theology at St. Anthony-on-Hudson, Rensselaer where he received his Masters of Divinity Degree.

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