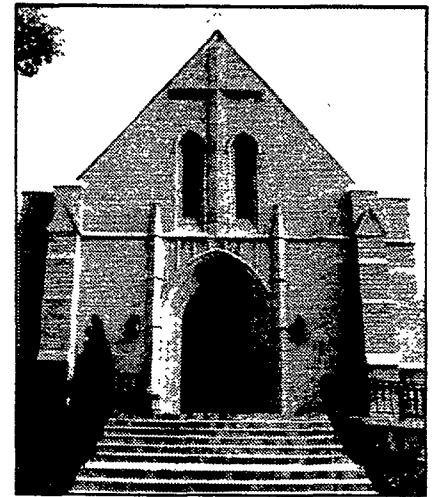




S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

As part of St. Paul of the Cross's 125th anniversary celebration, Father Vogt, pastor, blesses a relic of St. Paul of the Cross. Altar servers Matthew Baker (left), Ned Baker and Samantha Treible look on.



SNAPSHOTS

St. Paul of the Cross, 29 Monroe St., Honeoye Falls.
Ministerial staff:
Pastor: Father Otto J. Vogt
Deacon: Deacon Albro C. Wilson
Parish Council President: Roger Greiten
Music Ministry Coordinators: Eric Baker and Madonna Cintineo
Baker and Education Coordinators: Judi Cuffney and Ellen Hallahan

'Moving' parish

Continued from page 8

St. Joseph's in Rush.

The longest reigning pastor was Father Martin J. Cluney, who served the community from 1890 until his death in 1936. He tried to build a new church, but money — and World War I — interfered, and the partially built structure was never completed. It was under his successor, Father William J. Killacky, that the current church was completed and dedicated on Oct. 30, 1940.

Although the parish has never had a school, education has become a centerpiece of St. Paul's, Greiten said. Under Hallahan and Cuffney, the religious-education program was converted from a traditional one teaching in units, to one focusing on Sunday's readings.

"We have had instances where we will do the readings at school, and the kids will say in church, 'We just heard that,'"

Hallahan reported.

The focus allows for more flexibility in terms of teachers, and for making what the children are learning relevant to their daily lives and what they are experiencing in church, Hallahan observed. To help with that process, each class sends home a newsletter to parents so they will know what is being covered in class.

The willingness to change the religious-education program, and to try new ideas can be credited in part to Father Vogt's openness, observed Eugene Coates, the liaison between the parish's synod committee and the parish council.

"I think (Father Vogt has) been instrumental," Coates remarked. "The fact that he's been open to allow change has been good."

As a result, even though St. Paul of the Cross is a small-town parish, "It's dynamic. It's constantly changing," Coates said. "It's not just a stagnant parish — it's a moving parish."

Tour enlightens youths on array of diocesan activities

HONEOYE FALLS — Although located in Monroe County, St. Paul of the Cross Parish, 29 Monroe St., is still a good haul from downtown Rochester and most of its suburbs. And in many instances, this isolation can extend into parish life.

For this reason, the St. Paul confirmation class set its Columbus Day recess aside to make a daylong tour of several diocesan sites.

Eighteen youths in grades 6 through 10, along with four adult chaperones, participated in the Oct. 10 trip. The itinerary included highlights such as morning meetings with Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Father Thomas P. Mull during an excursion to Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral; visits to Greece's Our Mother of Sorrows Church and Rochester's Roman Catholic Community of the 19th Ward; a stop at the Pastoral Center in Gates which included a tour of the *Catholic Courier* facilities; and a visit to the Abbey of the Genesee Monastery in Piffard, Livingston County.

For Matt Baker, 14, the Piffard visit and a meeting with Sister Kathleen Wayne, pastoral associate of Ironde-

quoit's St. Salome Church, were particularly memorable. He said that conversing with women and men religious was a new experience for his confirmation class.

"A lot of the people hadn't seen nuns and monks before," Matt remarked. He added that the St. Paul youths were surprised to learn that several women religious "dressed casually" instead of wearing habits.

The activities were arranged by Matt, fellow confirmation-class member Jenna Rosati, and Jenna's father, Dick.

According to Dick Rosati, the trip's objective was to "introduce the kids to different aspects of the Catholic Church other than in our small parish. There are a lot of different people doing a lot of different things."

However, he added, "bigger doesn't necessarily mean better — it just means different."

Nine days after they met with Bishop Clark, the young St. Paul parishioners were paid a visit at their own church by another diocesan dignitary: Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, who performed the group's confirmation.

— Mike Latona

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