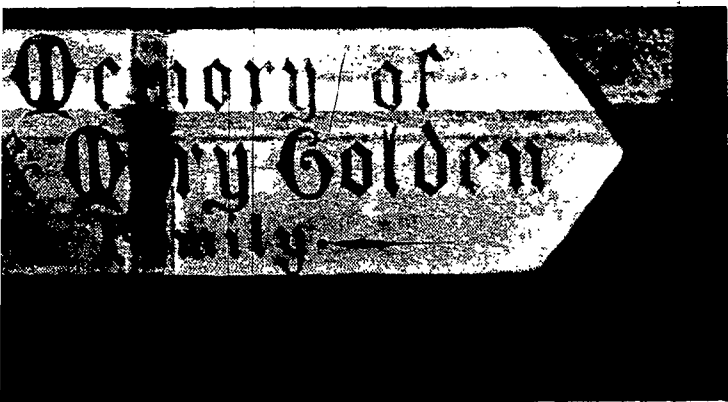




He was named pastor of St. Feehan's Church in 1954. He was pastor of St. Pius X in 1977, celebrates Mass at St. Feehan's following Mother's Day. (Below) The church's original pews, including this one in memory of the Golden Family — are



Zachary Bergeron, a young St. Pius X parishioner, reaches up to hold onto a pew during the May 17 Mass.



Father Murphy said. "It was sitting there alone," he observed. "I was afraid vandals would set it on fire."

Finally, St. Feehan's was sold to the museum, transported there in pieces, then rebuilt and restored.

Workers installed century-old pews from St. Mary's Church in Scottsville, where they were being replaced. In a description of the church, in fact, museum literature notes, "The pews in St. Feehan's today are those upon which its builders sat during the 1850s when they journeyed to Scottsville to attend Mass before their own church was built."

Each year, Father Murphy, who retired as pastor of St. Pius X in 1977, celebrates Mass at St. Feehan's on the Sunday following Mother's Day. This year's Mass was celebrated May 17.

Another Mass is scheduled for Aug. 15, the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, to mark the restoration of the stained-glass windows.

Father Murphy said Genesee Country Museum officials asked him to celebrate Mass at the church. "They like to have it be a living church," he explained.

As many as 80 people attend the Masses, Father Murphy estimated. During many Masses, an organist plays and a choir sings Latin prayers and hymns. Some of the Masses have been celebrated in Latin, using the new rite promulgated after the Second Vatican Council.

Joe Fitzpatrick, a parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Canandaigua, has attended the annual Masses since learning about them three years ago.

"There's a certain charm to the old church, and I think there's a charm to



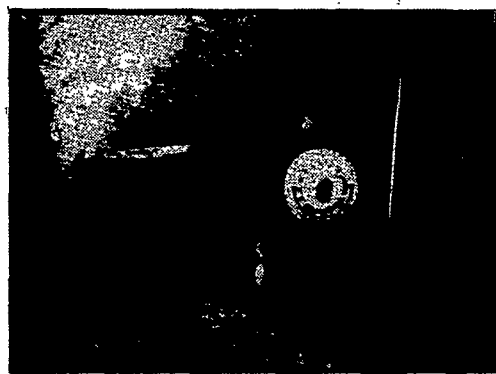
Approximately 40 people attended the annual Mass.

Father Murphy, too," Fitzpatrick commented.

Many Americans seem to be losing their sense of history, Fitzpatrick explained, adding that churches such as St. Feehan's help to keep that sense alive.

"There aren't any real places to the place that you would not have seen 50 years ago in some parishes," Fitzpatrick said. "But we don't have places like that any more, except at places like St. Feehan's."

"There's just a simplicity to the church," he said, concluding, "I'm so glad that we have St. Feehan's at the museum."



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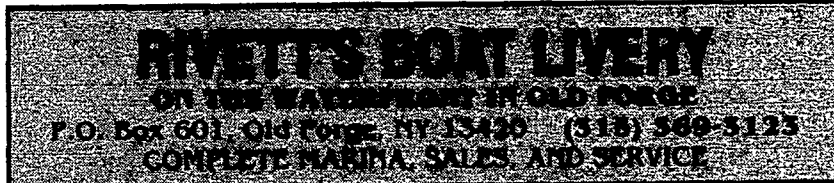


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