

ERECTED IN 1919—The present site of St. Patrick's church is on Marion street where it was constructed in 1919, formerly located at Broadway and Jefferson street. From the left are the convent, the church-school and the rectory. Msgr. Kennedy was assigned to erect the new church and the first mass was offered in the edifice on Sunday, March 2, 1919.

Named for Ireland's saint, St. Patrick's sees 100 years

The history of St. Patrick's parish in Joliet spans more than 100 years when Joliet was just beginning in its organization as a village. Bishop Simon Brute of Vincennes, Ind., appointed the first pastor of the future St. Patrick's, the Rev. John Plunket.

On Nov. 23, 1838, Father Plunket arrived in Joliet to begin the construction of the first St. Patrick's church but he did not live to see its completion.

In 1843 the parish came under the jurisdiction of the new Chicago diocese. Subsequently two new buildings were added to the church property at Broadway and Jefferson street. A new rectory was completed by the Rev. Walter Power and a school, called Marquette school, was built by the Rev. Patrick Dunne.

The Ladies of Loretto taught in the school until 1914 when the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Mich., came to instruct the children of St. Patrick's.

In 1919 the present site on Marion street became the new location. The portion of St. Patrick's north of Western avenue became the new parish of St. Raymond.

From County Tipperary, Ireland, came the Rev. Philip L. Kennedy. He was assigned to erect the new St. Patrick's church, school and rectory. The first mass was offered in the new church on Sunday, March 2, 1919.

Thirty six years have passed since then but Father Kennedy, now the Right Rev. Monsignor, remains the present pastor of the church, named for the Irish saint.

It was the Christmas of 1839 when Father Plunket decided to tour his missions for religious reasons as well as seeking funds for the construction of the new church. When he was returning home late on the afternoon of January, 1840, he was caught in a blinding storm. It was in this heavy storm that Father Plunket met his death. His body was interred in the crypt of the temple he had planned and not completed. On the occasion of the lowering of the floor of the church in 1887, his body was removed to St. Patrick's cemetery.

A missionary of the Diocese of Vincennes, the Rev. Maurice de Saint Palais attended to duties at

St. Patrick's parish until the Rev. Hippolyte Du Pontavice became pastor of the church. Following him was the Rev. John Gueguen and then the Rev. John Ingoldsby. He died in Wilmington in 1849 and the Rev. George Hamilton was the fifth pastor. Father Hamilton, in his devotion to his patron saint, had changed the name of St. Patrick's to St. George but when the Rev. Patrick Farrelly came to the parish his first act was to revert to the old name of St. Patrick's.

Father Power followed him and then Father Dunne whose brother, the Rev. Dr. Dennis J. Dunne, served as his assistant. Two pastors preceded Msgr. Kennedy, the Rev. Thomas O'Brien and the Rev. Peter O'Dwyer.

Present assistants to Msgr. Kennedy are the Rev. William F. Condon and the Rev. John S. Kloepper.

In 1849 the cemetery of St. Patrick's church became an official institution where people buried their relatives and friends there as early as 1842. In 1849 the trustees of the Illinois and Michigan canal decided the plot of land to John Melz, Edward Conlan and Michael Shields. They in turn, decided the land to the Catholic Bishop of Chicago. St. Patrick's cemetery association was organized May 14, 1916, for the general improvement of the grounds. Officers elected at the time of organizing were Thomas P. Lennon, president; M. J. Cunningham, first vice president; Harry DeMiller, second vice president; Miss Julia Talbot, treasurer; Mrs. Fred Moriarty, secretary, and Joseph A. Kelly, Jeremiah Kinsella, William McManus and Michael Boyle, board of trustees.

Morris army man in maneuvers

Pfc. Dale Gooch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Gooch of 214½ Liberty street, Morris, left the United States Feb. 24 with an 8,000-man Marine corps amphibious force for maneuvers in the Caribbean area.

The training exercise, to be conducted in the Roosevelt Roads-Vieques, Puerto Rico area, will emphasize the three principles of combat in the atomic age: speed, dispersion and flexibility.

It will involve 35 ships of the Atlantic fleet, Marine aircraft from Cherry Point, N. C., and Miami, Fla., and assault forces, the majority of which will come from the Marine division, Camp Lejeune, N. C.

A full-scale amphibious assault against "enemy" forces on the island of Vieques in late April will climax the maneuver. The marines will return to the U. S. in early May.

Every miner is now given courses in safety and first aid.

36 YEARS OF SERVICE
has served the congregation over 36 years. He was a member of the church at its founding. He came to Joliet from Chicago. Present he is assisted by the Rev. John S. Kloepper.

Indiana has enough recoverable coal to last for 1,200 years at present rate of production.



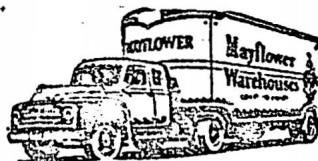
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