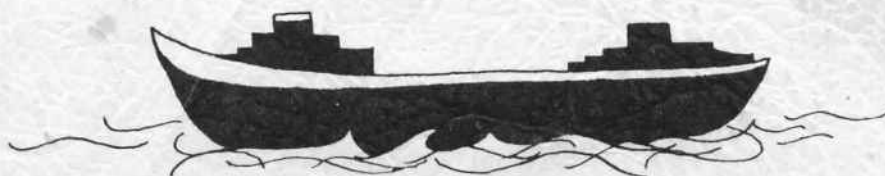




Our Lady of Lake Huron

Harbor Beach
Michigan



1882 - 1982

Dedication

This Centennial Book of Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church (1882 - 1982) is dedicated to the early pioneer parishioners who saw the need for the first Roman Catholic Church in Sand Beach. We owe them many thanks and always will be grateful to them for their foresight of our spiritual needs. We are confident that our Heavenly Father has given them everlasting peace with Him. God Bless them all!

Published by Our Lady of Lake Huron
Centennial Committee July 1982

Preface

In this Centennial History of our parish, we have tried to start you out at the time of the pioneer settlers in the area of Sand Beach and give you an insight into the growth of the area and the families who comprised it. Our Catholic forefathers came here from many parts of the world including Ireland, Poland, Germany, and Scotland. Being a lakeport community, Sand Beach became a melting pot of all faiths and nationalities. From the lumbermen, farmers, fishermen, factory workers, businessmen, carpenters, and others from all walks of life came the nucleus of our Catholic heritage. They built their homes, cleared their land and set their roots deeply. Unsatisfied without a place to worship their Almighty God, they set about the task of erecting a suitable edifice for the "circuit rider" priests to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. These were good, hard working men and women as will be quickly seen by reading of their accomplishments.

Instead of rewriting their history, we have brought it to you in the words of the editors of the local papers that were published at that time, thereby giving you a first-hand account of the happenings written by people who were in close touch with this young church. This should give you a more accurate account and flavor of the growth of this parish than we ever could by trying to rewrite their story.

As we gathered material for this book, we realized that many items worth mentioning were omitted, since over a span of 100 years many records are lost and location of pictures is difficult. Many people of our community still have memories of the early years of our parish history. It is to our sadness that not all of those memories can be adequately conveyed in these pages. Perhaps, however, this booklet can serve as a springboard for sharing those further memories which are still alive among us.

There are bound to be errors and omissions in our account of 100 years of parish history. We do this innocently and hope that we have not harmed anyone's personal feelings. Even in the written accounts presented here you will find variations from one author to another. Nevertheless, most of the accounts follow the mainstream, and lead us to the end of one hundred years with the thought "we can be proud of those who have gone before us. They did a fine job!"

It has been our pleasure to gather as many accountings and records of the early parish as possible and to present them here for you. We hope that you enjoy going back over the years and spending some time with your ancestors. The heritage they have given us is rich indeed.

Sincerely,

The Centennial Book Committee

Wilfred Cardinal

Barbara Gorney

Neil Leitch

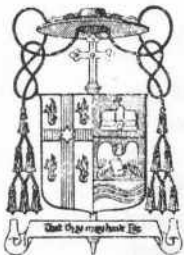
Vera Leitch

Morris W. O'Neil

Larry J. Romain

Sr. Mary Frances Uicker

Barton Verellen



DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

5800 Weiss Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48603
Telephone: (517) 799-7900

May 12, 1982

Dear parishioners of Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish,

I am happy to extend to you my very best wishes on the occasion of your Centennial.

Many people might think that a 100th birthday is the birthday of someone who is very old. In terms of the Church, however, 100 years is very young! Your parish reflects this youthful spirit and reminds me of that familiar phrase that is part of the prayers at the foot of the altar: "Introibo ad altare Dei, ad Deum qui laetificat juventutem meam."

I often think of how the disciples had to have a certain adaptability, even in the three years they spent following the Lord. From the day that your first Church was built in 1882, you have been a pilgrim people, journeying through many changes, and you have certainly proven your ability to grow with the Church. May that same spirit be with you as you journey into the future.

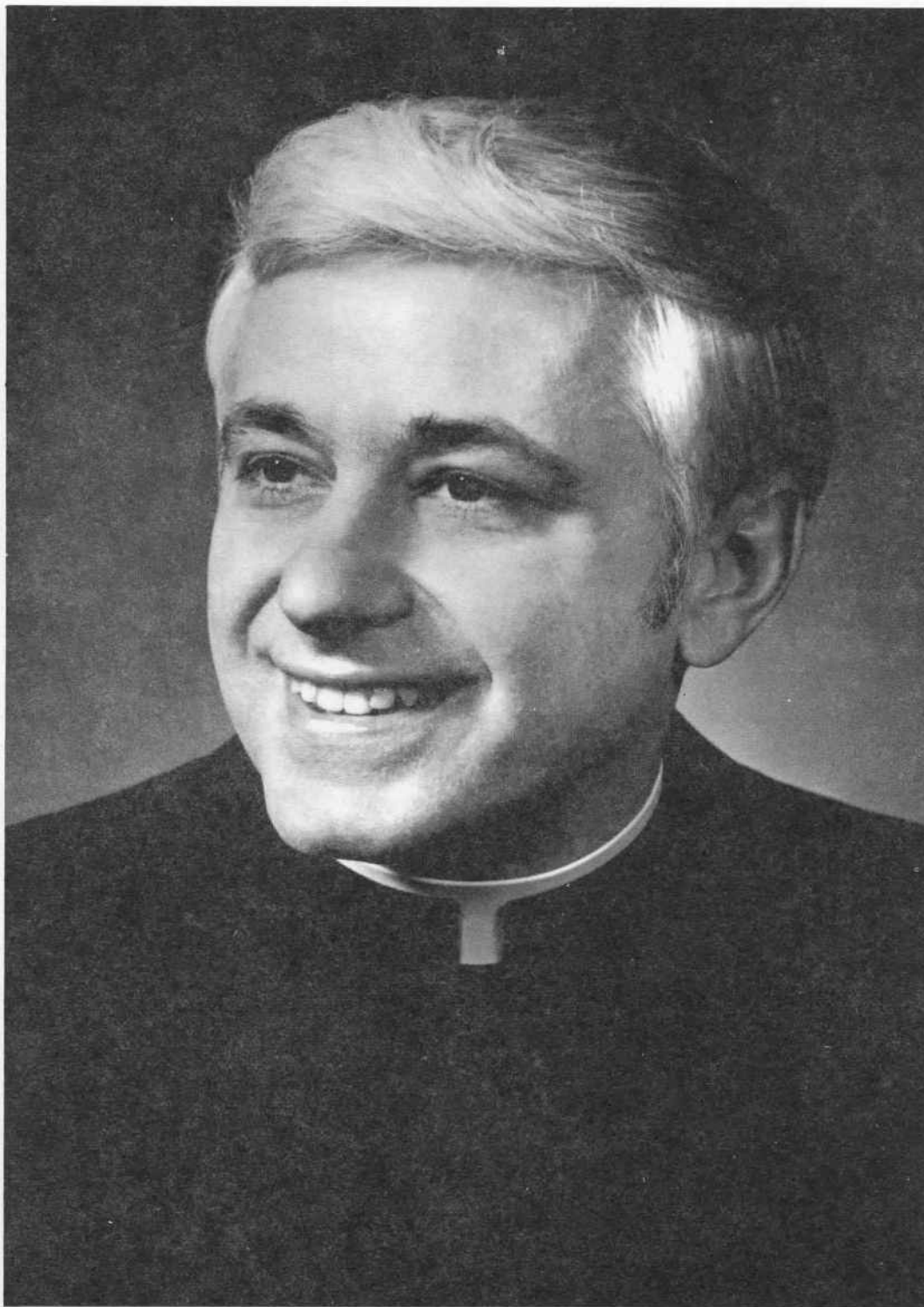
Although you are located on the "east coast" of our Diocese, know that you are very much a part of our family. I intend to ask all the parishes of the Diocese to remember you by name in the Prayer of the Faithful as you celebrate this great event. We all count on your prayers too.

I have enjoyed being with you on many occasions already, and I look forward to many more.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

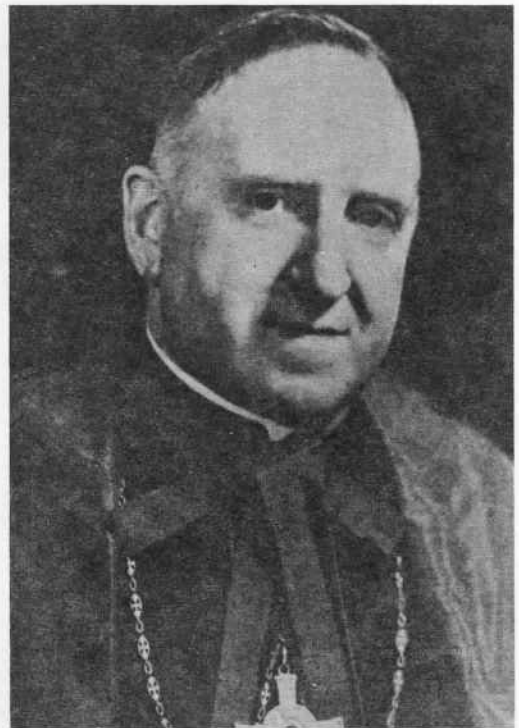
+ Ken Untener

Kenneth E. Untener
Bishop of Saginaw



MOST REVEREND KENNETH UNTENER
Bishop of the Saginaw Diocese
Installed in 1980

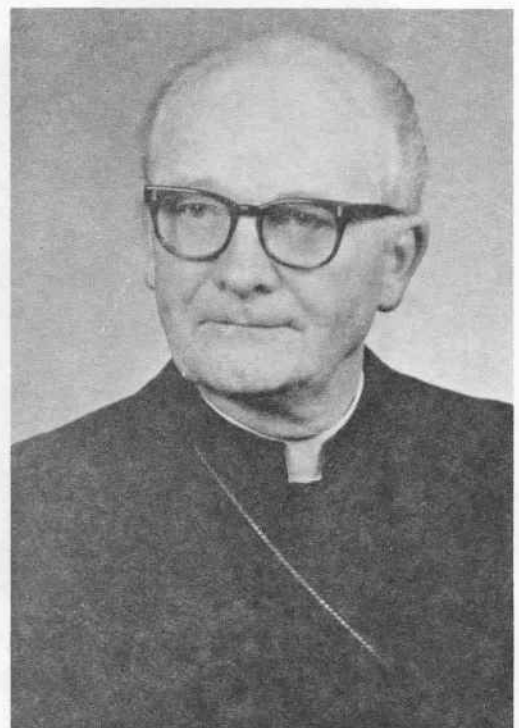
**Saginaw
Diocese
Established
February 26,
1938**



MOST REV. WM. F. MURPHY
First Bishop of
The Saginaw Diocese
1938 - 1950



MOST REV. STEPHEN S. WOZNICKI
Second Bishop of
The Saginaw Diocese
1950 - 1968



MOST REV. FRANCIS F. REH (Retired)
Third Bishop of
The Saginaw Diocese
1969 - 1980



REV. FR. RAYMOND C. OSWALD
Pastor of
Our Lady of Lake Huron
Appointed 1981

OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON CHURCH

413 SOUTH FIRST STREET
HARBOR BEACH, MICHIGAN 48441

May 13, 1982

Dear Parishioners,

It is with great pride that I write this Congratulatory Letter on the celebration of the Centennial of Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish.

How can one begin to recount and evaluate all the events that took place over the past 100 years? Events which reached out and served the needs of this community. How can we pay fitting tribute to members of our families and fellow parishioners for the sacrifices they made to make this parish what it has been and still is?

- The passing on of the Catholic Faith of which we are all so proud;
- The many people who year after year were willing to give time, talents, and money to continue the mission of the Church;
- The work and sacrifice to build and rebuild churches and schools in which we could celebrate and grow in a deeper appreciation of our Faith;
- The great efforts of Societies, Commissions, and other organizations who worked to meet the needs of the total Parish Community;

All of this we can be proud and grateful for as we celebrate our Centennial year.

This Centennial Book will recall many of the Pastors, Religious and dedicated families who wrote the First Chapter in our Parish History. We are most grateful to them.

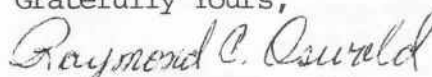
We owe a great thanks to the Committee Chairman and his committee members for this Centennial Book. A lot of time and energy has gone into it.

Reviewing the past can be a great inspiration for our present efforts and a motivating force for the years to come.

May this Book and our Historical Celebration in our Parish help us all to work together as we begin a new Chapter in the life of this Parish. Then our children and childrens' children will receive from us what we have received from our heritage and be just as proud to celebrate another 100 years.

May this Centennial Year be one filled with Pride and Joy.

Gratefully Yours,



Fr. Raymond C. Oswald
Pastor

OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON CHURCH

413 SOUTH FIRST STREET
HARBOR BEACH, MICHIGAN 48441



SISTER MARY FRANCES UICKER
Pastoral Associate of Our Lady of Lake Huron
Appointed February 1, 1980

May 12, 1982

Dear Members of O.L.L.H. Parish,

It is a special joy for any minister to be serving in a parish at the time of its Centennial Celebration, and so to be able to share in the memories, accomplishments, and rediscovery of purpose which are surfaced at such a time. Certainly for myself, involvement in the OLLH Centennial will result in a treasured awareness of this parish's rich heritage and blessings.

As we gather together the dates and pictures which tell the story of our parish buildings, we know that our deepest richness rests in the generations of people - both families and individuals - who built this parish on the rock of their solid faith. It is the firm foundation of their faith which supports our own.

My two years of life among you has given me overwhelming evidence that the roots of your faith run very deep, and are producing a rich harvest of goodness. Being among you, sharing your life, has allowed me to drink from this same cup of faith; and I am humbly grateful.

Yet if our pride is deep at the heritage given us; so equally deep is our challenge. To blend a love for tradition with an openness towards renewal and growth is the particular task of our present day parish family. There is ample evidence that we are meeting that challenge well, though not without experience of pain and struggle in the effort it demands. It is to encourage and sustain you in the task of shaping a vibrant, healthy church for the future that I will continue to serve among you.

Our biblical ancestors held a belief that to "remember" the past is in some way to relive it, to make it present once again. As we remember the founders of Our Lady of Lake Huron parish, may their strong pioneering spirit come to life again in our midst, giving us the wisdom, the courage, and the commitment we need to walk forward in the path of faith they have laid out for us.

May we always love one another, as love comes from God; and may God's own Spirit continue to bless you all.

With affection,

Sister Mary Frances Uicker

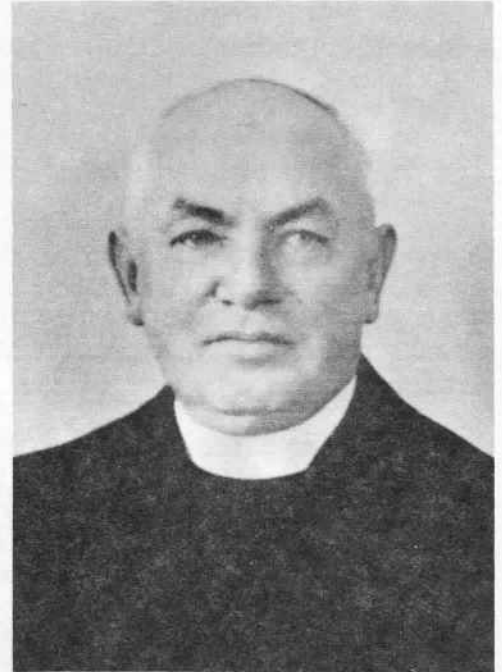
Sister Mary Frances Uicker, IHM
Pastoral Associate

First Pastors

Resident Pastors of
OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON PARISH
Harbor Beach, Michigan



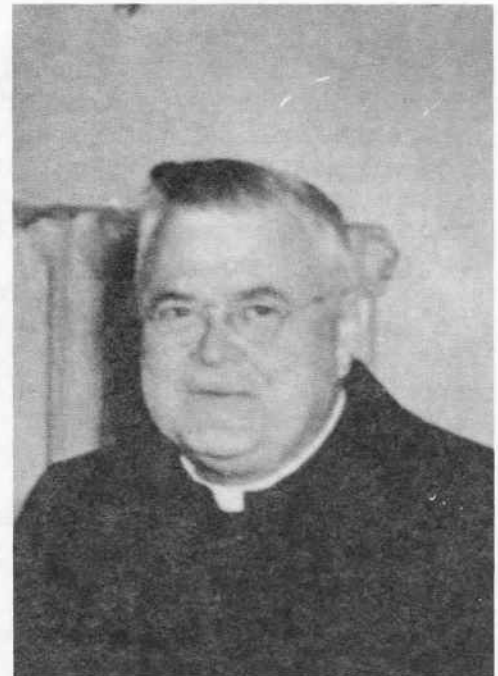
REV. CHARLES HENIGAN
1899 - 1913



REV. RAYMOND FLEMING
1913 - 1925



REV. ALBERT L. MELVIN
1925 - 1938

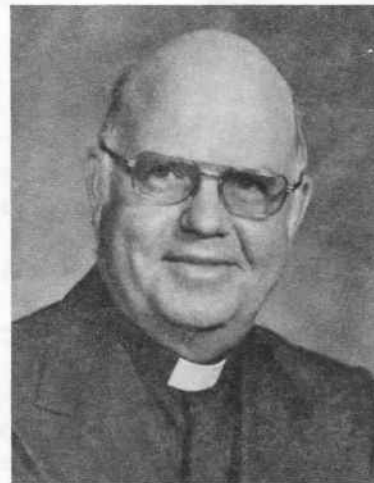


REV. JAMES J. MARVIN
1938 - 1963

Sacred Heart Church

302 S. KINNEY BLVD., MT. PLEASANT, MI 48858

517-772-1385



Our Lady of Lake Huron Church
413 S. First Street
Harbor Beach, Michigan

Dear Parishioners:

It is truly a pleasure for me to extend to the people of Our Lady of Lake Huron Church my heartiest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the centennial of your parish. As you review the many noteworthy achievements of the past one hundred years, you can take great pride in what has been accomplished by the clergy, religious, and laity with the help of Almighty God. Indeed, this is a proper time to thank God in a special way for the countless blessings He has so graciously bestowed on your parish community.

It is with fond memories that I recall the seven years (1963-1970) I enjoyed among you as pastor of your parish. Be assured that those were satisfying and rewarding years. The faith, dedication, and kindness of the parishioners will never be forgotten.

As you celebrate your centennial, no doubt you look to the future, and what you hope to achieve in the years ahead. It is my prayer that our Divine Lord will continue to bless you and guide you in all your efforts. And may His Blessed Mother, your heavenly patron, intercede for you as you continue to witness the presence of Christ in the Harbor Beach community.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

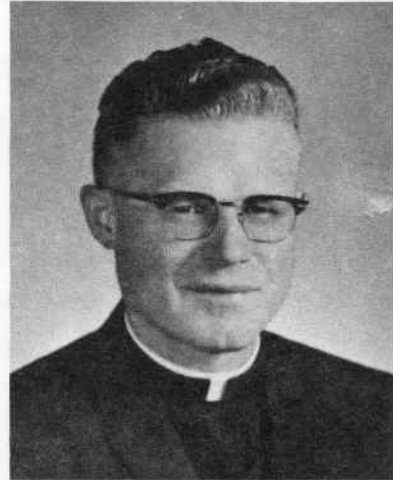
Cordially yours in Christ,

Father Mac

(Rev.) C. N. McEachin

ST. STEPHEN'S R. C. MAGYAR CHURCH

223 THIRD STREET
PASSAIC, N.J. 07055
TELEPHONE 779-0332



May 18, 1982

Rev. Raymond C. Oswald, Pastor
Our Lady of Lake Huron Church
413 South First Street
Harbor Beach, Michigan 48441

Dear Father Oswald and Parishioners:

It is with great joy that I extend my warmest congratulations and prayers on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish. From the humble beginnings of a few farming, sailing and lumbering families, the parish has grown into one of the strongest rural parishes in the thumb area of Michigan.

In my eight years of service at Our Lady, I witnessed the tremendous growth in community and service which made Our Lady of Lake Huron the vibrant parish it is today. The painting of the church by the parishioners, rallying together and sacrificing much time and money to maintain the grade school and establishing a kindergarten for future generations are but a few of the many manifestations of this communal spirit. We shared our happiness and our sorrow many times. The priest in particular becomes an integral part of this sharing as he brings the sacraments to all members of the parish. We shared our happiness in the baptism of new members, the marriage of our couples, but we also shared our sorrows at the graves of our loved ones. Continuous thoughts of Our Lady of Lake Huron parish as well as the many rewards received from the best investment I have made yet -- red licorice -- will always be part of me.

Remember in your prayers all the priests who have served Our Lady of Lake Huron, the Sisters of Immaculate Heart of Mary from Monroe who have and still continue to serve the parish; the many lay teachers and countless numbers of people who have all been instrumental in building up the parish community.

And so, as the Statue of Mary on top of the church tower is a beacon for all boaters to see many miles away, so too, must She be a light for all our lives as Our Lady of Lake Huron begins a new century of service, community, hope and love in the witness of our Catholic faith.

MAY GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU!

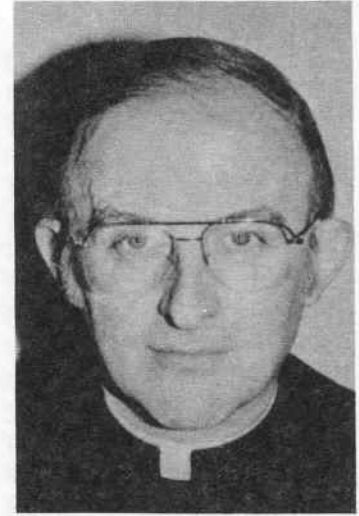
Yours in Christ's service,

Bela Torok
Rev. Bela Torok

Saint Stephen Church

1323 MALZAHN STREET
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48602

May 14, 1982



REV. JOHN W. TROESTER
1978 - 1981

Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish
413 South First Street
Harbor Beach, Michigan 48441

Dear Friends:

Your attainment of one hundred years as a community of faith gives all of us deep gratitude and great joy. The privilege I have had of being your pastor entitles me, I am proud to say, to share fully in this happy occasion.

The Catholic parish is a phenomenon. Each has its special and distinguishing history and characteristics; each expresses in the contemporary world that ancient faith "which comes to us from the Apostles".

My life and faith have been enriched by the three years we shared together. A beautiful recollection of persons and events comes to me as I think of Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish and of the Harbor Beach and Port Hope area.

Thank you all from the depth of my heart for your welcome acceptance, your constant support, your day in and day out living in the tradition established by Christ Our Lord.

To Father Ray Oswald, Sister Mary Frances Uicker, all staff members and every O.L.L.H. family member I extend my best wishes.

Congratulations on your parish Centennial.

May Our Savior and His Blessed Mother, your patroness, continue to be with you.

I consider it one of my greatest blessings from them that three of those first one hundred years I shared with you.

With love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John W. Troester".

(Rev.) John W. Troester
Pastor

Assistant Pastors at OLLH

1943 - 1944	Reverend Frederick Maynard
1944 - 1947	Reverend Bernard Kirchman
1947 - 1951	Reverend Alpha LaHaie (Deceased)
1950 - 1951	Reverend Mason Vaughn
1951	Reverend Joseph Debski
1951 - 1952	Reverend Robert Smith
1954 - 1955	Reverend Joseph D. O'Rourke
1955 - 1956	Reverend Kenneth Povish
1956 - 1958	Reverend Joseph Schabel
1959 - 1960	Reverend Joseph Bauer
1960 - 1961	Reverend George Serour
1962 - 1964	Reverend Joseph Miller (also 1968)
1964 - 1965	Reverend Frank DeWitt
1967 - 1968	Reverend Thomas Kowasczyk
1968 - 1969	Reverend Dale LaBrie
1968	Reverend John Zieman, O.S.B.
1968 - 1970	Reverend Walter Eckert, O.S.B.

Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish: 1882 - 1982

OVERVIEW OF HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

1850 - 1870	Missionary circuit
1870 - 1882	Mission station of Port Austin - Masses said in homes and stores
1882	Original church constructed - named St. Vincent de Paul
1885	Dedication of Church as Our Lady of Lake Huron
1886 - 1897	Parish served as mission of Ruth
1897 - 1899	Parish served as mission of Bad Axe
1899	Father Charles Henigan became first resident pastor
1900	Rectory built
1913	Father Fleming succeeded Father Henigan as pastor
1915 - 1917	Present church built and dedicated
1923	Building of parish grade school
1924 - 1925	School opened for grades 1 - 8. Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary came to serve the needs of school and parish
1925	Father Albert Melvin succeeded Father Fleming as pastor
1938	Father James Marvin succeeded Father Melvin as pastor
1938 - 1939	Ninth grade added to school
1939	Boys basketball started
1940 - 1941	Tenth and eleventh grade added to school
1941	First school addition added (2 rooms)
1941 - 1942	School open for grades 1 - 12. First highschool graduation class
1947	Second school addition added (2 library rooms)
1951	Third school addition (4 rooms)
1955	Fourth school addition (east wing - 4 rooms)
1963	Father Cornelius McEachin succeeded Father Marvin as pastor
1965 - 1966	Remodeling of the church
1969 - 1970	Parish Council and commissions were formed
1970	High school closed. Last highschool graduation class
1970	Father Bela Torok succeeded Father McEachin as pastor
1974	Kindergarten added to school
1978	Father John Troester succeeded Father Torok as pastor
1981	Father Raymond Oswald succeeded Father Troester as pastor

Early Life in Sand Beach

As we begin our pilgrimage back through time, we need to situate ourselves in the village of Sand Beach at a time prior to the existence of Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish. The following excerpts, taken from local newspapers of the time, may help us gain our bearings:

1862 - A. Gilchrist, two miles South of this Village, is enlarging the capacity of his mill by the addition of one of the celebrated "Piermont Machines," with a thirty-eight inch saw.

Mr. Gilchrist's mill is located at the mouth of Allen's Creek, a beautiful stream navigable for saw logs a distance of about eight miles, furnishing a supply of timber inexhaustible for many years.

In addition to his present business, Mr. G. proposes to build a shingle mill about ten miles West of this place on the Sand Beach and Sebawaing State Road.

1863 - The following By-law was passed at the annual township meeting of Sand Beach held April 7th, 1862, to wit: That horses and hogs be not allowed to run at large under a penalty of five dollars. R. W. Irwin, Clerk.

1863 - An express and passenger stage line has been established on the lake shore route from Lexington to Port Austin, via Sand Beach. Mr. J. Jenks, of Lexington, is the proprietor.

1868 - Detroit, Saginaw and Lake Huron Shore Steamboat Line will be composed during the season of 1868 of the following well-known, first-class, new side wheel steamers: City of Sandusky, Capt. Henry Falls, will leave Fridays; City of Toledo, Capt. Selah Dustin, will leave Wednesdays; Susan Ward, Capt. Wm. Comer, will leave Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. For Saginaw, Bay City, East Tawas, Tawas City, Port Austin, Huron City, Port Hope, Sand Beach, Rock Falls, Forestville, Forester, Port Sanilac, Lexington, Port Huron, and all other Lake Shore ports. All these boats leave dock foot of Bates St. each day at 2 o'clock p.m. Freights Received at All Times. For all further information apply to Chas. Bewick, Agent, foot of Bates Street, Detroit. (1868 Adv.)

Sept. 2, 1880 - AT LAST! SAND BEACH BECOMES A RAILROAD TOWN. For nearly a week the fact was apparent that before this week was finished, Sand Beach would have a railroad, and anxiously have our citizens been watching the course of the events - and the locomotive. All day Monday sounds from the approaching train were heard, and many, too impatient to wait longer for the coming of "the cars", walked down the track to meet them.

Tuesday afternoon the construction train passed into the village limits, and by evening the rails had been laid to the depot buildings in the upper part of town.

Crowds of our towns-people flocked to the track to examine the almost miniature locomotive and train of flat cars, and when the rails had been laid fairly into town, Jenks & Co. set up the cigars and apples to the railroad boys.

The work of blasting the road will be completed as soon as possible, and regular passenger trains will begin running over the road Monday, Sept. 13th, arriving here at 2:30 and 6 p.m., leaving at 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. Excursion tickets from this point to Port Huron and return will be sold for \$2.10, good until, and including Friday, Sept 17. The regular rates have been reduced to accomodate parties wishing to visit the state fair.

NEXT . . . CAME WATER SUPPLY . . .

December, 1880 - J. Jenks & Co. propose to make arrangements for a water supply for this village, in case the project meets with a proper amount of encouragement from our citizens. The plan is to lay pipes after the manner of the Holly water works and force water from the lake by means of a large force pump which will be situated in their new grist mill. The cost of this arrangement is estimated at \$2,500, and if it is taken hold of with proper vim, our citizens will have hydrants established at suitable distances with hose attachable to them, giving them, in addition to the convenience of an inexhaustible water supply, as good protection against fire as any of the large cities.

GOT TO HAVE A "COOLER" . . .

June, 1882 - "THAT COOLER" - The committee on jail construction appointed by the common council at the last session has not been idle. A site for the jail has been leased from the J. Jenks & Co., on the east side of Huron Street, just South from where the hose house now stands. The lot is forty feet in width and extends from the street back to the railroad track. The lease is to run five years with the privilege of purchasing at or before the expiration of that time.

Already the excavation has been finished and the masons will soon begin their part of the work. The material has been contracted for and we hope to see all completed before the Fourth.

The plan adopted by the committee is to excavate a place in the bank sixteen feet square. This is to be lined on the sides by a stone and cement wall eighteen inches thick. The whole will be divided into three apartments. Two cells will open into a room which will serve as a guard room. The cells will each

be about 6 x 8 feet and the floor of each will consist of a single flagstone fully six inches thick. The outside room will be about 7 x 13 in size. The whole will form a basement foundation for the hose house which will be moved upon it as soon as the stone work is done.

The site selected is the best in town for the village purposes and we hope the corporation will soon find itself able to purchase it and erect a suitable town hall thereon.

THE COMING CHURCHES . . .

October, 1881 - The new Lutheran church was finally dedicated Sunday. Services were conducted in German in the morning and afternoon and in the evening an English sermon was delivered.

November, 1882 - The two church buildings that have been commenced in Sand Beach during the summer are not to be completed this season. It is proposed, and properly, we think, to do no more than enclose them for the winter, leaving the inside work, painting and plastering until Spring, when the work will be pushed.

The Roman Catholic edifice is being built under the direction of Archie McIlhargey, and is to be as nice and comfortable a building as can be found anywhere. The style of architecture is neat and simple, though very substantial. When it is done, First will be a street of churches, there being four facing on that thoroughfare. The cost is estimated at \$2,500.

The Presbyterians are justly proud of their neat little Gothic structure on the corner of State and Third Streets. The plan is a model for convenience and neatness. Duncan McKenzie, the contractor for the work on it, is doing a thoroughly workman like job, satisfactory to all concerned. The cost will fall very short of \$3,500, though at first it was hoped to build for \$3,000.

When these houses of worship shall be finished, our townspeople will be supplied with five as fine church edifices as can be found in any village of the size of Sand Beach in the state. Money invested in this way adds not only to the appearance, but the material progress of the place.

Early History of Catholic Church in Sand Beach

Taken from "Souvenir of Sand Beach"

(Written in 1898 by J. J. Leszczynski, a parishoner of the church and prominent businessman in the community.)

Little is known of the early history of the Catholic Church of Sand Beach. The few remaining pioneers have no recollection of Catholic Missionaries who ministered to the spiritual needs of the early settlers of that creed.

There can be no doubt, however, that of the indomitable band of French missionaries who penetrated the forests from one Indian settlement to another, or guided their frail canoes up and down the shores of Lake Huron, some have set foot upon the soil where our village now stands. About the year 1866, Father Klug, pastor of the Catholic Church at Adams Corners (now Ruth) made periodical visits to the few scattering Catholic families in this neighborhood, holding divine services in their homes. Shortly after his death, Sand Beach was made a mission to Port Austin and Good Father Roche, who will be well remembered by his followers for his piety and zeal, was assigned to take charge. Upon his removal to a larger field of labor, he was succeeded by Father Meder, under whose initiative the raising of funds was the first step taken toward the erection of a suitable place of worship. He did not remain long enough to complete his task, when Fr. Geo. Laugel was sent to take his

place, who at once took an active interest in the spiritual welfare of his people, whose numbers were increasing to such an extent that the holding of divine services in a private house was considered out of the question. The era of prosperity and the growth of Catholicism dates from the advent of Father Laugel, to whose indefatigable efforts the Catholics of Sand Beach are indebted for their substantial church edifice. It was built in 1882, since which time the building has been enlarged by the addition of a large sanctuary, and while the external appearance of the church is plain and would suggest an unfinished condition, the internal arrangements are appropriately beautiful and complete in every detail. Father N. L. Machino was next in charge of this mission, but his stay among us was of a brief duration.

In 1885 Sand Beach was detached from Port Austin and again made a mission of Ruth, and Father R. L. Marker assigned to the stewardship. It was during his successful administration of affairs that the church building was enlarged to its present proportions to meet the growing demands of the congregation. In 1890 Father Laugel succeeded Father Marker as pastor of Ruth and was again

placed in charge of Sand Beach. The present prosperous condition of the Catholic church here is due to the unremitting labors of this Humble servant of God. It is practically free of debt; its members are united, happy and contented. In October of last year, another change was announced, and under the new arrangement, Sand Beach and Bad Axe churches were placed under the pastorate and direction of Father Jas. Stapleton. Upon assuming his new duties, Fr. Stapleton has inaugurated a thorough system in the administration of pecuniary affairs and this, together with the energetic manner in which spiritual matters are conducted, will bring forth good results.

The writer can recall many accounts of the great hardships endured by the pioneer priests when this county was almost in its primitive state. Even in later years when Catholic priests were obliged to

journey long distances over lumber paths and corduroy roads, in all kinds of weather and at all hours of the night, on errands of mercy to the sick and dying. The county has transformed these obstacles into comparative safety and pleasure.

The Catholics of Sand Beach have every reason to be thankful to "Him from whom all blessings flow." They have kept even pace in their spiritual advancement with the material progress of this community. Their house of worship is none too large to meet the requirements of the members, and if the growth in the next five years equals that of the same number of years just passed, a larger church building will become a necessity. To an ever indulgent and fair-minded public is left the freedom of judging her members, regarding their average citizenship and general demeanor.

Mass Was Said In This House

One of the early homes in the Village of Sand Beach where Holy Mass was celebrated is this one on the corner of First Street and Trescott. It belonged to Joseph Ganley at the time. The home is presently owned by Mrs. Charles Wehner and has been extensively remodeled. The faces in the foreground are not known.



First Catholic Church in Sand Beach



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church built at Sand Beach in 1882, dedicated by Bishop Borgess of the Diocese of Detroit in 1885. Name changed to Our Lady of Lake Huron at the dedication ceremonies. Church rectory shown to the left of the church was completed in 1900. Fr. Henigan was the first resident pastor of the parish. Before building of the new rectory, he resided with the John Leszczynski family.

Why The Name St. Vincent de Paul?

Taken from The Catholic Weekly dated August 18, 1963 (25th Anniversary of Diocese)

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

by Fernando J. Borey

Strange as it may seem it was the taunt of a scoffer that prompted the origin of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

In the year 1833 a French anti-religious leader named Fourier had made public statements in the city of Paris that Christianity was dead.

"Christianity has had its grandeur," said Fournier "but now the tree is dead. What are you Christians doing for humanity? Show us your works."

A brilliant young law student of the University of Paris, named Frederic Ozanam, took up the challenge. Gathering seven other students around him he organized a little association and called it a conference of charity.

These young men chose St. Vincent de Paul as their model and patron, and they took upon themselves the visitation and relief of the poor in the slums of the city. Thus they would prove that Christianity was still very much alive.

So edifying and successful was the work of this little group that other similar conferences were soon organized. The movement spread throughout Europe, and in time a permanent society was formed with rules approved by the Holy See.

The Society has been enriched with many indulgences granted by the Sovereign Pontiffs. Pope XII referred to it as "The greatest charitable organization in all the world."

The first American foundation of the society occurred on November 20, 1845, when a conference was established in the Old Cathedral Parish of St. Louis, Missouri.

Ed. Note: Could the above have had some influence on the naming of our first church in honor of St. Vincent de Paul?

Name Changed In 1885

Mrs. John F. Murphy was influential in changing the name of the original church from St. Vincent de Paul to Our Lady of Lake Huron in 1885, the time of the dedication of the new church by Bishop Borgess of Diocese of Detroit.

Early Records of the Mission

The earliest record of the Mission of Sand Beach that could be located in the church rectory is from 1893 and is not signed by a pastor's name. Here we have reproduced (as it is written if we decipher it correctly) the record for 1893:

ANNUAL ACCOUNT OF THE MISSION OF SAND BEACH FOR THE YEAR 1893

RECEIPTS:

January 15, 1894 Pew Rent	257.37
Penny Collection	24.30

EXPENDITURES:

January 1 - Orphan Fund for 1892	10.00
Support of Priest	5.00
Catheoraticum	5.00
Priests Fund	3.00
Mass Wine & Altar Bread	2.00
Candles	6.40
Insurance	15.00
Repairs	30.01
Extraordinary:	
Donation for new house of priest	25.00
RR Fare, Hand Car & Livery Stable expenses to attend Mission	25.00
Rent of Hall for lectures of Father Elliott	8.45
Balance to New Account	1.51
	281.67

281.67

281.67

January 1, 1894 Balance to New Account 1.51

COMMITTEE FOR 1894

John L. Brennan	Rudolph Schulte
Joseph Lescinski	August Mausolf
Roman Jawcerski	Joseph Gannely

On the 24th of October the church of Our Lady of Lake Huron borrowed of Mr. Archy McIllhargy the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, at interest of 7% with the authorization of the Right Rev. Bishop.

NOTE: The priest that made the above entries did not sign it and we have no way of knowing which of the "travelling priests" wrote the above in a very fine hand. Some of the names in the church committee are misspelled, leaving the hint that he was not familiar with the spelling of the local names.

It is our belief that the priest of the Mission up to the middle of 1897 was Rev. G. Laugel as he received 87.50. Under the receipts is an entry of a donation from Fr. Laugel of \$30.00.

In 1886, the Mission of Our Lady of Lake Huron was attached to Ruth. Rev. Rudolph Marker was pastor there and served this place until 1890. Fr. Laugel was then appointed pastor at Ruth and served the Mission at Sand Beach. We are told that some trips to the Mission were made by hand car on the railroad and thus the entry for hand car expense. One of the items in expenses is "Rent of Hall for Lectures of Father Elliott". An explanation comes from the "Minute Book of Elliott Reading Circle" dated October 22nd, 1893. The first paragraph states: Pursuant to a call made by our Pastor, Father Laugel, on Sunday, October 15th for all those interested in organizing a Reading Circle and Library to meet at the church on the next Sunday at 2 o'clock p.m. A fair size gathering

of both ladies and gentlemen were present. Under the discussion on what was to be gained by having the Reading Circle, Mr. Jno. M. Leszczynski outlined the extent and scope of the Reading Circle of America and said the outcome of joining would be a higher plane of intelligence among the Catholic people of this country. After deciding that they wished to become part of this country-wide Circle by all 26 present at the meeting, it was moved that the first meeting be held in a public place. The place chosen was in the Puddock block above Leszczynski's store. (About where Sandmann Grocery new stands). Thus the entry for "Hall Rental."

This Reading Circle held weekly meetings and the last entry in the Minute Book is March 16, 1895. From reading the minutes, the purpose of this group was to become better educated in the ways of Catholics and Catholicism in general, as in those days the Catholic Faith was being put to the test and it was not unlikely for a good Catholic to be asked certain questions about his faith. Most of the books that were in the library of this group were of a religious nature, one being "Life of St. Vincent de Paul" our first church was named after this Saint for the first few years being changed to Our Lady of Lake Huron in 1885.

ANNUAL ACCOUNT OF THE MISSION OF SAND BEACH FOR THE YEAR 1894

RECEIPTS:		EXPENSES:	
January 1 - Balance on Hand	1.51	To Orphans	10.00
Pew Rent	252.25	Support of Priest	195.00
Penny Collection	32.87	Catheoraticum	5.00
Extraordinary:		Priests Fund	5.00
Festival	120.00	Altar Bread & Wine	2.00
Loan from A. McIllhargy	150.00	Candles	3.00
		Light & Fuel	3.20
		Insurance	15.00
		Repairs	4.05
		New Pews	2.15
		Painting Church	75.00
		To Priest for Livery Stable,	
		RR Fare & Keeping Horse	25.00
		Balance to New Account	.38
	557.63		557.63

Authorized loan from A. McIllhargy from October the 26th, 1894

COMMITTEE FOR 1895: John Brennan, John Leszczynski, Rud. Schulte, M. McBride, Augt. Mausolf

1895 -- Receipts 325.99. Expenses 325.99. Balance to New Account 14.16. Debt of the Mission 150.00 to A. McIllhargy at 7%, Oct. 24.

1896 has some interesting items, so we list it as it is written:

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF THE MISSION OF SAND BEACH FOR THE YEAR 1896

RECEIPTS:		EXPENSES:	
January 1 - Balance on Hand	14.16	December 31, Orphan & Missions	13.00
Pew Rent	252.67	Support of Priest	200.00
Penny Collection	31.02	J. C. Kanmeyr Architect	10.00
Donation	50.00	New Furniture & Repairs	3.05
Collection in Mission	102.25	Wood for Ornamentation & Altar Stone	14.20
Supper	72.52	Interest	10.75
Raffle & Guessing	64.75	Insurance	20.00
Collection for Painting	12.50	Edward on Painting Windows	40.00
Altar Society	5.50	RR Livery Stable & Horse	45.00
Young Ladies	4.25	Paid Edward Painting Altar, Pictures, Decoration Gilding & Cotton & Board	101.25
Donation of Lumber	.50	Repair of Church, damage caused by Tornado & Architect	136.76
Donation	29.00	New Carpet	28.57
		Balance on Hand	16.54
	639.12		639.12

Debt of the Mission \$150.00. One hundred fifty dollars to A. McIlhargy at 7% November 24.

COMMITTEE: John L. Brennan, John Lesczynski, Rudolph Schulte, M. McBride, August Mausolf

How much damage was done to the little Mission at Sand Beach by the tornado, we do not know. If all the above expenditures of painting and decorating and architect's fees went towards repairing tornado damages, one can presume the damage was extensive. Here the first mention of the Altar Society and their delicious meals is seen, as is the Young Ladies which we take as being the Young Ladies Sodality as it was known in recent years.

James Stapleton signed the book as Pastor after the 1897 Annual Account. Debt of the church as of January 1, 1898 is still 150.00. M. McBride was replaced on the church committee by Joseph Rodenback (Roggenbuck) and August Mausolf by Michael Gannon. Income for the year 386.02 with 16.79 balance on hand. Again signed by James Stapleton, Pastor.

1899: This is the year the little Mission paid off the note to A. McIlhargy and Pastor Chas. Henigan notes above his signature: "All debts discharged." Notation of September 12, 1899 is believed to be the date when he received his appointment to Our Lady of Lake Huron as its first pastor. In this year \$40.00 was spent for the lot for the sheds, and \$31.64 was spent for the wood shed. Income and expenses this year totalled \$685.08.

1900: First year of a pastor and the building of the rectory. Income 1432.99 including a 4th of July Picnic (462.58) and picnic at Smith's Corners 169.82. Smith's Corners was now a Mission of Our Lady of Lake Huron. Debts January 1, 1901 \$1,991.18. Fr. Hennigan makes a note at the bottom of the page: Debts of church: Note for six hundred

dollars (\$600) to Wm. F. Burke at 5% interest from January 1st, 1901 and one thousand still due on House Debt to Chas. Henigan—cash paid to contractors and for material for house - three hundred and sixty-nine dollars (369.00) and salary - 400.00. Church Committee for this year: Jno M. Lesczynski, Jno L. Brennan, Rudolph Shulte, Jos Roggenbuck, Archie McIlhargey, Roman Jarozewski.

1901: Pastor's salary 000.00, Income \$1555.21. Expenses \$1613.80.

1905: Fr. Henigan made the notation: "All debts discharged."

1906: Received from the Estate of M. Stakem \$2000.00 deposited in bank as follows: Huron Co. Savings Bank November 5, 1906 \$1000.00; Paluis Bank of F. W. Hubbard & Co. November 12, 1906 (5%) \$1000.00; which with \$300.00 deposited February 28, 1906 (4%) and \$150.00 deposited January 9, 1907 (4%) for which I have certificate of deposit. Chas. E. Henigan, January 15, 1907. Under the expense column is the item Furniture Hardware etc., New Organ etc., \$119.36 and "No Debts".

1907: Expenses. Monument for M. Stakem \$25.00.

We learn from the records of the Penny Collection in the years of 1899 and 1900 that Mass was not said here every Sunday. About every other Sunday, would be an average. Supposedly on the other Sundays Mass was said at the Missions of Smith's Corners and Ubyly. About 60 families paid pew rent in the year of 1899 and it seems that all were paid up.

1908: ALTAR SOCIETY. January 1 Funds of Altar Society \$31.76 and \$30.00 put in bank February 28, 1906 as part of Certificate of Deposit of \$300 of that date. This \$30 has not been withdrawn, is still in bank as part of church funds. April, 1910: Applied above \$3176 to part payment of candlesticks.

Early Parishoner's Names

Some of the early names in the parish as taken from the Subscription List for the new rectory in 1900:

Rev. George Laugel	Michael Laramy, Sr.
Thomas Mason	John Hendrick
John Sullivan	August Wehner
John Cahill	Mrs. Jas. M. Jenks
William Cline	A. B. McIlhargey
Herman Yager	Chancey Gillum
John Mausolf	A. E. Cress
August Wolfschlager	Charlot Black
Michael Wehner	Frank Kehrer
George Green	George C. Green
Frank C. Almont	R. W. Irwin
Joseph J. Leszczynski	August Mausolf
Alex S. Leszczynski	Thomas Hickens
William Lamb	August Hideman
John Furtew	Thomas Perry
John D. Thomas	Thomas Richards
Michael Conley	Alex Lafer
Michael McBride	Thomas Weir
Alex Black	August Revor
John Lang	Jas. Green
John Schultz	Barney McKeever
B. Atkinson	Frank Schroeder
Joseph Roggenbuck	Henry C. Crawford
Isidor Larama	John Wolfschlager
Joseph Landra	John Landra
John Revor	Thomas McAllen
Frank Crusoe	Victor Shubitowski
Jacob Crusoe	Dennis Furtew
William Galegher	Anthony Schulte
Bridget Mahoney	Joseph Larkowski
Henry Brauch	John L. Brennan
Ben. Kehrer	C. E. Dow
Fred Hitch	Bela W. Jenks
Albert Pelath	Alonzo Hunter
Rudolph Schulte	Herman Jacobs
Joseph Krutz	
Michael Johnson	During the Mission Period
Agust Pitsly	the following served on the
Sylvester Green	Church Committee:
Martin Stacum	Alex S. Leszczynski
John Wolfschlager	Fred Hitch
John Sculley	John L. Brennan
William Brown	Rudolph Schulte
Michael Mausolf	M. McBride

August Mausolf
John Leszczynski
Michael Gannon
Joseph Roggenbuck
Roman Jarowscewski
Archie McIlhargey

Father Walter Elliott, the celebrated Paulist, made this notation in his Ordo: "September 18, 1893, my missions to non-Catholics began at Sand Beach (now Harbor Beach) in Michigan.

NOTE: A few of the above could be just donations and not members of the parish.

Our Lady of Lake Huron Cemetery

On October 12, 1885, a Warranty Deed was signed by Hiram Whitcomb and his wife, Elmira, deeding the property for the church cemetery to Bishop Casper H. Borgess for the consideration of the sum of One Hundred and 63/100 Dollars (\$100.63). Wittnesses were Charles Mahan and Fred Hitsch. Notary Public was George C. Green.

Property description is: Commencing at a point, three chains and ninety-five links East of the centerline of the Port Austin and Sanila State Road, and two rods North of Section line, between sections Eighteen 18 and Nineteen 19 Town Sixteen 16 North of Range Sixteen 16 East, Running thence due East twenty 20 Rods and Twenty-one 21 links, thence a Northwesterly course Twenty-one Rods and Thirteen links, thence West Fourteen 14 Rods, thence a Southerly course Eighteen 18 Rods and Twenty-two and one-half 22½ Links, to the place of beginning, containing Two and 2/160 acres of land.

This was the beginning of the Cemetery of the Catholic Church at Sand Beach. Or was it? After searching through the cemetery for the oldest tombstones, several were found in the 1883 period. Some were so weathered that they were beyond reading, and one which is believed to be the oldest, reads:

In Memory Of
MARY BRENNAN
Died
May 4, 1881
Aged
60 Years



Mrs. Brennan was the mother of Mrs. John F. Murphy

Apparently the ground was being used for a burial ground before it was purchased from Mr. Whitcomb. It is also possible that the graves were moved from the Township Cemetery at Allen's Creek (now known as Rock Falls).

Some of the other names on the early stones and dates of their death are Bernet Scholtz, 1883; Ellen Black, March 22, 1883; Crusoe John Holland, 1886; Mary Gannon, November 22, 1887; Ester Stapleton, 1890; McCallen. At one time, each lot had a concrete wall around it. With the advent of the power mowers, parishoners had a work bee for a day and dug under these walls and lowered them so they could be mowed over. The walls stood above ground level about 12 inches.

Father Marvin should receive the credit for bringing the appearance of the cemetery up to its present status. One of his first acts after coming to Harbor Beach was to put in the Annual Report of the parish this question: along with a picture of the cemetery:

“CHURCH CEMETERY OR A GRAVEYARD”?

Records of the cemetery date back only to Fr. Marvin's time.

Addition To Church Cemetery

In 1978 Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Cary gave a strip of land 200 feet in depth and the full width of the cemetery to the church as an addition to the Church cemetery. Total acreage of about 1.590 Acres. This is now in the process of being cleared and over the years will be filled in for cemetery purposes.



**Monument
To
Mark Stakem**

In the records of the parish dated 1907, an entry is found: “Monument for M. Stakem \$25.00.” Shown here is the monument bought with that \$25.00 for his cemetery lot. It has only the name “Mark Stakem-Requiescat In Pace”, no date of death. Whether the rest has weathered away or not, we do not know. M. Stakem bequeathed \$2000.00 to the parish in the year 1906, which paid off all the debts and brought a notation at the end of the year's records “No Debts.”

Julia Paul Remembers

Julia Paul, wife of Ralph Paul, deceased, was raised in Harbor Beach. Her foster parents were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Caughell. Their home was on South Huron Avenue now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Clem Kranz.

Looking back through the years of my childhood, memory recalls the fondness I had for Father Charles Hennigan -- a devoted priest with a delightful sense of humor but at times most firm in his convictions. My special pleasure was in being his walking companion many times on the old board walk up and down in front of the present rectory listening to his friendly accounts of his endeavors. His sternness appeared when we were being prepared for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist at which time he insisted that his class learn by heart every word of our booklet Catechism for this occasion. Our services were all taken care of in the little wooden white church where the grade school now stands. A special deed for me of gratitude was endeavoring assistance of my sister's adoption who is Mary June Matz from the Sisters of Good Shepherd of Providence Hospital in Detroit. He left his priestly duties to continue years of service to St. Agnes Parish in Detroit.

Father Raymon Fleming was our next pastor of OLLH. He endeared himself to peoples of all faiths, especially Charles Caughell, my foster father and Dell McMann, a local Ford dealer. Both men would have extended any kindness to him for the needs of our church. He was the builder of our present edifice and with his pleasant persuasion obtained the assistance of John Ringwelski and Walter Capling, and many of the parishoners to complete the stately and most costly church we now have. Charles and Ann Caughell gave the beautiful Rose Window at the back of the sanctuary which was the first of the magnificent windows purchased from Germany as a memorial. My memory, if correct, was 1915 for the dedication.

When, regretfull, Father Fleming left Harbor Beach, he was appointed the task of the planning and completion of St. Cecelia's on Livernois in Detroit, where he remained until his death.

Julia Paul

Building Of New Church

After the arrival of Father Raymond Fleming in 1912, plans were started for a new church and a building fund was begun. The parishoners were very responsive to Fr. Fleming's plea and shortly plans were put into action.

The old church was moved to the corner of Second and Court Street and work started on digging the basement of the new church. After footings were set, forms installed and concrete poured, the basement was enclosed and building of the window arches and the ceiling arches continued during the winter months in the enclosed basement. With the arrival of Spring, work began facing the large boulders which make up the exterior of the lower section of the church. The large stones were hauled to the site during the winter months with horse-drawn bobsleds. Shortly, bricks for the exterior arrived and the upper construction began. The Charles Frame Lumber Co. was contracted to do the building. During this time the same contractor was constructing the red brick school on South Fifth Street which was demolished a few years ago.

After completion of the church in 1917, it was dedicated on July 13th by Bishop Foley of Detroit Diocese. A Confirmation Class was held the same day.

Many memories are associated with the building of the new church by our older parishoners. Such as the many hours of labor involved to move the first church to a spot where the first school now stands, and Frederick Kramer with his team of horses and dump scraper digging the hole for the church basement. The stone for the lower walls was hauled by farmers and their horses from the lake shore North of the city. Fr. Fleming selected the stones to be used. Mortar was made from the beach sand.

The last baby to be baptized in the first church was Neil Leitch, and as the story goes, that's why the church had to be torn down. After the new church was in use for Holy Mass, this church did not see much use and in 1923 it was torn down to make room for the erection of the first school. Lumber of this church was used by Peter Kranz to build the family home. His son, Edward and wife now live in the home built from this church. The home is located on Klug Road, one-half mile South of Purdy Road.

The Harbor Beach Times ran the following account at the time of the new church dedication: FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1917-- AUXILLIARY BISHOP KELLEY OF THE DIOCESE OF DETROIT PERFORMS IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES (History of the Parish).

The dedication by Auxiliary Bishop Kelley of Detroit diocese, Friday of this week, of the magni-

ficent church erected by the Catholics of Harbor Beach and vicinity, marks an interesting and pleasing period in the life and work of the church in east Huron County.

From the pioneer days of Huron County, when a few families would gather in the primitive home of a neighbor in Sand Beach township, to take part in the service of the Mass, to the present time, the Catholic congregation has gradually grown in numbers until there are now, one hundred and thirty families who have the honor of taking part in the erection of this beautiful monument to christianity.

The new church is the Tudor Gothic style of architecture, designed by VanLeyen and Schilling of Detroit, is built of brick and stone, and when complete with fixtures will cost about \$40,000.00.

The front on First Street is distinguished by two towers and three doors of oxydized copper opening on a vestibule, with tile floor and walls of artistic finish. On the left of the vestibule and under the short tower is the baptistery, and on the right a fine cloak room from which stairways lead to the gallery, bell tower and basement.

Leading from the vestibule through the main body of the church to the altar rail is the main aisle with tile floor, six feet wide. The sanctuary also has tile floor with marble steps to main altar. On either side of the sanctuary are sacristies for priests and altar boys, while two side altars, massive columns and beautiful fixtures for indirect lighting add to the perfect proportion and harmonious magnificence of detail which has been observed and maintained in all parts.

The interior is spacious, airy and pleasingly decorated and has a seating capacity of four hundred including the transepts.

The entire structure is certainly something which Father Fleming can justly feel proud, for while he has had loyal assistance from the congregation in furnishing financial support, he has been the live wire, keeping everything in motion until he reached the successful and joyous finish.

The trustees for the present year are J. L. Brennan, Charles Caughill, John Zmich, Barney McKeever and Michael Shubitowski. Mr. Brennan was also a member of the board when the frame church was erected thirty-five years ago.

One feature very gratifying to Father Fleming, is the large Holy Name Society, recently organized in the church. This society consists of men who have obligated themselves to abstain from blasphemy, and has one hundred and sixty members. Its first act in a financial way was to furnish a one thousand pound Meneely bell for the new church and beginning with the dedication, the hours of divine service and the angelus will hereafter be tolled. This is the first thime the Catholics of Harbor Beach have enjoyed a bell.

Other special donations toward the new church are as follows:

* Windows by Francil Grimley, Charles Caughill, Mrs. Theresa Oborski, Mr. and Mrs. M. Shubitowski, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Brennan and Rev. Raymond Fleming.

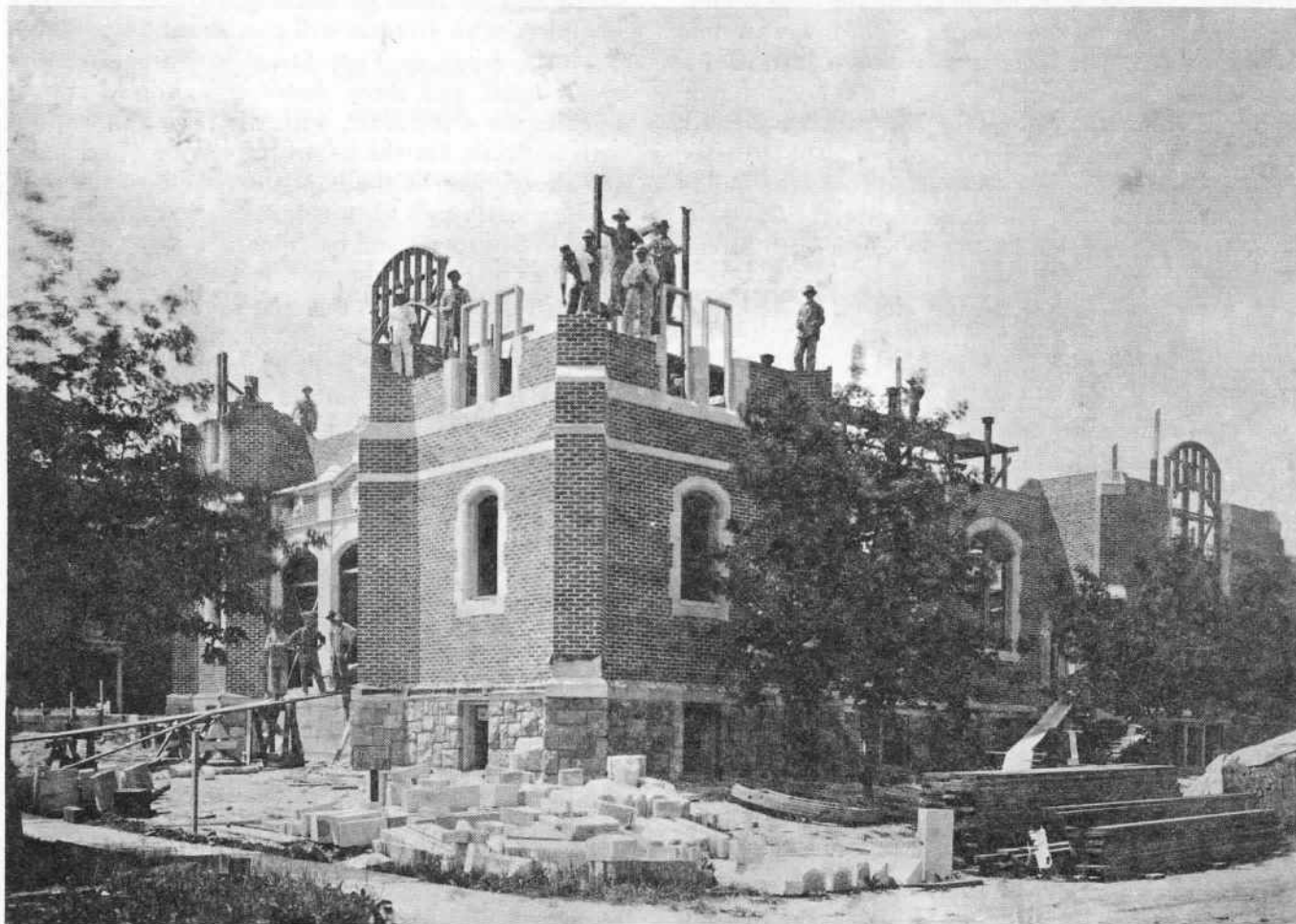
* Main Altar - J. F. Murphy and family. Side Altars - Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leszczynski and Rose Schulte.

* Altar Railing - The Altar Society.

* Chimes for Altar and Sanctuary Lamp - Gertie and May Fleming. Marble Baptismal Fountain and Holy Water Fountain - Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fleming.

* Marble Crucifix for Main Altar - Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Schlinkert.

* Martin Stakem, an old pioneer of Sand Beach township who died a few years ago, made the first substantial donation toward the fund for the new church.



This picture showing the construction of the new church in progress was taken in 1916 by a 16-year-old lady, now known as Mrs. Irene Miller, a member of this parish. One of the men standing on the South Organ Tower is Mr. Anthony Miller who later became her husband.



This picture was taken April 16, 1922 on the steps in the front of the new church. Fr. Fleming in the first row on the left side was the pastor, and the group shown is the Holy Name Society of the parish.

Early Views of Present Church



Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church and Rectory. Taken when? From the size of the trees in the foreground, it was taken many years ago.



Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church. When this picture was taken is a guess, but note that the school is not in the background to the right and the side entrance to the church basement had not been built.



Picture of present church interior before remodeling. Occasion: Father Gentner's first mass after Ordination.

New Bell For Church

In an account of the dedication ceremonies of the new church taken from the Harbor Beach Times dated July 17, 1917, we learn that the church bell was given to the parish by the newly organized Holy Name Society numbering 160 at the time. The Holy Name Society was made up of men from the parish who obligated themselves to abstain from blasphemy. The bell weighed on thousand pounds, was called a "Meneely" bell and beginning with dedication services tolled the hours of divine worship and the Angelus. This was the first time the Catholics of Harbor Beach had enjoyed hearing their own church bell.

Our thanks to Bart Verellen for climbing up into the bell tower and taking a picture of the bell and the inscription. It reads:

OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON CHURCH
HARBOR BEACH, MICH.
REV. R. FLEMING, PASTOR
"GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO"
1882 - 1915



A Backward Look at Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish

by Neil Leitch

It is very difficult to assemble memories in a chronological order, but with assistance of family and friends a few have come to mind. Perhaps these memories will stir memories of the older group of present parishoners:

The old horse stables on the back of the block where rural parishoners stabled their horses during services . . . The Sunday evening Vespers service at 7:30 . . . The Senior Acolytes (Harold Brown and Al Dempsey) struggling to light the high candles on

the High Altar . . . The High Altar had been donated by the Murphy family when the church was new.

Many, I am sure, will remember the squeaking of the old organ as it was pumped by the organist, and the bass voice of Mr. Joseph Leszczynski as he sang in the choir . . . Two marble Holy Water Fonts stood in the vestibule near the glass doors at a height of at least four feet. The base and pedestals were of dark grey and spiral in design . . . A beautiful white and gold Communion rail separated the Sanctuary from the Body of the Church. A Communion Cloth many yards long and pressed in narrow pleats was tied to eyelets on the Altar side of the rail. Many times Mrs. Bertha Ruhl, who took care of the Altars, would draft help to secure the tabs on the rail. If you were near, you could plan on being a helper.

The Catechism classes were large before the school started and were held Sundays between Masses and Saturday mornings. After the school started, many rural students attended Catechism classes in the front rows of seats between Sunday morning masses.

Older parishoners will remember the huge bell which was donated by the Holy Name Society before it was raised to the belfry, as it rested for some time in the North vestibule.

Ice Cream Socials were held to help with the finances. At times being held on the South lawn of the rectory, at the Schulte family farmstead, the Murphy lawn and the City Park.

In order to start building the present church, the former church had to be moved to the present location of the original school. Members banded together to furnish the motive power. In moving the building, a horse owned by John Kanthak suffered a broken leg and had to be destroyed.

Heating in the former church was a problem, and was solved by the use of a stove in the Sanctuary, one in the Sacristy, and another in the body of the church near the rear.

The first Parish Bazaar was held on South Huron Avenue in the three-story red brick building known as the Brown Building. All food and water (hot and cold) had to be carried to the top floor, as running water was not furnished at that level. After the church was completed, bazaars and parish dinners were held in the basement. A huge coal and wood range was used for cooking. A raffle of blankets, turkeys, and other fowl was held along with a refreshment booth, a fancy work booth, and other games. A chicken dinner was served both nights of the bazaar and a number of years the roasting of the chicken was done by the Reuter Bakery. The Eighth Grade boys of O.L.L.H. were pressed into

service to help carry the huge drip pans of chicken into the basement kitchen, their reward being a large portion of hot chicken.

Fowl for the raffle were kept in the pastor's garage and as they were needed, were transported live by the same group of boys to the basement where tickets were sold.

Our Lady of Lake Huron shared its pastor with a mission at Smith's Corners. The Saturday before the fourth Sunday of each month, the local pastor would board the afternoon train at Harbor Beach and travel to Palms, and back to Ubly where he was met and transported to Smith's Corners to offer Mass for the members of the Mission. Father Fleming had an auto, so the long train ride was not required, except when the roads became blocked with winter snows or mud in the spring.

Everyone went to confession and communion at least once a month. The societies were organized, attended Mass, and went to Communion as a body. First Sunday of the month was Young Ladies' Sodality; second Sunday was Holy Name Sunday; third Sunday was Children of Mary Sunday; fourth Sunday was Altar Society Sunday, and the fifth Sunday when there was one, was Family Sunday.

Each autumn as the sailors of the area returned home from a season on the Lakes, they were called upon to help clean the church for the Christmas season. Many turned out to sweep down and repair the interior of the church. A Sanctuary Lamp hung over the gate in the altar rail suspended from a ceiling arch, and was gilded (painted) by one of the young men of the parish, Joseph Gorney.

Each summer in July a special fuel collection was taken up and a railroad car of coal was purchased. Members of the Parish with teams of horses and wagons would haul the coal to the church and shovel it into the coal bin. The church was painted in preparation for the 50th anniversary by Mr. Grover Will, Fred Gager, Martin and Paul Kanthak, local interior decorators. The wage scale was fifty cents per hour for the experts and thirty-five cents per hour for the helpers.

The original pump organ of the present church is in the Murphy home, given to them by Fr. Marvin in exchange for a donation to the church. The Murphy family also donated the Main Altar and one gold chalice to the new church. A new pipe organ was installed in 1946.

Hopes For A Parish School are Realized

With the new church built and dedicated, Fr. Fleming and his parishioners turned their attention to the need for a parish school. During these years the parish was growing rapidly with young families from Ruth and Parisville, and the proper education

of so many parish children became a pressing problem. The church was barely paid for when Our Lady of Lake Huron parish set to work in 1923 and built a parochial grade school. The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary from Monroe, Mich. were contacted, and agreed to send four sisters to take charge of the new school.

The following articles from the Harbor Beach Times give us a first hand account of the construction of Our Lady of Lake Huron Grade School.

August 13, 1923 - FOUNDATION FOR SCHOOL BUILDING - Father Fleming's force of workmen have been building the forms this week, preparatory to starting to pour the concrete next Monday, for the foundation of the new Catholic school

A layer of cinders were placed on the ground and the cellar bottom will be placed on top; in this way better drainage can be had.

It is the plan of Fr. Fleming to build up to the top of the foundation this fall and complete the building next year.

The structure promises to be a credit to the town and especially to the Fr. Fleming and his church.

September 14, 1923 - CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION IN - The concrete portion of the foundation for the new Catholic school is all poured, and it will be completed to the water table before the snow flies.

Fr. Fleming and some of the boys from the church will gather stones along the lake shore this coming week for the exterior finish of the foundation.

In the spring the contract will be let for the building and rushed to completion before school starts next fall.

The exterior of the building will be of velvet faced brick with white stone trimmings, the same as the church.

The basement will contain an auditorium 35 x 70 feet, besides the toilet rooms, boiler room, fan room and coal bins. The auditorium will be used as a play room for the children in stormy weather.

The main floor will take care of four class rooms, each 30 feet by 22 feet, besides the necessary halls.

The roof will be flat and the plans, now in the hands of Fr. Fleming, show it to be a building in keeping with the beautiful church.

When school starts a year hence, five teachers will be employed, one of which will give music lessons to both the pupils of the school and also to any one in the community.

March 14, 1924 - CATHOLIC SCHOOL BUILDING WILL SOON TAKE FORM -

The new Catholic school building will soon be taking shape. The gravel and brick have been ordered during the past week and will be on the ground as soon as it is possible for the workmen to build.

It is now planned to have the building ready for occupancy by the time school starts next Fall.

August 29, 1924 - The new Catholic school building is being finished this week for Our Lady of Lake Huron Church, on the corner of Court & South Second Streets.

Construction started a year ago at this time and the foundation was all laid last fall. The rest of the building has been

constructed this Spring and Summer and will be ready for school Monday, September 8th.

It is of one story and contains four classrooms; besides the necessary heating plant the basement contains play rooms, etc. The exterior is of velvet pressed brick and makes a neat appearance.

Fr. Fleming has supervised the construction of the building and states the building will be entirely completed the latter part of next week.

The four Sisters, who are to serve as teachers, arrived Tuesday from Monroe and are living in the former Hurkett home, which was purchased by the church for them some little time ago.

Rev. Fr. Fleming extends through The Times, an invitation to the general public to inspect and go through the new building a week from this Sunday afternoon, September 7th. The building will be open all that afternoon.



The original four-room school built in 1924.

Convent Purchased

In 1923, the home of Captain Hurkett, local fish company owner, was purchased by Father Fleming to accommodate the four Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who would be here in the Fall of 1924 to teach in the new Catholic School just built at Our Lady of Lake Huron.

When the new high school was added to the school system in 1938, Fr. Marvin purchased the Roy Caughill home. It stands to the South of the original convent, and was purchased to make room for the additional sisters that would be teaching here. In Father MacEachin's time, the two convents were connected with a hallway for the convenience of the nuns.

The original convent received the addition of a Chapel in 1939 built by Theodore "Ted" Meggs.

The four Sisters to teach here in the first school year of 1924 - 1925 were: Mother Superior, Sister Mary Verena, Sister Mary Teresita, Sister Mary Andrew, and Sister Mary Aleath.

Each Sister was given a place to keep her school work with the construction of a huge table by John Zmich. The table had four drawers, one for each nun. Mrs. Harvey Robinson (Irene Daggett), was the first cook for the sisters. She was an eighth grade student at Our Lady of Lake Huron School's first class.

Additional property was slowly added by Fr. Marvin until the whole block to the East of the Church belonged to the parish. The homes that stood there belonged to Wm. Kirsten on the Southeast corner facing Huron Avenue and Wm. Trescott home on the Northeast corner facing Huron Avenue where the present parking lot and the Blessed Virgin Shrine now stands.





OPENING STUDENT BODY OF OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON SCHOOL, 1924

After school was called in 1924 it was decided that a group picture of the students would be in order. So on a bright, sunny morning in October, the students were assembled on the east side of the school. All eight grades were represented that morning. Most students were in attendance.

Father Melvin's Days: Depression and Celebration

In 1925, Father Albert Melvin took Father Fleming's place as pastor of OLLH parish. Diocesan records tell us that during Father Melvin's thirteen years of pastorship (1925 - 1938), the parish "continued to carry on in a creditable way." Although those were the years of the depression, he kept the plant in good repair and reduced the parish debt. As a faithful steward, he cared for the spiritual needs of his parish flock, and was able to lead the church community in a fitting celebration of its fiftieth anniversary in 1935.

While it is impossible to capture the total spirit of the everydayness of parish life, perhaps the following tidbits gleaned from parish records and other sources can provide some flavor of "the way we were" in the 1930's:

LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM 1931 FINANCIAL REPORT

APPRECIATION

The year of 1931 with its checkered career has placed the spirit of Our Lady of Lake Huron to the supreme test, but, as loyal, self-sacrificing, generous parishioners you have met the situation, and accredited yourselves with honor and esteem in the discharge of your duties. Sacrifices are usually difficult and irksome, only love can make them easy, and perfect love and loyalty will make them a joy. We are willing to give in proportion as we love, and when love is perfect the sacrifice is complete.

So, I say sincerely and candidly, with few exceptions, that you have been staunch and true in the profession of your Catholic Faith, and the reception of the Sacraments; you have been self-sacrificing in the support of our Catholic school and education. You have responded generously to every appeal, presented in interest of Our Lady of Lake Huron.

As your humble pastor, I thank you deeply. I appreciate your spirit of co-operation, and I pray God to bless you always, and perpetuate His Divine Will in our wonderful parish, through my humble administration, and your loyal spirit of devotion.

Gratefully yours,

FR. MELVIN

LIST OF PARISHONERS FROM 1932 FINANCIAL REPORT

Balcer, Clara	Grates, Victor
Balcer, Mrs. Frank	Grekowicz, Frank
Beith, Mrs. Jos.	Grekowicz, Martha
Blashill, Mrs. C. L.	Grekowicz, Michael
Booms, Mary	Grekowicz, Robert
Braun, Robert	Groll, William
Breathour, Mrs. Lina	Guitar, Barney
Brieske, Frank	Guitar, Leo
Broadbeck, Thos.	Gumble, Mrs. Frances
Brown, Mrs. Tillie	Gorney, Andrew
Buchkowski, Frank	Gorney, George
Buchkowski, Roman	Gorney, John
Caughell, Capt. Chas.	Gorney, Ted
Caughell, Julia	Gorney, Jos.
Chickanowski, Alzie	Hanlon, John
Chickanowski, Frank	Hanlon, S. P.
Chickanowski, Theo.	Hessling, Mrs. Wm.
Choppa, George	Hitsch, Wm.
Connors, Jack	Ignash, Peter
Cregeur, Arthur	Janitzski, Eliz.
Cregeur, Bernice	Jebraski, Jos.
Davis, Paul	Jebraski, Floyd
Dempsey, Mrs. Wm.	John, Timothy
DeFrain, Arthur	Kanaby, Mrs. Peter
DeFrain, George	Kanthak, Angeline
Diehl, John	Kanthak, John, Jr.
Dropeski, Edward	Kanthak, Magdalen
Elliott, Roy	Kanthak, Martin
Engel, Theo.	Kanthak, Theresa
Eppenbrock, Lucy	Karl, J. P.
Essenmacher, Earl	Karl, Theresa
Essenmacher, Jos.	Karl, William
Essenmacher, Wm.	Kehrer, Benj.
Ezack, Edward	Kintzele, Lillian
Ezack, Robert	Kirsch, Albert
Ezack, Philomene	Kirsch, Emil
Forthoffer, Matthew	Kalka, Walter
Frank, Bernard	Klaska, W.
Frank, Elmer	Kluska, Philip
Frank, John	Kluska, John
Gager, Mrs. F. and Fred	Kociba, John
Gannon, Edward	Kociba, John, Jr.
Gannon, Kate	Konkel, M.
Gardine, Mrs. John	Koss, Frank
Garnawich, Bruno	Koss, Jos.
Gatza, Jos.	Koss, Peter
Gehring, John	Koss, Wm.
Gentner, Frank	Kosel, Goerge
Gerstenschlager, Mrs. G.	Kowalski, John
Glass, Mrs. Wm.	Kowalski, Peter
Goniwicha, John	Klaska, Nick
Gorraw, James	Kramer, Bertha
Grates, Francis	Kramer, Bost.
Grates, Thos.	Kramer, Fred

Kramer, Gabriel
 Kramer, Jos.
 Kramer, Louis
 Kramer, Michael
 Kranz, Josephine
 LaBelle, Sam
 Lamb, Albert
 LaMielle, Peter
 LeRoux, Aldea
 Laskey, George
 Leitch, Neil
 Lemanski, John
 Lemanski, Monica
 Lemanski, Sylvester
 Lillis, Margaret
 Livingston, Roy
 Lockner, L.
 Mausolf, Albert
 Mausolf, Arthur
 Mausolf, August
 Mausolf, George
 Mausolf, Michael, Jr.
 Mausolf, Capt. M.
 Mausolf, John C.
 Mausolf, Joseph
 Maurer, Elizabeth
 Meyers, Chas.
 Meyers, John
 Miller, Anthony
 Miller, Clarence
 Miller, Jos.
 Miller, Peter
 Miller, Robert
 Mindalski, Jos.
 Nickles, Jos.
 Nitz, Frank
 Nitz, Walter
 Nowiski, Anthony
 Nowiski, Jos.
 Nowiski, Theo.
 Olshove, Leo
 Olshove, Alex
 Olshove, Max
 Olshove, Michael
 O'Neil, Genevieve
 O'Neil, Thomas
 Pawlowski, Anne
 Pawlowski, Clara
 Pawlowski, Ignace
 Pawlowski, John
 Pawlowski, Theophilus
 Pawlowski, Peter
 Pawlowski, Ted
 Pelletys, J. A.
 Pohl, Anthony
 Premier, Ernest
 Puvalowski, Theo.
 Reuter, Gertrude

Ringwelski, John
 Ringwelski, Jos.
 Roberts, A.
 Robinson, Beatrice
 Roggenbuck, Mrs. Alb. & Ant.
 Roggenbuck, Frances
 Roggenbuck, Frank
 Roggenbuch, George
 Roggenbuck, Jos.
 Roggenbuck, Paul
 Ruhl, Lawrence
 Ryan, Harry
 Schnell, George
 Schnell, Leo
 Scholtz, Albert
 Scholtz, John
 Schornack, Felix
 Schornack, Marian
 Schornack, Leo
 Schorsch, Jos., Jr.
 Schrott, Edmond
 Schrott, Louis
 Schulte, Andrew
 Schulte, J. A.
 Schumacher, John
 Schweigert, Mrs. Jos.
 Shubitowski, Anthony
 Shubitowski, Doris
 Shubitowski, Leo
 Shubitowski, Michael
 Shubitowski, Victor
 Siemen, Gladys
 Siemen, Jos.
 Smalley, Theo.
 Socha, Dr. Edward
 Stapleton, Henry
 Stapleton, Jos.
 Starowski, August
 Starowski, Edward
 Stevens, Mrs. S.
 Suida, David
 Suida, John
 Suida, Thos.
 Sullivan, George
 Susalla, Robert
 Susalla, Theo.
 Toppin, Mrs. Irving
 True, Dale
 True, Galen
 Tschirhart, Mrs. Peter
 Tynan, Gerald
 Wagner, J. E.
 Walsh, Ed
 Wanke, Frank
 Wazia, Chas.
 Weber, Chris
 Wehner, Irene & Janet
 Wehner, Michael

Wehner, Rose
 Weins, Peter
 White, David
 White, Henry
 White, Wm.
 Wilkowski, Edw.
 Wilkowski, Leonard
 Wilkowski, Theo.
 Will, Benj.

Will, Grover
 Woods, Wm.
 Woodwoski, John
 Woodwoski, Floyd
 Wrobel, George
 Wrobel, Leo
 Zmich, Martin
 Zmich, Frances
 Zmich, Roman

1933

SENIOR HOLY NAME

George Wruble President
 Albert Lamb Vice President
 Frank Brieske Secretary & Treasurer

JUNIOR HOLY NAME

Junior Leitch President
 Stanley White Vice President
 Robert Engel Secretary
 Roman Ignash Treasurer

ALTAR SOCIETY

Mrs. Frank Chickonowski President
 Mrs. Joseph Jebraski Vice President
 Mrs. William Glass Secretary & Treasurer

SODALITY OF B. V. MARY

Lucy Eppenbrock President
 Clara Pawlowski Vice President
 Julia Caughell Vice President
 Frances Zmich Treasurer

CHILDREN OF MARY

Grace Laskey President
 Dorothy Schemanky Vice President
 Elizabeth Schmidt Secretary
 Hilda Capeling Treasurer

ORDER OF SERVICES

Sunday Masses - Low Mass, 8:30. High Mass, 10:30.
 Holy Days (Legal Holidays) - Low Mass, 8:30. High
 Mass, 8:00.
 Weekday Mass - 8:00 o'clock.
 Confessions - Saturday p.m., 3:00 to 5:00 o'clock.
 Eve, 7:00 o'clock.
 Thursday before 1st Friday - 3:30 to 5:00. Evening,
 7:00 o'clock.
 Vigil of Holy Days - 3:30 to 5:00. Evening, 7:00
 o'clock.
 Every morning before Weekday Mass.
 Baptisms by appointment
 Funerals by appointment.
 Holy Hour - Evening of 1st Friday, 7:30 to 8:30.

PARISH REGULATIONS

Every wage earner should retain a sitting in the church, and be a regular contributor in the envelope system, used for church support.

Pew Rent is payable quarterly, in advance, and if not paid at the close of the year, and no explanation rendered, the pew will be forfeited and re-rented.

SOCIETY COMMUNION SUNDAYS

First Sunday	Young Ladies' Sodality
Second Sunday	Holy Name
Third Sunday	Children of Mary
Fourth Sunday	Altar Society
Fifth Sunday	General Communion

"Come to Me all ye that labor, and are heavily burdened, and I will refresh you."

School Orchestra Organized

First music teacher when the Music Department was formed at Our Lady of Lake Huron School in 1926 was Sister Ann Lucille. Sister gave music lessons to any student or individual in this vicinity.

An orchestra was formed within the school and played at all the civic events in the area. Father Melvin always offered the services of "My Little Orchestra" at any gathering.

In the early 1930's a Junior and Senior Orchestra was made with the younger and older children being in their respective groups. At the close of each day the orchestra played a recessional march and the students marched out of school to the sound of music.

School students received their music lessons during school hours. Others had evening appointments or appointments on Saturdays. The Music Department brought in a substantial revenue towards operation of the school. Music lessons cost \$1.00 for one-half hour.

An announcement was made in the school announcements at the beginning of the 1936 school year stating that the Music Department would resume classes with the opening of school. It would offer to the public complete modern instruction in all the branches of musical training.

"Private lessons are given on piano, violin, and all orchestral instruments. Pupils of the Music Class are eligible for the Junior and Senior Orchestras conducted by the Department, and are all entitled to membership in St. Celilia's Club.

"Parents who take a deep interest in the education and training of their children and wish to secure for them all the cultural advantages which a musical training affords, will welcome this splendid opportunity which this Department offers. Parents of beginners and small children, and also older stu-

dents and adults who wish to continue or resume their study of music, are invited to call at the Convent or School to make arrangements for lessons.

Father A. L. Melvin was pastor when the Music Department was started in the school. He had a great love for music and encouraged children to receive musical training.



November Bazaar

The largest fund raiser in the early days of the new church in Father Melvin's time was the "November Bazaar." This was started by Father Fleming, just when, the writer is not sure. This "Bazaar" was a two-day affair just before Thanksgiving. A chicken dinner was served each night, after which the school orchestra played and the bazaar began. There was cold sweet cider for the kids donated by Michael Shubitowski. Sometimes it started to get a little "bite" to it and the kids bought more. The Holy Name Society was in charge of the raffle and the Altar Society took care of the delicious dinners. The raffle consisted of live turkeys, geese, ducks (always 2) or (2) chickens. Usually there were two spins of the wheel, and such enthusiasm and fun you have never seen before or since. The noise was deafening from the geese honking and roosters crowing, and the bellowing voice of the men selling their tickets. The prizes were most always donated either by the parishoners or the local merchants. Blankets ("All Wool" as the ticket seller would claim), ferns, coal, pillows, etc. We have duplicated a letter from Fr. Melvin to the parishoners as they prepared for the "November Bazaar" in 1932:

Our Lady of Lake Huron
Harbor Beach, Michigan
Nov. 7, 1932

Dear Parishoner:

Greetings and Best Wishes.

May I ask you to be generaoous and give your whole hearted cooperation to make

the "November Bazaar" a success? Kindly donate to the Church the following: 1 turkey, 1 goose, 2 ducks, 4 chickens, delivered to my garage Monday, November 21st afternoon or evening or Tuesday, November 22nd afternoon or evening; ducks and chickens packed in pairs, and turkeys and geese in cartons.

A special card will be mailed you requesting dressed chicken for supper.

Thanks for your generosity and God Bless you all.

FR. MELVIN

The crowds were large at the nightly gatherings, in fact the church basement was packed. There was no side door on the church basement as we see it today. All the people and fowl had to come into the basement by the stairway in the rear of the church or the furnace room door. The raffle wheel was placed at the east end of the basement and the other prizes were kept in the space under the vestibule of the church. The fowl was brought there from Father's garage by school boys via the side stairs in the back of the church. Because of the large crowds Fr. Melvin became worried of fire and had Albert Wehner build the side stairs leading to the outside, making another exit from the basement. Remember, these were days of depression, but the parishoners gave until it hurt. They had a choice of giving one type of fowl - they were not expected to give all that the letter states. Also, each family was expected to buy at least \$20.00 worth of raffle tickets.

Jack Kelly Stock Company

Back when many of us were youngsters in this community, Jack Kelly would hit town once a year to set up his big tent on the south side of State Street between Fourth and Fifth Street. People came from miles around to see the plays of this travelling stock company. From the name "Kelly" we can surmise that he and some of the troupe were good Irish Catholics. They always arranged to land in Harbor Beach for their week's stay on Saturday night and attended the 10:30 Mass Sunday at Our Lady of Lake Huron Church. The pastor, Father Melvin would give them a "plug" in his announcements for that Sunday. Sure to be remembered by many are the boxes of candy with the big prizes in them or the main comedian "Toby".

Do You Remember . . .

. . . when Father Melvin asked all the little boys to sit in the Sanctuary for Mass to make room for the adults in the body of the church? At that time

there were only two Masses on Sunday, and the church was usually overflowing, even with the chairs set up in the side aisles.

An Account of the 50th Anniversary in 1935

CATHOLIC CHURCH CELEBRATED FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

The Golden Jubilee of Our Lady of Lake Huron Church was celebrated Thursday, June 27th, at Harbor Beach.

The day was glorious, the setting, perfect. Most Rev. Joseph Plogens of Detroit, offered the Pontifical High Mass at the main altar, beautifully adorned and decorated with roses for the occasion.

His excellency was assisted by Rt. Rev. Msgr. James Stapleton as archpriest and Rev. Chas. Henigan as deacon and Rev. Wm. Hermes as sub-deacon of the mass, Rev. Raymond Fleming of St. Cecelia's church, Detroit, presented the Golden Jubilee sermon.

A large representation of priests, from all parts of the state, were present for the services and the most beautiful church in the Thumb district, was just a perfect setting for inspiration, beauty and grandeur that only a jubilee feast could present. A large number of non-Catholic friends being in attendance and were received and welcomed most cordially by the congregation at Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish.

After the mass the Bishop and the visiting priests were the dinner guests of the pastor at the Community House of Harbor Beach.

In the evening a parish program was presented at the Community House where all the parishoners and their friends and neighbors enjoyed a wonderful dinner and the program which followed was highly interesting.

Carl R. Mizener, in the absence of Mayor Wm. J. Engle, welcomed the visiting priesthood, and other visitors, on behalf of the city.

The speaker complimented the local parish - not because it had attained the age of 50 years, nor the fact that the church plant is modern in every respect - but on the fact that the church had taken care of the spiritual needs of its people in such a satisfactory manner over this period of time.

He also stated, in closing, and in a humorous vein, that it was the wish of the city that Father Melvin and the parish, would be able to celebrate at the completion of the next 50 years of work in like manner. Also that his old friend, Father Fleming, would be here at that time as well as Fr. Fitzpatrick of the Helena Church.

Fr. Marshke, formerly of SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Ruth, was toastmaster and he called on Fr.

Hermes, formerly of the Bad Axe Catholic Church, who took as his subject, "My Pal." He spoke in appreciation of his friendship of Fr. Melvin and told of an auto trip they made a few years ago to New York. While driving through the Catskill Mountains they saw a little log cabin, which upon investigation proved to be the first Catholic church of the mountain district. The doors and windows were boarded up and many of the former members were resting in the little church graveyard to its side. The speaker stated that in the course of time many of the members of Our Lady of Lake Huron church will be but a memory on earth but they will still be living spiritually in the future world.

Fr. Melvin responded and appealed to the spiritual life of not only his people of Our Lady of Lake Huron but to all the rest of us. It was a beautiful thought expressed in words.

The highlight of the entire program, at least it appealed to the writer that way, was the talk given by August Mausolf, the first altar boy of Our Lady of Lake Huron church. He told of the hardships experienced by priests of 50 years ago and also of the struggles the members of the parish experienced.

Mr. Mausolf started in with the visiting priests of 50 years ago and at the finish he was down to the present day.

Musical numbers were by Margaret Lunn, who gave a violin solo; cornet solo by William Cregeur, accompanied by Miss Bernice Cregeur; musical selections by Harold Roggenbuck and a piano duet by Miss Beatrice Cook and Miss Catherine Wagner.

Our Lady of Lake Huron orchestra composed of members of the music department furnished music for the happy occasion and added joy and pleasure to that memorable evening of jubilation.

Father Melvin, the host of the Golden Jubilee expresses his deep appreciation and gratitude to all the parishoners and friends who contributed in any way to make the spirit of the jubilee so wonderful and hopes that its marvelous spirit of faith, friendship and good will, will always be outstanding and permanent in the community of Harbor Beach.

PROGRAM OF GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS - 1935

Our Lady of Lake Huron parish celebrates its Golden Jubilee on Thursday, June 27th, with the following program:

Solemn Pontifical High Mass of Thanksgiving, Thursday, June 27th, 11:00 a.m.

Celebrant - Most Reverend Joseph C. Plagens, D. D.

Assistant Priest - Rt. Reverend Msgr. James Stapleton, L. L. D.

Deacon - Rev. Charles E. Henigan.

Subdeacon - Rev. John F. Linskey.

Assistant Deacons - Rev. Frank A. Skrzycki, L. L. D., Rev. Frank A. Pokriefka.

Master of Ceremonies - Rt. Rev. Msgr. William F. Murphy, D. D., Rev. Lawrence N. Rochon.

Crosier Bearer - Rev. William L. Hermes.

Mitre Bearer - Rev. Albert J. Geogre.

Book Bearer - Rev. Allen J. Babcock.

Candle Bearer - Rev. Joseph B. Marschke.

Thurifers - Rev. Frank W. Kaufmann, Rev. Louis M. Dion.

Acolytes - Rev. Harold J. Markey, Rev. Alphonse A. Kromka, Rev. Leo Dorsey, Rev. P.S. McGuinness, Rev. John G. McCullough, Rev. Bernard Geller.

Golden Jubilee Sermon - Fr. Fleming.

A parish dinner will be served at the Community House in the evening at 6:00 and the banquet will be followed by a Jubilee program.

Toastmaster - Rev. Jos. B. Marshke.

Selections - O.L.L.H. orchestra.

Address of Welcome - Hon Mayor Wm. J. Engle.

Golden Jubilee - Most Rev. Joseph C. Plagens, D. D.

Selection - Margaret Lunn.

Pioneer Days - Rt. Rev. Msgr. Stapleton.

Memories - Rev. Chas. Henigan

Selection - Bernice and Wm. Cregeur.

Friends - Rev. Raymond Fleming.

First Alter Boy - August Mausolf.

Selection - Harold Roggenbuck.

Old Pal - Rev. William Hermes.

Pastor - Father Melvin.

Selection - Beatrice Cook and Catherine Wagner.

Finale - O.L.L.H. orchestra.

The "finale" of the evening will be a dancing party in the Community gymnasium at Harbor Beach.

Fr. Melvin and the parishoners of Our Lady of Lake Huron extend a most cordial welcome and invitation to all friends and neighbors in the community and the Thumb district, to attend the Golden Jubilee celebration.

High Mass at Fiftieth Anniversary



This picture shows the present church interior at the time of the fiftieth anniversary of the parish. This was celebrated during Fr. Melvin's pastorship in 1935.

Father Marvin Brings Increased Focus To Catholic School Education

The appointment of Father James Marvin as pastor of Our Lady of Lake Huron in 1938 was followed quickly by the expansion of the parish school to a full 1-12 grade curriculum. That this achievement was a direct result of Father Marvin's leadership can be perhaps best seen in an excerpt taken from a parish history which he himself wrote in 1942:

"January 3, 1938, Father Melvin was succeeded by Rev. James J. Marvin. After careful study of the needs of the Parish, and the ability of its loyal faithful, he saw clearly the necessity, here as elsewhere, of more Catholic Education for the students of high school age. In these critical days when the Church is so cunningly and and universally attacked from without and from within, it is necessary to have well educated laymen and laywomen. Even a holy and learned priesthood cannot bear the burden without their help. Total war on Christ requires total defense on the part of all members of the Church. Under date of April 3, 1939, Bishop Murphy sent us these encouraging words: 'I am very much interested in what you say regarding the school at Harbor Beach, and hope that you will be able to carry out your plan for a complete High School course in your parish.' With the support of his Lordship's encouragement and unwavering decision, and also the dogged, stubborn stand of the loyal faithful of the parish, the first Catholic High School of the Thumb is a fact. 'Agenda Adimplere.'

The members of our first class go forth like thousands of others from Catholic High Schools to better serve God and Country. We pray that with the Divine Assistance, their good fathers and mothers, who have religiously dedicated their parenthood to Christ, may always, and especially at the hour of death, be consoled with the thought that their work will be carried on by loyal, capable, children."

And so we gather here the highlights of that time of school expansion . . . highlights which attest to a parish's conviction of the value of Catholic Education . . .

BISHOP MURPHY AUTHORIZES HIGH SCHOOL BEGINNING

Most Reverend William Murphy commended the people of Our Lady of Lake Huron for opening a high school when he visited the parish for Confirmation on September 18, 1938. He further urged the parishoners to give their whole-hearted cooperation to the education of their high school pupils as well as the grades.

In 1938-1939 the ninth grade class, consisting of eight boys and eight girls, was moderated by Sister Ann Elizabeth. The following year 1939-1940 Sister was homeroom teacher for the ninth and tenth grades - the combined group consisting of thirty students. It was this year that Father Marvin had science tables constructed and biological equipment and supplies procured. In October the high school boys solicited the parish for funds for Athletics and realized about \$100.00. This enabled O.L.L.H. to participate in the Basketball Program of the Thumb Tip League. Although the players won only one game, interest in interscholastic Athletics was well grounded. Arthur Engel, Irvin Romzek, Marie Grekowicz, and Evelyn Suida were voted to represent O.L.L.H. at the Summer School of Catholic Action in Detroit.

In 1940-1941 the school sported a much brighter coat after a summer paint job, but conditions were quite crowded with the addition of another grade. The total high school enrollment of grade homerooms with Sister M. Gerard as the class moderator. Sister Ann Elizabeth was homeroom teacher for the fourteen Juniors. During the year preparations were advanced for the building of additional classrooms to the school. During "The Hot Ship" and "Order in the Court". On February 20, the Juniors presented Father Marvin with \$50.00 toward the building fund for the new addition and forthwith enjoyed a free day.

On September 2, 1941 O.L.L.H. high school included grades nine and ten and Sister Gerard was homeroom teacher for the Junior and Senior grades. The total high school enrollment was 67. Sister Ann Elizabeth taught all the Religion and Commercial classes while Sister Elenita taught Music and English. Because of the incompleting building project it was necessary to prepare the furnace room as a classroom until the new addition was constructed. Today the "furnace room" is the Home Ec room downstairs. On January 5, 1942 the Sodality sponsored a house-warming dance commemorating the event of moving into the new high school building area. Major activities of the high school included: participation in a Declamation and Oratorical contest, honoring Our Lady with a May procession and

drowning, sponsoring a senior play, "My Wild Irish Rose", touring buildings at Lansing and Detroit on a Senior Trip, and initiating an annual Junior-Senior Prom and Banquet with the Gill McIntyre orchestra furnishing music. On June 14, 1942 the first graduation class assembled in O.L.L.H. Church. The Most Reverend William F. Murphy, Bishop of Saginaw gave the commencement address and conferred diplomas. This day marked the completion of Father Marvin's dream to begin a Catholic high school in Harbor Beach.

Father Marvin's Letter To Parishoners Asking Support For Building The High School . . .

Our Lady of Lake Huron
March 31, 1940

Dear Parishoners:

The Most Reverend William Murphy, D.D., Bishop of our Saginaw diocese, has given us permission to raise funds and plan an addition to our parish school. We need the space for the increasing number of our students; and it will be necessary for efficient work and for certification with the University of Michigan.

It is a small undertaking in comparison with the building of the church or school; but it is no easy task to raise eight thousand dollars in a parish such as ours.

We have been advised by the parish committee to ask each adult man and each lady with a purse of her own to sign a pledge. This was the method used successfully years ago, and is still used in most places for such projects. The form that each one will be asked to sign is found on the back of this report.

It is a sad situation, that although we have about three hundred families in our parish, only about half of them can be counted on for any substantial financial help. The parish has about doubled in size during the last generation, but the revenues do not increase according to our needs.

Much prayer, patience, and sacrifice will be required on the part of our good people. The records will show whether faith, loyalty, and generosity are in proportion to ability to support the Christian Education of our children. Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish has not failed in any previous undertaking, and we are confident it will not this time.

Devoted yours in Christ,
Father Marvin

HIGHSCHOOL ADDITION UNDER CONSTRUCTION (taken from the Harbor Beach Times) August 15, 1941

The new addition to the school building of Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic school was started the last of the week when the contractor, Hebner & Son, Bad Axe, started to dig the trenches for the foundation.

This addition will be 37 x 60 feet and will contain two class rooms, office and music room. It will be of one story, fire-proof, and will be so constructed that a second story can be added at some future time.

The exterior of the addition will conform to the original part of the building.

Rev. Fr. J. J. Marvin states that seven Sisters will teach in the school this coming school year. The same six who were here last year are returning. The additional Sister will be Sister Martina.

The contract calls for the completion of the building in 90 days after the start to excavate for the foundations. It is stated that some of the classes will be held in the basement of the church until the new building is ready.

The old boiler in the school building is being replaced by a new steel boiler which will be of the hot water type.

COMPLETED HIGHSCHOOL PROGRAM OPERATING IN 1942 (taken from school records)

Our Lady of Lake Huron School re-opens, Tuesday, September 2, 1942. The High School Department has now been extended through the twelfth grade. For the first time Our Lady of Lake Huron students have been offered the opportunity and advantages of graduating from their own Catholic High School.

Moral and religious development is combined with the best educational objectives today; namely, Self-Realization, Human Relationship, Economic Efficiency, and Civic Responsibility.

Uniformity in our schools is achieved through affiliation with the Detroit Archdiocese System of Education for Parochial Schools. In addition to this we will also be affiliated with the University of Michigan this year.

Besides educating the average student for economic well being in an American

Democracy, college preparatory courses are also offered; and Religion, the most important subject of the curriculum which modern educators are now recognizing, is combined with these to form the ideal education for your boy and girl.

"Efficient universal education is the mother of national prosperity."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Students and parishoners alike are eagerly watching the building project and are grateful for the zealous efforts of Reverend J. J. Marvin and for the interest he has taken in the Catholic youth of the parish.

Class of 1942



BERNARD
CREGEUR



JAMES
MAUSOLF



ARTHUR
ENGEL



MARGARET
MILLER



FRANK
GRATES



ROBERT
RINGWELSKI



MARIE
GREKOWICZ



BERNARD
SHUBITOWSKI



ROBERT
GREKOWICZ



JOSEPHINE
TSCHIRHART



FRANCES
LA MIELLE



DORIS
WHITE



MARIAN
WRUBEL

OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON HIGH SCHOOL

Program

Processional Meyerbeer
"Praise Ye the Father" Gounod
Choir

Veni Creator Spiritus
Address to Graduates
Most Reverend William Murphy, D.D.
Bishop of Saginaw

Presentation of Diplomas
Reverend James J. Marvin

Conferring of Diplomas
Most Reverend William Murphy, D.D.
"The Lord Bless You" Lutkin
Choir

Solemn Benediction
Panis Angelicus Franck
Tantum Ergo Silver
Adoremus - Laudate
Recessional Queen of Our Hearts
Holy God We Praise Thy Name
Reception for Graduates
School Auditorium

CLASS OF 1942

Bernard Cregeur	James Mausolf
Arthur Engel	Margaret Miller
Frank Grates	Robert Ringwelski
Marie Grekowicz	Bernard Shubitowski
Robert Grekowicz	Josephine Tschirhart
Frances La Mielle	Doris White
	Marian Wrubel

FIRST GRADUATION CLASS OF OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON TO RECEIVE DIPLOMAS SUNDAY (Article from Harbor Beach Times)

June 12, 1942

Our Lady of Lake Huron high school, the first Catholic high school in the Thumb region will graduate its first class, thirteen in number, Sunday, June 14th, at 8:00 p.m. Since this is our first graduation, we are highly privileged in having the Most Reverend William F. Murphy, D.D., Bishop of Saginaw, deliver the Baccalaureate address and confer the diplomas.

Many activities in honor of the graduating class have been planned for this week. On Tuesday afternoon the Seniors were hanged at an impressive ceremony. In answer to the summons to appear in court given them by the Juniors, the victims filed down to the school hall where the Juniors were assembled in state to bring charges against them. Sophomores and Freshmen were also present at the trial.

Irvin Romzek acting as judge, called the court to order; then the Juniors sang a song enumerating the misdeeds of each Senior while the guilty party in question stood. After the sentence of hanging had been passed, four Juniors carried the picture of the O.L.L.H. first graduating class, covered with a black cloth, in solemn procession around the hall to the music of a funeral march. The Juniors were followed by the Seniors and the student spectators. After hanging the picture in its place of honor in the hall of the new high school, Irvin Romzek, from his exalted position on the ladder, delivered a mock oration entitled, "Journalism" (with apologies to Shakespeare).

Thursday, June 11th, the Junior-Senior banquet was served, followed by a program in which the Class Will and Prophecy were read by Bernard Cregeur and Evelyn Suida. A farewell address to the Seniors was given by Irvin Romzek, and the response from the Seniors by Margaret Miller. After the singing of the class song, Reverend James J. Marvin concluded the program with an address to his first graduating class from Our Lady of Lake Huron high school.

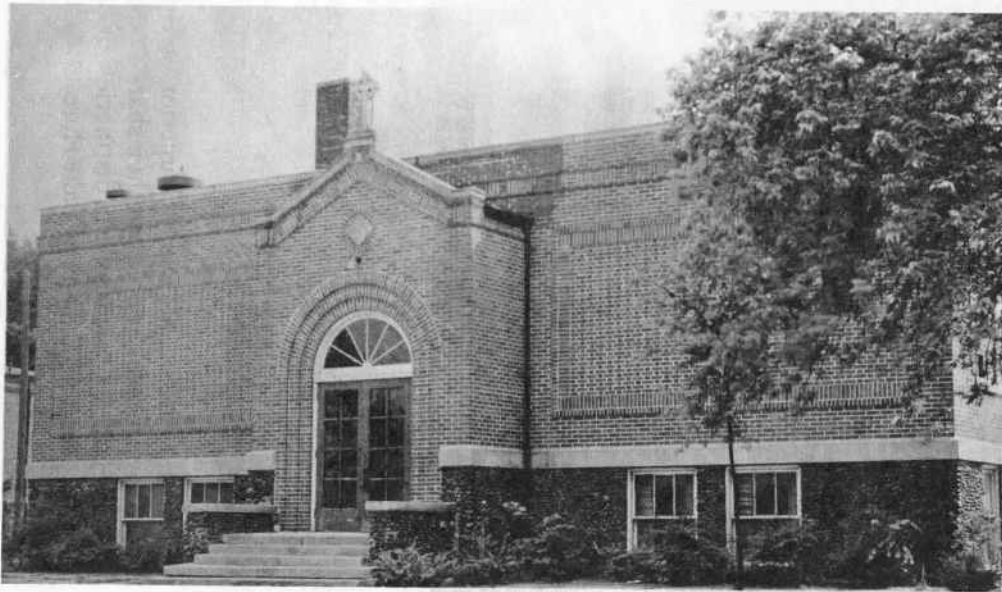
Immediately following the banquet, the Junior-Senior prom was held in the school hall, beautifully decorated in the class colors, maroon and silver. The Gil McIntyre orchestra was engaged for the evening. A dance program was previously planned containing many request numbers of which students were desirous. Systematic arrangements for a planned social activity ensured a happy time for all.

Sunday, June 14th, the Seniors, attired in caps and gowns of blue and white (Our Lady's colors) will assist at the Graduates' Mass and receive Holy Communion together. A Sophomore breakfast will be served in their honor after the morning ceremony.

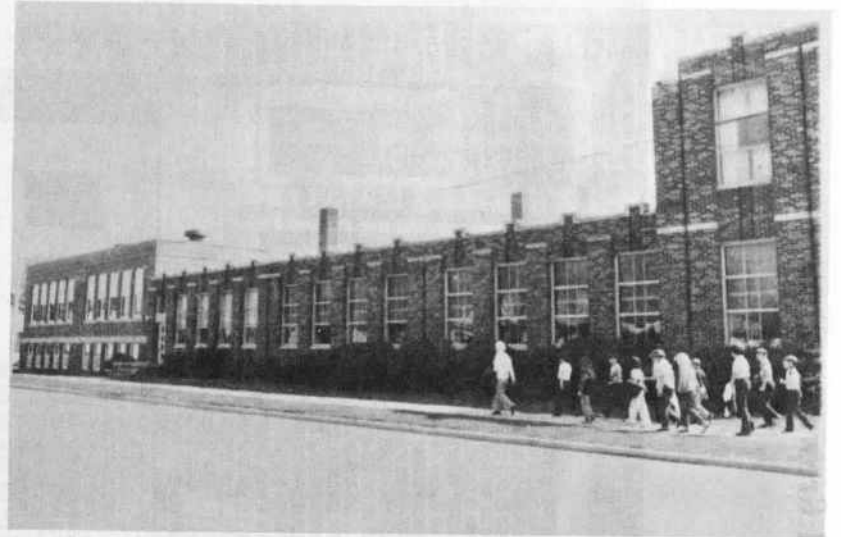
Sunday evening at 8:00 the Seniors receive their diplomas from the hands of their Bishop in an impressive ceremony and march forth from Our Lady of Lake Huron school with gratitude in their hearts towards Father Marvin, the Sisters, their parents, and all those who have made it possible for them to have the advantages of a Catholic high school education.

The commencement program and pictures of the graduates are on page four.

Views of First School and Succeeding Additions



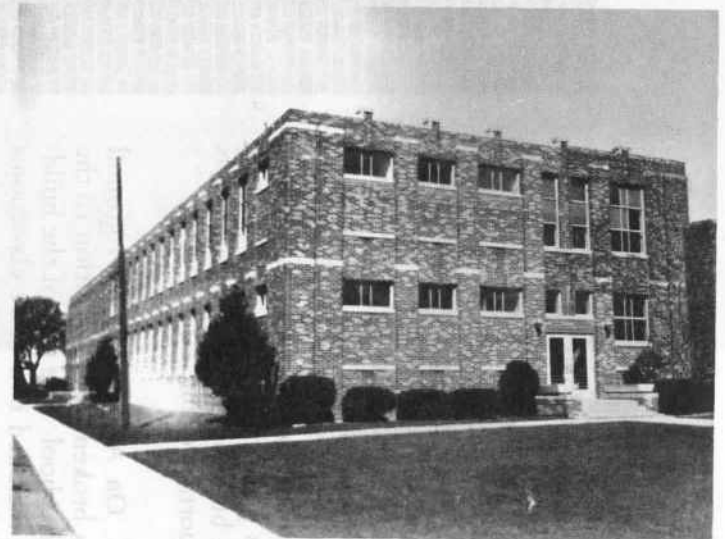
First school built 1923 - 1924



Second and third addition 1947 and 1951



First addition 1941



Fourth addition (completion of school) 1955

School Grows

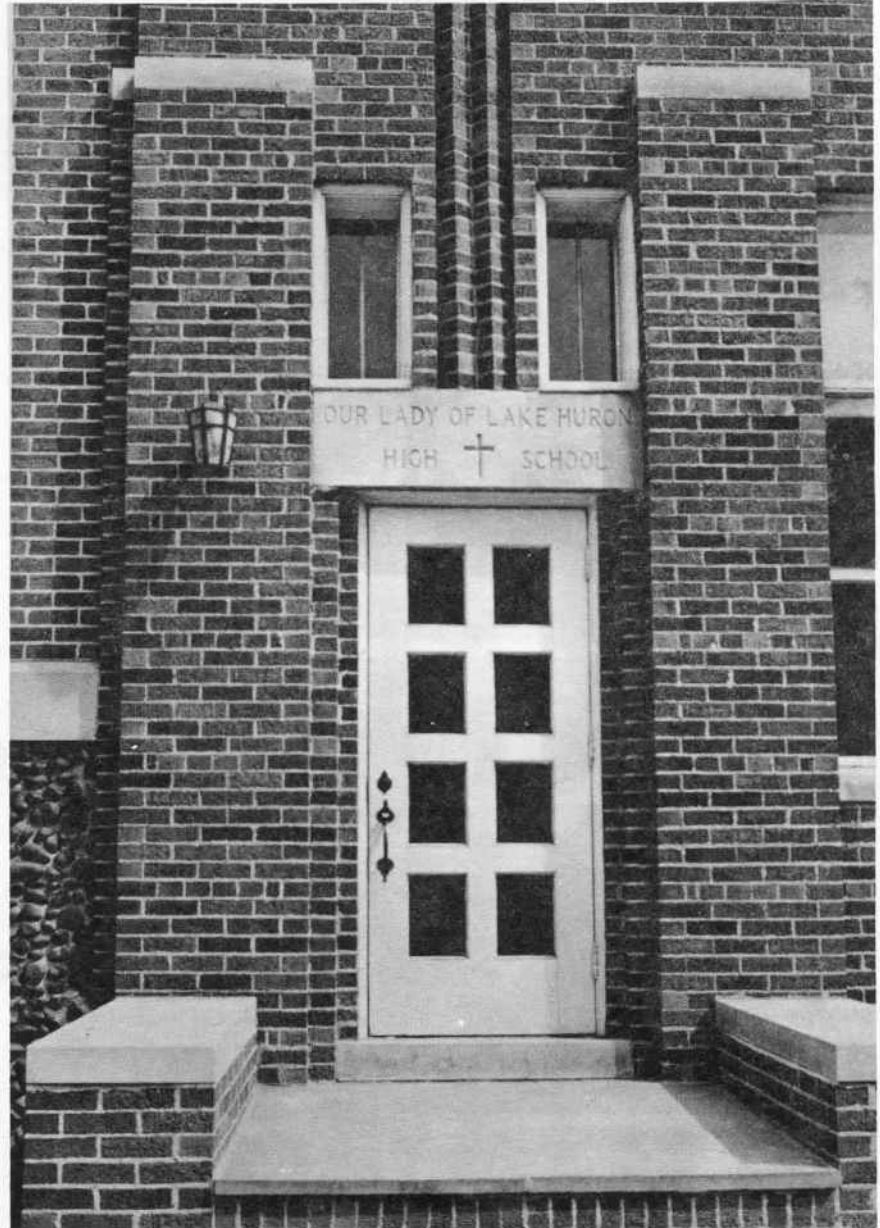
SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

The first part of the High School building (the present seventh and eighth grade rooms) was completed in December of 1941. On December 23 classes moved into this new section for the first time. An engraved stone reading: Our Lady of Lake Huron High School was placed above the west door of the building to commemorate this important event.

On August 30, 1947 ground was broken for an addition to the high school. This part of the building included two more classrooms which are currently being used as the library and a study. This section was ready for use during the 1947-1948 school year.

The third part of the building was begun on April 2, 1951. It included the present lab, room 103, the Principal's office, and girl's lavatory.

The final addition which includes the entire east wing of the building was blessed by Father Marvin on January 10, 1955. Our Lady of Lake Huron High School building was now completed.



Sports At Our Lady of Lake Huron School

In the late 1920's Our Lady of Lake Huron Grade School had a sports program consisting of baseball, football, and basketball. Their opponents were the public school Junior High coached by Oscar Hess. Coach of Our Lady team was Harold

Brown. The team was of superior strength and quality and won more than their share of the games.

Harold Brown has the distinction of being the first coach at Our Lady of Lake Huron Grade School.

HIGHSCHOOL BASKETBALL STARTED OCTOBER 1939



1940 - 41 TEAM

First basketball team of Our Lady of Lake Huron High School: Kenneth Wrubel (8), Floyd Koss (4), Robert Grekowicz (6), Robert Woods (3), Frank Grates (9), Arthur Engel (7), Mark Connors (5), Robert Veldman back row, center. Junior Varsity Team (not shown) were: James Engel, Norbert Ringwelski, Melvin Kociba, Harold Eppenbrock, Irvin Romzek, Arthur Grates, Leonard Livingston, and Raymond Olshove. Coach was Leonard DeFrain.

BASKETBALL AT O.L.L.H.

In October 1939, fourteen boys ventured under efficient management to raise funds sufficient to build up a treasury for basketball. Their efforts were rewarded. They were able to procure \$100.00 for the best. Eight games were scheduled in the Thumb Tip Athletic Association. That year was a very discouraging one since the boys were coping with juniors and seniors of other schools, while they themselves were only freshmen and sophomores. The result was 8 games lost, 1 won. The following year 1940-41, again under the efficient coaching of Leonard DeFrain, the boys showed great improvement. They were classified in the Eastern Thumb Conference and scheduled 15 games for the season, winning approximately half of them.

The past year 1941-42 showed still greater improvement than any previous year. One and only one opponent stood in our way in the Eastern Thumb Conference and that one was Carsonville. In this league we maintained 2nd place losing only two games and both of these to Carsonville. We had the pleasure of overpowering our erstwhile opponent, Port Austin, in the most spectacular game

of the season. We had played 7 games during the past three years with that excellent team, being defeated each time. Can you forget that memorable night when we at last were the victors and they the losers? We'll never forget it. We also played Elkton, a Class C school, defeating them by 5 points. Then came the end of the season. We had won now eleven of the fifteen games played. Every boy was at his best. The tournament was at hand. Would we come through on top? We hoped so. We were scheduled to meet Ubyly then Port Austin once more, and finally Bay Port. Spirits were high. Many said we'd never beat Port Austin again. We did it, but at what a cost. We were so worn out by the time we should meet our final opponents, that again we fell into second place. The trophy went to Bay Port, not because they were a better team, but because they were more fortunate in drawing easier matches. We rejoice with you, Blue and White, that you have played so fairly and have at your Senior Year evinced a splendid sportsmanship, excellent team work, and quiet renown in your community.

GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL STARTED IN 1943

Girls' Basketball was organized at Our Lady of Lake Huron School in January of 1943. Class teams were formed under the direction of Miss Marjorie Juida (Mrs. Clarence Wruble) and Miss Genevieve Capling (Mrs. Bela Jenks), who assisted her.

The girls played Lexington, Minden City, and Ubyly high schools for experience the first year. This being their first year on the court in competition, their victories were very slim, none in fact, but the school had a word of encouragement for them for doing their best and showing a keen interest and fine spirit in girls' athletics. The outlook was brighter for the next year.

Those on the first team of Girls' Basketball at OLLH were: Betty Miller, Lucy Wrubel, Rosemary Capling, Lillian Grates, Kathleen Wehner, Lorraine Tschirhart, Evelyn Suida, Betty Suida, Delores Kanthak, Mary Glass, Patricia Pawlowski, Victoria Gornowich, Ann Shubitowski.

REFLECTION FORTY YEARS LATER

The first Girls' Basketball Team was formed in 1942 - '43. We had a problem obtaining uniforms so we made our own from a pattern. Everyone cut and sewed, especially the nuns.

Home games were held at the Community House gym. Father Marvin always attended and sat in the center balcony and smiled benignly throughout the entire game. Away games were held in old deserted township halls or abandoned churches.

Our cheerleaders were boys. We didn't win any games that first year, but we had a lot of fun.

Mary Glass Willett

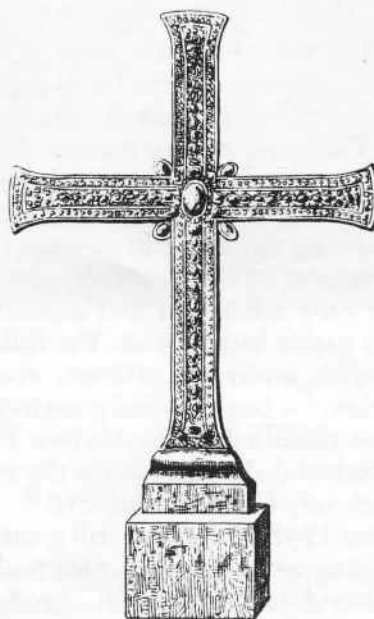


**LEONARD "PIC"
DEFRAIN
HAD BEEN
COACHING
MANY YEARS**

When the name "Pic" or "Coach" is mentioned at any gathering of OLLH High School graduates, the interest rises as the men begin to think back to their days of basketball at Our Lady of Lake Huron and their beloved coach Leonard "Pic" DeFrain.

Leonard was the coach of the first basketball team in 1939 and over the years has had many winners. He was always well respected by the boys and seemed to have a way with them that brought out the desire to play on for victory. Even after the high school closed, "Pic" continued on coaching and teaching the finer points of the game to young boys in the local gym.

From all those young lads that were coached by Coach Leonard DeFrain we hear: "Thanks Coach and Happy Retirement."



Lest We Forget

Although Father Marvin gave consistent and determined leadership towards quality Catholic Education, we would be wrong to conclude that his vision was blind to other needs. The following are but a few examples of his determined leadership manifesting itself in other areas of pastoral concern:

Mission At Port Hope?

Shortly after Father Marvin's transfer to Our Lady of Lake Huron, he had the vision that a Catholic Church was needed in the Port Hope area. When a few dollars became available a few years later, he tried to buy a piece of property on the corner of Kinde Road and U.S.-25 (now known as M-25) but did not succeed. He finally bought property to the South of Porth Hope, across the road to the North of the airport. This property is still owned by the church today, although nothing has been done to it and it is in sad condition at present.

Father Marvin was always thinking ahead, and when he learned that the steeple from the Lutheran church one mile West of Halfway Corners was to be torn down and the church made into a home, he bought the church bell. It was stored in the church basement many years waiting for the mission to be built in Port Hope. Today, with travel made so easy, the mission idea is not necessary, but at the time he bought the property there were many Catholics in the Port Hope area that would have appreciated their own mission. The bell was sold during the preparations for the nation's bi-centennial in 1976 and was used on a float depicting the liberty bell.

Attention To History

At the time of the first highschool graduation in 1942, a memorial booklet was published under Father Marvin's watchful care. Included in the booklet was a well researched history of the early days of Our Lady of Lake Huron. It was Father Marvin himself who spent his time and energy to compile this history. It has been quoted frequently throughout this book, and remains as another lasting gift which Father Marvin gave his parish.

Comments from Harbor Beach Times
April 13, 1951

REV. JAMES J. MARVIN

Rev. James J. Marvin, pastor of Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church is observing his thirty-second anniversary in the Priesthood this Friday, April 13.

Father Marvin's first undertaking upon appointment to Our Lady of Lake Huron in 1938 was to start a Catholic high school by adding the ninth grade and an additional grade each year.

On June 14, 1942 the first class was graduated from OLLH. It was also the first class to be graduated from a Catholic high school in the Thumb of Michigan. The late Most Reverend Wm. F. Murphy, D.D., Bishop of Saginaw gave the address and presented the diplomas.

An extensive school building program was started and even today an addition is being readied for use by the beginning of the fall term. The school has grown steadily. Bus routes had to be established to transport the large number of pupils. The school is on the accredited list of the University of Michigan.

The parish continued to grow and soon became too large an undertaking for Father Marvin alone. On August 5, 1944, Rev. Frederick J. Maynard, A.M. was appointed first Assistant Pastor.

Shortly after the appointment of Fr. Maynard, St. John's at Forestville was transferred from the Ruth parish to Our Lady of Lake Huron, as a Mission, and has been served by the Assistant Pastors.

The beautiful stained glass windows in the church, donated by members of the parish, were installed under the direction of Fr. Marvin as was the installing of a new pipe organ, another donation by members of the parish. The windows finally completed the church building, for they were a part of the original plans.

This past winter the interior of the church was re-decorated to make it one of the most beautiful Catholic churches in the Thumb.

The most recent act, as additional proof of the foresight of Fr. Marvin, is the addition of another Sunday Mass. Masses are now said at 6:30; 7:30; 8:30 and 10:30.

One of the first statements made by Fr. Marvin on his arrival here in 1938 was that the Parish would continue to grow and that the necessary arrangements would have to be made to keep up with the growth.

Looking back the past years it is understandable that the growth of the parish is due mainly to the efforts, the patience and the understanding of Father Marvin.

Church Improvements

Giving his attentive eye to the furnishings of our place of worship, Father Marvin sponsored consecutive drives for the completion of the stained glass windows, the purchase of a new pipe organ, and the installing of the electric bell ringer. (No more swinging from the bell rope!)

The first stained glass windows to be placed in the church (1917) were:

Rose window of Christ & St. John, donated by the Charles Caughell family.

Choir loft triple window of Christ & St. Peter, donated by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Shubitowski, Mr. & Mrs. Francis Grimley, and the Rev. R. T. Fleming.

Windows depicting the Annunciation, donated by Mrs. Theresa O'Berski and Mr. & Mrs. John Brennan.

During Fr. Marvin's pastordship, the remaining stained glass windows were installed, depicting other scenes from our Catholic tradition. The following parishoners donated towards these additional windows:

Thomas & Julia Brodbeck (in memorium)
William & Martha Hessling (in memorium)
Edward & Blanche Dropiewski
Michael & Theresa Wehner Jr.
William & Josephine Glass
The Holy Name Society
Barney B. & Mary Holdwick (in memorium)
Joseph Holdwick (in memorium)
Christian Mothers Altar Society 1943
John & Theresa Kanthak, Jr.
Rudolph & Josephine Schulte
Frank Grekowicz Family
Henry & Mary Hessling (in memorium)
Martin & Gertrude Mausolf (in memorium)
Joseph & Lena Roggenbuck (in memorium)

Donars of the Verdin Bell Ringer:

Christian Mothers Altar Society
Kowalski, John & Rose
Holy Name Society
Armitage, Elliot & Emma
Armitage, James & Bertha
Brise, Joseph & Mary
Cook, Phillip & Gladys
Essenmacher, Joseph & Virginia
Hanlon, Charles & Esther
Junior Class 1953
Kirsch, Emil & Mary
Koss, Edward & Mary
Koss, Peter F.
Koss, William & Frances
Morgan, Joshua & Lillian
Pawlowski, Clemens & Anna
Roggenbuck, Paul & Rachel

Rushford, Andrew & Freida
Schnell, Leo & Theresa
Schroeder, Edward & Mary
Senior Class of 1953
Stapleton, Joseph & Clara
Suida, David & Susie
Tageson, Martin & Emma
Zmich, Martin & Josephine
Zmich, Roman & Josephine

Donors of the Kilgen Pipe Organ were:

Robert & Gertrude Staroske
Edward & Blanche Dropiewski
(in memory of Michael & Theresa Wehner)
Paul & Rose Wehner
Christian Mothers Altar Society
Edward & Blanche Dropiewski
Victor & Anna Schubitowski
George & Caecelia Wruble
Martin & Josephine Zmich
Joseph & Mary Brisse
Charles & Etta Caughell
Martin & Joshephine Glass
Frank & Mark Grates
Leo & Ida Guitar
Charles & Esther Hanlon
John & Mary Hanlon
High School Choir
Holy Name Society
James Martin Konkel
Peter Koss
John & Rose Kowalski
Peter & Rose Lamielle
George & Josephine Laskey
Arthur & Lucy Mausolf
Neil Leitch Family
Mrs. Lina Lermont
Ralph & Julia Paul
Joseph & Helen Ringwelski
Albert & Mary Scholtz
Michael & Theresa Wehner
Roman & Josephine Zmich

Justice Frank Murphy Funeral Service

On Saturday, July 23, 1949, Our Lady of Lake Huron church was filled to capacity and the choir loft had standing room only for the funeral of Justice Frank Murphy. Many national and state dignitaries were present to pay their last respects. The Solemn High Mass was chanted by the pastor, Fr. James J. Marvin.

Pallbearers, carrying the jurist's casket, were Governor G. Mennen William, Circuit Judge Ira W. Jayne, Isadore Levin, James H. Lincoln, Edward G. Kemp, William Skrzycki and Norman Hill. His body

was laid to rest in the family plot at Rock Falls Cemetery (Our Lady of Lake Huron Church Cemetery) overlooking Lake Huron.

Four of Justice Murphy's colleagues were present. They were: Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson and Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter, Hugo Black and Wiley Rutledge. Solicitor General Philip Pellman of the United States also attended. A representative of the Philippines was also present. The Congressional delegation included Representatives Louis C. Rabout, John D. Dingell, and Paul W. Shafer.

Detroit sent scores of leaders to the funeral of their former Mayor including Harry F. Kelly, former Governor of Michigan.

In his eulogy Father Marvin said, "Justice Murphy carried his Christian principles into his everyday life."



FRANK MURPHY
1890 - 1949

The End of An Era

Rev. James J. Marvin, 73, pastor of Our Lady of Lake Huron Church for over 25 years, died Sunday night in St. Joseph's Mercy hospital, Ann Arbor, after a long illness.

The remains were removed to Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church Tuesday at 2 p.m. to lie in state.

On Wednesday, a Solemn High Mass was chanted at 9 a.m. for pupils of the school. The office of the dead was said at 10:30 a.m. followed by a solemn high mass at 11 a.m.

At noon on Wednesday the remains were removed to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Adrian for a Solemn High Mass Thursday at 11 a.m. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery.



Inside view of Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church during High School Graduation in June, 1962.
Rev. Father James J. Marvin, Celebrant

1960's Bring Winds of Change

Perhaps in the life of a parish, as in the life of an individual, our success in dealing with early challenges prepares us for the continuing struggles which present themselves in maturing years. If this is true, then the growth of OLLH parish is no exception. As Father Marvin failed in health, giving in finally to retirement in 1963, many facets of events were causing new challenges for his beloved congregation. It was Father Cornelius McEachin who came to take the helm of leadership as the parish struggled to respond to the realities of a changing world.

Blessed Virgin Atop Bell Tower

About the time of the appointment of Fr. McEachin to our parish in 1963, a group of parishioners had the idea of putting a statue of the Blessed Virgin atop of the church bell tower. Father "Mac" gave his approval and the task was easily completed as the scaffolding was already in place for the workmen repairing the brickwork on the church. This was all paid for by private donations. Now the Statue and Church tower can be seen from far out in the lake and beckons the marine traffic to Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church for divine worship.

Sinking of The Daniel J. Morrell

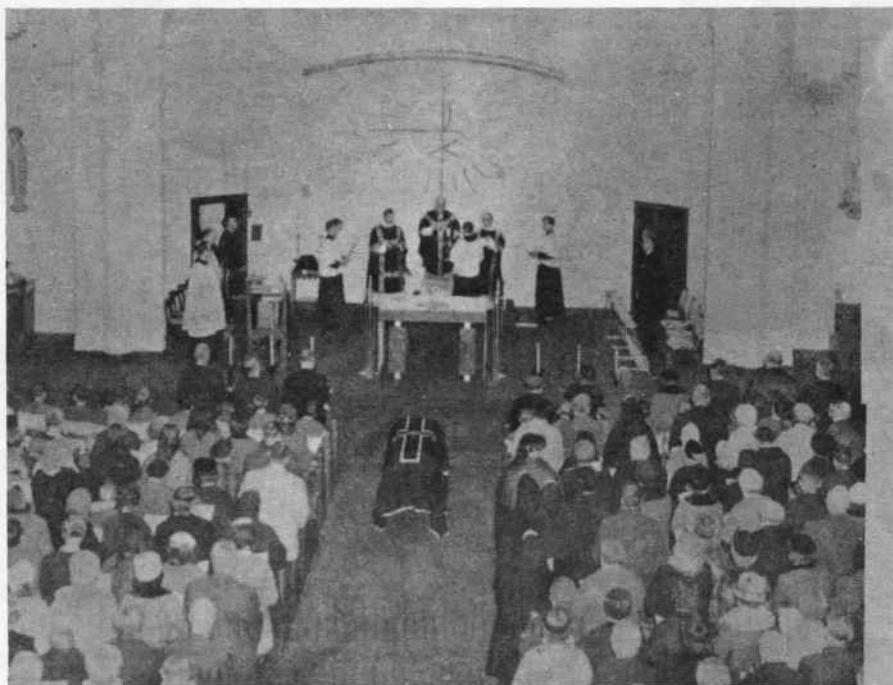
The community of Harbor Beach received the shocking news of the sinking of the freighter Daniel J. Morrell shortly after noon on November 30, 1966. The freighter broke in half in the heavy seas and sank some 36 hours earlier. One crewman was rescued and 28 lost their lives.

Inter-faith Memorial Services were held in Our Lady of Lake Huron Church for the 28 men who lost their lives. The services were attended by more than 650 people from Harbor Beach and vicinity. Father McEachin, assisted by other priests — Rev. Charles Johnson, Presbyterian minister and Rev. David Miller, Baptist minister, officiated. Rev. Merle Nichols of the First Methodist Church and Father Arnold Messing were also present in the Sanctuary. The congregation consisted of persons of all denominations, gathered for a common cause, to pay trib-

ute to 28 brave men.

The funeral rite day was proclaimed "Daniel J. Morrell Memorial Day" by Mayor Edward Jerome. All schools and stores were closed for the service. After his rescue from the frigid waters of Lake Huron, he asked Fr. McEachin "Why am I alive?" And was told quite simply "Because it is God's will." Dennis Hale's home was in Ashtabula, Ohio. He survived a 36-hour ordeal in a life raft with three others who were all dead from exposure when found.

Father McEachin said that the little lake shore community of Harbor Beach is taking this latest tragedy in a "subdued" spirit. "It is quite natural that they should. Many sailors make their homes here . . . many of this town's men are sailors on the Great Lakes," he said.





REMODELED CHURCH

The church interior was remodeled in 1966 during Fr. McEachin's pastorship. The remodeling was done in accordance with the directives from the Second Vatican Council, affecting all parishes at that time.

A Launch Into Shared Time

Seeking to respond to the signs of the time in education, Our Lady of Lake Huron Highschool entered into a "shared time" arrangement with the Harbor Beach Community Highschool to provide for advanced academic classes for OLLH students. The program drew national attention as a model of public-parochial cooperation. Following are excerpts from an article printed in *Sign Magazine*, March, 1965 . . .

(Editor's note: Richard Scholtz is the son of John and Helen Scholtz of our parish.)

President Johnson has opened a new era of co-operation between public and parochial schools that can revolutionize American education. The program involves direct aid to school districts which are making their services available to parochial schools and looms, therefore, as the long-awaited breakthrough in the impasse over federal aid to parochial schools.

The most important partnership between public and parochial schools is "shared time," which the federal government has placed in the center of its education aid program. The formula is simple and is already being applied by communities in thirty-five states. Students from a Catholic elementary or secondary school attend a public school part-time, in order to benefit from facilities, courses, and teachers not available in their Catholic schools. Soon thousands – if not hundreds of thousands – of students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools may become shared-time students like Richard Scholtz of Harbor Beach, Mich.

Richard Scholtz of Harbor Beach, Mich. is a college-bound highschool senior who recently brought home an unusual report card. It was from two schools. His Catholic school graded him (in blue ink) for physics and mechanical drawing.

This is shared time in a nutshell: one student in two schools. For Richard, it means combining the best of two school worlds, a combination that plays a leading part in President Johnson's federal program to aid education. That Presidential program has been called "political alchemy," for it managed to win support from both sides in the controversy over federal aid to parochial schools. It is a compromise that has satisfied some opponents of federal aid to parochial schools, while offering enough to gain

qualified approval from proponents of such aid.

Young Richard is surrounded by the benefits of public-parochial co-operation. The public-school bus delivers him to the church door each school morning to attend Mass with the student body of Our Lady of Lake Huron School. At least once every schoolday at the parochial school, he has a half-hour educational TV lesson produced by the Central Michigan Educational Council – to which both Catholic and public schools belong. His mornings are spent at the Catholic school; most of the afternoons at the public school.

Of 187 students in the Catholic school, 140 are involved in shared time to some extent. Freshmen and sophomores take physical education at the public school. Other students take shop courses, vocational agriculture, mechanical drawing, physics, and advanced biology. All facilities at the public school are available to them, including the library and the labs. They can even join the clubs at the public school. A special section of public school books is also maintained at the Catholic school library, a gesture that anticipates another part of the Johnson program. A \$100 million program provides for the purchase of library books and textbooks for parochial as well as public schools.

School Board Organized

The first meeting of the OLLH School Board was called to order by Father McEachin on September 2, 1965. This was an organizational meeting. Those present were: Fr. McEachin, pastor; Mother Superior James Mary, high school principal; Sister Irviline, grade school principal. Appointed members from the parish were: Philip Cook, Robert Juth, Chester Schmalz, Clarence Wruble, Dr. Arnold Hentschl, Father John Rushman, Representative from St. Anthony, Helena; Sister Mary, Parisville, and Sister Delbert Marie.

The aim of this school board was a continuation of Catholic Education in this area at a time when the Parochial schools were finding it very difficult to keep going because of the increasing financial strain. Combining of the Catholic schools of OLLH, Helena St. Anthony and possibly Parisville St. Mary was one possible solution to this problem. Eventually St. Mary continued on with their own school of Catholic Education and the

students of St. Anthony in Helena and Our Lady of Lake Huron were integrated into one school system with the help of a shared time program already begun with the Harbor Beach Community School for the High School Students.

This arrangement postponed the closing of the OLLH High School until 1970 when financial problems forced the decision to close the high school and continue on with the Catholic Grade School at Our Lady of Lake Huron. Helena St. Anthony has been a part of the parish school system since that time and contributes on a tuition basis to cover the expense of their students.

Today the OLLH School system with the aid of St. Anthony in Helena operates with mostly lay personnel and one sister. The financial situation, although not good, seems to be sufficient to carry on. The school board continues to function diligently to support and oversee the school operation.

Church Committee Replaced By Parish Council

Responding to the directives of the Second Vatican Council calling for a wider involvement of the laity in parish leadership, Father McEachin initiated the formation of a Parish Council to function as a leadership body within the parish. Dr. Arnold Hentschl was requested to draft the original constitution, which was then accepted by a general parish vote in 1970.

Asked for his reflections back on this process, Arn Hentschl offered this comment:

“It was the general intent of the pastor and the Church Committee of that time to involve the laity in a more dynamic way in parish activities. The Parish Council Constitution was drafted without the benefit of a precedent document. It was designed to give the parish members, priests, and religious a method of operation previously not enjoyed by those parties.”

Closing of OLLH Highschool

After thirty-one years of blessed work for the Catholic youth, the dream of Father Marvin, and the fruit of many sacrifices of OLLH parishoners, the high school was closed due to economic reasons. The last graduating class was in 1970 with forty-three graduates. From 1942-1970, a total of 859 graduates passed through the doors of OLLH.

Article from Harbor Beach Times . . .

“Confirm Closing OLLH High School”

Father Bela Torok, pastor of Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church, announced Sunday, February 8, 1970, that Our

Lady of Lake Huron High School will close at the end of the school year.

The official announcement follows: “After many hours of study and consultation, it has been decided that Our Lady of Lake Huron High School will terminate in June of 1970.

Insufficient enrollment, the unavailability of teaching Sisters to staff the high school, and shortage of financial resources are all existing factors which make it necessary to discontinue the high school.”

This decision was formally announced by the Diocesan Board of Education on February 3, 1970 at their regular monthly meeting in Essexville. Father Bela Torok made the announcement to the people of OLLH Parish on Sunday, February 8, at the Masses.

A Village of 2,000 Loses Cage Dynasty Special to the Free Press

HARBOR BEACH – Inflation and the higher cost of education have caught up with Harbor Beach Our Lady of Lake Huron High School. The Trojans will play their final home basketball game Saturday night, against Carsonville.

More than 1,500 fans in this village of 2,000 will jam the Harbor Beach High gym to bid farewell to a 31-year athletic dynasty.

Our Lady was always a Class D school, but its teams and athletes were among the best in the Thumb area. A 10-player All-Star squad has been selected, covering the 31 years, and these 10 players will be presented awards at halftime ceremonies. Two of the 10 are deceased but will be represented by their families.

Also honored posthumously will be three members of the first OLLH basketball team in 1939-1940. These three players, Bob Pawlowski, Bob Ringwelski and Frank Grates, were killed in World War II.

A souvenir program will be given to all who attend the game.

Graduates

1942 - 13	1949 - 25	1956 - 34	1963 - 33
1943 - 13	1950 - 27	1957 - 39	1964 - 45
1944 - 14	1951 - 20	1958 - 36	1965 - 43
1945 - 18	1952 - 24	1959 - 27	1966 - 47
1946 - 21	1953 - 22	1960 - 33	1967 - 32
1947 - 21	1954 - 22	1961 - 32	1968 - 41
1948 - 22	1955 - 30	1962 - 39	1969 - 43
			1970 - 43
29 - Commencements; 859 - Graduates			

Last High School Graduating Class of OLLH - 1970

William Dolan - President
Karen Currie - Vice President

Elaine Kociba - Secretary
Gordon Essenmacher - Treasurer

Lloyd Booms
Leslie Booms
Douglas Braun
Jessica Capling
Laura Cregeur
Magdalen Essenmacher
Barbara Gentner
Glenn Ginther
Duane Guza
Doris Klaska

John Mausolf
James Mausolf
Marilyn Mausolf
William Mausolf
Duane Murawske
Kenneth O'Neil
Craig Palach
Herbert Roggenbuck
Marjorie Samulski
Mark Schmalz

Arlene Kociba
Elizabeth Klebba
Daniel Kosal
Marvin Kramer
Paul Lautner
Fred Learman
Randy Lemanski
Joseph Lemanski
Susan Maurer

David Schulte
Diane Siemen
Sherry Siemen
Chris Schumacher
Maureen Stapleton
Randy Wolschleger
Thomas Wood
Judi Ulfig

Catholic School Education Continues

The loss of the parish highschool has not daunted enthusiasm for quality catholic education. In recent years Our Lady of Lake Huron gradeschool has continued to flourish as the result of wide spread parish support.

Kindergarten Added . . .

In 1974, Fr. Torok organized the first kindergarten class with 27 students enrolled. The former Home Ec. Room was converted into the Kindergarten Room, with furniture appropriate to their size. During the Golden Jubilee celebration in 1975, Bishop Reh dedicated the Kindergarten Room in

memory of Fr. James Marvin. Ms. Charlotte Ford was hired as the first Kindergarten teacher, and under her care the program has continued to flourish.

Golden Jubilee . . .

By the 1975-76 academic year the school boasted an enrollment of 192 students for grades K-8. On November 23, 1975, the Golden Jubilee of the school was marked by a reunion of over 900 former students and teachers. Bishop Reh celebrated the Jubilee Mass with Fr. Torok, tours were conducted throughout the school, and a luncheon was served.



Present School Program

At the present time the enrollment of Our Lady of Lake Huron School is 168 students in grades Kindergarten through Eighth. Throughout the years the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, have staffed the school, but in recent years lay teachers have increasingly taken on this role.

The school offers a strong religious, academic, and athletic program for each student in every grade. Even State Assessment Results have indicated our school as one of the best in the area scholastically.

The classrooms themselves are large, well equipped and include separate Library, Art, Music, Home Ec and Science Rooms. A large playground

is located a half block from the school. The cafeteria, which is located in the church basement, serves 100 - 120 meals daily.

Although many schools have experienced steadily declining enrollment the past few years, we at OLLH have had quite the opposite situation. An enrollment of 182 students is projected for the coming 1982-1983 school year, which represents a nine percent increase. With a local and national resurgence towards a strong basic education, our school will continue to provide a quality experience of learning to parish children for many years to come.

Those Who Have Served Us Well . . .

No commemoration of our school would be complete without tribute to those highly dedicated persons who throughout the course of its history have given to the school their energetic service. In gratitude for all that they have given to us, we present for you a listing of the religious and lay teachers who have served at OLLH:

IHM SISTERS WHO SERVED AT OUR LADY OF LAKE HURON Harbor Beach, Michigan 1924/1982

1924/26	Teresita Breen*	1946/52	Frances Albert Schaldenbrand*
1924/33	Alethe Fitzaptrick	1947/50	Carmella Kusman
1924/26	Verena Gignac*	1947/50	Ann Charles (Marian) Rollison
1924/25	Mary Andrew Noonan*	1948/52	Cecilia Marie (Patricia) Rowland
1925/26	Maurice Alger*	1949/52	Joanella Dutkowski
1925/30	Mary Esdras Cronin*	1949/55	Ann Loretta Murphy
1926/32	Agnella Bullinger*	1949/52	Clementia Seneski
1926/27	Margaretta Henry*	1950/56	Jeremiah (Agnes) Conlon
1926/33	Anne Lucille Sullivan*	1950/56	Rose Magdalen Heuser
1927/34	Mary Casmir Marshke*	1950/51	Catherine Marie (Catherine) Lenihan
1931/36	Mary Alvin (Loretta Mary) LaPointe	1950/51	DeLaSalle (Eileen) Semonin
1932/38	Sophia Fox*	1951/53	Mary Roland (Mary Gil) Dumont
1933/38	Susanne Krupp	1951/56	Fidelma LaJeunesse
1933/35	Regina Marie Schmit	1952/53	Elise Anter
1934/37	Alice Marie	1952/56	Eleanor Sekol
1935/40	Ann Xavier (Anna) Patrias	1952/56	Alice Patricia Sheppard
1936/40	Maura Morrissey	1952/53	Ethel (Margaret) Wiedling
1937/45	Clarine Krause	1953/55	Canisius Beach*
1938/46	Elenita Morissey	1953/54	Marie Patricia Glavin
1938/44	Ann Elizabeth Schulte*	1953/55	Mary Raymond Trahey*
1939/47	Gerard Cronin*	1954/55	Mary Denis (Sylvia) Finehart
1940/46	Patricia Garety	1954/57	Frances Ann Kidder*
1940/46	Mary Benedict (Marcella) Logsdon	1954/55	Josine (Margaret) McKoan
1941/44	Martina Nusbaum	1955/59	Celine (Aileen) Genroe
1942/44	Sylvester Wirtz; 1963/68*	1955/58	Marie Bernard Shubitowski
1944/49	Ann Patrick Baker	1955/58	Devota (Frances Mary) Griffith
1944/46	Sheila Gainey	1955/59	Mary Stephen (Margaret Mary) King
1944/49	Verita Scofield	1955/60	Fabiana (Josephine) Korte
1945/46	Donalda (Gertrude) Mack	1956/57	Mary Conrad (Mary Louise) Affholter
1946/50	Clarann Collins	1956/60	Corona Buchheister*
1946/47	Mary Simon (Electa) Herringer	1956/57	Mary Roy Futvoye
1946/49	Ermaline (Mary Louise) Laperriere	1956/59	Margaret Marie McVan
1946/48	Georglyn Markey	1957/59	Marie Annette Herbst
1946/50	Praxedes (Eileen) Mills	1957/60	Emerence Mallace

1957/58 Janet Marie (Janet) Provost
 1958/59 Rose Carmel Burgess
 1958/59 Marie de Sales Plant
 1958/59 Ann Kathleen Thomas
 1959/60 Marie Josephine Breen*
 1959/63 Georgina Delaney*
 1959/65 Hilarion (Alberta) Howard; 1971*
 1959/60 Loretta Margaret Killeen
 1959/65 Rose Agatha Leszcynski*
 1959/62 Seraphia Liptow
 1959/63 Macrina Zimmer
 1960/63 Theona Engel
 1960/63 Marie John Fleming
 1960/68 Charles Edward Hamilton
 1960/65 Catherine Huetter
 1960/62 Marie Lenore Murphy
 1962/64 Dionysia Newman
 1963/65 Jane Frances Comeford
 1963/64 Valencia (Josephine) Karas
 1963/70 Delbert Marie (Dorothea) Lantto
 1964/66 Scholastica (Gertrude) Haviland
 1964/67 Irvaline (Jane) Toppin
 1965/68 Ann Damien (Barbara) Cardinal; 1969/71
 1965/67 Frances Loretta Hackett*
 1965/70 Marie Vincent (Mary Grace) Hackett
 1965/70 James Mary (Noeleta) O'Dea

1966/68 Miriam Isabel Nelson
 1967/69 Mary Adrian Gentner
 1967/69 Petra (Anna Marie) Paquette; 1970/75
 1967/70 Lucia Wagner
 1968/69 Marie Franz Koernke
 1968/69 Millicent Pfeiffer*
 1969/71 Gracelia Grekowicz
 1970/74 Miriam Joseph Baumann
 1970/73 Ellen McMahon
 1971/73 Marie Joan Cavanaugh
 1971/73 Germaine Detloff
 1972/73 Rita Burns
 1973/74 Mary Ann Grates
 1973/74 Digna Pulaski
 1974/75 Therese Helene Danz
 1974/81 Ann Follansbee
 1974/75 Mary David Moore
 1974/76 Mary Lou Schechter
 1974/81 Mary Jean Schulte
 1975/80 Maristella McCleer
 1977/78 Beatrice Begin
 1980/81 Genevieve St. Amour
 1980/ Mary Frances Uicker
 1981/82 Helen Louise Slattery
 *Deceased
 (Baptismal names in parentheses now being used)



Pictured here are part of the sisters present for Fr. John Gentner's first Mass said at his home parish. We make no effort to place a name with each of the faces shown here. You may have the pleasure of doing that yourself, as presumably all were teachers here at OLLH at one time during Fr. Gentner's education. What we are endeavoring to do is bring you back in time when all the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary wore the habit as pictured here.

OLLH LAY TEACHERS 1964 - 1982

Cindy Bomarrito
 Frank Bomarrito
 Barbara Belmbeneck
 Ann Brobst
 Nancy Brousseau
 Mrs. Harry Bryson
 Bernard Call
 Mrs. Margaret Clor
 Frank Coleman, Principal
 Mary Czarnopys

Catherine Elandt
 Joe Ficht
 Agnes Fleming
 Charlotte Ford
 Mrs. Charles Hanlon
 Mary Ellen (Joye) Van Wasshenova
 Laurel Klump
 Norma Malsom
 Shirley DuCharme Marithea
 Rosemary Matuszewski
 Scott Merrow

Patricia Murdock
 Carol Palms
 Mark Palms
 Marie Pollaccia
 Susan Pawlowski
 Larry J. Romain, Principal
 Eleanor Schumacher
 Louise Schumacher
 Diane Tanton
 Tom Tatrow

PRESENT SCHOOL FACULTY (1981 - 82):

Mr. Larry Romain	Principal & Jr. High teacher	Miss Susan Pawlowski	Grade 2
Mrs. Laurel Klump	Jr. High	Miss Louise Schumacher	Grade 1
Mrs. Diane Tanton	Jr. High	Miss Charlotte Ford	Kindergarten
Mr. Scott Merrow	Grade 6	Miss Kathleen Banker	Secretary
Miss Patricia Murdock	Grade 5	Miss Mary Stefko	Librarian
Sr. Helen Louise Slattery	Grade 3 & 4	Mrs. Agnes Essenmacher	Cook

TEACHER AT OLLH SINCE 1967

LOUISE SCHUMACHER

"My teaching career at Our Lady of Lake Huron School began in September of 1967 with forty-two second and third graders. The following year first grade was again added to our school.

For the next two years the first three grades held classes at St. Anthony's School in Helena. I taught first grade at Helena.

The three grades then returned to Our Lady of Lake Huron in Harbor Beach. Since then I have taught first grade here.

Teaching at Our Lady of Lake Huron has been a very rewarding experience. It has been interesting to observe changes in first grade children during these years."

Louise has remained with the school doing her wonderful job with the younger children of the school. She has shown that she is very dedicated to her job and always ready to do a little extra to help educate and train her students.



FRANCES ROBERTS

Back in 1937 a young lady came to Harbor Beach from Remus, Michigan where she and her future husband were teachers. She and Harry Roberts were married in 1937. Harry continued his teaching career in the local public school system as Math and Shop teacher. Frances raised four children and did the other duties of a busy housewife.

After the family was raised and she had the time, Fran Roberts started helping out at Our Lady

of Lake Huron School. Music was her specialty, and she has spent long and diligent hours with the students teaching them the gift of song. Christmas plays, midnight masses, First Communion, May Crownings, Kindergarten Roundups and Graduations . . . all these and more have benefitted over the years from the consistent generous outpouring of Fran Roberts' musical talents. If there is singing in heaven, then we are sure Fran will be there.

Parish Life Still Going Strong

The life we are experiencing now is in fact history in the making. While we are still too close to see it clearly, let us try to capture a mosaic image of our parish life today.

Pastoral Leadership . . .

Our last three pastors: Father Torok, Father Troester, and Father Oswald - while each reflecting a unique style of leadership - have all shared the common quality of human compassion. Visiting hospitals and shut-ins, promoting interfaith cooperation, supporting individuals through personal tragedies and/or family struggles, easing parish tensions and resolving conflicts, lifting spirits and expressing gratitude . . . all of these activities and more have characterized their manner of presence among us. Gifting the parish with the ongoing experience of the sacraments of our faith, they have at the same time been a continual witness to Christ's compassionate love among us.

Parish Council and Commissions . . .

From its start in 1970, the parish council and its committees have continued to function as an integral, ongoing part of parish life. Allowing a broadly based forum for dialogue and decision making, the council carries on a service of leadership for the parish community.

Present Council Membership:

Fr. Oswald ex officio
Sr. Mary Fran ex officio
Mr. Robert Wood President
Mr. James Tippett Vice President
Mr. Kenneth Weber Secretary
Mr. Clarence Braun Finance Officer
Mr. Ronald Wolschleger
Mr. Paul Wehner
Mr. Earl Cook
Mr. Joseph Biroscak
Mrs. Agnes Essenmacher
Mr. Harold Essenmacher
Mr. Daniel Messing
Mrs. Anna Marie Hentschl
Mr. Elmer Zurek

Present Functioning Committees:

Education Committee
Liturgy Committee
Maintainence Committee
Finance Committee
Election Committee

Liturgical Involvement . . .

As in the earliest days of our parish experience, the primary source/expression of faith involvement continues to be our gathering for Sunday Mass. This consistent pattern of worship is being enhanced these days by increased lay participation. Men and

women, both teen and adult and in increasing numbers, are serving as lectors and as Eucharistic ministers within our liturgical celebrations. Behind the scenes, church decorators are providing decor in flowers, symbols, and colors to match the liturgical season. More traditional forms of involvement as acolytes, ushers, organists, and choir members continue to function, while the revised order of the mass has resulted in greater active participation of the entire congregation.

Along with the celebration of the Eucharist, the faith life of the parish is nourished through periodic Reconciliation Services, the frequent celebrations of Baptisms, weddings, and individual confessions, and devotions to Mary such as May Crowning and Perpetual Help Services.

The leadership for parish liturgy is now taking place through the liturgical committee of the parish council, comprised of a cross section of parishoners who work with Father in the continual development of our liturgical life.

Religious Education . . .

Evidenced throughout this booklet is the continual concern of the parish for the religious education of its children. Classes in religious instruction have taken place in one form or other throughout the history of the parish. Today the ongoing service of the Catholic School provides this needed instruction for many of the parish children. For those attending other schools, weekly classes of instruction are provided by a large number of volunteer catechists.

Particular care is given to programs of preparation for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. Since Confirmation is now normally celebrated in highschool years, increasing attention is being given to teen religious programs which can effectively nurture a maturing faith.

Organizations of Service . . .

Hospitality, fun-raising, and service in many forms is carried on through the service organizations of the parish. The Men's Club (formerly the Holy Name Society) and the Rosary Altar Society sponsor numerous events throughout the year, and offer an opportunity for fellowship to the men and women of the parish. The Athletic Association and the Home-School Council give particular attention to the needs of the school and provide that rock of support which allows the school to function smoothly.

Religious Vocations . . .

The nurturing of religious vocations is a treasured aspect of parish experience. It is the joy of Our Lady of Lake Huron to have two of her young men presently ministering as ordained priests, and

to have played some part in the childhood years of two others. Likewise, fifteen parish women have given their lives to religious vocations, with another presently preparing to do so. We pray for all of these church ministers and ask their prayers, rejoicing in the bond of closeness we share with them.

Religious Women From This Parish

Mary Engel, Sister M. Theona, I.H.M.
Agnes Essenmacher, Sister Cecilia, O.P.
Irene Essenmacher, Sister Agnes Dolores, O.P.
Mary Ann Grates, Sister Mary Rosetta, I.H.M.
Agnes Gentner, Sister Mary Adrian, I.H.M.
Aileen Grekowicz, Sister Marie Jude, Sister of Mercy
Marie Grekowicz, Sister M. Gracelia, I.H.M.
Theresa Grekowicz, Sister Marie Arnold, I.H.M.
Johanna Kramer, Sister Rose deChantal, O.P.
Margaret Ann Roggenbuck, Sister Robert Jean, O.P.
Martha Roggenbuck, Sister M. Innocentia, I.H.M.
(deceased)
Margaret Schulte, Sister Benedicts, Sister of Charity
(deceased)
Anna Marie Shubitowski, Sister Marie Bernard,
I.H.M.
Ellen Zmich, Sister M. Adelbert, I.H.M. (deceased)
Jane Toppin, Sister M. Irvaline, I.H.M.

NOTE: Many of these Sisters have again assumed their baptismal names in recent years.

Lisa Jagotka is presently in a religious formation program with the Oblates of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Rome, Italy. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jaguta, Harbor Beach.

Care of Parish Grounds and Building . . .

For many years, Mr. Stanley Sopczynski has served as parish custodian, providing continual maintenance for the school and church buildings as well as tending the parish grounds. Always willing to offer conversation along with his work, Stan can tell many a story of former years and former pastors. A quick look over the summer's neatly trimmed lawns or the winter's faithfully shoveled walks reveals the sense of pride and personal concern which Stan gives to his work.

Former janitors of the parish, all of whom deserve our expression of gratitude, include:

Norman Schrott, Al Leitch, Peter Kowalski, Thomas Broadbeck, Mike Olshove, Harold Roggenbuck, Andrew Cox, Felix Schornack, Joe Singler, Leo Campbell, Ed Elandt, Duane Osentoski

While presently there is no rectory housekeeper employed at the parish, a word of commendation is

due those who have offered this service in the past:

Mrs. Miller kept house for Father Fleming
Elizabeth Maurer kept house for Fr. Fleming
Elizabeth Roggenbuck kept house for Father Fleming and moved to St. Cecelic Parish to continue his housekeeping
Aldea LaRoux kept house for Fr. Melvin and she accompanied him when he was transferred to Monroe
Mary T. Giffels kept house for Fr. Marvin all the time he was pastor. Both died a short span apart.
Gertrude Johnson was housekeeper for Father McEachin
Elizabeth Bilecic was housekeeper for Father Torok
Fr. John Troester and Fr. Ray Oswald did not have housekeepers.

Personal, Family, and Community Life . . .

With all of the above expressed, the true beauty and strength of OLLH parish continues to be that multitude of families and individuals of the Harbor Beach and Port Hope area who comprise her membership. The works of mercy (both spiritual and temporal) are expressed in countless ways through their love and service to one another. Moral values relective of our Christian faith are seen in their daily lives, and while struggles are numerous among them, so equally numerous are their claims to holiness and goodness.

"May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see clearly what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit, and how infinitely great is his power at work in us who believe."

Ephesians 1:17-19

These Men Are Our Honored Dead!

World War II

Henry W. DeFrain, Donald Essenmacher, Frank A. Grates, Virgil C. Melick, Stuart L. Neal, Robert Pawlowski, Robert J. Ringwelski, Kenny Robinson, Joseph E. Shornack, Billy Veal

World War I

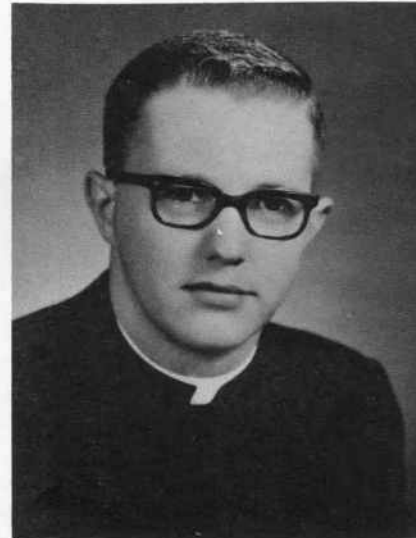
John Elfring

FIRST PRIEST FROM PARISH



James Mausolf, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Mausolf, Harbor Beach, was the first son of the parish to be ordained a priest. He became Fr. Isadore Mausolf, O.F.M., Cap. at Ordination in 1950.

SECOND PRIEST FROM PARISH



John F. Gentner, 1955 graduate of Our Lady of Lake Huron High School, was ordained into the priesthood on June 6, 1964. His first celebration of the Holy Mass was here at his home parish. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. George Gentner, Harbor Beach.

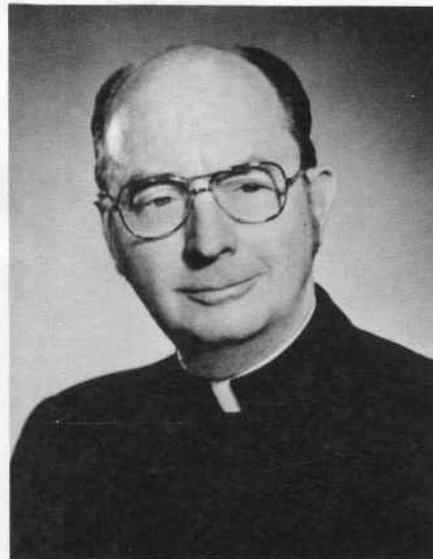
BISHOP ALLEN BABCOCK, D.D.



Most Rev. Allen J. Babcock, D.D.
(Deceased)

Bishop Babcock was born in Palms, Michigan, and lived in Harbor Beach during his early years. His father was a banker connected with the Harbor Beach banks. The Babcock family was well known in the Thumb area. Bishop Babcock Assembly of Bad Axe Knights of Columbus was named in his honor. At the time of his death he was Bishop of the Grand Rapids Diocese.

"WITH THIS RING"



Fr. Raymond Schlinkert was a boyhood member of Our Lady of Lake Huron. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Schlinkert, were active in the parish societies when the church was new. Father Schlinkert's memories of OLLH and the inspiration of the pastor at that time, Fr. Fleming, no doubt influenced his decision to enter the priesthood. Fr. Schlinkert is well known in the Great Lakes area for his radio and TV program entitled "With This Ring". At present he is pastor of St. Mary's Church in Manchester, Michigan.

Devotion to Mary . . .

Love for the Mother of Christ has been a consistent part of our parish and church tradition. Taking different forms throughout the years, Marian devotion continues to find expression at OLLH. The Blue Army and the Legion of Mary are two groups which actively promote devotion to the Blessed Mother.



On September 21, 1975 parishoners gathered with Fr. Torok for rosary, Mass, and Vigil in commemoration of the vision of Fatima in 1917. The statue of Mary seen here is the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue which was brought to the parish on this occasion.

Hope For The Future

As we reach the present time in this history of Our Lady of Lake Huron, we look ahead and wonder what the next fifty or one hundred years will bring. With this in mind, let us ask the Almighty Father to bestow upon all the families of this parish His bountiful blessings, inspiring them to carry on with the same zest and determination as their early ancestors displayed in building two churches and a Catholic School

All of this need not end - but to carry on in this era of inflation will take determination, perseverance and a dedication to God.

In these pages we have shown how great were the first 100 years of Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church. A job well done! It is our turn now to "pick up the reins" and make the next pages of history as noble as the ones you have just read.

May The Almighty Father help us in our future endeavors.

The Centennial Booklet Committee

Thank You . . .

To all those that contributed pictures or news articles of the past or helped in any way to bring this book to a reality, we thank you. To Bart Verellen (Ancae Photo Service) and Abbra-Ca-Dabra Photo Salon for taking pictures on short notice goes our appreciation.

