V. Deepening

1968

Family Becomes A Way Of Life

The snow fell gentle, blanketing the steeples. St. Elizabeth's was a pretty church. But its new pastor wasn't noticing the beauty.

He walked alone. Christmas Eve ... warm lights inside houses ... a family time. He walked alone tonight.

How soft the snow. It stole him into memories, and they walked together on the deserted street. "Now this is the prettiest tree we've ever had." His dad smiled, and Christmas was happening. His whole family laughed, mostly with their eyes. Dad said the same thing every year.

Father Markham ... that's when he knew Christmas away from home. He'd known it in the seminary ... but there had been his friends.

Immaculate Conception, Anchorville ... now there was country! Christ the Good Shepherd, St. John the Evangelist, St. Agnes Eternity came for a moment gifting him with a sense of presence, a presence to all the people he'd known and loved over the years ... the ones who had deeply loved him.

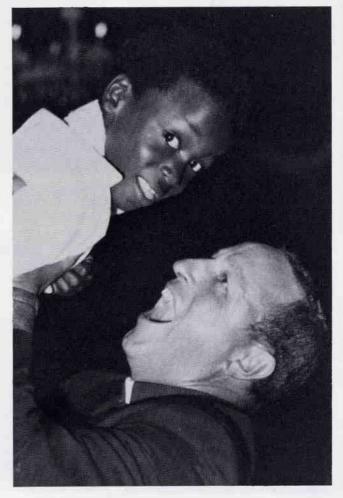
"Jesus, why am I here?" The question stayed in his heart - like his footprints in the snow. Silence, solitude, stillness ...

"You're here, Father, because you're My priest, brother, friend. You're here because I have chosen you to pray the Mass.

Everyone here needs you because of the Mass. They can't do it without you.

It's Christmas, John. And you will offer our Father His most special gift ... Me! You bring this same gift to your parish family tonight."

Silent night, holy night. Every fiber of his being knew a deep, quiet joy ... this is My Body; this is My Blood. Christmas, 1968.



Father John W. Markham

T.A.'s baritone voice filled the crowded cafeteria. "If I can help somebody as I pass along ..." The grey-robed minister of service prayed his theme song. Tuesday nights had become special. So had the St. Elizabeth family.

Helping somebody ... that's how he had experienced his call to become a minister of service. This call meant attending classes for 12 weeks with Deacon Al McNeeley (and meetings after that). It meant visiting shut-ins and bringing Communion. It meant listening when folks needed help with food or furniture and finding ways for them to get it. It meant seeing kids enjoy the fun of going to camp.

"... then my living shall not be in vain." Lurlean, his faithful wife, had understood. They had talked over his call. She had been encouraging.

Black leadership. Yes, it was about that, too.

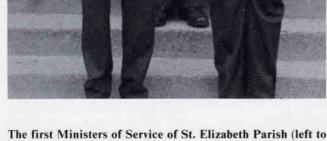
Gospel songs had been a part of the way T.A. prayed. Now he was sharing these songs with the parish family.

Tuesday night the family would sit down and share Scripture. Father would teach ... he would learn, too. The family would choose songs, write prayers, make banners. Almost everyone loved the children's reports based on their experience of scripture, often done through drawings or skits.

The evening ended with Mass: This was a most special moment for Mr. Cooper. (That's how the family called him.) Here he stood with his fellow ministers, praising this Lord he loved.

Sharing faith, praying together, looking at ministry ... what a gift the monthly meetings with Father Markham were. It was strength for the journey.

T.A. smiled. Tonight he was awake. He remembered a time he had felt himself listening and wondered who was making that strange noise. His own snoring had awakened him. Angie, his youngest daughter, had shared his



The first Ministers of Service of St. Elizabeth Parish (left to right): Mr. Lee Bell, Thomas Cooper, Lafayette Willis, Frank Solobodowski, William Jackson. laughter.

"If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain."

Sister Michael -Woman Of Vision

Sister Michael nodded — not in agreement, but in sleep. It was a familiar pose to those who knew her. She was suffering from an acute case of meeting-itis. Her youth had long been spent, and she seemed to have borrowed a sizeable amount of energy from her remaining supply.

She woke in time for the vote. Her voice had been heard. She could go home, now. After her vowed life, her commitment was to education, especially through schools. She had been principal at St. Elizabeth's since 1965. Her leadership was characterized in her slow, determined step.

She worked within the systems — political and church. Parochiad (aid to non-public schools) was defeated in spite of the efforts of state legislator David Holmes, Jackie Currie, herself, and many others. Tuition would have to be raised. She was loved by many families. She knew and understood their sacrifices. Together, the parish and the parents couldn't pay all of the bills.

She knelt, now, in the convent chapel. It was her Lord's work, His glory. Her faith spoke her heart. She thought of Father Markham ... young, as determined as she, searching. In his first year as pastor he had had to consolidate St. Anthony's and St. Elizabeth's. The grade school had remained at St. Elizabeth's. The high school was located at St. Anthony's.

She thought of Cardinal Dearden. She considered him courageous ... a man a head of his contemporaries. He, too, shared her belief in the freeing power of education. When he had come to the diocese he had spoken of the need for schools for the poor. If the diocese did not have this, it would have no school system at all. But he couldn't continue to support all the inner city schools now in existence.

Cardinal Dearden shared his authority through the vicariate system ... a way of gathering parishes. Now he asked them to share their vision.



St. Elizabeth High School's last graduating class, 1969.

Almost a year of meetings ... many folks from the family had been there. Each parish had voted. The Black Caucus had voted. The people were heard: "We want a school." Eight schools would become one. The archdiocese would subsidize the consolidation.

Tonight, the committee had chosen the site for the new school. The new, consolidated grade school would be

located at St. Elizabeth's. The consolidated high school would be located at St. Anthony's.

Sister Michael's weary heart prayed.

Lord, it is for Your glory. The children will have a school. Thank You for all the people who have been part of this. Thank you, Lord. She nodded in sleep. Her Lord would understand her prayer.

Willie Westberry-Sweet Music

The sweet, clear tones of Willie Westberry's trumpet hung in the air. "Precious Memories, how they linger ..." Willie didn't know anything about Vatican II. But he knew that in this church, the family was singing his songs, and his playing was part of the spirit that stirred folks' souls.

It was easy to follow Doug Edwards, the organist. Doug was learning the gift of Gospel music. So was the St. Elizabeth family. Willie had been part of the gift. He knew he'd miss this family as much as his own.



Of Jubilees

"Helen! Helen! Father Markham is here!" Bernard had never had a priest come by his house. He met the friendly smile and shook the firm hand.

"You were in the neighborhood?" Bernard's disbelief twinkled in his blue eyes. Most of his old neighbors weren't in the neighborhood any more. He had welcomed the new, cautiously. He had never felt caution with this man.

Authentic ... that's how Bernard would describe this priest. Genuine, like real leather. That first visit had been as special as all the ones that would follow.

Bruuuuummmmm. The polisher hummed its way across the terrazzo sanctuary. This would be some celebration - Bernard was polishing the newly waxed floor. Twenty-five years Father Markham had been a priest.

Bernard had been married over 50 years - he understood commitment. He knew the depths of joy that such loving brings. And the hard times even seemed graced when seen from the present moment.

What a beautiful church! The building itself ... how many hours he and Mr. Willis had spent cleaning it! Beautiful, too, for how folks cared about each other.

Mr. Willis . . . now *that* guy could make some macaroni and cheese! Bernard smiled. Potlucks were a way of life in the family now.

He still wondered how Msgr. Pfeffer had felt about his own funeral. After the Mass the parish family had had a potluck. Bernard had loved the old gentleman. He had worked with him for years. Bernard also knew the Msgr.'s taste; he had celebrated his 80th birthday at the Yacht Club.

Well, this day coming up would probably see the world's largest potluck, June 10, 1979 - tomorrow. The family had worked over a year to get ready.

Different zones had planned different events. He'd been in charge of the 50/50 drawings. It had been funsalesmanship was in his blood. It flowed through Father Markham's veins, too.

Hmm - sometimes this priest seemed like a son to the old man. Salesman! Once Father Markham had an idea in his head, he'd sell it to you, and you'd think it was your own! He had a way of being heard.

Wouldn't Father be surprised tomorrow! The family had been working to collect enough money to buy him a new car. Bernard had given many silver dollars - "hub caps for the priest". He had made a money tree, too ... a silver dollar one.

In this priest Bernard had met his match for teasing. He found a humor like his own, and a soul that loved laughter.

The sun shone through the stained glass windows. All his years became a prayer of gratitude in the old man ... tomorrow he'd ring those bells.

Somehow bells summed up life. They could express great happiness or sadness. And they expressed it to the Father. Whenever he heard bells, Bernard had alway felt a deep, prayerful joy. Tomorrow he'd ring those bells!



Clara and Anthony Ludwig celebrated their Golden Jubilee on Oct. 2, 1978. The couple has been in the parish for 52 years.

Of Centennials

"The drummer." That's who this nun was to many people. She liked that. She felt like the Lord's drum, being played for the Father in the Spirit. Today she stood behind the congo drum lost in the magic of homecoming - June 23, 1985. St. Elizabeth's was celebrating 100 years as a parish.

"Make a joyful noise" King David would have loved this praising of his Lord. Laughter, hugs, screams of delight and surprise ... bringing so many years into a present moment. How intensely beautiful.

Father Markham prayed the Gospel. The family was used to this gift. He prayed it from who he was. Prayer was his way of life ... it rhythmed his existence. His parish family shared this gift, too - in him, in themselves.

... "How many were married here?" Half the church raised their hands. Lost in the Mass" And so, Father, we remember those who have gone before us ... we remember especially all whom we have known and loved who have been part of this parish family." How good it is to come home. Last night eight Sisters of Christian Charity enjoyed supper with the Sisters of the Living Word. Their history, too, was being celebrated.

The Sisters of Christian Charity had come to St. Elizabeth's on Sept. 1, 1885. For ninety years they believed, served, loved right here.

In 1975 some of them felt a call to begin a new Community ... the Sisters of the Living Word, founded by Sister Annamarie Cook. Both groups of Sisters continued to walk in the Spirit. In 1975 the Sisters of the Living Word lived at St. Elizabeth's.

Supper had been a real celebration of all that the Spirit continued to be in their lives. It had been a most special homecoming.

The drummer rested. Playing with this red-robed Gospel choir took every ounce of energy. "Move, mountain. Move, mountain. Mountain, get out of my way." How often faith had moved mountains in people's lives! Mountains of relating to one another in marriage; mountains of worry, of failure, of sickness, of aging. "Move, mountain."

Fifteen years the drummer had played at St. Elizabeth's. Each age had its choir. This choir was born in Deborah Willis' head . . . she was there at its beginning. Beginnings take courage.

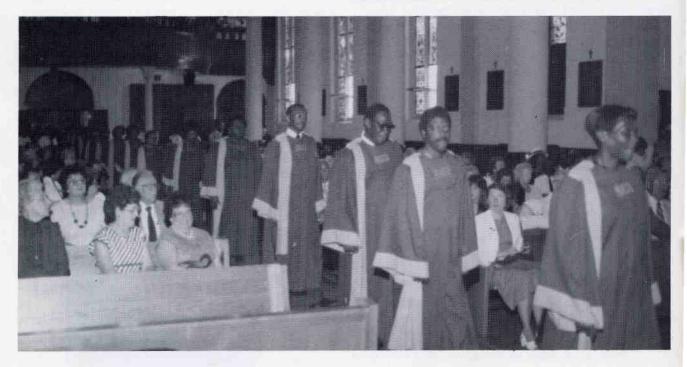
It grew, developed, deepened into a spirituality through Judy Hogan's heart. She led the members to what was deep within them, and it came out in song. She had worked with Victor Blair, a man whose gift is music. It's in his smile, his eyes, his whole person. How right for him to be here today!

Taranta Gatson White, the director, rested too. The choir *had* moved mountains today. She felt an explosive joy ... yes, here was the *Resurrection Choir*.

"Go now to love and serve the Lord." Each generation received this same invitation. Some things change. Some never do. 100 years of faith, of sacraments, of living, loving, forgiving, dying, rising. Of such are Centennials.

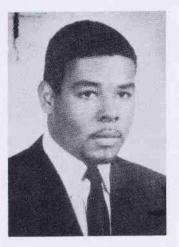


Oreler Banks, principal of Eastside Vicariate School, a consolidation of many grade schools.



St. Elizabeth's Resurrection Choir

Family Saints









Marriage Vows



Top, left to right: Michael Currie Mary Womack Irma Carroll Marie Neumann Ora Lee Jones

Religious Committment



Left: Taranta Gatson White, Marty White Right: Sr. Carmen Coccimiglio, S.L.W. Silver Jubilee









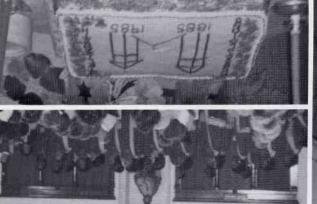
















Celebration

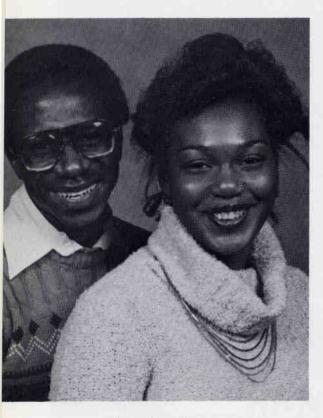












Benton Family



Barton, Rogers, Womack Family



Bader Family



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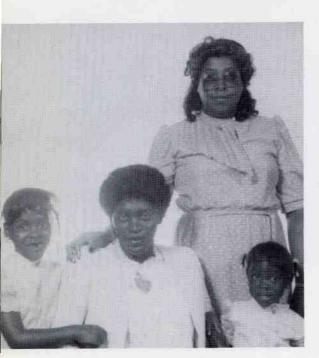
Betts Family



Mrs. Evelyn Brown



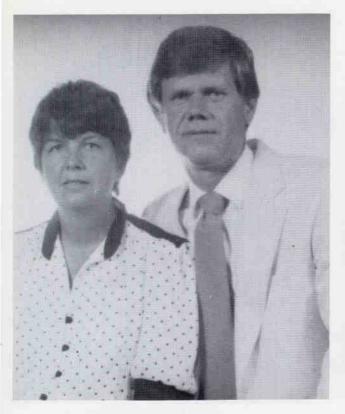
Coccimiglio Family



Cain and Kinney Family



Coleman Family





Mary Ann and Chuck Cole

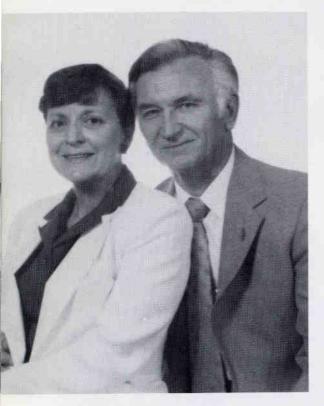
Currie Family





Czajka Family

Mrs. Lurlean Cooper



Pat and Charles Doemer



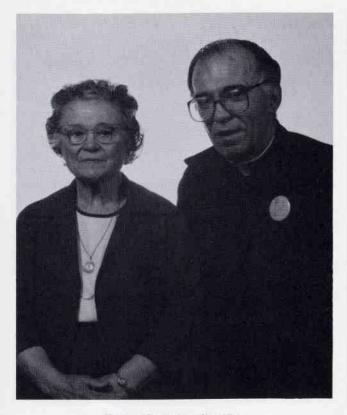
Drafton Family



Easley Sisters



Mrs. Katie Estes





Anderson, Gatson, White Family

Father Gattari and mother





Rosemary and Tom Gori

Hamilton Family



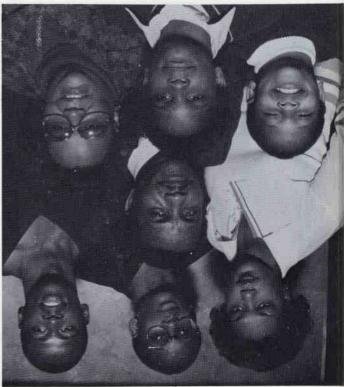
Mrs. Dolores Gumm



Mrs. Betty Harris



Hurley Family



Holt Family



Jelsone Family



Jefferson and Carroll Family

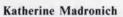


Ludy Family



Elaine and Robert Lewis







Marianne Mitchell



Majeske Sisters



Mildred Molinaro





Mrs. Sulena Moorman



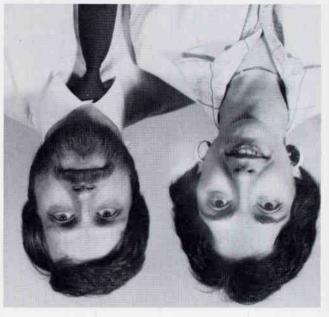
Moytyka Family

Ms. Mary Jane Novitsky





Mary Louise and Albert Papeun



Dr. Noreen Rossi and Robert Pawlowicz



Rosemary and Leonard Pilotto



Annette and Carl Polk

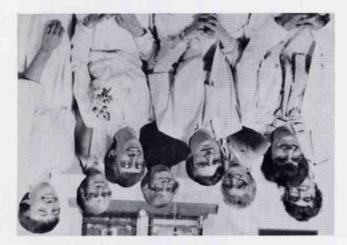
Mr. Daniel Przybysz



ylimeA snommi2



Rudolf and Ludwig Family



Sisters of the Living Word



Dorothy and Abraham Simmons





Sutton and Chili Family



Mrs. Leona Stockwell



Sally and Walter Szpakiewicz



Turner Family



Kathleen and Albert Tiano



Vendetti Family



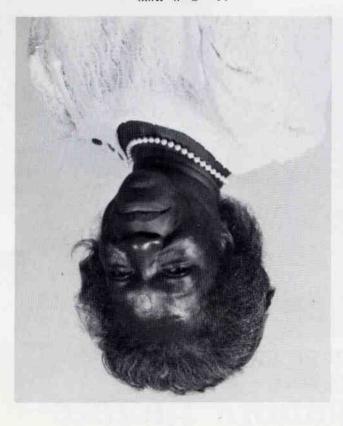
Ms. Betty Wagner



Webster, Richards Family

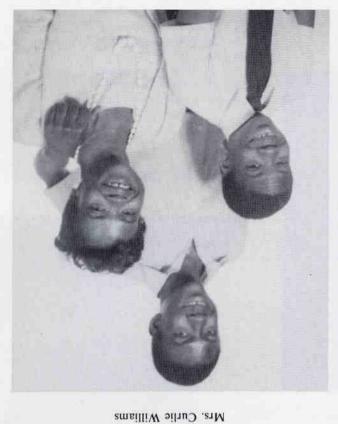


Weaver, Millsap Family





Willis Family





Willis, Wallace Family

Williams Family



Marie Zapolski



Barbara and John Zimmoth



Bannasch, Barish Family

Part Of The Family Picture Sisters Of Christian Charity - Still Living -Who Worked at St. Elizabeth

Years 4 S. Francis Keilen S. Adelle Kellogg 6 S. Anne Eileen Berkel S. Ilga Knaup 1 2 S. Diomeda Bischoping S. Secunda Koelbl 4 S. Theresia Krueger 2 S. Virginia Kuhn 2 S. Susanne Kullowitch 3 S. Norbert Latz S. Mary Annelda Claesgens 7 S. Eobana Lause

- 2 S. Clarita Loehr
- 8 S. Mary Clare Loisel
- 13 S. Anne Marty
- 1 S. Catherine Mertens
- 7 S. Judith Moran
- 4 S. Celia Myskier
- 8 S. Antonis Olejar
- 2 S. Julianne Penkert
- 5 S. Mary Grace Penkert
- 16 S. Celeste (Leona) Poelker
- 10 S. Madeline Portner
- 7 S. Clotilde Rack
- 1 S. Elnora Reinarman 4 S. Josine Ryski
- 4 S. Pancratia Rzasa
- 2 S. Mary Sakowski
- 3 S. Concetta Sampel
- 9 4 7 11 2 14 3 14 6 4 14 5

2

LETTERS COULD BE SENT TO:

, S.C.C.

WILMETTE, ILLINOIS 60091

6

Sisters Of The Living Word Who Worked At St. Elizabeth

- S. Elizabeth Betzwieser
- S. John Boegemann

S. Agnette Bengal

S. Marina Bengal

S. Paulita Borelli

S. Celine Brinkhaus

S. Henrica Buchert

S. Estelle Cristman

S. Lawrentia Daleiden

S. Teresilda Daleiden

S. Gislinda Diekemper

S. Mary Pierre Faber

S. Rosamond Haerdon

S. Sophina Helfrich

S. Dorothy Ivory

S. Boniface Julius

S. Mary Josephis Heissel

S. Elizabeth Hildebrandt

S. Augustinia Kalofska

S. Loretta Fischer

S. Hilary Hacker

S. Mary Celestine Farmer

S. Alfred Braun

S. Louis Corbat

S. Edith Daues

- S. Carmen Coccimiglio
- S. Mary Catherine Connolly
- S. Colette Fahrner
- S. Joann Fedewa
- S. Mary Imelda Fischer
- S. Eileen Geimer
- S. Mariata Hartmann

- Years 4 S. Brenda Kelzer
 - 1. S. Victoranne Manikowski
 - 15 S. Leonilla Marque
 - 3 S. Maureen McLain
 - 2 S. José Moos
 - 7 S. Sally McCarthy
 - 3 S. Rosita Phipps
 - 3 S. Grace Rief
 - 13 S. Roselyn Saffert

3	S. Jeanette Salbert	11
6	S. Laurita Saunders	12
4	S. Genevieve Shea	9
3	S. Mary Rose Solivay	1
9	S. Grace Thorp	3
2	S. Theresa Weber	22
3	S. Norma Thelen	3
3		

336 Sisters Have Worked At St. Elizabeth's

10 4 S. Myrona Schaefer 5 S. Mary Alypia Schalkowski 4 4 6 S. Louisa Schmidt 4 3 S. Adeline Schneider 7 3 S. Rosaline Schueller 2 12 S. Mary Cletus Sesterhenn 3 4 S. Petrina Simon 5 4 S. Stella Marie Spitzley 3 7 S. Beatrice Theler 3 4 S. Hyacinth Ullrich 3 8 S. Honora Wagener 3 S. Maurita Wagener 9 S. Ruth Wagner S. Delphine (Thomas) Wedmore 14 3 S. Francesca Weier 3 S. Rosemary Wesley 3 S. Agnese Wilczynski 13 S. Mary Florine Winkelmann S. Marie Wittmann 6 4 S. Marianna Wohlschlaeger 7 S. Michael Wohlschlaeger 4 S. Paulinda Zakrzewski 13

S. Ethelina Sasgen

5

3

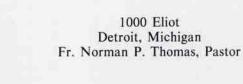
8

S. Mary Theophane Zangl 2 S. Josella Zelazek 4 S. Phyllis Zierden

1041 RIDGE ROAD

Congratulations On Your Centennial From

SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY



In Memory of

EST. 1875

Ernest & Catherine Coccimiglio



"That we may all be one!"

From Their Children

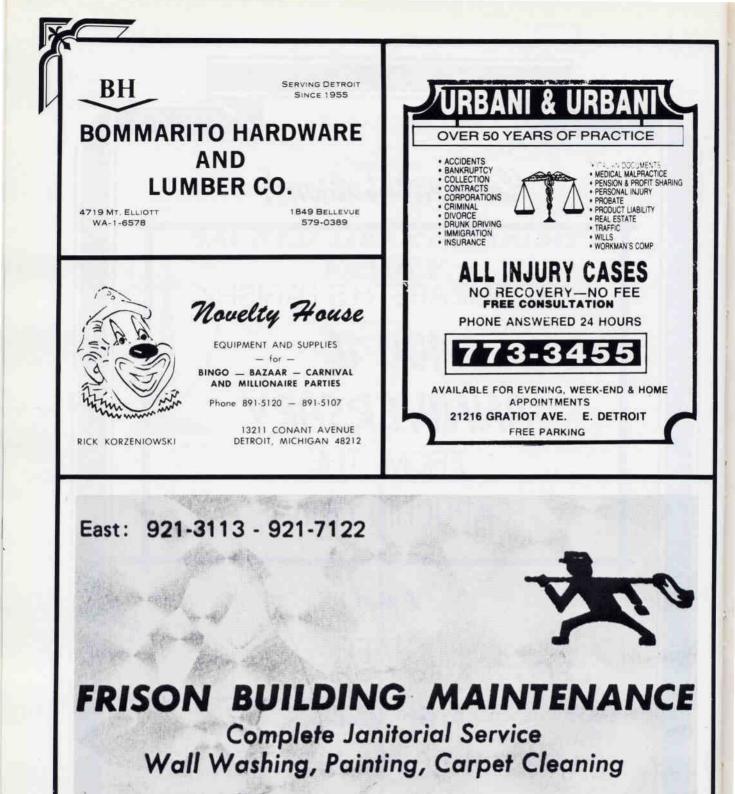
Congratulations, St. Elizabeth! Thank you and God bless everyone.

> The Rudolf's John and Theresa

In Loving Memory of Mother and Father, Martha & Paul Madronich

> Katherine "Kasia" Madronich





9917 E. Forest Detroit, Mich. 48214 CONGRATULATIONS ON 100 YEARS OF BLESSED JOURNEYING. BEST WISHES TO ALL PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE ST. ELIZABETH PARISH FAMILY!

SISTERS OF THE LIVING WORD

7200 N. OSCEOLA AVENUE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



SISTERS OF THE LIVING WORD

From one wonderful family to another:

Congratulations, St. Elizabeth's!

100 years!

The Alexanders

Darryl and Edna Jason Shawn Vincent Ryan



In loving memory of Mary W. Findley and Clifford J. Findley, Jr. Former students at St. Elizabeth School

From Mother, Anna Findley

Best Wishes From the

Templin Sisters Barbara, Delphine, Patricia

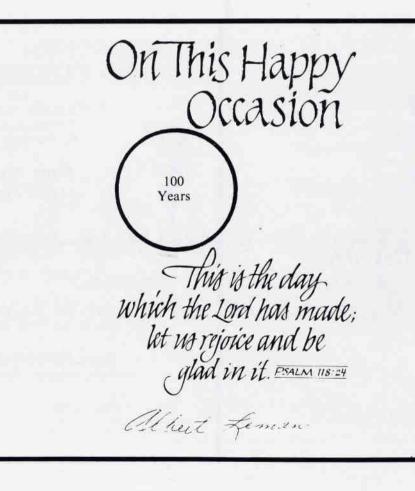


In Loving Memory of **Simon Gatson**

Husband, father, grandfather and son-in-law - wife, Mrs. Helen M. Gatson

Children Leon Gatson Darroll Gatson Taronta Gatson White Debra Gatson Michael Gatson Grandchildren Dana Gatson Decarlo Gatson Eboni Gatson Darrielle Gatson

Mother-in-law Rev. Melvin O.E. Brown



100 Years and still going strong! Keep on pushing, St. Liz!!

The Willis Family: Lafayette, Mattie & Deborah



St. Elizabeth, a Church of love.



Katie Estes

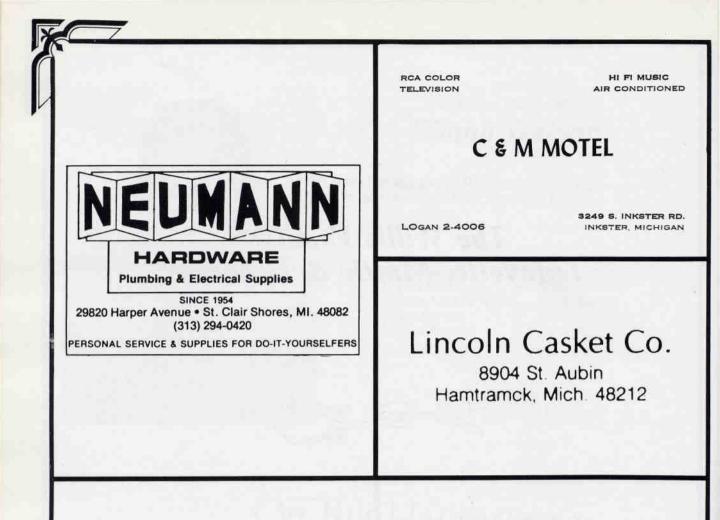
Congratulations on your 100th Birthday

Fr. Edward Ritter

We cared enough to be the very best that we could be, so we stepped out with Faith to become a part of Saint Elizabeth's history!!

Mrs. Beverly Story and Lee, Jeffrey and Michelle Simmons





in loving memory

OF

CHARLES AND ANNA KASBUNDA

FROM

CHARLES, DONALD AND IRENE KASBUNDA

CONGRATULATIONS ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH 100 YEARS

FROM FATHER MAKHAM'S FAMILY

IN REMEMBRANCE ...

OUR DAD ... A SPECIAL FRIEND, WHOSE GENTLENESS AND LOVE SHOWED US THAT HE CARED AND WOULD ALWAYS BE THERE IF WE NEEDED HIM. HIS STRENGTH AND INSPIRATION GUIDED US AND TAUGHT US TO BE STRONG, AND HIS WISDOM THE VALUE OF LEARNING. HIS GREATEST GIFT TO US WAS HIS LOVE FOR HUMANITY WHICH FILLED OUR HOME AND TAUGHT US THE LOVE OF BROTHERHOOD.

> THANKS DAD FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS THANKS GOD FOR OUR WONDERFUL DAD

OUR MOM ... THE HEART OF OUR HOME, WHOSE LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING HELD OUR FAMILY CLOSE AND MADE OUR HOUSE A HOME. IN HER QUIET UNASSUMING WAY SHE SHARED OUR JOYS AND TRIUMPHS AND OUR DEFEATS AND FAILURES WITH PRAISE AND THOUGHTFULNESS, AND GAVE US COMFORT FOR OUR TEARS. THOUGH SHE SHELTERED US IN CHILDHOOD, AS THE YEARS PASSED BY, SHE TAUGHT US TO REACH AND GROW WITH SECURITY, KNOWING THAT DEFEATS WERE NOT ALWAYS FAILURES AND THAT SUCCESS WAS ALWAYS POSSIBLE.

THANKS MOM FOR ALL THE YESTERDAYS THANKS GOD FOR OUR DEAR MOM

OUR BROTHER, WHOSE AFFECTION AND LAUGHTER TOUCHED OUR LIVES AND JIM GAVE HIS LIFE MEANING FOR US.

THANKS JIM FOR THE TIMES YOU CARED ENOUGH TO HELP OTHERS THANKS GOD FOR THE JOY OF JIM

OUR SISTER, A SPECIAL GIFT, WHOSE GENTLE LOVE WAS ALWAYS THERE. MARGARET ANN

THANKS GOD FOR YOUR ANGEL, MARGARET ANN

AND FROM US HERE PRESENT TODAY

DOLORES AND HAROLD EILEEN AND DON MARY ELLEN AND JOE AND OUR FAMILIES

OUR BEST WISHES, OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS, TO ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH AND TO FATHER JOHN AND HIS PARISH FAMILY. MAY YOU BE BLESSED WITH MANY MORE YEARS OF CONTINUAL GROWTH AND HAPPY MEMORIES. Congratulations, St. Elizabeth!

Noreen Felice Rossi, M.D. and Robert John Pawlowicz Congratulations to a Community of

Faith Joy Growth Hope Love

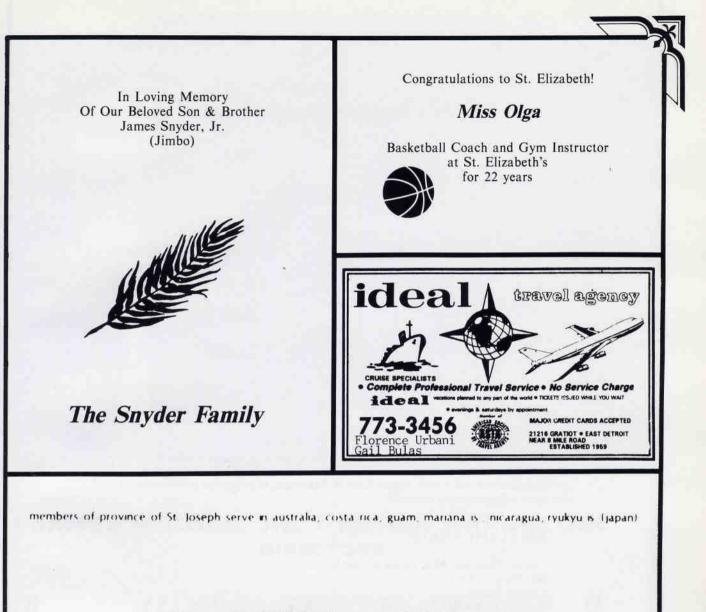
Dolores V. Gumm Parishoner 28 yrs.

In Loving Memory of my husband, Clifford J. Findley, Sr. and parents Angela Giuriato Dominic Giuriato

Ann Findley

"Where your treasure is, there your heart is." Mine will always be with my St. Elizabeth Family. Congratulations!

Sister Brenda

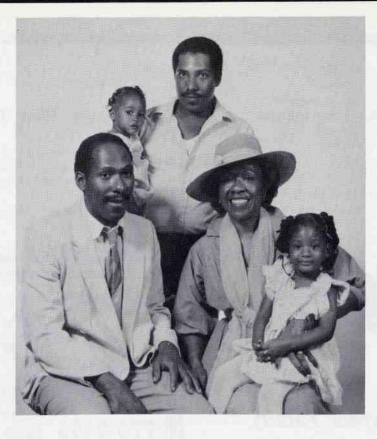


CAPUCHIN MISSIONS

1820 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit, MI 48207 (313) 579 - 2100

Br. James Magnan, O.F.M. Capuchin Mission Secretary

Legal title: Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Mission Secretariat



In honor and celebration of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church and in commemoration of its 100th Anniversary, we are pleased to join with the fellow members of our church family and our good and faithful friend and Pastor, Father John W. Markham, in praise and acknowledgement of this great and memorable occasion.

Sincerely, THE CURRIE FAMILY

Commissioner and Mrs. Jackie L. Currie Mr. Charmie Currie Gregory Currie Charmie Currie, III Michael Currie







JAMES H. COLE, JR. · KARLA MARIA COLE DIRECTORS

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Murray Ramona Michele Murrietta Milita The Gaines Family

Congratulations, St. Elizabeth! Thank God for everything, and may God bless us all.

The Ludwig's Anthony and Clara In Loving Memory of my husband, Bernard N. Shoudy

Helen Shoudy

PHONE: 923-5600

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Best Wishes

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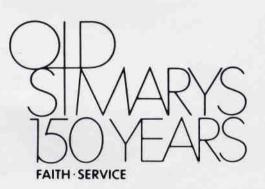
4727 ST. ANTOINE, SUITE 211 DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201

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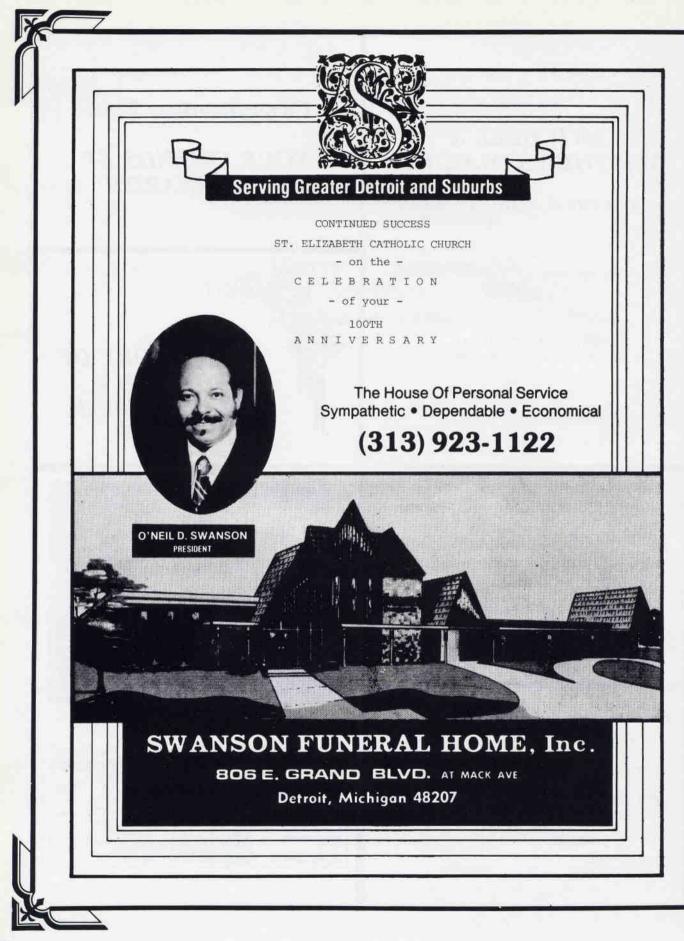
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THANKS!

the writing of this history possible through book is all about. prayer, ads, pictures, and sharing of stories.

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