



Barquilla de la Santa Maria

**BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society -
Diocese of Columbus**

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The Catholic Church in Ohio in 1823
from the United States Catholic Miscellany,
Vol. II (1823), pp. 164-165
(Courtesy of Anthony J. Lisska, Denison University)

This state was not formed until 1802. The settlers were principally emigrants from the older states of the Union. In the year 1808, when the see of Bardstown was created with jurisdiction over the Western territories, Ohio was a portion of its territory -- but we can not find any trace of a mission at that period, except some of much older date among the Indians, and which, at a future time, we shall lay before our readers. The missionaries who were then employed amongst our red brethren were the French Jesuits. But now the Indian title having been extinguished, the white population began rapidly to pour in and to occupy the fertile valley of the Ohio, and to cultivate its healthy hills. In 1790, the white population of this country did not exceed 3000, and now it is at least two hundred times as many. Never was there known in the history of nations, so rapid an increase -- and this, notwithstanding a war with the Indians, within the first ten years of this period, and the loss of many brave and useful volunteers. Tennessee did much for the south; but Ohio stood well and firmly upon our northern frontier.

Amongst the early settlers of this state were some Catholics from Maryland, the nurse of our religion and the mother of liberality and of religious rights, and freedom of conscience in the new world. No attempt, however, was made to establish a mission or make any permanent settlement of clergy in the state, until the year 1818.

The oldest church of our communion in Ohio, is that of St. Joseph, near Somerset, in Perry County. It was first built with logs, but has been latterly augmented by an addition of stone work, so that the church is now partly logs and partly stone; it is 70 feet long by 24 in breadth, and has attached to it a pretty good two story log building for the residence of the clergy, and a half section, containing 329 acres of land, which were given by Mr. Jacob Dittoe.

The missionaries were Dominican Friars, from Kentucky -- who belonged to the Convent of St. Rose. The superior of the order in Kentucky was then the Rev. Thomas Wilson, and the Rev. Edward Fenwick was then one of the missionaries. Mr. Dittoe conveyed the land to Mr. Fenwick, who had previously obtained the necessary consent from Mr. Wilson, his superior, upon trust, for the purpose of establishing thereon regular clergymen of the order of Saint Dominick -- and the Rev. Mr. Fenwick bound himself, as far as he should be

able, to continue and preserve thereon the said religious order or a regular succession of Priests thereof, who should continue to reside there, and to administer the sacraments and the other aids of religion, according to the rite and usage of the holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church, to the inhabitants of the vicinity.

The venerable Doctor Flaget, the Bishop of Bardstown, gave his sanction to the undertaking, and the Dominican superior sent the Rev. Dr. Edward Fenwick and the Rev. N. D. Young, in the year 1818, to carry the agreement into execution; they accordingly took possession of the premises, and in the course of the year the church was finished, which was opened and dedicated to God under the invocation of St. Joseph, on the 6th day of December, 1818. The two clergymen who thus founded and reared the mission of Ohio, are native Americans, children of Maryland.

The increase of the church in this state and its vicinity, caused the establishment of the Bishopric of Cincinnati, in 1821, as we have before stated -- Right Rev. Dr. Edward Fenwick, the founder of this mission, and now in Rome, was appointed and consecrated its first Bishop -- the Rev. Dr. Young is now the superior and has with him at St. Joseph's, the Rev. Thomas Martin, an Irish Dominican Friar, and the Rev. Vincent De Rymacher, a Flemish Dominican Friar. In 1818, the number of families in this congregation was scarcely ten; at present there are at least one hundred and thirty Catholic families belonging to St. Joseph's -- the far greater proportion are Irish; there are several Germans and a considerable number of American converts.

Attached to St. Joseph's are several missions, which the few clergymen there stationed cannot attend as they could desire. Some of those missions are visited once in the month; some once in six months; some once in the year; others perhaps but once in two years; according as the opportunities and means of the clergyman will allow. One of the most important of those is that of Zanesville, the county town of Muskingum, and on the river of that name; it is about 20 miles from St. Joseph's. The Rev. N. D. Young officiates here once in the month. In Zanesville there is a small brick church, which can only be considered as a temporary edifice -- but this town is rapidly rising, and we understand it is contemplated to erect a good church in the course of this or the next year. In Zanesville there can not be less than from 40 to 50 Catholic families.

There is also another monthly mission in Lancaster, the county town of Fairfield county, which is upon the head water of the Hockhockings river, and about the same distance from St. Joseph's as Zanesville, but in an opposite direction. There is here a neat framed church, but the Catholics are not more than about twenty families -- the Rev. T. Martin attends once in the month at Lancaster. The church is called St. Mary's -- O! how different from the building which, in Philadelphia, has the same name. This is Catholic.

Another mission attached to St. Joseph's, is about fifteen miles distant, in a south-eastern direction, in Morgan county. The church here is a good building of hewn logs, and is dedicated under the invocation of St. Bernard [St. Barnabas!]; -- the number of Catholics at this church is much greater than at Lancaster; there are monthly ministrations by the Rev. N. Young and the Rev. T. Martin, alternately.

THE RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS IN THE GALLAGHER FAMILY
OF BEAVER ST. DOMINIC PARISH
(Concluded, from Vol. XIV, No. 1)

Ohio Dominican Sisters (12)

The two Gallagher sisters who joined the congregation of Dominican Sisters at St. Mary of the Springs had before them the examples of Bishop Gallagher and their other cousins, but more immediately they had the example of their own uncle. Clara Agnes and Emma Gallagher were daughters of Ignatius Gallagher and his wife Rose Montag, who was a sister of Father George Montag, pastor at Temperanceville. Ignatius was a son of Nicholas Gallagher, youngest son of Edmund Gallagher.

Clara Agnes Gallagher was born in Beaver Township on October 29, 1892. On the next day she was baptized by her uncle, Rev. George Montag in the chapel at the old log rectory. She was educated at the Beaver district school, Sacred Heart parish school in Columbus, Holy Trinity parish school in Somerset, and North High School and Bliss College in Columbus. She entered the convent in the fall of 1913 and received the habit as a novice in May of 1914. She took the name Sister Mary Charles. In 1915 she was sent to Mary Immaculate School at Eagle Park, Ossining, N.Y. She taught there for five years before returning to Ohio to teach at Marietta, Lancaster, and Columbus. During these years she also studied college courses and received the B.A. degree from St. Mary of the Springs College. In later years she pursued graduate studies at the University of Notre Dame and at Columbia University.

In 1928 Sister Mary Charles was sent to Albertus Magnus College in Connecticut as its first full-time librarian. During her nearly forty years at that post, she built up a very fine collection. Through her professional skill, broad cultural interests, and seemingly limitless capacity for hard work, she developed there a truly representative collection of books, manuscripts, and periodicals. Two well-remembered facets of Sister Mary Charles' personality were her love for flowers and her temper. Many could recall seeing her on her knees weeding the perennial border. "Students took it for granted that Sister would 'do the flowers' never realizing the time and

labor involved." Her short fuse, however, was also well known. "A heinous crime, such as carrying a bottle of ink into the library or putting something in the wrong place, could provoke a blistering attack. Her wrath fell on students and faculty alike, but it would flare, subside, and be gone. No grudges were cherished." In 1966 she returned to Columbus, where she worked in the archives of the Motherhouse and established a library for adults at Christ the King Parish. She finally "retired" in 1977 and she died on January 5, 1979.



Sr. M. Charles



Sr. M. Magdalen

Emma, the second daughter of Ignatius and Rose (Montag) Gallagher, was born on December 29, 1894 near Temperanceville. Like her sister, she was educated at Holy Trinity Parish school in Somerset and at North High School in Columbus. She received her B.A. from the College of St. Mary's of the Springs in 1930. She entered the convent in the spring of 1915 and received the habit in January, 1916. She took the name Sister Mary Magdalen. For fifty years, Sister Mary Magdalen taught in the schools operated by her congregation in Ohio, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New York. She began by teaching the elementary grades but soon "graduated" to high school, where she specialized in teaching English courses. After her retirement to St. Mary of the Springs, she worked in the library each day, a labor of love, she felt, to help the Sisters in pursuit of both pleasure and holiness. Later in the day she would visit the sick Sisters in Mohun Hall, who liked her to join them in praying the Rosary. Sister soon found herself in the Mohun Hall infirmary, where she died on March 6, 1980, after sixty-two years in religious life.

Sister M. Eloise Biedenbach, O.S.F.

The twelfth known vocation from the Gallagher family will be only briefly mentioned. Sister M. Eloise Biedenbach, of the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, was born in 1935. Her ancestry traces back to Edmund Gallagher as follows: she is a daughter of Henry and Constance (Hughes) Biedenbach of Cambridge and formerly of Warren Township in Belmont County. Mrs. Biedenbach was a daughter of Joseph Hughes, son of Francis and Sarah (Gallagher) Hughes. Mrs. Sarah Hughes was a daughter of William (and Priscilla Creighton) Gallagher, the eldest son of John (and Mary Ann Brinton) Gallagher, the son of Edmund the immigrant. Sister M. Eloise has taught in St. Agnes School at Mingo Junction, Ohio.

Concluding Remarks

It would be surprising if there were not more vocations among the Gallagher descendants than are enumerated above. These, however, give a good enough indication of the family's devotion to the Church and its works. Sister Mary David McCort, asked if there was anything special which would have fostered so many vocations in the parish at Temperanceville, replied that there was nothing, to her knowledge, although all activities of the community centered in the parish. Rather, it was the strong faith in the homes which was probably the most important influence, she said. A related factor which has been noted elsewhere was present here: the families were large and large families seem to foster the spirit of generosity necessary for one to devote his life to a religious vocation. From the stories of the individuals told here, it is obvious that the spiritual life of those already in religion and the example and encouragement they provide are other important factors.

12. The information on Sisters Mary Charles and Mary Magdalene was graciously supplied by Sister Mary McCaffrey, O.P., Archivist at St. Mary of the Springs.

The photographs accompanying this article were provided as follows: Sisters Mary Agnes, Beatrice, and Mary Robert by Sister Mary David McCort, O.P.; Rt. Rev. N. A. Gallagher by Donald M. Schlegel; Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. P. Gallagher by Mrs. Pearl (Gallagher) Reischman; Sisters Mary Charles and Mary Magdalen by Sister Mary McCaffrey, O.P., St. Mary of the Springs.

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS IN THE DIOCESE FOR 1988

Universal Church

- Feb. 19 The Encyclical Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, dated Dec. 30, 1987, was released by the Vatican.
- June 30 Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre ordained four bishops in Ecône, Switzerland without Papal authority and incurred automatic excommunication, in a disagreement over the decrees of the Second Vatican Council regarding religious freedom, ecumenism, and collegiality.
- Sept. 30 The Papal letter Mulieris Dignitatem, dated Aug. 15, was released by the Vatican; it defends both the dignity of women and the male priesthood.

Diocese of Columbus

- Apr. 8 The objectives of the diocesan Pastoral Planning Project were announced.
- Apr. 11 The Columbus Diocese Black Catholic Plan was released.
- May 6 to May 19 An exhibit, "Marian Art: 1988", at the Pontifical College Josephinum was sponsored by the diocese in honor of the Marian Year.
- July 15 Bishop Griffin announced that the Legacy of Catholic Learning endowment fund drive for Franklin County Catholic schools had exceeded its goal of \$10 million in pledges.
- Oct. 29 A Tridentine Rite Mass was offered at the Shrine Center for Renewal in Columbus, with approval of the Ordinary on a one-time basis. Those desiring the rite must re-petition each time and find alternate sites.
- Dec. 9 A concert was sung at the Palace Theater in Columbus by the Vienna Choir Boys, courtesy of several Columbus corporations, with proceeds going to the Foundation of the diocese.

Parishes

- May 11 Johnstown Ascension Parish dedicated its new religious education center, Bishop Emeritus Edward J. Hermann presiding.
- June St. John the Baptist Parish reached agreement with the Italian Village Commission and could proceed to raze its old convent, to replace it with an "Italian cultural center" with the facade of the convent rebuilt.
- June 26 Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish held a "mortgage burning" for the church and rectory, completed in 1981.
- July 1 A Bishop's ad hoc committee to study Sacred Heart and St. Francis parishes in Columbus recommended that they continue to operate separately for the next five years.
- July 10 Worthington St. Peter Parish held a "mortgage burning" for the \$1.2 million debt contracted in 1978 for construction of the McEwan Center.
- July 18 Groundbreaking was held for the new St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell.
- July 18 A remodelled barn was dedicated as church (St. Mary of the Gael Chapel), classrooms, and offices for St. Brigid of Kildare Parish, Dublin.
- Sept. 4 Perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament began at Lancaster St. Bernadette Parish.
- Oct. 23 St. Philip Neri Parish, Murray City, was changed to a quasi-parish and entrusted to the pastor of Logan St. John.
- Oct. 23 St. Augusting Parish, New Straitsville, and St. Mary Parish, Shawnee, were united and placed under the care of the pastor of New Lexington St. Rose.

Oct. 29 St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Zanesville was rededicated after being restored both inside and out.

Institutions, Agencies, and Organizations

Jan. 17. An Installation Mass was offered for Diocesan Council and Court, St. Cyprian 298, Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Mar. 25 The four Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Columbus requested suppression of their order, which had been established in 1956.

Sept. Joshua House, the Columbus residence for sufferers of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, was closed by the Joshua Foundation.

Personnel and Vocations

Jan. 18 Sister Francesca Lawler, O.P., age 102, died at St. Mary of the Springs Motherhouse. She was a native of Minerton and entered the order from St. Patrick Parish in Columbus.

Jan. 18 Sister Lauranna Stoll, O.P., died at St. Mary of the Springs, aged 77 years. She entered the order from Newark St. Francis Parish.

Jan. 31 Sister Mary Cleophas Mourin, O.P. died at St. Mary of the Springs, aged 93; she was a native of Zanesville.

Feb. 8 Sister Regina Brown, O.S.F., Stella Niagara, died at Lewiston, N.Y. A native of Columbus, she joined the order in 1933.

Feb. 14 Sister Mary Aquin Sigrist, age 93, died at the Baden, Pa. motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph. She had entered that order from Columbus St. Dominic Parish in 1911.

Feb. 21 Died at Assisi Heights Motherhouse, Rochester, Minn., Sister Emerentia Simon, O.S.F., age 80, a native of Pond Creek in Scioto County.

Mar. 7 Sister Catherin Griffen, O.S.F., Manitowoc, Wisconsin, age 77 years, died. She was a native of Delaware, Ohio.

Mar. 20 Monsignor Joseph R. Casey, retired pastor of St. Catherine Parish in Columbus, died at Quail Haven retirement center, Pinhurst, N.C., aged 77.

Mar. 31 Ann L. O'Rourke retired as finance director of the diocese, a post she had held since 1977.

Apr. 3 Sister Francis Clare Schroeder, O.S.F., age 89, died at Rochester, Minn.; she had entered the order from Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Parish.

Apr. 10 Rev. Robert G. White, age 66, spiritual director of the Shepherd Hill Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Center in Newark, former principal of Bishop Hartley High School, and pastor, died in Newark.

Apr. 18 Rev. Frederick E. Klueg, O.P., age 72, a native of Columbus, died at St. Dominic and St. Thomas Priory, Chicago.

Apr. 29 John R. Maloney, executive director of St. Stephen's Community House in Columbus and member of Columbus City Council, died. He was succeeded as executive director by Judith Stattmiller.

May 18 Sister Francis Raphael Swain, O.P., age 84, died at St. Mary of the Springs; a native of Columbus.

June 8 Died in Lewiston, N.Y., Sister M. Lea Flowers, O.S.F., Stella Niagara, age 91, a native of New Lexington.

June 11 At St. Joseph Cathedral, Rev. James P. Black of Columbus St. Leo Parish and Rev. Dennis E. Stevenson of Columbus Christ the King Parish were ordained to the priesthood.

June 20 sister Marie Bematte Boyle, O.P., died at St. Mary of the Springs, aged 83 years; she entered the congregation in 1925 from Marietta.

July 1 Rev. Francis Mossholder, native of Mt. Vernon, was ordained for the P.I.M.E. Society at St. Raphael Church, Raleigh, N.C., by Bishop Gossman of Raleigh.

July 12 Rev. Joseph Hendricks became Vicar General, continuing as Chancellor of the diocese. Sr. Anne McCarrick, S.N.D. de N., became full time Vice Chancellor; Rev. Stephen J. Maloney became Vice Chancellor.

July 12 Rev. Ralph R. Dermody, pastor of Utica Nativity Parish, retired.

Aug. 11 Sister Marjorie Davis, O.P. professed final vows at St. Mary of the Springs; she is from Columbus and Westerville.

Sept. 18 Sister Rose Agnes Zollinger, O.S.F., Joliet, Ill., died at the age of 84 years. She was born in Austria and raised in Columbus.

Sept. 25 Sister Mary Ernestine Lageman, Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, age 78 died at St. Benedict health care center, St. Louis, Mo. She was born Ida Frances Lageman in Columbus.

Oct. 3 Died in Erie, Pa., Sister Mary Lawrence Connors, Order of St. Benedict, aged 84. She was from Columbus Holy Name Parish.

Oct. 13 Sister M. Fority Bentz, O.P. died at St. Mary of the Springs, aged 78 years. A native of Cincinnati, she was raised in Marietta.

Nov. 8 Sister Mary Justin Durbin, age 87, of the Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a native of Danville, died in Monroe, Michigan.

Nov. 20 Steven A. Cordiano, formerly of Columbus, was received as a monk of the monastery of Our Savior, Hebron, of the Melkite Catholic Rite. He received the habit and tonsure and name Brother Nicholas at Holy Resurrection Melkite Catholic Church, Columbus.

Nov. 30 Sister Mary of the Angles Christ, O.P., a member of the contemplative Monastery of Our Lady of Grace, died in North Guilford, Conn.; she was a native of Zanesville.

Dec. 25 Rev. James W. Kirby, S.J. died in Columbiar Center, Clarkston, Michigan. A former resident of Marion, he was seventy years old.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SOMERSET, OHIO
 REGISTER OF BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES, 1827-1851
 (Continued from Vol. XIII, No. 12)

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July 28 in Franklin[ton] near Columbus, Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew Herman and Elizabeth Meyer; spons. Jerome Bruyn and Frances Philinger. [TJVDB]

July 30 in Chillicothe, Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Ignatius Wiswel and Mary Gune, born July 19; spons. Barnabas Burg and Anna Nebenburg. [TJVDB]

Aug. 3 in Kington near Chillicothe, Edward F., son of Daniel Walker and Elizabeth W----; spons. Helen Down. [TJVDB]

Aug. 4 in Lancaster, Anna, born 24 Apr. 1833, daughter of Ignatius Smit and Mary Felon (perhaps Telon?); spons. Sara Moreete and George Schitsele. [TJVDB]

same Jane, born Sept., 1825, daughter of Lemiel White (?) and Margaret Telon; spons. Sara ---- and Geroge Schitseler. TJVDB

Aug. 19 George, born Aug. 13, son of James Marstall and Sara Marstall; spons. James and Elizabeth Elder. [TJVDB]

same Elizabeth Ann, born Aug. 10, daughter of Ignatius Wiswel and Mary Gune; spons. Michael Wagener and Anna Nebenburg. TJVDB

Aug. 29 Roger Ryan, son of Roger and Mary Ryan; spons. James Slevin and Margaret McIllire (?). NDY

July, 1833 two infants, Edward and Nicholas Musselman, sons of William Musselman and M---. NDY

Sept. 22 George Elder, son of James and Mary Elder; spon. Charles and El'a (?) Elder. NDY

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Sept. 23 William, son of Nicholas and Rachael Quinn (?); spon. William and Elizabeth Musselman. NDY

Sept. 29 Peter, son of Owen Dolen and Sally Dunean; spon. C-- Donally. Charles P. Montgomery.

Oct. -- Jane, daughter of James Borer and Anna Maria Borer; spon. John Herholser and Mary Ann Borer.

Oct. -- John, son of Benedict o denier (?) and Christina Hinder; spon. Michael Wagener and Margaret Stuter. TJVDB

Oct. -- Michael Thomas, son of Peter Coenyen (?) and Bridget Mcgoram; spon. Henry Ditoe and Elizabeth Lugen. TJVDB

Oct. -- Cecilia, daughter of George Jacson and Catherine Horts; spon. John Finck and Elizabeth Fink. [TJVDB]

Oct. 25 Alfred Dominic Will, son of John James Will and Teresa Miles or Will; spon. John Will and Sara Rosenbury. Daniel Jos. O'Leary

same George, son of Aeneas Bradly and Elizabeth Sholt or Bradly; spon. Peter Early. (signed Nov. 3, 1833, DJO)

Nov. -- in Lancaster or Columbus, baptized the four following: Mary age seven years, John age 5, Elizabeth age 3, and Sara Ann age -- months, of Daniel Hellems and Jane Hellems. TJVDB [The record was originally written "in Lancaster" but a line was later drawn to the word "Columbus" in the margin.]

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Nov. 8 Catherine, daughter of Peter Reber and Sara Arndel or Reber; spon. Catherine Durand. DJO

Nov. 10 Mary Jane Bond, daughter of Alexander Bond and Sara Brady or Bond; spon. James and Mary Scalian. DJO

Dec. 29 Sara Jane, daughter of John Talborth and Catherine Cas--; spon. Mary Case. DJO

1834

Jan. 3 Julia Anna Minia, daughter of James and Bridget Minia; spon. Patrick and Mary Cl--. NDY

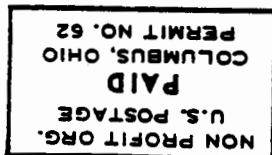
Jan. 1 Anna Maria, daughter of Peter Meyer and Maria Eva; spon. Augustine Meyer and Mary Meyer. TJVDB

Oct. 27, 1833 in Columbus, John, son of John George Scheve (?) [perhaps Scholl ?] and Margaret Snyder; spon. Ignatius Wiling [perhaps Wheeler?] and Catherine Christonwo--- (?).

same day and place, Mary, daughter of [remainder of page is blank].

(To be continued)

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197 E. Gay Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Donald M. Schlegel, editor



CHANCERY OFFICE
DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
198 EAST BROAD STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215