



Barquilla de la Santa María

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Diocese of Columbus

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October: Our Lady of the Rosary

October, A.D. 2006

Parish Histories of 1903 and 1907

(Concluded, from Vol. XXXI, No. 6)

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Ave Maria

This seven-page, hand-written narrative was submitted by Father J. F. Lang in 1908:

Ave Maria.

Washington County.

Ave Maria Church is in Watertown township, Washington County, five and a half miles S.E. from the railway station of Waterford, and five miles S.W. from the railroad station of Lowell. The place is served by rural delivery mail. The post office address is Waterford, Ohio.

The people of Ave Maria formerly worshipped in St. John Church, Churchtown. In 1865 the old St. John Church was to be superceded by a new edifice. The people of the present Ave Maria parish, who lived from three to eight miles distant, asked to have the new St. John erected two miles to the north west from the site of the old church, in order to make it central for all the people. They of the Churchtown end persistently refused to accede to the request.

Tentative Organization

In consequence of the refusal to change the church site, the north west portion of the people held a meeting, to ascertain their numbers and financial ability, with a view, if sufficiently strong, of submitting a petition to the Pastor, Reverend Magnus Eppink, for the organization of a new congregation.

Previous to the Sunday which had been fixed upon for presenting the paper, biased and

untruthful reports upon this matter had reached the pastor, and he took occasion to soundly berate these people, and strongly inveighed, from the pulpit, against the project.

The people of the new enterprise nevertheless called upon the priest, and convinced him of their sincerity and their honorable motives, and showed him that they were but gathering information and evidence of their probable strength. That if they found themselves equal to the enterprise, they would then come to him for his approbation in the premises. Which they did in both instances. The good priest listened. More than this, he made a personal canvass of the new territory, going from house to house, ascertaining likewise as to the reliability of the statements and the financial promises. He found that the representations which had been made to him by the petitioners were not only true, but that they were very conservative. On the following Sunday he made an apology in the same public manner in which he had previously censured the undertaking.

Father Eppink told the movers in this plan for a new parish that he would carry their petition to the Archbishop of Cincinnati. The diocese of Columbus had not yet been established. He accordingly went to Cincinnati, and returned with the Archbishop's commendation and encouragement and the blessing of His Grace upon the plan and the efforts for a new congregation.

Thus was launched this enterprise for a new parish, to be known as Ave Maria Church,

to be located as outlined in the outset of this narrative, and about three miles north west from Churchtown.

Because of its location, near the banks of Rainbow Creek, it was generally known, and is today, as the Rainbow Church, and also as the Catholic Church on Rainbow Creek. The locality is still confounded by some transmitters of mail matter, with the railroad station of Rainbow, where the creek debouches into the Muskingum River, but to which place it bears no relation.

Property is Secured for a new Church.

Four acres of land were offered and accepted as a gift from Andrew Schwendeman, for a church, priest's house and cemetery. The deed was executed by the donor to the Most Reverend John B. Purcell, Archbishop of Cincinnati. The plat of ground is situated on a hill top, overlooking the Waterford and Marietta Wagon road.

Building the Church.

Preparatory work began without delay. A brick yard was started on the new church property. The first kilns were destroyed by rain storms, but the sturdy and earnest pioneer Catholics were not dismayed, nor did they falter. Not alone came these reverses in the early stage of the work. The opposition of two disgruntled individuals, one of whom had failed to secure the church site upon his low lands, and an otherwise undesirable locality, used their efforts to thwart and impede the success of the work, much to the chagrin of the pastor. These two men have long since passed from the earth. The hand of God was evidently with the people. These and other little reverses served only to strengthen them in their good work.

The labor and construction were supervised by Reverend M. Eppink, who came nearly every day to give them his attention.

The Corner Stone.

On July 1st 1866 Right Reverend S. H. Rosecrans, Auxiliary Bishop of Cincinnati, blessed and placed the corner stone. He was attended by Rev. M. Eppink, Rev. N. E. Pilger, and several others, whose names the writer has not been able to learn. Rev. Father Parks of Parkersburg preached the sermon on the occasion.

Dedication.

The Church is of brick, 35 x 60 feet, and

carries two bells of 250 and 300 pounds weight.

On October 7th 1867 Right Reverend S. H. Rosecrans dedicated the edifice to the honor and glory of Almighty God, under the title Ave Maria. The Bishop was attended by Reverend M. Eppink, N. E. Pilger, -- Jacobs, and J. D. Ryan.

Among the church records, written by one of the early pastors, is this testimony: "The people of the new parish promised to build to completion and to maintain the church, out of their own resources, without soliciting any help from outside their own colony." This record is concluded as follows: "And they faithfully kept their promise."

After the completion and dedication of the church it was attended as a mission, from Churchtown. Holy Mass was offered every Sunday, giving it High Mass once a month. On workdays Holy Mass was offered twice a week and catechism was taught on each visit of weekdays. Later on, Low Mass and High Mass were alternated every Sunday in the two churches.

Priest's Residence.

In 1874 the congregation built and paid for a commodious two story seven room frame house for a pastor's home.

Cemetery.

As is customary in many country parishes, so here, the cemetery is but a few rods from the church. This pretty little God's Acre was blessed by Reverend M. Eppink in July 1867. The grounds are neatly fenced, and are kept in excellent condition. A Society, constituted of nearly all the married men of the congregation, whose members pay annually a fixed per capita amount, defrays the costs and likewise the wages of the Sexton in preparing the burial places.

Title.

The title to all the church property, including the cemetery, is vested in the name of the Right Reverend Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus.

School.

For a time a school was conducted in the Sacristy of the church, during the pastorate of Rev. E. L. Fladung. The first teacher was Miss Elizabeth Schwendeman. She was succeeded by Mrs. Stace, the favorably and well known convert

and authoress. After the departure of Mrs. Stace Miss Kirschbach taught for a time.

The great distance for the children to travel, the cold Winters, and the consequent danger to the health of the pupils, proved the effort of maintaining a school an impracticable measure; it failed of success and was discontinued.

Clergy.

Ave Maria was a mission church from its dedication in 1867 to 1893, when it secured its first resident priest.

Rev. M. Eppink the priest-builder of the church attended it for eighteen months, until his transfer to Zanesville. For six weeks afterwards, Rev. --- McGourty cared for the place, "in a measure." He was succeeded, for four months, by Rev. G. Schneider.

After him, for ten months, one whose signature appears in the baptismal records as L. R. Shnyder, officiated.

In succession came Rev. L. F. P. McKiernan, O.S.F., who remained about eight months.

In 1871 Rev. L. Grimmer took charge and remained about eighteen months. Rev. -- Gillaume succeeded him for a few months, and after him, for about two months, the place was served by Rev. --- Masson, who in turn was succeeded by the return of Rev. L. Grimmer. He remained about a year and a half.

Rev. E. L. Fladung followed and served about ten years. During his administration Rev. B. Wisman was appointed resident pastor. He remained twenty seven days, collected advance salary, and decamped without the Bishop's knowledge. The care of the place reverted to Rev. E. L. Fladung.

His successor was Rev. F. M. Woesman, who had charge about eight years, until his transfer to the pastorate of Marietta.

For the third time, in 1892, Rev. L. Grimmer came to Churchtown, and one year later was appointed the first really resident pastor of Ave Maria, remaining about three years.

After this, the place was again attended at intervals from Churchtown, by Rev. F. Moitrier, until 1900, when Rev. B. J. Mattes became pastor. He remained five and a half years, and was succeeded by Rev. J. F. Lang.

Pioneers.

From among the band of pioneers who built this church, built it amid trying times and out of generous sacrifice, but these survive: Michael Groh, Landolin Offenburger, Jacob Meiser, Louis Lang, Mrs. Mary Long, Mrs. Magdalene Meiser, and Joseph Tullius.

From then to Now.

The congregation, in 1908, consists of sixty practical catholic families. During the years of 1906 and 1907, emulating the good example of their fathers in their church work in these parts of nigh half a century ago, the people of Ave Maria, after a lapse of thirty four years in any betterment on the church of any note, made a successful effort in beautifying their house of God and its surroundings. They graded the grounds, employing the labor of forty teams and seventy men. They improved the driveway, built walks, hauled in over 300 wagon loads of gravel, seeded the ground to grass, and planted a hundred ornamental trees.

A handsome and commodious vestibule was built to the church, and the whole edifice, inside and out, put under the painters brush. Beautiful art glass memorial windows superceded those of other days. New vestments in complete sets, cape and cope, a costly monstrance, and ciborium, massive and handsome altar candlesticks, are some of the improvements in the line of church furniture.

The few families have been generous, and the foundation of their generosity is their loyalty to their parish.

Senior and junior Holy Name Societies have been organized. The Married Ladies Altar Society was rejuvenated; St. Rose Young ladies Sodality, and Children of Mary Societies, have come into existence, and they are all active in their sphere.

The congregation enjoys the possession and cheerfully maintains a comparatively large free circulating library.

With very few exceptions the members of the parish are native born, of German descent. The language of the people is English.

The church and the entire property are free from debt.

Old Catholic Cemetery of Taylorsville or Philo

The deed for this cemetery was from Michael Tell (Till) and his wife Barbara, who for \$50 sold to Bishop Purcell for a Catholic Burial Ground a piece of property in the southeast quarter of Section 11, Township 11, Range 13 in Harrison Township. It was in the northwest corner of a tract of 53.65 acres, on the south side of the quarter section, which had been transferred from Moses Ayres to William Bollman in 1840. The description of the property in the deed is faulty, but it clearly measured 186.12 feet by 322.74 feet, which if exactly rectangular would contain 1.38 acres. (Deed Record 3/159 and Y/114) The deed was signed on February 21, 1843. The site is on the north side of Fattler Ridge Road, 0.9 mile west of the Philo corporation limit, or 1.3 miles west from Main and Fifth streets.

The Muskingum County Genealogical Society in 1984 published Cemetery Inscriptions of Brush Creek, Clay & Harrison Township, Muskingum County, Ohio, which on page 108 contains readings of some thirty tombstones and monuments in this cemetery. Several of these stones were missing when visits were made on October 21 and 29, 2005. And, as might be expected, some readings taken in 2005 were at variance with the earlier ones. The cemetery is in very poor condition, with many stones broken or lying down.

In the 2005 reading, rows were numbered from the northeast (clearly the portion used first, on the end towards Philo) towards the southwest.

Row 1

Stone fragment: Christian Kusmaul Died [the stone is broken off here; the base is still standing but the date is illegible]

Rows 2 and 3 are empty of stones

Row 4 at the rear:

William Sullivan [the name is beautifully

carved around a circle] died Dec. 18, 1859 aged 44 Yrs 4 Mo 20 D's

Row 5

Elizabeth Eberst died Aug. 20, 1855 Aged 55 Years

Row 6

Martin Durand Geb. 24 Mai 1801 Gest 1 Marz 1851 Sein Ph--- Katharina Zorn R.I.P.
Gertrud [broken] Wife of M. Stehle Died Aug. 24, 1852 Aged 62 Y'rs (with footstone: G.S.)

Row 7

Christian Keck died Oct. 5, 1851, aged [75 ?? years per the MCGS reading]
Footstone in original position: N.G. [This probably marks the grave of Nicholas Grether, whose broken headstone without a name, identified via the MCGS reading, is now by the tree in row 9:] Died Oct. 8, 1846 in the 54 Y'r of his age

Row 8

Mary Jane, dau'r of A. & E. A. Carr died Oct. 30, 1843 Æ 6 y'rs 7 mo 27 d's (with footstone M.J.C.)
H.C.C. footstone [see Henry Carr below]

Hier Ruht

Barb[]i Stehle
Toch[ter von Mel]chior Stehle
un[d]Kek : ist:
ge[storben]Juni 1843
A[lter
Zi[

Row 9

Maggie C. dau of J. K. & S. E. Kimmel died Feb. 25, 1862 aged 10 Y 6 M 1 D [possibly 19 years]

A group of stones is leaning against a large tree:
 Catherine dau of A. & E. A. Carr died Oct. 2, 182 Æ 4 y'rs 7 m [now broken; 23 days per MCGS]
 Henry C. son of A. & E. A. Carr died Aug. 30, 1846 aged 1 Y 22 D
 Regina [daughter of, per MCGS] [] Joel & Rosa Kessler [] 1842 Alter 23 J.
 Rosa [] F. Kessler [died Apr. 26,] 1853, [age 61 years per MCGS]
 [broken stone] Died/ Feb. 1, 1863?/ Aged 27 Y's 8 m's/ & 1 d./ Dear to all who knew here on/ account of her extraordinary/ purity of life and general moral/ worth, having edified and adorn/ ed the church by her virtues, she/ passed from this temporal state/ through long and severe suffering/ and full of confidence in God.

Row 10 has one broken stone:
 Hier ruhet [broken through name and edges worn] gestorben den 18 November 1855
 Alter 40 Jahr 7 Mon.

Row 11
 Martin Kratzer died Sept. 7, 1867 aged 47 Y 10 M
 {Catherine wife of Jacob Durant died Dec. 21, 1867 aged 37 Y 6 M & 10 D
 {Julian Died Sept. 13, 1860 Aged 1 M & 28 D
 {Lewis Martin Died Dec. 16, 1862 Aged 1 Y 7 M & 10 D
 {Andrew Jackson Died July 31, 1864 Aged 2 M & 24 D
 {Elener Died Dec. 4, 1863 Aged 6 Ms
 {John Died Jan. 11, 1867 Aged 13 D's
 {Children of Jacob & Catherine Durant

Row 12
 {Joseph Son of Christian and Catharine Kussmaul Died Nov. 18, 1872 Aged 24 Y 7 M & 18 D
 {Theresia Dau of Christian and Catharine Kussmaul Died Apr. 10, 1874 Aged 21 Y 2 M 26 D

Theresia Frau von Chr. Keck gest 10 July 1872
 Alter 77 Jahr 7 M & 12 T (German verse)

Row 13
 Catharine Kussmaul died Mar. 8, 1907 aged 87 years Let us pray
 + Sgt. John Kussmaul Co A 122 Ohio Inf died Feb. 4, 1888 aged 43 Y 10 M 17 D
 Melchior Staley died Feb. 1, 1885 aged 69 years
 Barbara wife of Melchior Staley born Feb. 17, 1824 died Jan. 13, 1900 Pray for me.
 Jacob Durant born July 16, 1833 died Mar. 16, 1888 R.I.P.
 Julia A. wife of Andrew Gossman died Nov. 23, 1884 aged 45 Y 1 M 18 D

Row 14
 Frederick Kussmaul died July 11, 1911 aged 55 years [new stone]
 COHAGAN: Julia E. 1892
 Hildaree 1904-1905

Stones found by MCGS but not found in 2005:
 Catharine wife of Martin Durant, died Aug. 4, 1884 aged 73 Y 3 M
 Josephine daughter of Melchior & Barbara Staley died Mar. 25, 1870, aged 8 Y 6 M
 Frances Keck died Nov. 18, 1855 aged 10 Y 10 M
 Charles son of G.[M?] & B. Henly [Stehle?] died Sept. 2, 1846 aged 1 Y 1 M
 ----- Werner son of Frank & Kathrina Kessler died --- 30, 1849

Burial records from St. Nicholas Parish, Zanesville, are being run in the *Bulletin* this year. Among these are a handful from Taylorsville: Anton Stehle, age 81, in 1846; and in 1867 Jacob Durand, infant; Mathias Graetzer, 49 years old; and Catharina Durand, age 37.

Abstracts from The Catholic Telegraph

(Continued from Vol. XXXI, No. 6)

October 14, 1854

There were sixty confirmed in St. Nicholas' church last Sunday morning, and eighty-nine in St. Thomas', Zanesville, in the afternoon, by Most Rev. Archbishop Purcell.

The youth of St. Nicholas' congregation waited on the Most Rev. Archbishop at the residence of their beloved Pastor, on the evening of his arrival, presented him with a beautiful Latin ode, and sang a hymn of prayer and preparation for the next day's blessings. Many of the parents and friends of the children were also present on the interesting occasion.

Next day, after confirmation, two of the little girls dressed in white presented the children's offering to the orphans--twelve dollars--which the Archbishop promised to share among the four asylums. The entire congregation were in tears, as well as the children, during the affecting address delivered by the Rev. Mr. Dieters, the Pastor.

We should occupy too much space if we spoke of the seranades, the dinner, the magnificent cake, and candy pyramid, surmounted by Mitre,--sweeter than Mitres are generally,--and generous contributions for travelling expenses, or alms for the poor, by which the St. Nicholas' congregation never fails to testify its affection for the spiritual head of the diocese.

The two churches were crowded at the time of the administration of the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation, and in both everything was conducted in the most edifying manner.

October 28, 1854

Ordinations: Oct. 18, subdeacon, J. B. Menge, and deacon, Thomas Coppinger; Oct. 19, deacon, J. B. Menge; Oct. 21, priest, the above and Rev. Frederick Bender.

Rev. Mr. Bender will assume the pastoral charge of the church of St. Francis of Sales, Newark...

November 11, 1854

NEW COLLEGE.--A building which is to be used as a Catholic College is now nearly under roof, near Chillicothe, in this archdiocese. The beautiful property on which it is situated was bought by Rev. Mr. Ford of Wm. M. Anderson, Esq. about two months ago. Rev. Mr. Ford is astonishing those who are not intimately acquainted with him by the energy with which his zeal is pushing forward this work.

November 18, 1854

Died, at his residence at Duncan's Falls, below Zanesville, on Friday, Nov. 11th, JAMES TAYLOR, aged 69 years. He was born in Frederick county, Va., Sept. 8, 1785, emigrated to Zanesville in 1840, and has been since that time an active merchant and manufacturer in Muskingum county.

The deceased was a convert, and a most consistent and exemplary convert, to the Catholic faith. He married the widow of Mr. Dugan, who was killed by falling from the box of his own stage, near Wheeling, many years past, while returning with Bishop Fenwick from Washington. Mr. Taylor was at one time owner of ten thousand acres of some of the finest land in this State, and occupied a noble mansion built on an Indian mound overlooking the Muskingum. He lost it all by the misfortunes of the times several years before his death, but, as he remarked to the writer of this notice, he cared not for what he lost, since God had given him what was infinitely better--the true faith! May he rest in peace!

December 30, 1854

Ordinations: Wednesday, tonsure and minor orders, Edward Fitzgerald, Terence Smith, John Duffy (native of Steubenville), Eugene Corcoran, John Tierney. Thursday, subdeacons, Walsh, O'Shea, Fitzgerald, Smith.

Friday, deacons, Walsh and O'Shea. Saturday, priest, Walsh.

Among Christmas letters to Archbishop Purcell from students of various schools in the archdiocese, one is printed from Ellen Blaire and Companions, Chillicothe; and one from Elizabeth Strabel and Companions, Chillicothe.

Communicated.

Marges, Carroll Co., O., Dec. 10.

The Catholic church at Marges, Carroll Co., Ohio, was solemnly blessed by the Rev. D. M. Winands, our beloved pastor, assisted by Rev. M. M. Boff, of Kenton, and L. Molan, of Massillon, on the 8th of December, the day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Father Winands preached in German and Father Boff in English. Father Molan sang High Mass, assisted by the two above-named Rev. Fathers as deacon and subdeacon.

May our Most Rev. Father Archbishop send us, as soon as possible, another priest to assist Father Winands in his very extensive missions.
K.

Subscriptions:

Nov. 4: Rev. Mr. Thienpont, Steubenville

Nov. 25: George Arnold, Lancaster; James Fish, Pomeroy

Dec. 2: Henry Sheerin, New Lexington

Dec. 9: Mr. Hallify and Thos. Collopy, Roscoe

Dec. 16: Moses White, Mt. Vernon

Dec. 23: Samuel Durbin, Amity

Dec. 30: Dr. C. McGovern, Chapel Hill; John Poulton, Graysville; Frederic Ceeter, Canal Dover

1855

January 6, 1855

Corrections of errors and other changes to information listed in the recently issued Catholic Almanac for 1855 (only those in places or persons connected with the Diocese of Columbus are noted here):

1. Rev. Ph. Foley is stationed with Rev. Mr. Barrett at St. Thomas', Cincinnati.

Rev. Mr. Wachter, who attends Delhi Church and St. Peter's, Lick Run, resides at the latter place, and not in Cincinnati.

Chillicothe--Rev. Mr. Halliman is now stationed in the new College near this place. He also assists Rev. Mr. Forde in the care of St. Mary's congregation.

Dresden is still attended by Rev. Mr. Deiters, of Zanesville. Rev. Mr. Bender, of Newark, attends the English and French portion of this congregation and those of Coshocton and Wills Creek. When called on, in the absence of Rev. Mr. Deiters, he also affords the consolations of his ministry to the German Catholics of the same districts.

Kenton is now attended from Urbana.

Marietta--Rev. Mr. Perry also attends the congregation of Union township, five miles from Marietta, erroneously assigned in the Almanac to Zanesville.

Newark--There is no church at Jackson. The St. Joseph's church, Jersey Settlement, is attended by Rev. Mr. Bender, and not by Rev. Mr. Bruneman, who is no longer in this diocese. This name is repeated in the alphabetical list of the clergy of the United States.

Portsmouth--There is no St. Michael's at Aberdeen. Steubenville--The new church as long since been dedicated.

Rev. Mr. Brummer's Post Office is Temperanceville, Belmont Co.

Wilkesville--There is no church here. The church and residence of Rev. Mr. Kelly is St. Matthew's, four miles from Wilkesville.

January 13, 1855

The report of the annual meeting of the St. Peter's Benevolent Society (for support of orphans in Cincinnati) thanks P. B. Ewing of Lancaster for a gift of \$10 and five hundred bushels of coal. W. S. Rosecrans was elected president for the ensuing year.

Died,

In Steubenville, on 30th December, of pneumonia, HARRIET JANE ROGERS, aged 17 years.

This young lady, who had been residing with her aunt, Mrs. C. A. Davis, in Carroll county, where there is no Catholic church, fortunately came to Steubenville a few weeks before her death, where she received all the last rites of our holy religion, with the greatest consolation and the most edifying piety.

January 20, 1855

Statistics for 1854:

Portsmouth - 26 baptisms, 10 marriages

Ironton - 98 baptisms, 15 marriages

Sacred Heart, Pomeroy - 51 baptisms, 16 marriages, 21 deaths

Mission of Rev. D. M. Winands, Canal Dover, Marges, Lodi, and St. Peter's - 161 baptisms, 26 marriages, 45 deaths

St. Francis' congregations, Sunday Creek, Morgan Co., sent \$34 for the orphans. St. Peter's Monday Creek, \$6.

Rev. J. V. Daly, O.P., writes us a most edifying letter of the results of the Jubilee in the above congregations. The communicants were, in St. Francis', 320; and of children who made the Jubilee, though too young to be admitted to Holy Communion, 65. Many who had

been neglectful of their duty, and, of course, in mortal sin, for six, eight, and even twelve years, made their peace with God, and but few remain delinquent. Among the returned stray sheep was a young woman who had been perverted to Campbellism, and dipped about Christmas of 1853.

January 27, 1855

Statistics for 1854:

St. Peter's, Lick Run - 33 baptisms, 9 marriages, 8 deaths

St. Thomas, Zanesville - 126 baptisms, 20 marriages, 59 deaths

The Jubilee was concluded in this diocese on Thursday, 18th inst. ...The results of the Jubilee at Circleville were also very consoling and edifying. Rev. Mr. Thisse, the pastor, was efficiently assisted in the instructions and other labors of the mission by Rev. Mr. Lange, of Lancaster. There was a First Communion of the youth, and about three hundred adults were admitted to the Holy Eucharist. The conversion of many long-negligent Catholics has been extensively remarked as a special result of the Jubilee.

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