GOLDEN JUBILEE

1888
1938

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH
HOBOKEN NEW JERSEY

1888 - - 1938

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

HOBOKEN

NEW JERSEY

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 11th

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHT

THE PARISH AUDITORIUM

JEFFERSON AND THIRD STREETS

These Pages are
Most Humbly and Lovingly
Dedicated to
The most Blessed Trinity
And
The Patriarch Saint Francis
That
They may continue
To Guide and to Bless
The Destinies of
Our most Reverend Archbishop
Our Neighboring Clergy
Our own Priests
And
All the faithful
Parishoners and Friends
Of
Saint Francis Church
Hoboken
New Jersey

FEBRUARY ELEVENTH
Nineteen hundred and thirty-eight



SAINT FRANCIS CHURCH

and

SAINT FRANCIS PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY

A.D., 1938

HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

Bishop of Rome and Vicar of Jesus Christ
Successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles,
Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church.
Patriarch of the West, Primate of Italy.
Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province,
Sovereign of Vatican City.

PIUS XI

ACHILLE RATTI

Now Gloriously Reigning

The two hundred and sixtieth successor of St. Peter was born at Desio, Archdiocese of Milan, May 31, 1857; ordained Priest, December 20, 1879; promoted to Titular See of Lepanto, July 3, 1919. Created Cardinal June 16, 1921; Proclaimed June 21, 1921. Promoted to Archdiocese of Milan as Cardinal Archbishop, June 16, 1921. Elected Pope, February 6, 1922, crowned February 12, 1922.



THE SECRETARIATE OF STATE
Vatican City

JANUARY 15, 1938.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH HOBOKEN THE AUGUST PONTIFF AS A MARK OF HIS PATERNAL INTEREST AND PLEASURE FOR THE SPIRITUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST HALF CENTURY AND IN PLEDGE OF ABIDING GRACE FOR THE FUTURE IMPARTS TO THE REV. PARISH PRIEST AND ASSISTANTS TO THE RELIGIOUS SISTERS AND TO THE PEOPLE HIS APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION.

EUGENE CARDINAL PACELLI

CHRONICLE OF FIFTY GOLDEN YEARS

ORGANIZATION OF SAINT FRANCIS PARISH, HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.

PERHAPS the history of Saint Francis Church, Hoboken, New Jersey, can be said in a general way, to date back to more than fifty years ago when the few Italians, mostly Genoese, of Hoboken, New Jersey, worshipped at the old Saint Joseph's Church on Ferry Street. In those early days their spiritual needs were cared for by the Very Reverend Dominic Marzetti, O.M.C., D.D., who was the pastor of Saint Joseph's Church and the superior of that convent. He was a member of the Franciscan Order known as the Friars Minor Conventual.

However on the fifth of May, 1888, these few Italians then residing in the city of Hoboken, New Jersey, officially met in the school-rooms of St. Joseph's Church to consider the building of an Italian Catholic Church:

"The meeting was called and presided over by the Reverend Dominick Marzetti, O.M.C., D.D., and it was agreed to erect such a church."

"In pursuance of the agreement the Corporation was formed,"..... ....."a certificate of incorporation was obtained from and filed in the Hudson County Court House. The same certificate was forwarded to the diocesan Archives of Newark, New Jersey."

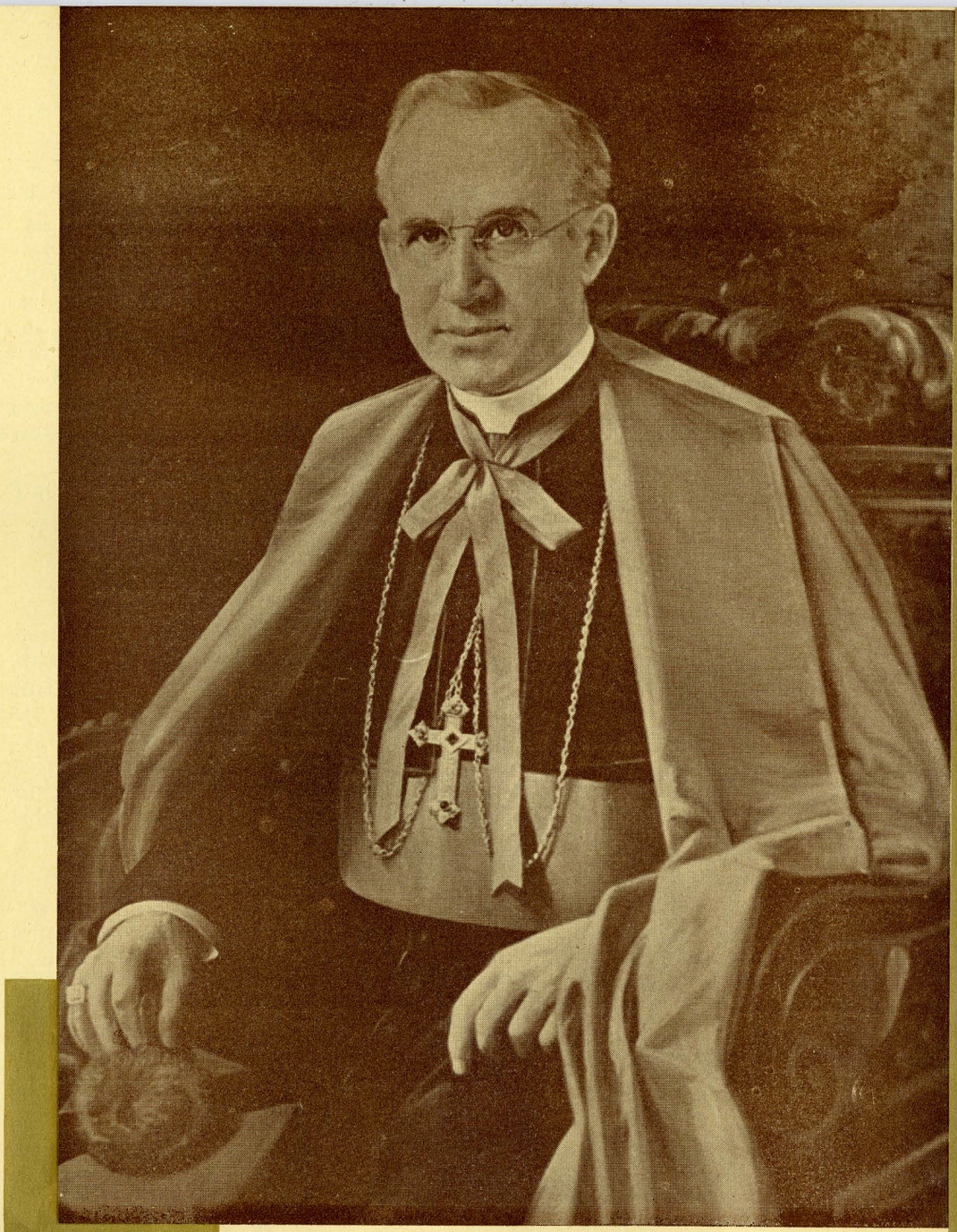
The Right Reverend Winand Michael Wigger, Bishop of Newark, New Jersey, was President "ex-officio" of the Board of Trustees. The other members of the Board of Trustees were the Very Reverend W. Salt. Vicar-General and the Very Reverend Dominick Marzetti, O.M.C., D.D.; and Mr. Charles Guaraglia and Mr. Eugene Seville were appointed as the church's first lay trustees. (1888-1894).

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHURCH.

In April, 1888, for the sum of $4,885.00 ground had been purchased upon which to erect this Italian Catholic Church. The site chosen was about one hundred by one hundred feet, lots number 31, 32, 33, and 34 of Block 54 at Third and Jefferson Streets, Hoboken, New Jersey. On the 13th of June, 1888, the Feast of St. Anthony, the first pile for the foundation of the new church was driven. On August 12, 1888, the Right Reverend Winand M. Wigger, Bishop of Newark, New Jersey laid the corner-stone.

A new church of late Gothic design gradually arose under the guidance of Mr. S. Manner, architect, so that on May 26, 1889, the $15,000.00 edifice was dedicated to the service of Almighty God by the Right Reverend John J. Conroy, formerly Bishop of Albany, New York. The church building remains substantially the same today as originally designed, although the belfry was built five feet higher, and in later years another door was added a little to the west of the main entrance on Third Street and still later another door on Jefferson Street near the Blessed Virgin's Altar.

That same year, 1889, on July 21st, the Church's first bell was blessed and began to call the faithful to divine services. By the end of 1890, the new church was more or less completely furnished, for wooden main and side altars and communion rail had been provided. A baptismal font and confessional had been installed, pews had been furnished, statues of the



HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MOST REVEREND
THOMAS J. WALSH, S.T.D., J.C.D.,

Archbishop of Newark, N. J.; ordained Jan. 27, 1900; consecrated Bishop of Trenton, N. J., July 25, 1918; made Assistant at the Pontifical Throne, March 13, 1922; transferred to the See of Newark, March 2, 1928; named Archbishop April 27, 1938.

Blessed Virgin Mary-Queen of Heaven, of Saint Joseph, of Saint Anthony of Padua, and of the Sacred Heart were in place; Stations of the Cross adorned the walls and the sunlight streamed through the colored stained glass windows of Saint Francis of Assisi and of Saint Dominic into the sanctuary. In the subsequent ten years other colored stained glass windows were added; in 1892, the window of Our Sorrowing Mother; in 1897, the window of Saint Peter; in 1898, the windows of Saint Clare and Saint Lucy; in 1899, the windows of Saint Augustine, Saint Catherine, Saint George, Saint John the Baptist, and Saint Mary Magdalen; and in 1900, the window of the Sacred Heart. These windows give the present church a most colorful and interesting setting.

Likewise, the Very Reverend Dominic Marzetti placed in the church statues of Saint John the Baptist, Saint Anne, Saint Roch, and several diverse oil paintings.

THE PARISH HOUSE.

On November 15, 1890, it was decided to purchase a house that might be of use as a parsonage for the priests serving the new church, but who until then lived with the Fathers of the same Order at Saint Joseph's Rectory (on Monroe Street) Hoboken, New Jersey. A two-story frame house located on Adams Street, between Second and Third Streets was purchased from the Hoboken Board of Education for $50.00. A one-story brick foundation was built upon piles on the west side of the church facing Third Street, and then the frame building was moved to this site and remodeled for a parish house.

For some years the Very Reverend Dominic Marzetti attended to the spiritual needs of the parish unassisted. Early in 1894, the Very Reverend Peter Jachetti, O.M.C., who also was Secretary of the Immaculate Conception Province came to Saint Francis Church as an assistant, and for a very brief period served also as the pastor. And the following year, on January 14th, (1895) Mr. Andrew Capelli took the place of Mr. Eugene Seville as a lay trustee of the church. (1895-1903). The Very Reverend Peter Jachetti, O.M.C., remained at Saint Francis Church until April, 1897 at which time he accepted the chaplaincy of Saint Mary's Hospital, Hoboken, New Jersey.

The Reverend Felix Di Persia, a secular priest, succeeded the Very Reverend Peter Jachetti, as an assistant and remained at Saint Francis Church until April, 1899 when he was appointed pastor of the newly established Saint Anne's parish, north of Fifth Street, Hoboken, New Jersey. Fifth Street was constituted and still is the boundary or parish limit of Saint Francis and Saint Anne's parishes. The Reverend John Rongetti, also a secular priest, then succeeded the Reverend Felix Di Persia as an assistant. In the early summer of 1900, on June 12th, two more bells were donated, blessed and hung in the belfry of Saint Francis Church. During the Summer of 1900, the church was wired and equipped for electricity.

On April 12, 1902, the Very Reverend Dominic Marzetti died at the age of 60 years. He was buried from the church he built and was laid to rest in Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, Trenton, New Jersey.

BEGINNING OF THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOL.

On April 16, 1902, the Reverend Ambrose Rheiner, O.M.C., was appointed the pastor of the church and was assisted for a few months by the Passionist Fathers of West Hoboken (now Union City), New Jersey. In August, 1902, the Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub, O.M.C., S.T.L., was assigned to Saint Francis Church as an assistant.

During that same year, consideration was given to the construction of an Italian Parochial School. On October, 11, 1902, it was decided to move the parish house from its site adjacent to the church on Third Street,



THE MOST REVEREND

BEDE HESS, D.D., LITT.D.,

CXII Minister General

of the

Order of Friars Minor Conventual

Born at Rome, New York, November 16, 1885; Ordained July 26, 1908; elected Minister Provincial of the Province of the Immaculate Conception, B.V.M., August 19, 1932; elected Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor Conventual, May 29, 1936.

To the Reverend Fathers, the Venerable Sisters and the Beloved Parishioners of St. Francis Parish, Hoboken, New Jersey, on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee, sincere congratulations and the Blessing of our Seraphic Father.

Rome, Jan. 10, 1938.

F. Bede Hess, O.M.C.,
Minister General.

to a lot at 303 Madison Street. The work of moving and re-modelling this building cost about $1,800.00, and it was ready for occupancy by the pastor and his assistant, in January, 1903. The lot at 303 Madison Street was purchased in August, 1904 for $2,000.00. The removal of the parish house from Third Street to Madison Street freed that ground, and together with the vacant lot adjacent, was reserved for the foundations of a future parochial school. In the meantime, Saint Francis Italian Parochial School had been organized. In Fall of 1902, the first floor of the building at 215 Jefferson Street was rented from the George Focht Estate and on September 8, 1902, the school was opened, and before the end of the week one hundred and fifty-four pupils were registered. The first two Sisters in charge were Sister Ferdinand and Sister Constantia of the Third Franciscan Order (M. C.) of the Syracuse, New York Motherhouse. For the time being, because of the lack of accommodations, they resided with the Sisters of Saint Joseph's school, Hoboken, New Jersey. Early in the year, 1905, classes were held in Mr. Martin Busanich's Imperial Hall situated on the south side of Third Street between Adams and Jefferson Streets. On January 12th, 1904, Mr. Bernard Vezzetti was appointed a lay trustee of Saint Francis Church in place of Mr. Charles Guaraglia who had served in that capacity for sixteen years. Four months later (May 26,) it was decided to start the construction of the parochial school as soon as bids could be obtained. About a week later (June 1st) estimates were considered and the contracts awarded, totaling $16,000.00 for a one-story red brick building, of four classrooms. During the summer of that year, the cornerstone of the new Saint Francis Italian Parochial School was put in place by the Reverend Leopold Hofschneider, the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church, Hoboken, New Jersey.

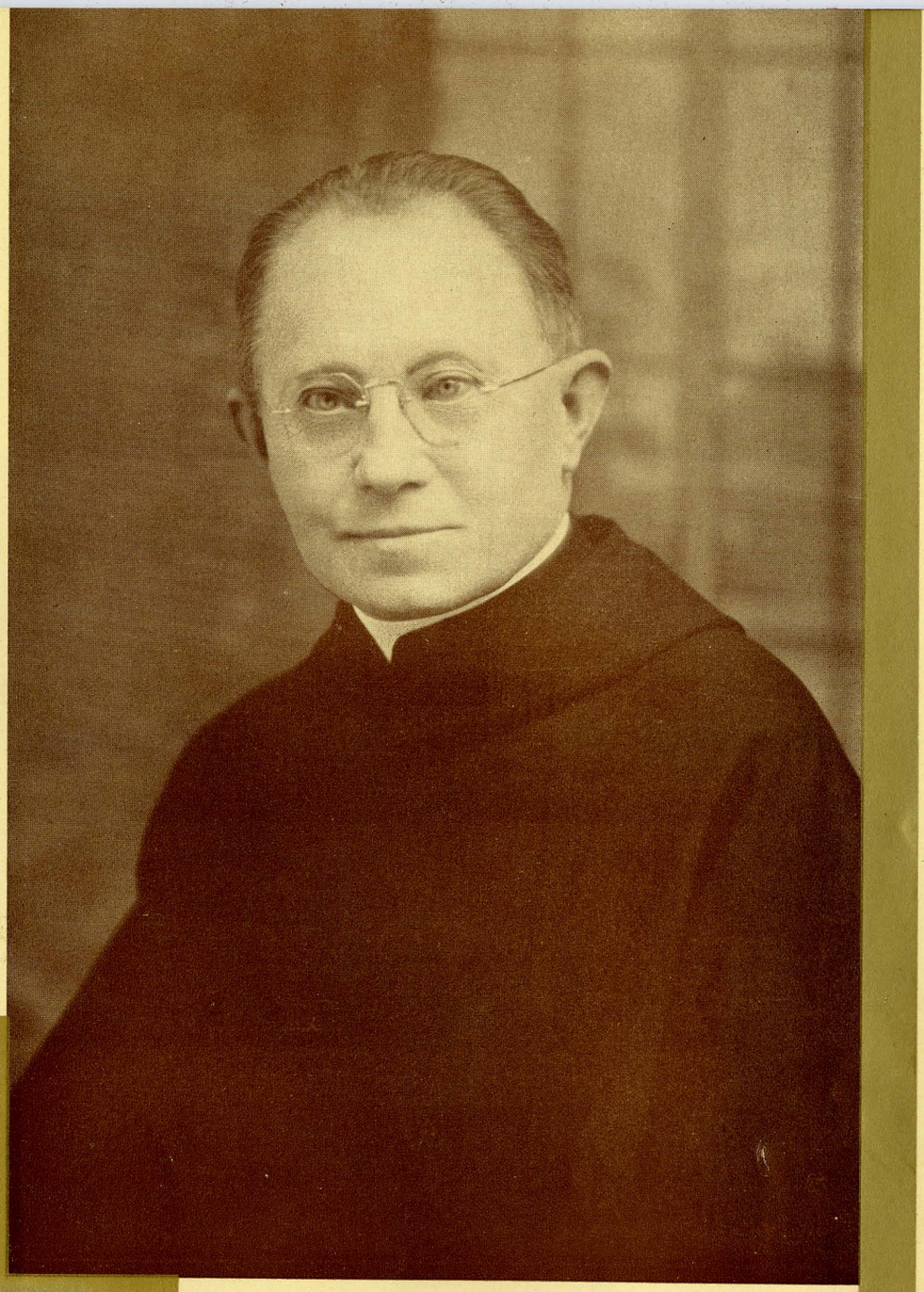
The present school is therefore a testimonial to the sacrifices and the charity of the entire parish of thirty-five years ago to provide Catholic education for its younger members of those and future days. Hence the marble tablet attached to the walls of the main corridor of the school in 1906 gives but partial evidence of that generosity. It reads:

1906
To the honor and glory
of the
Italian Colony
of
Hoboken, New Jersey
this tablet
is erected in kind recognition
of the devotion extended
towards the founding
this
St. Francis Parochial School
in conjunction with the unstinted
generosity displayed by—

followed by a fragmentary list of donors.

As was customary at the time, we find that special emphasis was laid upon instructing the pupils in their paternal tongue, and through the subsequent years an instructor was provided to teach the Italian language. It was only in June, 1906, that the first class graduated from the school. Though two in number, they pronounced the first valedictory within the walls of Saint Francis Italian School and each proudly received a gold graduating pin.

In August, 1903, the Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub was transferred to Jeffersonville, Indiana, and was succeeded by the Reverend Pacificus Jachetti, O.M.C., who remained until October 1904. He was succeeded by the Reverend Mark Maser, O.M.C., who in March, 1905, was transferred to Saint Joseph's Church, Terre Haute, Indiana.



THE VERY REVEREND
VINCENT M. MAYER
Minister Provincial
of the
Province of the Immaculate Conception B.V.M.
Syracuse, New York

Born September 26, 1883 at Syracuse, New York; Professed February 25, 1900; Ordained Priest July 26, 1906; elected Minister Provincial of the Province of the Immaculate Conception B.V.M. September 22, 1936.

To the Reverend Fathers and the Parishioners of
St. Francis Parish:

I join with you very heartily in your rejoicing over fifty years of successful work and I pray God to continue to bestow upon priests and people of St. Francis Parish his choicest blessings.

Very sincerely yours,
FR. VINCENT M. MAYER,
Minister Provincial

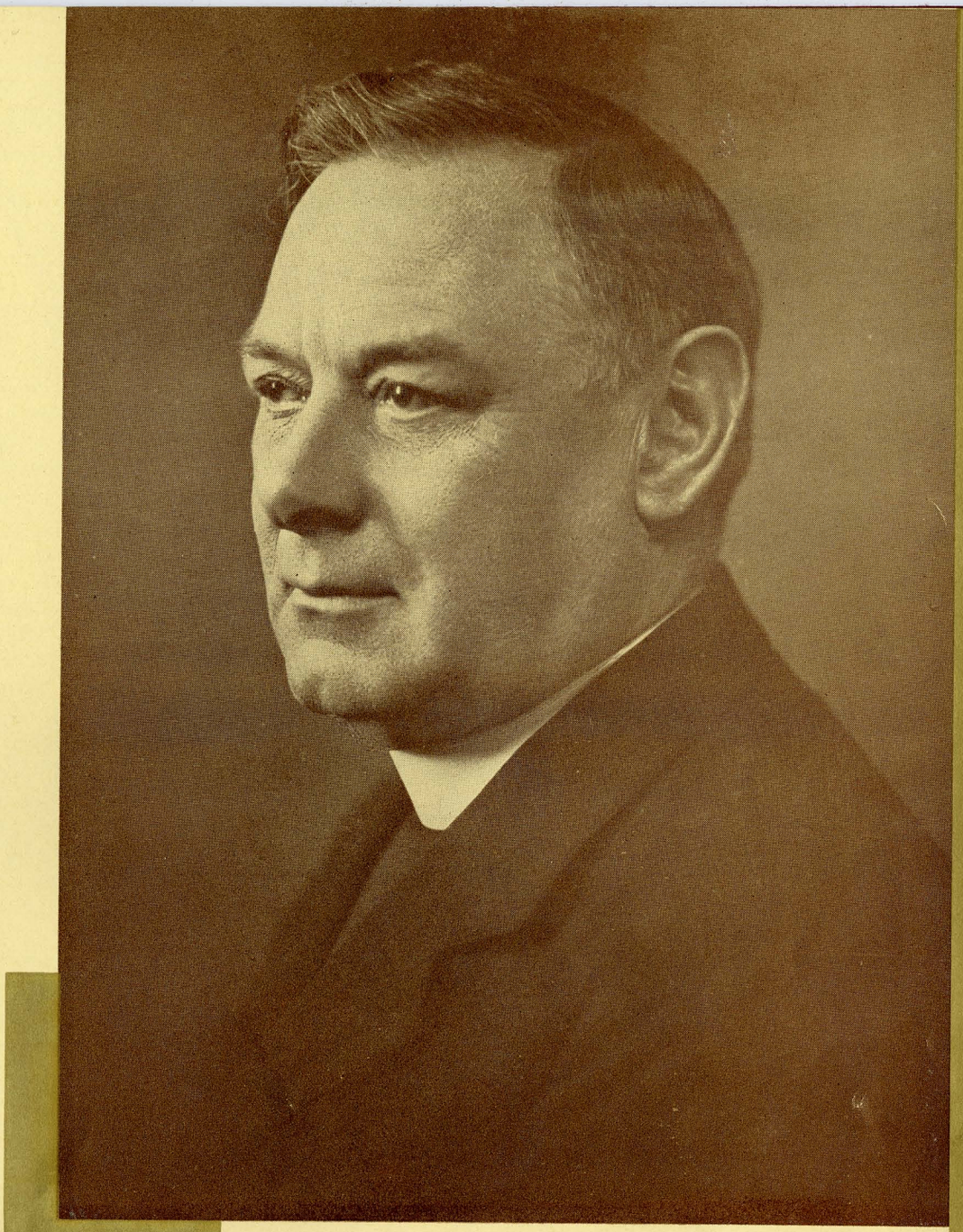
A NEW PARISH HOUSE.

In January, 1905, the Reverend Ambrose Rheiner, was succeeded by the Reverend Edward Burgard, O.M.C., for a brief term as pastor, and then in the middle of March, 1905, the Very Reverend Seraphine Pierotti, O.M.C., D.D., was appointed pastor. He was assisted by various priests, among whom might be mentioned the Reverend Norbert Scheid, O.M.C., from April, 1905, to April, 1907; the Reverend Edward Burgard, O.M.C., until May, 1909; the Very Reverend Julius Marchi, O.M.C., D.D., until September, 1910; and others, such as the Very Reverend Gregory Scheuer-



mann, O.M.C., D.D., Ph.D., and the Reverend Humbert Donati, a secular priest.

The most notable improvement of the parish property during the pastorship of the Very Reverend Seraphine Pierotti, was the construction of the present day parish house and convent of St. Francis. On March 1, 1908, it was decided that a new parish house must be built. The church of St. Francis then acquired the necessary site by purchasing from the Friars Minor Conventuals of St. Francis the house and lot at 308 Jefferson Street, for $3,300.00. A new parish house designed by Mr. M. Serracino was built in its place at a total cost of $11,135.00 The lay trustees of that



THE VERY REVEREND
CAMILLUS EICHENLAUB, O.M.C., S.T.L.,
Pastor of St. Francis Church
and
Superior of St. Francis Convent
Hoboken, N. J.

Born October 6, 1875 at Syracuse, New York; Professed October 7, 1891; Ordained Priest July 25, 1898 at Rome Italy. Pastor at Saint Francis Church, Hoboken, New Jersey, August 1912 to September 1929 and from September 1932 to the present day.

day were Mr. Bernard Vezzetti, and Mr. Stephen Madreperla, appointed on January 27, 1906.

Not less enduring improvements of the Very Reverend Seraphine Pierotti's pastorship are the communion-rail of Carrarra marble (1905) in the present church, the Statue of Saint Francis with its appropriate niche in the west aisle (1906), and the statue of the Immaculate Conception (1906), and last but not least, the high-relief Stations of the Cross of the present day (1907). Late in the summer of 1909 during a storm, the church tower at Third and Jefferson Streets was struck by lightning and one of the stone crosses surmounting it was shattered. This cross was shortly afterwards replaced. The Very Reverend Seraphine Pierotti then returned to his native soil, Italy, and was succeeded in August, 1912, by the Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub, O.M.C., S.T.L.

It might be well to pause here a moment and recall that during the fall months of 1910, the Italian Church of Saint Francis also served as a temporary house of worship for neighboring Slavic Catholics under the spiritual direction of a Reverend Ambrose Sirca. The Very Reverend Julius Marchi who had been the assistant under the Very Reverend Seraphine Pierotti, continued as such under the Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub, until God called him to his Eternal Reward on May 19, 1914. He was interred in Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, Trenton, New Jersey.

One of the first major improvements after the advent of the new pastor, the Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub, was the redecoration of the church's interior, about June (1913). A committee headed by Mr. Angelo Podesta, Mr. Bernard Vezzetti, Mr. Anthony Capelli, and Mr. Louis Fugazzi, engaged the services of a Mr. E. Malerba of New York, New York to do this work. At this time the ceiling of the main nave was enriched with three mural paintings. The center painting shows the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin, and is a reproduction after Murillo. The painting nearest the altar shows Saint Francis receiving the Sacred Stigmata. Above the organ a painting depicts Saint Anthony receiving the Christ Child in his arms. Both of these paintings are rearrangements from the famous Italian painter Lauri. This particular part of the Church's decoration was the work of a painter named Mr. E. Pustello, of West Hoboken (now Union City), New Jersey.

During the fall months of that same year 1913, it was decided to install a new organ in the church, and the contract was awarded to the Kimball Organ Company of Chicago, Illinois; the contract price was $1,700.00.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF SAINT FRANCIS HOLY NAME SOCIETY AND CATHOLIC CLUB.

This year, 1938, also marks the Silver Jubilee year of Saint Francis Catholic Club. For while up to 1913, there existed within the church a Holy Name Society, that year it was resolved to re-organize the subsequently brilliant Saint Francis Catholic Club, notable for its devotion to the ideals of the church, it's energetic cooperation in church activities and progress, and its marvelous success in the Hudson County Catholic Federation field of competitive sports.

In the early part of 1919, the church was supplied with a "terrazzo" floor and soon afterwards, further additions were made to the church properties, when the house and lot at 310 Jefferson Street were purchased for $3,500.00. The following year extensive renovations and repairs were required in both the Parish-house and the Sisters Convent, for which $3,750.00 was expended and the work was done by Mr. D. Posio and Son of West Hoboken, New Jersey.

After the death of the Very Reverend Julius Marchi, the Very Reverend Gregory Scheuermann, O.M.C., D.D., Ph.D., of Rensselaer, New



THE VERY REVEREND

ROMUALD REITER, O.M.C., D.D.,

Born February 27, 1898 at Greenfield, Mass., Professed August 16, 1914; Ordained Priest, May 21, 1921 at Rome, Italy; Assistant at Saint Francis Church, Hoboken, N. J., July 1925 to November 1930, and October 1932.....(1938).

York, assisted at Saint Francis Church with the parochial work. The Reverend Alexis Graf, O.M.C., of Trenton, New Jersey, alternated, until September, 1914, when he became the regular assistant. He served until late fall of 1922, when because of ill health, he was transferred to Utica, New York. During the illness of the Reverend Alexis Graf, the Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub was asssited by the Reverend Godfrey Wolf, O.M.C., who arrived from Syracuse, New York, in September, 1922, but in October was transferred to Albany, New York. It was then that the Reverend Francis Newton, O.M.C., coming from Albany, New York, was appointed as the regular assistant and he remained at St. Francis till September, 1923. He was succeeded by the Reverend Robert Michael, O.M.C., who came from Chicago Heights, Illinois, and remained until July, 1924, when he departed for the Western Custody of the Province.

COMMUNITY HALL AND CLUB HOUSE.

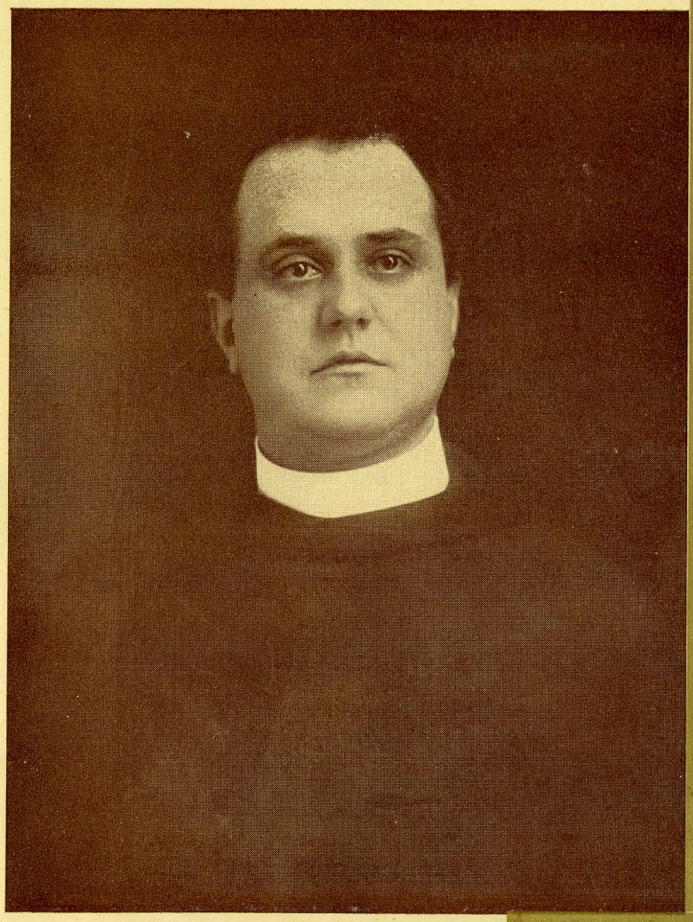
In December, 1922, a movement was started to add another story to the school building which, it was intended, should serve as a community-hall and clubhouse. This work was partially financed with $16,000.00 non-interest bearing bonds, sold to the parishioners at par. Plans were approved, and in September of 1923, the work was actually begun. Mr. Bernard Vezzetti was the general contractor and Mr. Meystre was the architect. The net cost of this improvement was $32,880.00. At the end of the year 1927, the full debt had been paid, and a reserve fund of $4,000.00 established.

In the meantime new assistants had been assigned to and later transferred from Saint Francis Church. The Reverend Placidus Petranich, O.M.C., of the Italian Paduan Province served a year from July 1924 to July 1925. He was succeeded by the Reverend Romuald Reiter, O.M.C., D.D., who came from Washington, D.C., and remained till November 1930.

In 1928 it was found necessary to install a new heating system and the contract was awarded to Mr. P. H. Fielding of Jersey City, New Jersey, for $2,200.00. The need for general church repairs and redecoration was also recognized. Hence the reserve fund which had accumulated, developed into a Redecoration Fund.

RECENT CHURCH DECORATION.

In September 1929, after the Provincial Chapter of that year, a general change of pastors and superiors was effected in the Province of the Immaculate Conception. The Very Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub was therefore sent to Our Lady of Angels Church, in Albany, New York, as the pastor of that church, and guardian of the convent. He was succeeded at Saint Francis Church by the Very Reverend Boniface Hennig, O.M.C., D.D., J.U.D., who came from Washington, D. C. The work of redecorating and beautifying the church which had already been started was continued. The work had been entrusted to Mr. Ilario Panzeroni of New York, New York. Since the church architecturally is of a late Gothic period, the decoration was made to conform with that general scheme by the treatment in light tones of gold and buff intermingled with reds and blues. The Sanctuary was richly treated with a solid gold tone, done with an all-over diaper pattern Gothic in design, which in turn was crowned with a ceiling of blue, richly treated. The church was also refurnished with thirty-two modern and comfortable fifteen foot pews, constructed of white oak, with a flat lacquer finish. The old style lighting fixtures were removed from the church and modern luminaires substituted. They are finished in old Italian gold and a soft light filters upon the congregation through the hammered amber Cathedral glass. New main and side altars of "Rigalico" with white marble effect were donated. Adoring angel candelabra were provided for the main altar; a statue of Saint Clare was received as a donation, and both sanctuary and sacristy were refurnished.





Former Pastors of St. Francis Church

(Top left)

THE VERY REVEREND
SERAPHIN PIEROTTI, O.M.C., D.D.,

Born May 8, 1876; Professed December 8, 1892; Ordained Priest August 10, 1900 at Rome, Italy; Pastor at St. Francis Church, Hoboken, N. J., March, 1905 to August, 1912; Died December 23, 1922.

◆

(Top right)

THE VERY REVEREND
DOMINIC MARZETTI, O.M.C., D.D.,

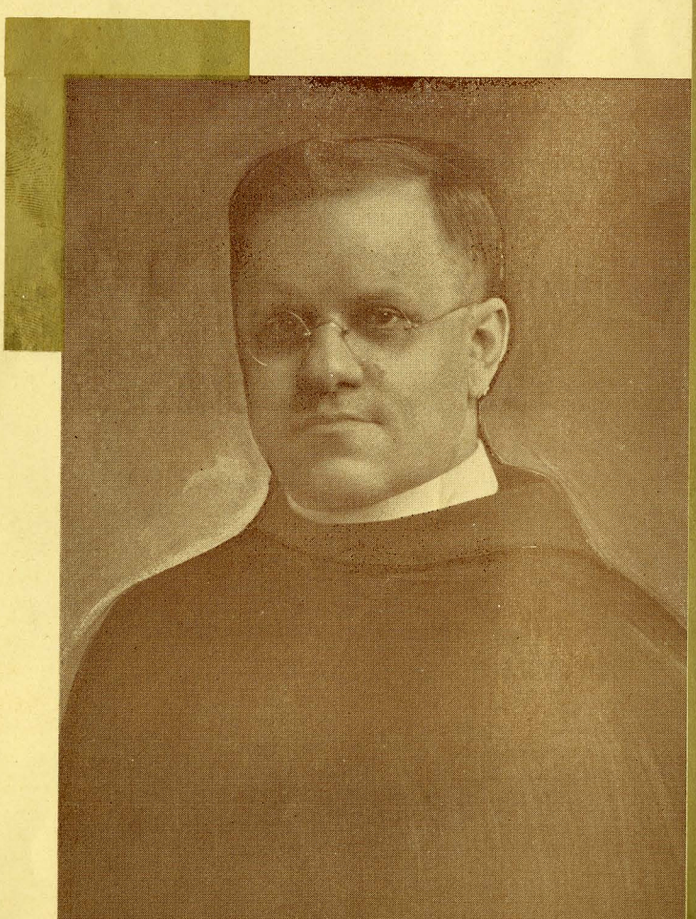
Born July 3, 1842, Italy; Professed February 2, 1860; Ordained Priest February 19, 1865 at Anagni, Italy; Pastor at Saint Francis Church, Hoboken, N. J., May, 1888 to his death April 12, 1902.

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(Bottom right)

THE VERY REVEREND
BONIFACE HENNIG, O.M.C., D.D., J.U.D.,

Born April 8, 1876 at Syracuse, N. Y., Professed April 12, 1892; Ordained Priest December 17, 1898 at Rome, Italy; Pastor at Saint Francis Church, Hoboken, N. J., September, 1929 to September, 1932; now Professor at Saint Anthony on Hudson, Rensselaer, N. Y.



However, it was found necessary to assume an indebtedness upon the church in order to make these improvements. In August 1931, the Very Reverend Boniface Hennig added another class room to the parochial school, utilizing a part of the community-hall for that purpose. New school furniture was supplied and there was a general improvement of church properties. The Very Reverend Boniface Hennig was assisted in the care of souls at Saint Francis Church by the Very Reverend Maurice Imhoff, O.M.C., D.D., who came to Hoboken, New Jersey, in November 1930, and remained till October 1932, when he was transferred to Saint Anthony on Hudson, the Seminary of the Order of Friars Minor Conventuals, Rensselaer, New York.

GOLDEN JUBILEE.

In September, 1932, the Very Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub returned as pastor to the flock. With him as an assistant for a few brief weeks in the fall of 1932, came the Reverend Benedict Scarff, O.M.C., who remained till October of that year. Then the Very Reverend Romuald Reiter, returned from Trenton, New Jersey, to resume his former duties as an assistant. The following spring of 1933, Mr. Bernard Vezzetti, resigned as lay trustee and the subsequent appointee was Mr. Nicholas Crozzetti. Since the return of the Very Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub there has been no demand for any major improvements or repairs. A notable recent addition is a very beautiful statue of Saint Lucy. In spite of unfavorable financial conditions, the Very Reverend Camillus Eichenlaub turned his energies once more, upon his return, to the reduction of the church indebtedness of $6,500.00, and with the cooperation, and zeal and devotion of the entire parish and its societies, the year 1938—that of the Golden Jubilee of the Parish—finds the church properties clear and free of debt and in a fine physical condition. It is fitting therefore that this event be celebrated in a proper manner, and elsewhere there will be found evidence of such efforts.

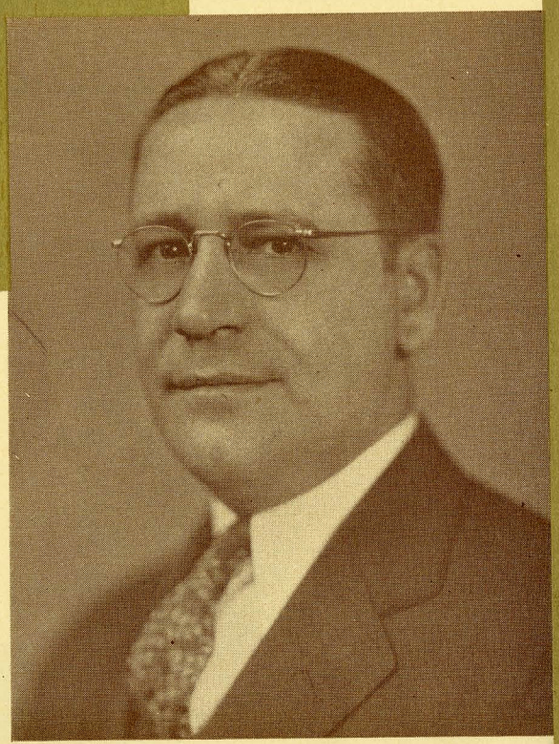
Today the parish numbers about six thousand five hundred human souls. The Rosary Society and the Children of Mary are the older societies formed within the parish; they have always flourished from the foundation of the church like the cedars of Lebanon of old and have been as active as the woman of the Book of Wisdom. Though junior in age the Sacred Heart and the Holy Name Society have been as willing to cooperate in the church's activities and as ever ready to toil and battle with the stolid indifferentism of the times.

During the fifty years since the foundation of this church, about twelve thousand infants have been added to the Kingdom of God on earth, through the lustral waters of its Baptismal Font. Over four thousand five hundred have been confirmed in the Faith, and have furthermore received the Bread of Life at the Eucharistic table of Saint Francis Church. More than two thousand five hundred couples have plighted their troth under the roof of this House of God. More than four thousand have received the last consolations of the Church from the hands of its ministers and gone hence to their Eternal Rest in God's consecrated ground. For all of which we say,

"Not to us, O Lord, not to us;
But to Thy Name give glory."

Psl. 113, 9.

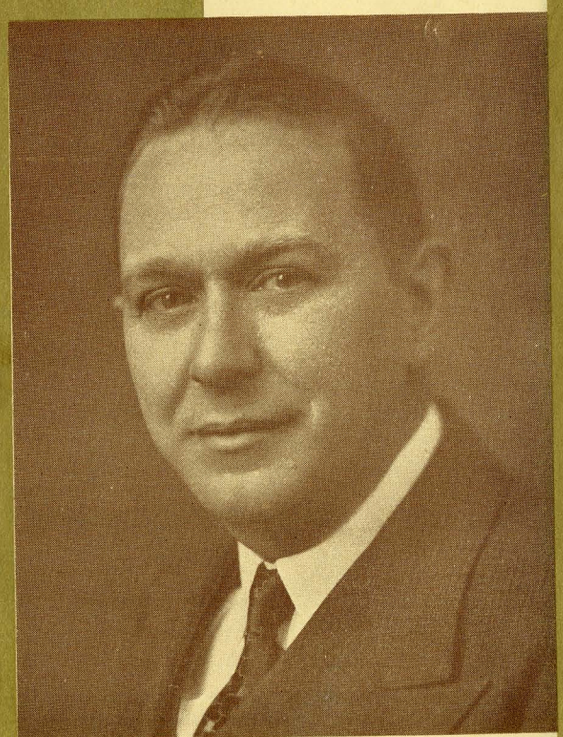
GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE OFFICERS



JOHN A. BADO
General Chairman



JEAN MUZZI
Co-Chairman



JOHN B. COSSOLINI
Secretary

COMMITTEE

1888 **1938**

GOLDEN JUBILEE CARNIVAL

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH
HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY

FRIDAY EVENING
FEBRUARY 11, 1938

John A. Bado, *Chairman*

Jean Muzzi, *Co-Chairman*
Rev. R. Reiter, *Vice-Chairman*
Rev. C. Eichenlaub, *Treasurer*
John B. Cossolini, *Secretary*

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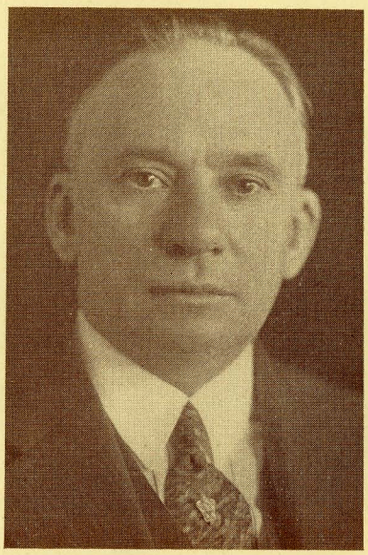
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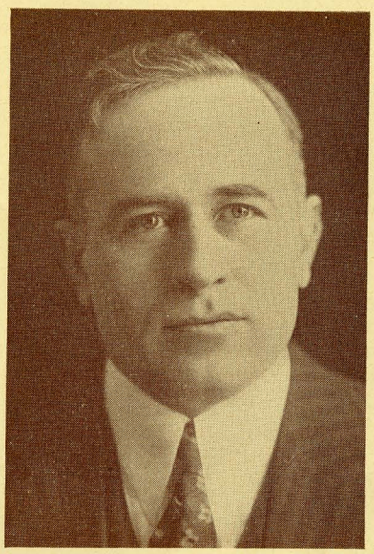
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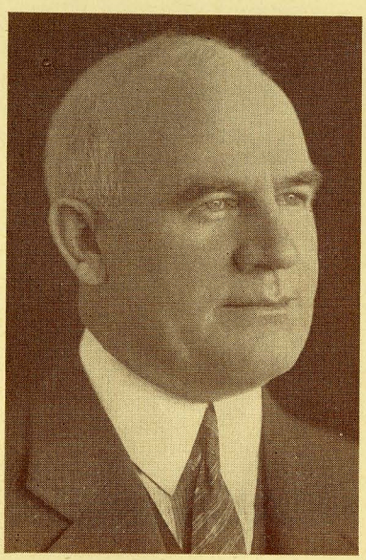
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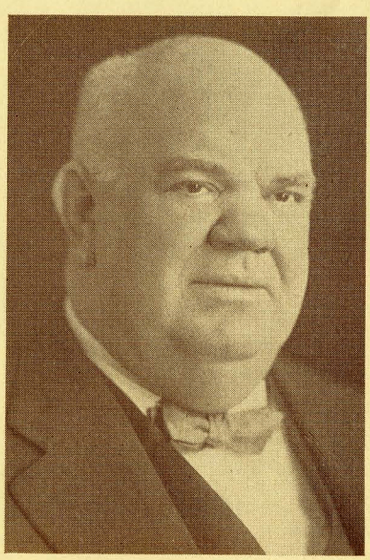
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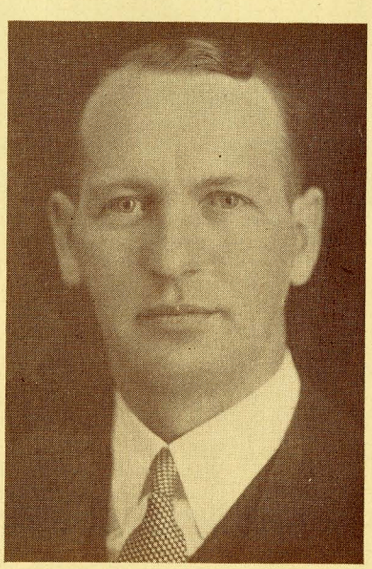
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AND THE PARISHIONERS and FRIENDS of St. Francis Church for their encouragement and courtesy.

And so we rest awhile by the wayside, where are marked the first fifty years of the growth of Saint Francis Church, in Hoboken, New Jersey. We hope there is aroused in your mind a multitude of thoughts and reminiscences of the brief and only too soon forgotten past.

While the older generation may look with pride upon the fruition of its labors, the younger generation will eagerly complete and continue the work started half a century ago. For those epic deeds are a great inheritance, one of idealism, religious enthusiasm and practical achievement, making Saint Francis Church today what it is—colored with living beauty.

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