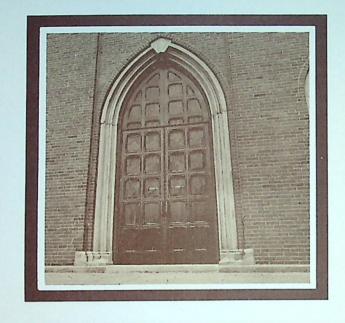
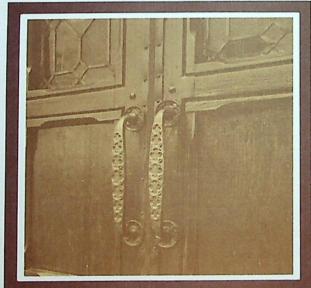
St. Louis Churc Centennial 1876-1976







St. Louis Church

Centennial of the Dedication of the present Church 1876-1976



dedication

This Centenary account is humbly dedicated to Saint Louis IX, King of France, whose special devotion was to the three great needs of humanity; Justice — Education — and Charity.

preface

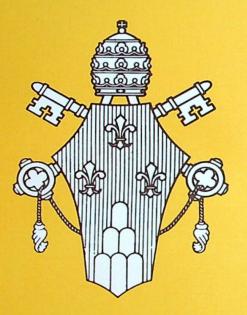
No attempt was made to repeat the History contained in the earlier booklet, "Saint Louis Church 1838-1938," but rather to sketch the story of the present edifice on the occasion of its Centennial celebration, 1876-1976.

tokemokg

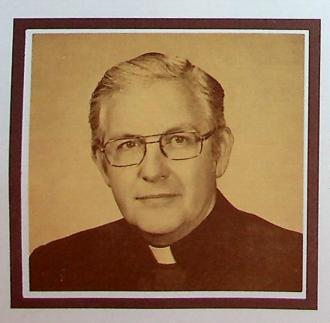
In view of the changes in the world today, and in accordance with the directives of the Second Vatican Council, the interior of the Church in keeping with the guidelines of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be updated in the near future.



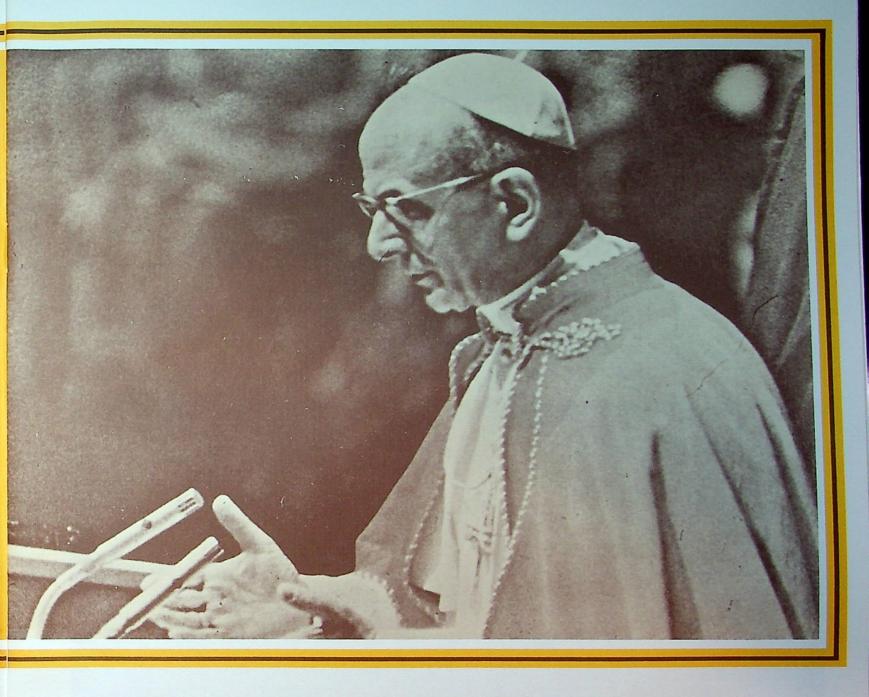




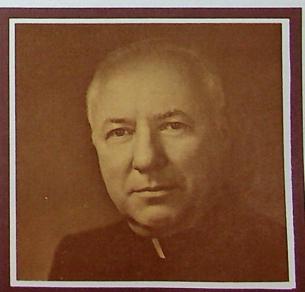
Pope Paul VI



Most Reverend James William Malone, D.D. PhD. Bishop of Youngstown



Most Reverend William A. Hughes Auxiliary Bishop of Youngstown



present church

In 1869 it became necessary to provide a larger church for the rapidly growing parish. It was here the masterly genius of Father Hoffer as a builder especially displayed itself. Father Hoffer drew the plans, using a village church in France as a model. The interior is a perfect specimen of Gothic Architecture. The edifice, 130 feet x 60 feet, with twin towers 100 feet high, was built at a cost of \$31,000. The beautiful interior was the work of Frank Walsh, a Cleveland Architect. The money for Father Hoffer's building projects was obtained by subscription and Fairs in the Congregation, also from his friends in Cleveland and in France

A French Architect was consulted that pure Gothic architecture would be achieved and a replica of the old French Cathedral might be made.

St. Louis Church was under construction from 1870-1875. Under the direction of Father Hoffer, the parishioners delivered and assembled many of the materials needed from their farms... stone for the foundation of the towers, etc., trees for lumber, sand, limestone (burned at Middlebranch), gravel, and clay for brick and mortar. Much of this was transported by oxen teams.

The pillars have inside supports of perfect trees 125 feet tall. These were found in the woodlands of the parishioners and were all hand hewn.

The bricks were burned in the kilns of the parish-owned brick plant on the South East corner of East Main Street and South Silver Street. Schoolboys hauled the brick from there to the women and children who unloaded them, contributing hours of toil. The interior progressed as funds were available. The Rose Window and the Towers were still unfinished in 1875.



A four-face clock was installed in the South Bell Tower after the Church was finished. For years this clock struck out the time on the hour and half-hour. The clock was invented and built by a Frenchman, Ferdinand DeVaux, of Robertsville. The works and wheels were wooden. Matthew Gillier from Savoy, France took care of the clock for many years. When he grew too old to perform this service, the clock ceased to function. It has since been removed.

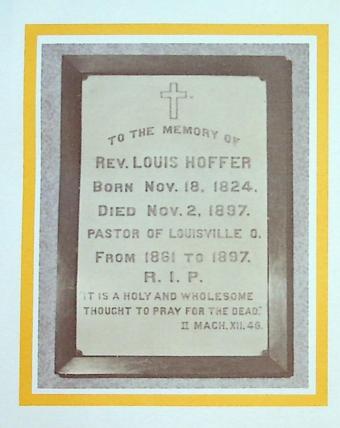


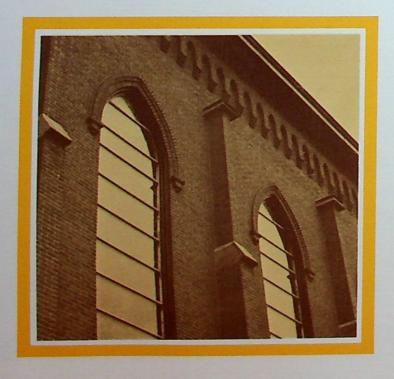


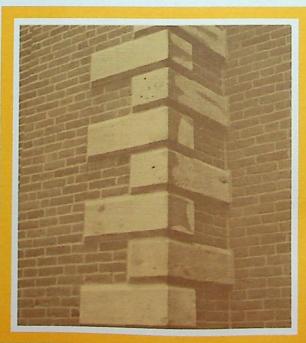




tribute to







Father Hoffer

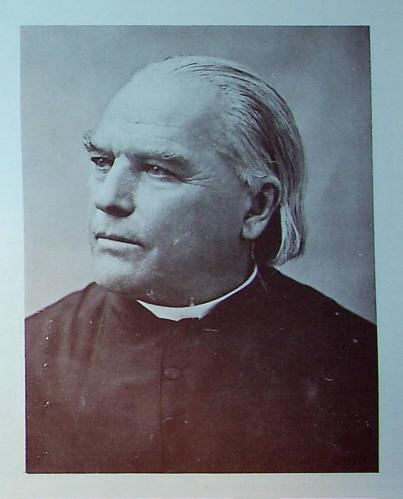
A memorial tablet is erected in the rear of the church in honor of this outstanding priest and builder, beloved by his congregation and by all who knew him. His work of 100 years ago is still serving the parish and diocese.

Today we look in wonder that such a noble edifice could have been built a century ago with no modern machinery and with the limited resources of a rural village.

Father Hoffer directed and supervised the work of the many volunteers. To call them, he rang the bell set up in the church yard. They came from the farms, others were artisans, tradesmen and merchants. Men worked long hours to earn a livelihood for their families so that women and children took their places in the work assisting the builders. Youths hauled brick in hand carts, women carried the rough bricks in their aprons and handled them until their hands bled. There was joy, pain and tragedy. Often as they worked they sang hymns and patriotic songs, also the Marseillaise. There were falls, cuts, bruises, broken arms and legs. Some carried scars all their life.

We view the foundation, growth and development, the struggles, trials and labors of these pioneers and it is our commitment to further their magnificent efforts in our growth from 72 families to a Catholic Community of 1200 families.

Self-interest builds cities, self-sacrifice builds churches. Empires decay, but religion remains, rooted in the hearts of man.



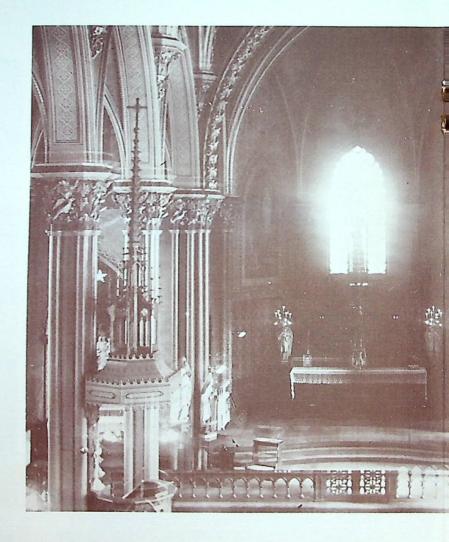


development over the y

Under the pastorate of Father Francis Senner (1897-1915)*, there was a need to repair the ravages of time; 25 years had elapsed since the First Mass in the new church. In 1898 a new organ was purchased from Pilcher Brothers of Kentucky. In 1903 a new Way of the Cross was donated by members of the parish. The church was frescoed in 1904 and electric wiring was installed. New windows were obtained through the generosity of families of the Congregation.

Rev. Nicholas P. Weckel (1915-1930) was an energetic worker. An increase in the number of parishioners necessitated the construction of a new school begun in 1922 south of the Church. The four-room schoolhouse, built in 1867, was not adequate. The dedication of the new school by the most Rev. Bishop Joseph Schrembs coincided with the Golden Jubilee of the present church building. In 1925, Father Weckel built a pastoral residence north of the church, which gives balance to the Church property. The former residence became the Convent of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, teachers in the school. A new heating system was installed in the Church, and new cement steps were added in front of the church property.

During the pastorate of Rt. Rev. John T. Ruffing (1931-1943), Saint Louis parish celebrated a century of progress (1838-1938) with a Solemn Pontifical Mass. The Most Rev. Joseph Schrembs was Celebrant and the sermon was delivered by Rev. Leo Arnoult of Saint Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio. This was followed by a civic program at the High School Auditorium. Father Ruffing continued the efforts of his predecessors such as the redecorating of the Church, the Sanctuary revamped and tiled, the Altars cut down, the aisles tiled and the



pulpit removed. The interior of the church was scaffolded and many services were temporarily held in the school. Much needed side entrances were added. New chandeliers were hung, the Stations of the Cross were set into the walls and the sacristies were remodeled.

Rev. Chester Bartlett, J.C.D. (1943-1944), Doctor of Canon Law, teacher in the Seminary, replaced Father Ruffing until 1944 when due to failing health, Rev. Francis Palm was appointed pastor. Rev. Francis Palm (1944-1953) put in the public address system, new lighting

^{*}Dates given indicate years as Pastor of Saint Louis.

ears









fixtures, had the interior of the church renovated and redecorated with murals above the altars. Church property was enlarged and improvements were made to the school. The school library was established.

Under the vigorous and devoted leadership of Right Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Delmege (1954-1967), many changes and improvements were made to the church and its property, among which were; the interior of the Church cleaned, linoleum installed under the pews, sacristies modernized, new stained glass windows with storm sash installed. The exterior of the Church was sandblasted and pointed. The niche in the facade of the church finally received its patron saint, a white marble statue of St. Louis. A new green tile roof replaced the old slate roof with copper gutters and spouting. The towers were capped with copper and finial spires added, crowned with golden crosses. An outdoor shrine to the Blessed Virgin was built on the South wall of the Church, which formerly was the entrance to the sacristy. and a statue of the Sacred Heart was placed in front of the school with one of Saint Louis between the school and Church. A rustic shrine with a bronze crucifix was erected at the entrance of the rectory drive.

Within the Church the pipe organ was rebuilt and congregational singing was introduced. In response to the new liturgy, an altar table was placed in the sanctuary to enable the priest to celebrate Mass facing the congregation.

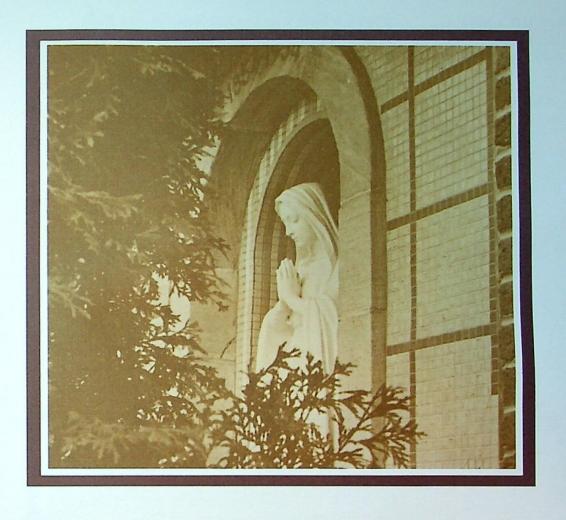
Property on South Mill Street was purchased and in 1957 a new Parish Convent was built and a two-room annex was constructed to relieve the crowded conditions in the school. The playground was fenced and asphalted.

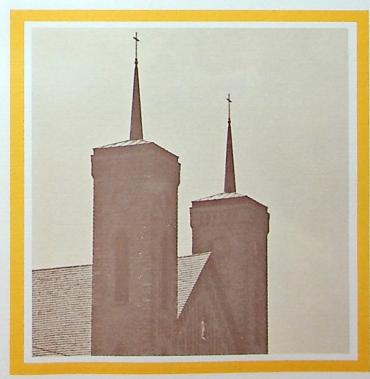
In 1967 Msgr. Delmege retired after thirteen years at St. Louis. His untiring labors in behalf of the Parish, both spiritual and temporal, will long be remembered and appreciated by all.

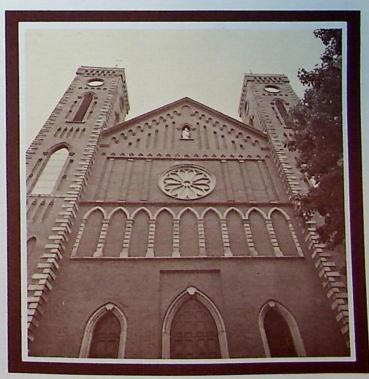












our Heritage

In our research it was discovered that Bishop Amadeus Rappe, who died in 1871, the first Bishop of Cleveland (1847-1870), frequently visited Father Hoffer and his nephew, Eugene Evrard, whose namesake is active in the Parish today.

Reverend Augustine J. Rollinet, 7th pastor of Saint Louis Church, has been followed in direct family lines in the work of the church, including Reverend Charles R. Bonnot, deceased, who was a missionary in India; Reverend John J. Miday, S.J., and Reverend Bernard R. Bonnot.

In 1873 the great bell was hung in the South tower of the church. It still calls the faithful to Mass, turns thoughts to prayer with the ringing of the Angelus, peals out for weddings and tolls for our departed ones. The bell was molded in France and was brought overland from Steubenville, probably by an ox-drawn wagon.

It hangs in a cast steel frame and is braced by hand-hewn timbers. The bell bears an inscription in Latin which translated is:

"A.D. 1873 Pius IX reigning Pontiff,
McMahon in France. Richard Gilmour,
Bishop of Cleveland. L. Hoffer, rector of the
parish at Louisville. This bell was blessed
under the name of Mary Louise Josephine,
with the help of (assistentibus) Joseph
Heidet and Mary Louise Cagnet. Sponsor,
August Bardin."

Over the years, many hands have rung the bell. This duty was often performed by the sexton of the Church. When the orphanage was across the street, the boys took charge under the supervision of the Sisters. When the orphanage was closed, willing parishioners, both men and women, who lived nearby volunteered their services in this strenuous task of hauling on a 90-foot rope of considerable weight to announce the church events of the day.

In recent years, the ringing of the bell has been automated. This has not affected the quality of its tone as it rings today from its home in the South tower.

Across from the painting on the South wall of the sacristy hangs the tricolor. Father Hoffer brought this flag from France on one of his journeys to obtain financial aid for his projects.

In our research through hand-written records and early diaries, we found the following interesting items.

8:00 a.m., February 11, 1887, a terrible cyclone struck this area which damaged the slate on the roof of the church and tore off the roof of the schoolhouse.

The Canton Daily Democrat reported that the slate on the roof of the church blew north-eastwardly, leaving a cleared space



over ten feet square; two cracks appeared nearly the entire length of the roof from east to west and that rafters protruded, some raised from 4" to 8". Many monuments in the cemetery were broken beyond repair. No one was injured despite the heavy damage all over Louisville.

On the feast of Pentecost, June 4, 1911 during afternoon services for First Holy Communion, a tornado swept through Louisville causing considerable damage to the Church. Much of the slate on the roof was again blown off. Father Senner advised the congregation to remain inside until the storm subsided. It seemed almost a miracle there were no personal injuries.

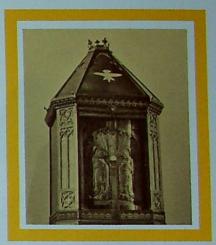
The Feast of Saint Louis, August 25, was always a cause for celebration with a special Mass. The Saint Louis Benevolent Society, founded in 1877, lead a procession through the Church carrying their beautiful hand-painted banner. They were followed by other parish organizations; The Young Ladies Sodality (1874), Holy Angels Society for girls (1875), and the Saint Aloysius Society for boys (1885).

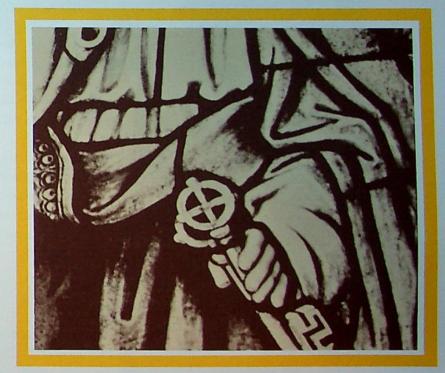
In 1897 Saint Ann's Altar Society was founded to increase the devotion of its members and to assist in providing the material needs of the altar and sanctuary. In the 79 years of its existence, it has contributed the hand-carved wood cross, vestments, altar linens, and decorations for the various feasts.

On another Feast Day, August 25, 1889, the new cemetery was dedicated with one of the largest gatherings ever held in Louisville up to that time. The Very Reverend F. M. Boff, Vicar General of the Diocese, officiated with many visiting priests in attendance.

After the religious ceremonies of the Feast Days, the parish often gathered for a picnic and social festivities. The idea of a parish picnic has been revived in recent years.









Men & Women of St. Louis Parish who have

1868-1938

- *The Reverend CHARLES V. CHEVRAUX
- *Right Reverend Monsignor JOSEPH A. POMPENEY (Ph.D., S.T.D., D.C.L.)
- *The Reverend JOSEPH J. BEUCLER
- *Reverend Joseph S. JOLIAT, S.J.

HARTMAN, FRANCIS (Brother Claude)

- *MOFFITT, GEORGE A.
- *MOFFITT, JAMES H.
- *MOFFITT, JOHN P.
- *BALIZET, PAULINE (Sr. St. Francis)
- *BONNOT, EUGENIA
- *BONNOT, SR. LORETTA
- *BONNOT, LOUISE
- *CHEVRAUX, ROSE (Sr. M. Odile)
- *CUNIN, M. (Sr. Austin)
- *DETTWILLER, SUSAN
- *DRAIME, CLARA (Sr. Ethelbert)
- *DRAIME, TERESA (Sr. Melita)
- *ECK, ELIZA
- *ECK, SUSAN
- *FAIVER, MARY ANNE (Mother St. Paul)

GLADIEUX, CALISTA (Sr. Marcelline)

- *GOTTER, CATHERINE
- *GOTTER, EDNA (Sr. Adrian)

GRISEZ, JOSEPHINE (Sr. Mary Jude)

HARTMAN, EDITH (Sr. M. Alacoque)

HARTMAN, GENEVIEVE (Sr. of the Holy Family)

- *HARTMAN, M.
- *HATTRIA, BERNADETTE (Sr. Amadeus)
- *JOLIAT, DORA (Sr. Aurelia)

KRESS, CATHERINE (Sr. Leone)

KRESS, MARGARET (Sr. Bertille)

- *LAURENT, JANE (Sr. M. Pius)
- *LAURENT, MARGARET
- *LAURENT, MARY

McINTEE, MARGARET (Sr. Josanne)

- *MENEGAY, JOSEPHINE (Sr. Nativity)
- *MIDAY, AGNES (Sr. Alicia)

dedicated their lives to the service of the Church

Congregation of Holy Cross

Society of Jesus

Society of Jesus

Basilian Father

Humility of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Humility of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Charity of St. Augustine

Humility of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Immaculate Heart

Charity of St. Augustine

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Ursuline

Humility of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Sister of the Precious Blood

Sister of the Good Shepherd

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Sister of St. Joseph

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Sister of Charity

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Notre Dame

*MOFFITT, CATHERINE

*MOFFITT, ELEANOR (Sr. Mary Irene)

*MOFFITT, MARY (Sr. Dolerine)

*MOFFITT, MARY

*MONNOT, JOSEPHINE (Sr. Marcelline)

MYERS, ANNA LAURA (Sr. Angeline)

*MYERS, ESTELLA (Sr. Domitilla)

*MYERS, MARY ANN

*MYERS, MYRTLE (Sr. Lucille)

*PAUMIER, AGNES (Sr. Ligouri)

*PAUMIER, TERESA (Sr. Martha)

*POMPENEY, ANGELA (Mother Paula)

*POMPENEY, LOUISA (Mother Aloysius)

*SIMON, VIRGINIA

*THURIN, ESTELLA (Sr. Francesca)

*THURIN, VERONICA (Sr. Basil)

*TOURNOUX, BERNADETTE (Sr. Lucina)

*ZWICK, AGNES (Sr. Eucharia)

ZWICK, IDA (Sr. James)

*Deceased

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Charity of St. Augustine

Humility of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Charity of St. Augustine

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Ursuline

Ursuline

Daughter of the Heart of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Dominican

Dominican

1938-1976

Reverend FRANCIS HAIDET

Reverend DANIEL CLAYTON SCHARIO, S.J.

Reverend THOMAS CRUM

Brother THOMAS HAIDET, S.J.

Brother DAVID MENEGAY

DUPLAIN, SR. MARY ANN

HAIDET, SR. MARJORIE

HOOVER, SR. MIRIAM

MIDAY, SR. MARY

MYERS, KITTY (Sr. Raphael of the Blessed Sacrament)

PILLOT, SR. MARY CATHERINE

RUFLIN, SR. MARILYN

SAMBLANET, DOROTHY (Sr. Grace Marie)

SCHORSTEN, SR. SUSAN

Youngstown Diocese

Jesuit

Youngstown Diocese

Jesuit

Christian Brother

Sister of St. Joseph of Mark

Humility of Mary

Medical Mission Sisters

Discalced Carmelite

Poor Clare nuns of Perpetual Adoration

Humility of Mary

Humility of Mary

Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sister

Humility of Mary

PROGRAM

1876 Saint Louis Church 1976

CENTENNIAL DAY — AUGUST 22, 1976

GRATITUDE AND PRAISE

LITURGICAL CELEBRATION OF THE DAY — 4:00 p.m.

Celebrant: THE MOST REVEREND WILLIAM A. HUGHES

Auxiliary Bishop of Youngstown Diocese

Concelebrants: REVEREND LAWRENCE C. FYE, Pastor

REVEREND THOMAS G. BISHOP, Assistant Pastor

Music: Parish Choir, Folk Group, and Congregational

Organist and Director: BRUCE R. SCHUTRUM

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Processional: God of Our Fathers #189 (People's Mass Book)

Call to Worship: Today we gather as people of God to offer praise and gratitude as we

celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our Church building. For a Christian, a church is a holy place, a place where God is present. Our ancestors eagerly longed to provide such a place for the growing community of Louisville. We enjoy the fruits of their labors, the results of their perseverance and dedication to spread the Gospel message. Each time we gather here at Saint Louis, we continue to offer praise and worship. Today we as a people are the Church, and this building is a visible sign

to all that God dwells with us.

As we worship this day, let us ask God to continue to fill this Church with his love and bring strength to its people who are the living stones

of which the real Church is built.

Penitential Rite: Glory to God:

Proper of the Dedication of a Church:

First Reading: 1 Kings 8: 22-23, 27, 30

Solomon glorifies God and calls upon Him to watch over the temple built

in His honor.

Psalm Response: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts #154

Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 19-22

Paul prays that we may appreciate the experience that God's great love

has called us to become members of His household.

Alleluia:

Gospel: John 4: 19-24

Jesus speaks to us of the authentic worship due His Father.

Homily: Bishop Hughes

Profession of Faith: Prayers of the Faithful:

Response: Blessed be God forever.

Gifts offered: Relic of Saint Louis

French, German, and Irish flags
Brick from the Church building
Biretta and Stole of our Priests
Rosary and Medal of our Sisters
Baptismal Records of parishioners
Bundle of wheat for deceased members

Bread and Wine - Eucharist

PROGRAM (Continued)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

Offertory: Solo

Invitation to Prayer, Prayer over gifts, Preface . . . from Proper: Common of Dedication of a Church

Holy, Holy: #100 Memorial Acclamation: #139c The Great Amen: #140

Lord's Prayer: Sign of Peace:

Breaking of the Bread: Lamb of God #112 Communion: Priestly People #146

Prayer after Communion: Mrs. Maxine Indorf, Mayor of Louisville

Sister Rosemary Murray, President Humility of Mary Reverend Terry Ray, Pastor of Peace Methodist Church

Solemn Blessing and Dismissal:

Recessional: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name #176

ORDER OF THE DAY

1876 Saint Louis 1976

ORDER OF THE DAY Concelebrated Mass 4:00 p.m.

SOCIAL HOUR

Music by the John Adams Quintet Plus One Refreshments

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Ronald Bresson, Chairman

Mrs. Ronald Bresson Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Haidet Mr. Eben Peer
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Begue Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kerchner Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Samblanet
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Burick Mrs. Thomas Kirtley Mrs. William Wilkinson
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Goebel Mrs. Dan McGinnis Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Williams
Mr. & Mrs. James Gulling Mr. & Mrs. Gus Misorski

BOOKLET COMMITTEE

Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Moinet Miss Julia M. Bonnot Mrs. Delmar H. Kress

SOURCES CONSULTED

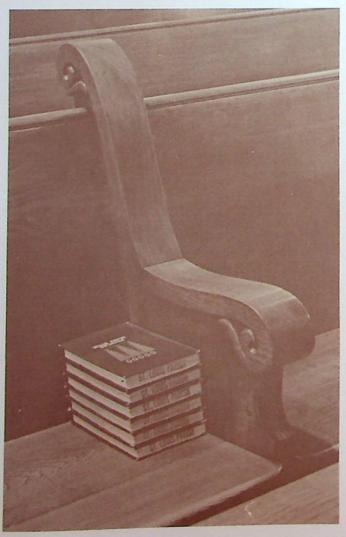
Church in Northern Ohio
by Reverend George Houck, 1749-1887.
Story of Stark County by E. T. Heald, Vol. I — 1949.
March of the Eucharist
by Most Reverend Bishop McFaddon, 1951

by Most Reverend Bishop McFadden, 1951. History of Louisville — Souvenir Booklet, 1934. Sketch of St. Louis Centennial Booklet, 1838-1938. Louisville, Ohio Centi-Silverama Historical Souvenir Booklet, 1959.

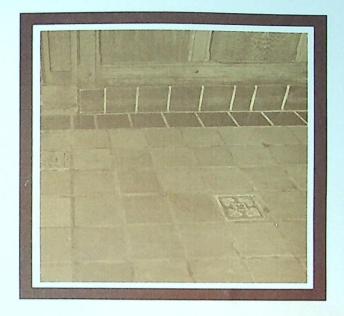
The Canton Repository.
Catholic Universe Bulletin.
Catholic Exponent.
Louisville Herald.
Scrapbooks.



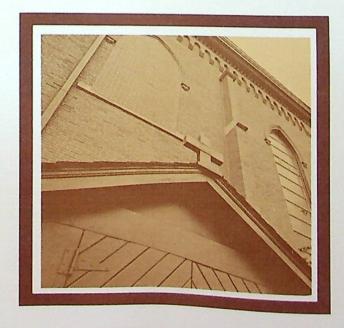


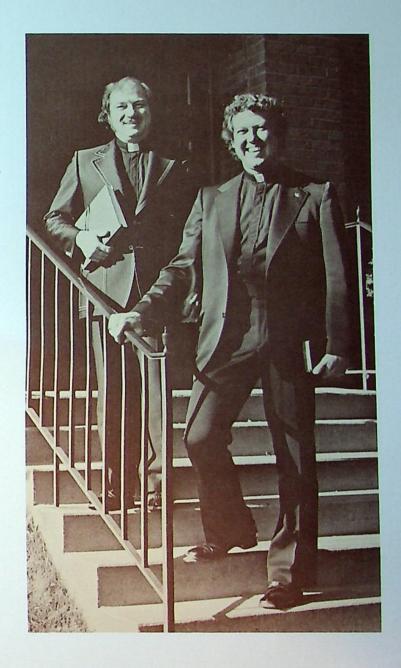












A special thank you...

A special thank you to those individuals who provided historical information and reached back in their memory to help create this booklet.