



# Barquilla de la Santa Maria

BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society -  
Diocese of Columbus

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## A GLIMPSE OF THE OHIO VALLEY

by Rev. John Martin Henni

Translated for the Society by the late Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Hakeł

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### Letter 10 - The Diocese of Cincinnati (Part 1)

#### Esteemed Patron!

It is now my special duty to give you an overall view of the present state of the missions in the Diocese of Cincinnati.

As in the days of the Most Reverend Bishop Fenwick, so now after his death the Catholic population in the State of Ohio is constantly increasing. Indeed its numbers appear to have increased much more during the past few years by reason of the considerable immigration, not only from the Rhenish provinces of France and Germany, but also from the eastern Atlantic states of North America. Everyone is heading for the so-called Far West. Moreover, people of various Protestant denominations are taken into the bosom of our Holy Church weekly, especially in Cincinnati, notwithstanding the fact that this city, the commercial center of the West, is also the focal point of Calvinist Presbyterian hate and secret intrigues to promote persecution.

Our Bishop, successor of Bishop Fenwick, is very active and always watchful. He preaches every Sunday and often twice on Sunday. In the afternoon he gives lectures on important and particularly controversial points of our Faith.

Protestants attend these lectures in large numbers. This bishop is John Baptist Purcell, a native of Ireland. As a young man he came to America where his talents were soon recognized. He was enrolled in Mount Saint Mary's College near Emmitsburg in Maryland by its founder, Bishop Dubois (present bishop of New York). He was soon sent to the Sulpician seminary in Paris where he studied theology for several years. After that he returned with his fellow student and friend, Father Eccleston (now Archbishop of Baltimore), to the so-called Home of the American Muses [Mt. St. Mary College]. He was appointed professor and later President of that flourishing institution until a Papal Bull from Rome sent him to Cincinnati to fill that vacant see as bishop. This happened on November 14, 1833. At the same time Father Rese was appointed to take over the new Diocese of Detroit.

When Fenwick, the first bishop of Cincinnati, assembled his congregation consisting of seven families in one room (a truly apostolic cathedral) in 1824, no one would have believed that his successor would be welcomed by about 8,000 members of his Church. For some years it could hardly hold half of the Catholics who lived in and around Cincinnati. A second church was absolutely necessary. Eventually on April 21,

1834, the cornerstone of a new German church was solemnly laid at the foot of an Indian earth pyramid (tumulus) on top of which probably the blood<sup>1</sup> of human sacrifices flowed from an altar in honor of god spirits. On this occasion the preacher brought this thought to the attention of his hearers with considerable emotion. How wonderful are the ways of Providence! How profound are God's decrees!

Immediately after the bishop had finished this solemn ceremony, he found it necessary to undertake the arduous visitation of his diocese. Like his apostolic predecessor, he traveled from congregation to congregation, and administered Confirmation from house to house because many Catholics do not live in communities but rather here and there without a chapel and seldom visited by a missionary. Every morning he personally gave instructions after Mass celebrated by himself or one of the missionaries who accompanied him. The curiosity, yes even importunity, of Protestants in our area, who also wanted to hear a bishop, was never refused by him even when, as happened in Huron County, he felt indisposed after all arrangements had been made to hear him in the town hall. In well-populated places like Lancaster, Canton, etc., he preached for hours over a period of two or three days in order to present more forcefully and in proper context the merits of our Church and to refute the objections of its adversaries. These lectures were devoted not only to breaking down the usual prejudices but also to encouraging persecuted Catholics to carry their cross patiently even though they were often distressed by the predicament of being without priests. These lectures were also meant to help them to disregard entirely the unjust calumnies of the ignorant or wicked against their religion and thus to follow steadfastly the faith of their fathers and forefathers.

The bishop began his church visitation at Portsmouth where steamboats, that already

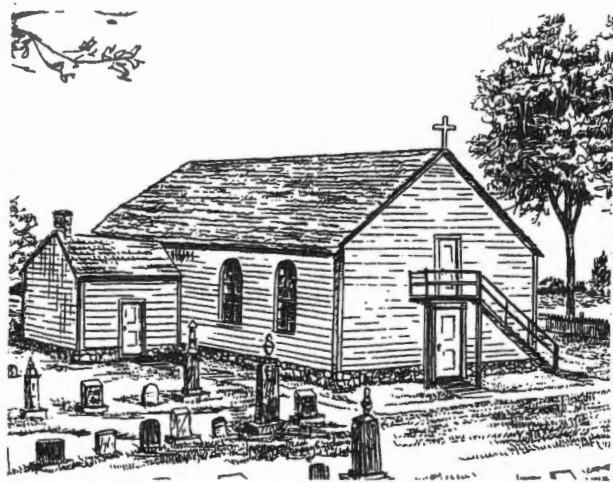
compete in large numbers on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, pass daily on their way from New Orleans to Pittsburgh. Portsmouth lies 160 miles northeast of Cincinnati on the Ohio river at the mouth of the Scioto river. In this place there are at present hardly 20 Catholic families. They were visited from time to time by a priest from Cincinnati who had to say Mass in a private home. This area, like all the region along the Ohio, is hilly and therefore useful more for commerce than for agriculture. The Ohio and Erie Canal (so-called because it joins the Ohio River with Lake Erie and divides the State of Ohio into two nearly equal halves) traverses better areas from Portsmouth through Piketon to Chillicothe. This latter place has 3,000 to 4,000 inhabitants. Here, and especially in the surrounding countryside, there are in the past few years quite a few Catholics. However, these good people are as yet unable to build a church. Here and in Franklin County on a special mission during the last Lenten season, I counted 200 communicants, all German, not to mention the Irish who were visited sometimes by an English missionary.

How my heart bled to see so many Catholics with their large families so far from a priest and church here in the middle of the state at the seat of the governor and government in Columbus itself! A well disposed Protestant let me use his newly built unoccupied house for Mass during my eight-day stay in that city [Columbus]. Two large rooms with open doorway substituted for the church that is awaited here with such eagerness just as in Chillicothe. Columbus is a capital city and so would hardly be honored with a log cabin for religious worship. Consequently, I really do not know how provision can be made here for suitable church and school. Still we have too many proofs of God's extraordinary help to be despairing of a successful outcome.

How consoling must the prospects of our holy religion be if we consider that, while many sigh

for it in vain, many others who do not belong to the Church will find the opportunity to rescue themselves and their children for heaven. Hardly two days before I came here when I had stopped for a few hours in Lancaster at the home of Mr. Garathy [Garaghty?], a Protestant gentleman, who had known religion up to the time of his inquiry, sought out Father Martin who for some time now was accustomed to reside here. This missionary was away so I was witness to a scene that occurred daily so to speak. The said gentleman led me to a fine looking house to the bedside of his dying six-year-old son. The boy had not been baptized because the mother too belonged to no church. Yet she did have occasion to learn the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith. I had hardly finished administering emergency baptism to the boy when the dear mother came from the next room with two other lovely little children, stood them before me and begged that I would please baptize them too! I replied that they were not in danger of death and could be brought to church where they would be baptized provided that their Catholic upbringing could be hoped for. But this hope could hardly be realized as long as the parents themselves did not belong to the true Church. She answered, "In this Church, my children and I will find salvation."

Lancaster is a better developed and indeed older community (Fairfield County) 38 miles south east of Columbus. It lies in a beautiful valley on the northwest side of a romantic hill country rightly called Switzerland. A wooden chapel built years ago in the first days of Bishop Fenwick is now too small. Preparations for a new and larger church were planned last summer but since only a few Catholics could afford anything worth mentioning, the actual building will encounter many difficulties. Here language and large, well cultivated farms give evidence of German hard work and industry. This mission is regularly attended from Somerset which is only 18 miles east of Lancaster in Perry County.



*The original St. Mary Church in Lancaster, as drawn by Carl Weisgerber for the parish in 1995.*

Somerset has a fine church with an excellent boarding school nearby. It is conducted by six well educated Sisters of St. Dominic established here from St. Rose in Kentucky. This institution is quite well attended even by daughters of Protestant parents and with their consent many have accepted our holy faith. Free education is provided here for poor children also. Two miles southeast of here secluded amid cultivated land lies St. Joseph where Father Fenwick used to come back exhausted from his missionary travels before he was Bishop. Its half stone, half wooden chapel built in 1818 was replaced a few years ago by a larger brick church. Here in quiet surroundings with mostly Catholic neighbors, three or four priests live together as in a cloister with several lay brothers. However, instead of devoting all their time to Divine Office in choir, they attend the missions to which they extend their labors in ever widening areas with the most blessed success. Besides other churches in various places, two nice churches were built some distance away in the last two years. This was also the area of activity of the pious missionary Father O'Leary. His labors and his virtues are so fresh in our memory that I cannot here pass over his death in silence. He died last winter on February 8 in his fifty-first year. He was born in Cork, Ireland, and was related to the

famous and learned Bishop O'Leary. Father O'Leary lived the years of his mission in such childlike simplicity and in such zealous activity and self-denial that everyone who knew him, both Catholics and Protestants, praised him highly as one far above the ordinary lives and failings of men and they all mourned his death.

Eighteen miles farther east of Somerset lies Zanesville in a low valley separated from the village of Putnam by the Muskingum river. In the flourishing little town of 4,000 to 5,000 inhabitants with various factories, the Catholics have built a nice church. Its pastor has charge of other numerous congregations. Among them the one in Guernsey County is noteworthy. It numbers about 600 souls nearly all of whom are Anglo-Americans and converts. It has a small chapel and its people long for a resident priest. May God soon grant them one!

(To be continued)

## NOTES

1) These sacrifices like the Mounds themselves exhibit a relationship with the Mexican tribes. This has been proven by the discovery of antiquities along the Mississippi and particularly in Natchez. From corroborating accounts of all early Mexican historians, we know that the number of human sacrifices was extraordinarily large. Kirnav in his *Metaphysics* gives the number as 25,000 annually in Mexico. For the most part war captives were sacrificed. Zumeraga, first bishop of Mexico, states that there were 20,000 in the city alone. Accosta gives the number killed on certain days as up to 5,000. On the heights of Tapeyacac, 20,000 were sacrificed to the goddess Tonantzin. These mounds served as temples and graves of deified heroes as I have explained elsewhere.

"Et tot temple deum, quot in urbe sepulcra Heroum numerate licet..... Prudentius, I, 1. [There are as many temples of gods as there are graves of heroes in the city.]



## Chronicle of Events in the Diocese of Columbus for 2001 Compiled by the Editor

### Universal Church

May 7. The Vatican made public the instruction *Liturgiam authenticam*, according to which episcopal conferences are to produce new translations of liturgical texts that conform to the original Latin, in order to correctly implement the decrees of the Second Vatican Council, that the divine liturgy might better form the world.

### Parishes

June 10. Holy Trinity Church at Zoar was blessed by Bishop Griffin.

September 9. The enlarged St. Peter Church in Columbus was dedicated.

September 21. Outdoor Stations of the Cross were dedicated at Corpus Christi Parish in Columbus, where the former parish school school was razed this year.

September 23. Sacred Heart Mission at Milford Center, a mission of St. Joseph Parish at Plain City, was changed to an oratory of the same parish, with its territory and members absorbed by the parish.

October 11. The former St. Leo Parish school building in Columbus was razed.

November. The 107 year old school building at St. Patrick Parish in Columbus was razed to



make way for a new parish hall and educational facility.

Dec. 12. A new steeple was installed on Holy Cross Church, Columbus.

#### Institutions

May 28. A new bell tower at Resurrection Cemetery was blessed.

Sept. 30. Ground was broken for expansion and a permanent chapel at St. Thomas More Newman Center at the Ohio State University campus.

#### Vocations

February 3. The following were ordained permanent deacons by Bishop Griffin at St. Joseph Cathedral: Richard Busic Jr., Paul deShaies, Kenneth Lee Drummer, Klaus Fricke, James Gorski, Melvin Hawkins, Lester Houze, James Keating, Douglas Mould, Byron Philips, and Frank Sullivan. On the same day, diocesan seminarian Joseph C. Klee was ordained a transitional deacon.

June 2. Rev. Anthony A. Dinovo Jr. (from St. Mary Parish, Delaware) and Rev. Joseph C. Klee (from Immaculate Conception Parish, Columbus) were ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Griffin at St. Joseph Cathedral.

#### Retirements

July 10. Msgr. Anthony Borrelli, pastor of St. Margaret of Cortona Parish, and Rev. Paul O. Smith.

Oct. 19. Msgr. William J. Maroon, pastor of St. Brendan the Navigator Parish, Hilliard.

#### Necrology

January 4. This day died Sister Clare Gibhardt, S.N.D.de N., age 73, a native of Westerville.

January 6. Sister Marie Daniel Bush, C.S.C.,

born Pamela Bush in Columbus, died at St. Mary's Convent, Notre Dame, Indiana, aged 64 years.

January 7. Sister Emmanuel Bebout, O.P., a native of Newark, at St. Mary of the Springs.

January 9. Sister Kathleen Thompson, S.C., aged 80, in Mother Margaret Hall, Cincinnati, a native of Chillicothe.

January 9. Sr. M. Gemma Hatem, O.S.U., in Louisville, Ky, a native of New Straitsville, after 73 years in her congregation.

February 1. Sr. Ammella Aeling, Sisters of Divine Providence, born Gladys Louise Aeling in Dover, in Allison Park, Pa., aged 80 years.

February 15. Rev. Robert T. Manning, age 75, in Dover, a retired priest of the diocese.

February 15. Monsignor Stephen B. Hawkins, aged 51 years, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Grove City, in Columbus.

July 7. Sister Mary Celestine Snider, S.C.N., aged 104 years, a native of Chillicothe.

September 7. Rev. Raymond E. Thomas, former pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Newark, in Baltimore, Md.

September 7. Rev. Paul Wayne Meyer, retired priest of the diocese, in Mt. Vernon at the age of 86.

October 6. Trappist Brother Richard Leo Justus of New Melleray Abbey, Peosta, Iowa, aged 68 years, from Lancaster, in Columbus.

December 10. Sister Marie Bernard (born Mary Jane) Kennedy, O. P., at St. Mary of the Springs, a native of Columbus who was raised in London, O., aged 81 years.

**St. Patrick Parish, Clarksville  
(Junction City), Perry County  
Register of Baptisms, 1835-1847  
(Concluded, from Vol. XXVII, No. 1)**

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**Baptisms of Adults  
1844**

April 6 Ann McDowel (age 36 years); spon.  
Thomas Bates. A. O. Brien

same day Catherine Rough (age 25 years);  
spons. Cath. McGreevy. AO

April 19 Mary, daughter of Thomas Bates and  
Euphemia (age 15 years); spon. Margaret  
McCormic. AO

same day Elizabeth (age 13 years), daughter of  
Thomas Bates and Euphemia Bates; spon.  
Mary Clark. AO

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May 5 James Tyrrel (age 21 years); spon.  
John O'Hara. AO

May 30 Charles Bates (age 17 years); spon.  
Phillip Forquer. AO

October [blank] Ann Downey, age about 53  
years. AO

.... 20 James Cook [?] (65 years). AO

....3 John Rowe (about 30 years old). AO

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**1845**

April 20 Mrs. Grattin, aged 65 years; spon.  
Ann McIntire. AO

same day [blank] Tootweller (about 25 years  
old); spon. Henry McGreevy. AO

**1846**

[no date] John Miller, 23 years old; spon.  
John Flowers. AO

May 25 Elizabeth McCarty (age 26 years);  
spons. Sarah McDonald. AO

[Pages 80 through 82 are blank. Page 83  
begins the burial register, reproduced below.]

**St. Patrick Parish, Junction City  
Register of Marriages, 1844-1847**

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**1844**

May 7 Hugh Connelly and Margaret Scally;  
wit. James McGary and Mary Clark. A.  
O'Brien

Sept. 17 Peter McIntire and Anna Kinney; wit.  
James Loague and Mary Crosby. AO

November 19 John Maynaugh and Bridget  
Dougherty; wit. James McGeary and Ann  
McGreevy. AO

same day John Flanagan and Rachel Beaver;  
wit. ... Connely and Eliz Grogan. AO

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**1845**

Feb. 4 Hugh Scallen and Charlotte Conolly;  
wit. D. [?domina=Mrs.] O'Hara and [blank].  
AO

August 14 Philip Fauquer and Charity Clark;  
wit. Cornelius Connely and Cath. Clark. AO

Nov. [blank] William Tyrril and Eleanor Jane  
Clark; wit. Daniel Kelly and Elizabeth Gordon.  
AO

same Thomas Smith and Grace Doherty; wit.  
Henry McGreevy and Elizabeth Gordon AO

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1846

Jan. ... Morant Bash and Magdalen Juda; wit John Messer and Julia Juda. AO [Hocking County names]

Feb. 17 Michael Gilligan and Ruth Ann Drury; wit. Owen Gilligan and Elizabeth Hoy. AO

April 26 John Dougherty and Ann McGravy; wit. Hugh Minaugh and Ellen Gordon. AO

[same day?] Peter Zahm and Ann E. Braddock; wit. James Deckoe and Mary Braddock. AO

April 28 Max [blank] and Mary Ann Craig; wit.. Joseph Craig and Mary Hitz. AO

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May 24 Jacob Myers and Mary Ellen Hein...; wit. Martin Burne and M... Logue. AO

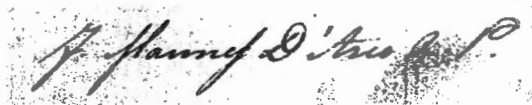
June 14 Patrick Calahan and Elizabeth O Neil; wit. Thomas Galaher and Bridget McGolric. AO

same day William Forquer and Cecilia Bennet; wit. Bernard Smith and Cath. McLochlin. AO

... 30 Richard Barnes and Rebecca McFarlen [?]; wit. Peter Brady and Mary Donnelly. AO

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January 7 William Gordon son of John Gordon of St. Patrick congregation and Ann daughter of Hugh Keenan of Monday Creek congregation; wit. Philip Daugherty son of Constantine and Margaret Keenan daughter of Hugh. Fr. Mannes D'Arco.



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Burial Register

1844

April 26 was buried Patrick Nangle (age about 62 years) A. O'Brien

August 24 was buried Eliz. Downey, age 14 years. AO

August 31 was buried James O'Hara, age 29 years. AO

November [blank] was buried Patrick Byrne, age [blank] [AO]

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1845

[Feb. 15 per tombstone] was buried James Clark, age 68.

Same day was buried infant of James Clark. AO

Feb. 10 was buried Charles McCloskey, age 45 yrs. MdA

March 23 died Rose Ann, daughter of Peter Patridge and Ann Queen [Quinn] (about 10 years old), buried on the 25th in St. Patrick Cemetery. MdA

July 25 Francis Muloy son of Arthur, and Catherine Delin (age about 12 years), in communion with Holy Mother Church gave up his soul to God and his body was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

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1846

Feb. 26 was buried Hugh Clark, age about 45 years. AO

[no date] was buried [blank] Zahm, daughter of [blank], age 15 years. AO [entirely crossed out]

April 30 Elizabeth Clark, daughter of James and Mary Gordon, age 18 years and 6 months, yesterday in the communion of Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to God and the body was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

June 1 James McCloskey son of Charles and Catherine Daugherty, age about 17 years yesterday in communion of Holy Mother Church gave up his soul to God and was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

April 13 Elizabeth Zahm, daughter of John and Catherine Charot[?] yesterday in communion of Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to god and [page 86] was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

April 24 Elizabeth Clark, daughter of James, wife of ... Anthony yesterday in communion of Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to God and her body was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

July 13 Ann Elizabeth King, wife of Daniel O'Hara, age 22 years, yesterday in communion of Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to God, and her body was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

June 15 in the cemetery of St. Patrick was buried D. McCabe, age 25. AO

Aug. 22 Mary Beaths, daughter of Thomas, age 18, yesterday in the communion of Holy Mother Church gave up her soul to God, her body today was buried in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

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April 10 Elisabeth, wife of Patrick McKabe yesterday, at the age of 69 years, gave up her soul to God; her body was buried today in the cemetery of St. Patrick. MdA

[End of burial register]

### Confirmation Register

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On the 20th of September 1841 the following of this congregation were confirmed at St. Joseph's by the Right Rev. Dr. Miles Bishop of Nashville. Viz.

Michael Cody  
John Cody  
James Cody  
Patrick Cody  
Bridget Cody  
Michael Cody Jr.  
John McCortney  
Arthur McCortney  
James McCortney  
Elizabeth McCortney  
... McCortney  
Martin Byrnes  
[Patrick or Michael] .... Byrnes  
Michael Cregh  
Christina Cregh  
Mary Cregh  
Elizabeth Weible  
John Cane  
Susan McDermott  
Bridget Nangle  
James Thomas

One additional record in this small volume is a confirmation class of 1844. It will be inserted in a future *Bulletin* as space permits.

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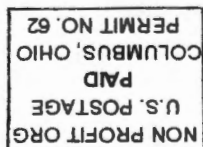
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