

REMEMBER
REJOICE
RENEW

The Catholic Community
of Columbus
Celebrates

St. Bartholomew's
150th Year

1841 - 1991

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COLUMBUS, INDIANA 47201

The Catholic Community of Columbus

celebrates

St. Bartholomew's 150th Year

June 10, 1991

Compiled By:

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**Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara, S.T.D.
Archbishop of Indianapolis**



Archdiocese of Indianapolis

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

June 9, 1991

My dear Family in Christ,

Someone has said that "history is living, breathing men and women...is pain and joy, love and hate, hardships and victories." That is what St. Bartholomew Parish is celebrating with its completion of 150 years of being a people of God. It is looking back and recalling names of first Catholics like Mrs. Basil Owens, first priests here – Fathers Simon Lalumiere, Vincent Bacquelin, Victor Schnell, and Andrew Oster.

In those far off days, the priest could be in this parish only once a month – in some cases, once a year. But people lived their faith and taught their children that faith. They had no Catholic school in the early days, but they handed on their beliefs and values without the benefit and convenience of a parish church. Those forbearers you now remember in celebration.

Down the years that faith has strengthened and grown so that as you rejoice in 150 years of being parish, a family, you are able to look back and give vigorous nods of assent to that same faith as you live it today.

My blessings and congratulations are yours on this happy occasion. May that strength and courage in the face of hardship, which is your legacy of faith, be yours in abundance as you celebrate this anniversary.

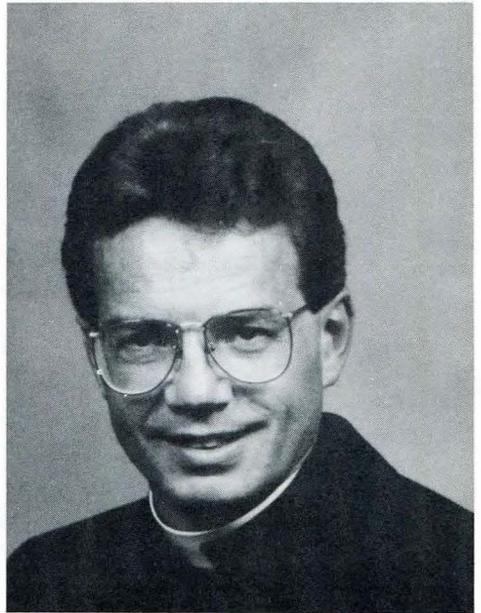
Sincerely yours in Our Lord,

Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara, S.T.D.
Archbishop of Indianapolis

Dear Parishioners,

"Remembering the past, making it present, to lead us into the future" is the basis for what we do when we pray. It is what we do each time we come together to celebrate the Eucharist. This three-fold process is also the basis for why we need to celebrate our Sesquicentennial.

It is important that we take time "to remember" our past. The people who began our Catholic heritage in Bartholomew County were people who remained loyal to their faith. They began as a community of believers, praying together and working together to plant a Catholic presence in this area of Indiana. They were "church" in the best sense of the word. Clergy and buildings came as a result of these people of faith, not prior to them. From these people we remember that this is how the Christian faith spread throughout our country. Without clergy, without buildings, people brought the Catholic faith and tradition to Columbus. They saw good in what they believed. They wanted to pass on what they professed. From this dedication, the Catholic Community began to take hold. St. Bartholomew Parish began. We remember these people, who sacrificed and gave of their resources, in time, talent and resources. They were people who were proud of their faith and gave witness to it. One hundred fifty years later, we remember them today! We are grateful for the heritage and foundation they have laid for us.



Today, we show our gratitude by "making present" these same ideals in our lives. The Catholic Community can be proud of the presence it offers to Bartholomew County. The commitment and witness of faith continues to flow in all aspects of life in the Coulmbus area. Not only through St. Bartholomew Parish are people involved in every area of ministry, education and administration, but also, in our community at large, parishioners are active. The weekly visitations to those homebound and in nursing homes are marks of extending ourselves beyond our Church walls. Daily visitations are made to the hospital. Among what is happening, are parishioners taking an active part in leadership roles in our community, the Ecumenical Assembly, the Hospice program, and housing project. Our social ministry program reaches so many people often turned away or forgotten by others. All around us we can see evidence of people promoting the Gospel in their respect for all life and working for peace. We are "church" today. We can be proud to celebrate how we have built upon the foundation of our past and remain committed to furthering our faith into the future.

This "future" is the threshold we stand upon as we celebrate 150 years of parish life in Bartholomew County. I feel fortunate to be a part of this Catholic Community. To see God's face in so many ways through people dedicated to their faith and reaching out to others is a humbling experience. By celebrating this anniversary, we are celebrating who we are, called by God, sent to bring God's presence and joy to all. With all of us remembering how we got to this day and seeing ourselves as chosen each day to continue this mission, St. Bartholomew's Parish will celebrate many anniversaries in the future!

Father Stephen Banet

My dear friends in Christ,

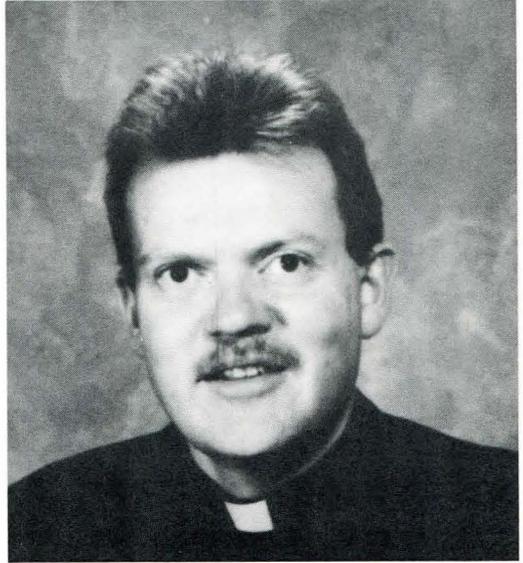
What a blessing and honor it is to celebrate 150 years of Catholic service in Bartholomew County! We have so much to be thankful for: a quality youth ministry program, a spiritual liturgical life, a fine Catholic school, dedicated ministers and a growing awareness of our need to reach deeper into the community so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can be heard in a viable and believable manner.

One hundred and fifty years represents two realities. The first is what we have accomplished. Our accomplishments are easily enough learned by simply talking to folks in the community and studying the history of Bartholomew County. St. Bartholomew has played a vital role in helping this community arrive at where it presently finds itself. This weekend, indeed this past year, has been a celebration of our accomplishments and of who we presently are.

The second reality which this celebration of one hundred and fifty years represents is what we have yet to accomplish. We are not finished. The Harvest Master is not finished with us. There are challenges before us, not the least of which is our present call to discern the future of our Church with fewer and fewer priests. All the while we discern our internal needs, in terms of ministry, our call to serve the entire People of God is still before us. This weekend, we celebrate what we hope to become.

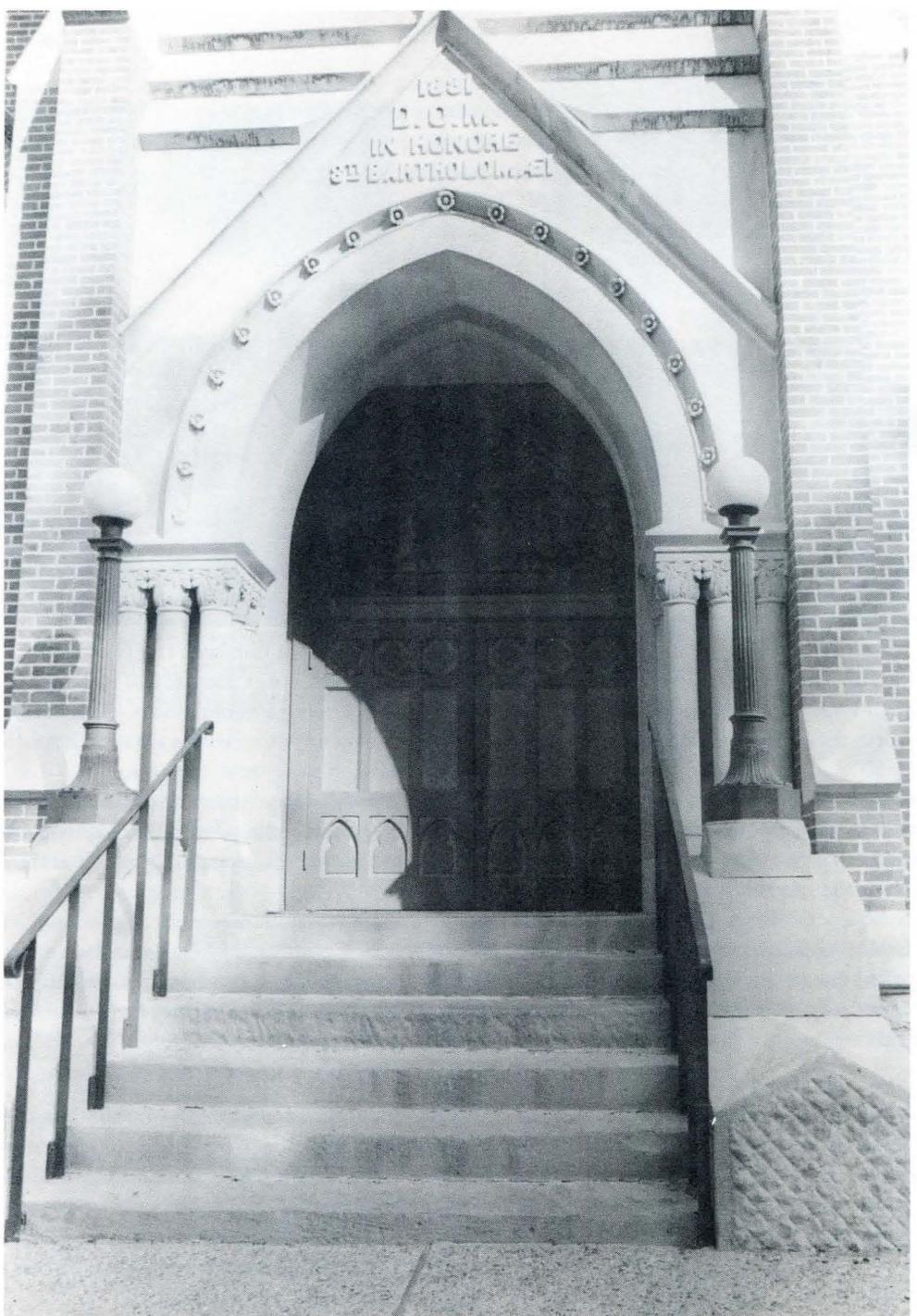
Our celebration is not about ourselves alone. It is about a marvelous and mysterious God who has worked through His Holy People, and who will continue to work through this same people. Our sight cannot remain long on the past. We must look forward . . . we must look forward with a vision to recreate anew and build upon the framework that already exists.

May God bless St. Bartholomew Parish and the entire Catholic Community of Columbus to which she gave birth. May God deepen that plenteous and Holy Spirit in our hearts so that in one hundred and fifty years from this day, the future generations may look back upon the work we do, and move eagerly forward with gratitude and thanksgiving.



In God's service to God's Church,

Father Green



The exterior doors of St. Bartholomew Church have been welcoming parishioners and visitors for many years.

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Catholic Community's Early Years – Washington Street Complex

The first Catholics to enter the region now known as Bartholomew County were probably the French traders who bartered along the White River with the Delaware Indians. The first sale of land in this area was on January 6, 1820.

The early parishioners were hundreds of Catholics from families who had lived for a century or more in Maryland and Kentucky. Among these decedents was Mrs. Basil Mahoney Owens, who was regarded as the first Catholic pioneer in the parish.

Bartholomew County was organized under the Act of the General Assembly and approved on January 9, 1821. In the same year, lots were sold and the town originally named Tiptonia was changed to Columbus.

For at least a decade after the arrival of Mrs. Owens, the Catholics in Bartholomew County remained deprived of a priest. Although not certain, it is believed that the first Catholic service was held by Father Simon Lalumiere in the early 1830s.

With the formation of the diocese of Vincennes on May 6, 1834, Bishop Brute was placed in charge of southern Indiana and the two priests in that region. Father Michael Shawe and Father Vincent Bacquelin were noted to have made several visits to Bartholomew County from 1837-1840. Mass was often times held at the home of James D. Farrell. The first church was built under the supervision of Farrell.

A lot, one hundred and fifty feet wide, was purchased from Joseph G. Marshall, Edmund Case, Volney G. and Lucious

Barbour and John F. Gwynn for \$188. This lot was located on Washington Street just north of 6th Street which was at the time on the outer corporate city limits.

Completed in 1841, the first Catholic church was fifty feet long by thirty feet wide and a frame structure, the largest in Columbus. The cost of construction was a mere \$830. The sum was immediately paid by the congregation. The choice of a patron was simple, the name was taken from the county which had been named for General Bartholomew.

In 1844, Comstock painted the large mural of the crucifix over the altar. In 1848, a bell weighing 488 pounds was purchased from G. F. Coffin of Cincinnati for \$148.

By the year of Father Bacquelin's death in 1846, the first generation of Catholics had settled in Bartholomew County and in Columbus. Their foundation had been laid around a newly erected church. Although their numbers were small, the growth of Columbus in the next several years was to ensure the appointment of the first resident priest.

The very few Catholic families of 1846 had quickly increased to thirty by 1860, fifty by 1860 and more than seventy-five by 1872. St. Bartholomew's was raised to the status of a parish in 1865.

The appointment of Father Orem necessitated the only building improvement at the time, which was a place of residence. A suitable house was built on the northern end of the church for \$1000.

St. Bartholomew's Church

– Sycamore Street Complex

The period from 1873-1920 saw remarkable growth and prosperity for the city of Columbus. The population doubled in fifteen years. Most of the growth was in response to the industrial advancement.

St. Bartholomew was enjoying an increase in numbers as the second generation of Catholics became involved in parish life. By 1898, 532 members were listed in the parish directory.

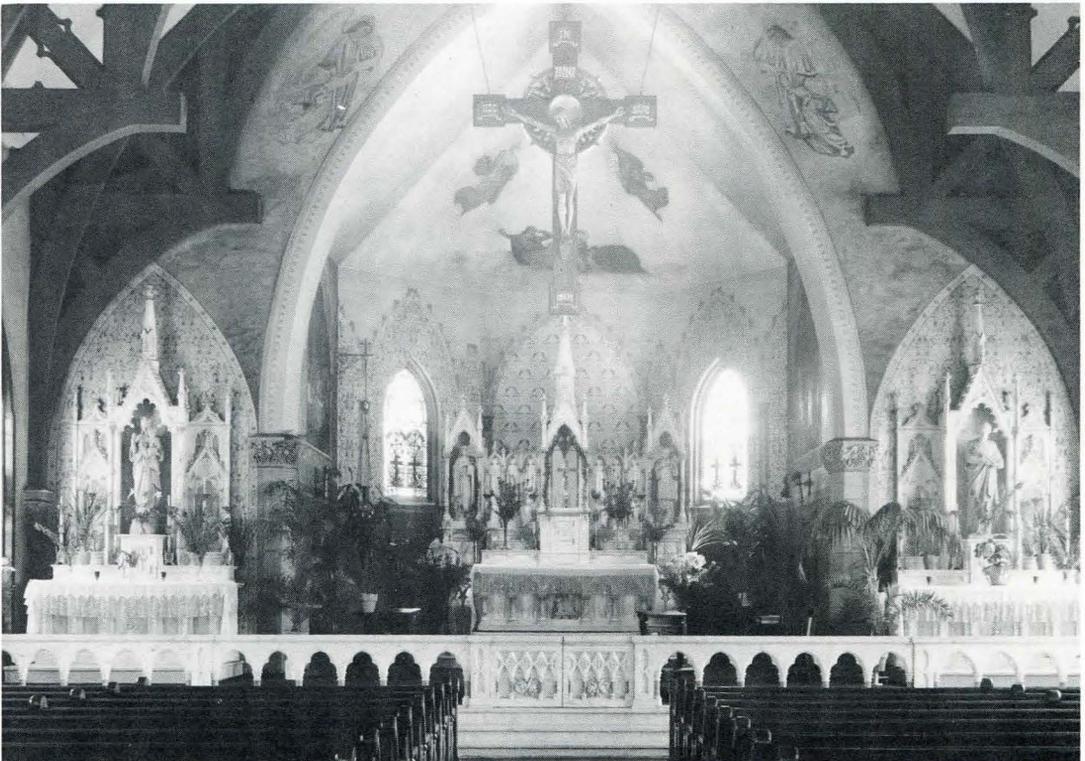
Four pastors were assigned to St. Bartholomew during this time.

Father Victor A. Schnell was the pastor from 1873 to 1885. It is noted that Schnell was

a very dedicated and conscientious administrator. He was an active historian and portions of his journal regarding St. Bartholomew's early history appeared in the "Atlas of Bartholomew Co., Indiana" in 1879.

In 1880, the parish population was increasing so rapidly that an addition measuring 42 by 25 feet was added to the church on Washington Street.

Father Andrew Oster was the pastor from 1885-1907. His service to St. Bartholomew during years of growth and prosperity noted him as the second founder of the parish.



Palm Sunday at a very young St. Bartholomew Church at 8th and Sycamore.

- Sycamore Street Complex

During Father Oster's time at St. Bartholomew parish, the present church was built on the property at 8th and Sycamore.

In 1899, the property on Washington Street was sold. The property on Sycamore Street was purchased from Francis T. Hord. In 1891, the construction began on the new church, school and rectory. The sisters would soon occupy Hord's previous home.

On June 8, 1891, Catholics gathered at the new site to celebrate mass with the Reverend A. Scheialer of Indianapolis. A grand celebration centered around the laying of the cornerstone. In the cornerstone many items were placed including:

- Copies of the city newspaper
- Catholic Advocate
- Name of the president
- Names of state officials
- Name of the mayor
- Photographs of the founding family and the church's contractor
- History of the church by Father Oster
- Photograph of the old church

The new church was completed in 1902 measuring 40 by 110 feet and was made of brick, with corners of limestone. Bishop Chatard dedicated the church on February 28, 1902. The ceiling measuring 34 feet high was supported by a beam structure. The pews, made of oak, were purchased for \$850. The steeple, measuring 127 feet high, could be seen from quite a great distance.

The entire church structure was built for \$30,000. Financial planning was very accurate, leaving the church only \$8,000 in debt at the completion of construction.

Father Charles Wagner was the pastor from 1907 to 1908. It is noted that Wagner was known for his generous charity.

Father James B. Delaney was the pastor from 1908 to 1920. During his time, many improvements were made on the church properties.

In 1908, the church was fitted with a heating and electrical system. In 1909, the school was equipped with modern facilities. In 1910, the sisters' home was completely renovated. The church was redecorated in 1913 and three new altars were consecrated by Bishop Chartrand on September 4.

A new cemetery organization was also founded at this time. The parish purchased six acres of land, with a portion set aside for exclusive burial of Catholics. The governing board of the cemetery was composed of five members, three of whom were Catholic. Bodies which had been buried at the old site were moved. The old site was sold. The present Garland Brook Cemetery of Columbus was originated from this new Catholic cemetery.

The period from 1920-1950 was marked by a steady increase in growth. Few building changes were made to the church during this time, but many administration changes were made.

In the 1920s, the entire church interior was once again redecorated. Two generous gifts were made to the church: a bell by the Hilger family and a Gothic crucifix by the Dell family.

In 1923, the sisters' convent was greatly damaged by fire. The structure was completely remodeled, making a more modern building with an extra room sometimes used for a school classroom.

In 1939, Father Dunn was appointed to St. Bartholomew parish. During his time, a fund was established to remodel the school. Many parish organizations and groups continued to flourish, including the Knights of Columbus and the founding of the Daughters of Isabelle and the St. Bartholomew Men's Club.



Fire caused damage to a classroom in the early 1920s.



A drama club of parishioners provided entertainment for the parish in the 1930s.

The "Daughter" Church, St. Columba

In February, 1954, a Warranty Deed was filed in the office of the recorder of Bartholomew County that transferred property from Francis M. Overstreet to the Archbishop of Indianapolis. The property measured approximately 6.18 acres.

On May 2, 1960, the fund raising campaign was launched for the new construction on 27th and Home Avenue. The estimated cost of construction was set at \$500,000. Bob Holmdohl was the chairman. The slogan for the campaign was simple: "From everyone a fair share".

On August 30, 1963, Archbishop Schulte issued a letter which stated, "We hereby canonically establish a new parish in the city of Columbus, Indiana, under the title and dedication to St. Columba."

March 10, 1963, was "ground breaking" ceremony day and on July 21, 1963, the cornerstone ceremony was held.



Father Patrick Gleason, then pastor of St. Bartholomew, was named founding pastor of St. Columba.

Although altered from the original plans, the new church and school is as we know it today (less the 8 classroom addition in 1968). The church is described by most as a triangular shape, composed of St. Meinrad limestone. The exterior of the church is dominated by the Celtic Cross. The church has a seating capacity of 528 people.

St. Columba housed one of the first altars designed to allow the priest to face the congregation. The consecration of the altar took place on January 19, 1964.

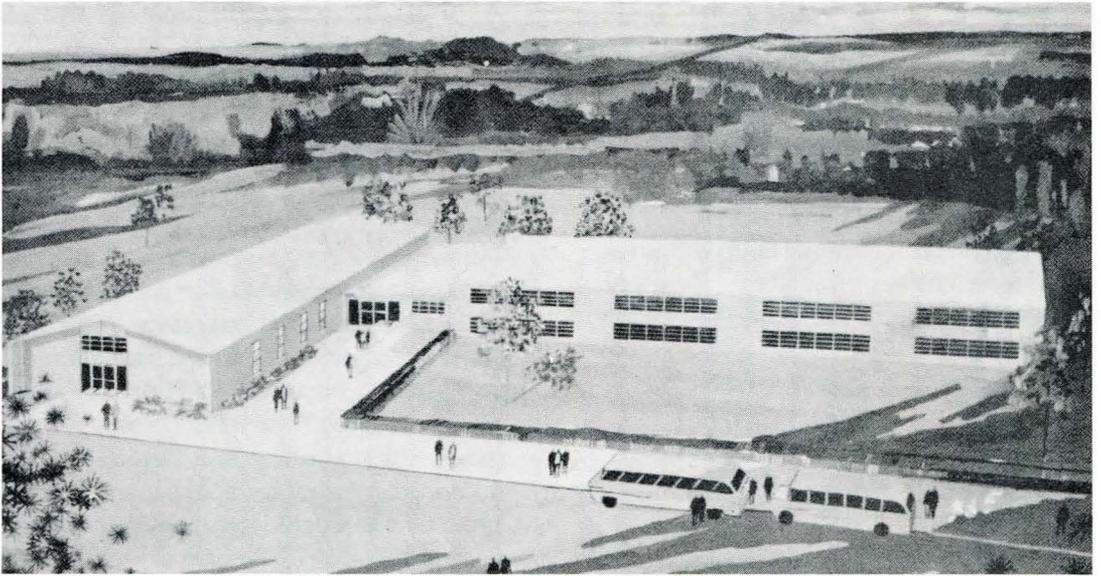
Boundaries were created between the two parishes. All residing north of 22nd Street would be registered at St. Columba and attend school there. All residing south of 22nd Street would be registered and attend school at St. Bartholomew.

In February of 1967, an eight classroom addition was constructed at the St. Columba school, making a total of 16 classrooms. The cost was estimated at \$150,000.

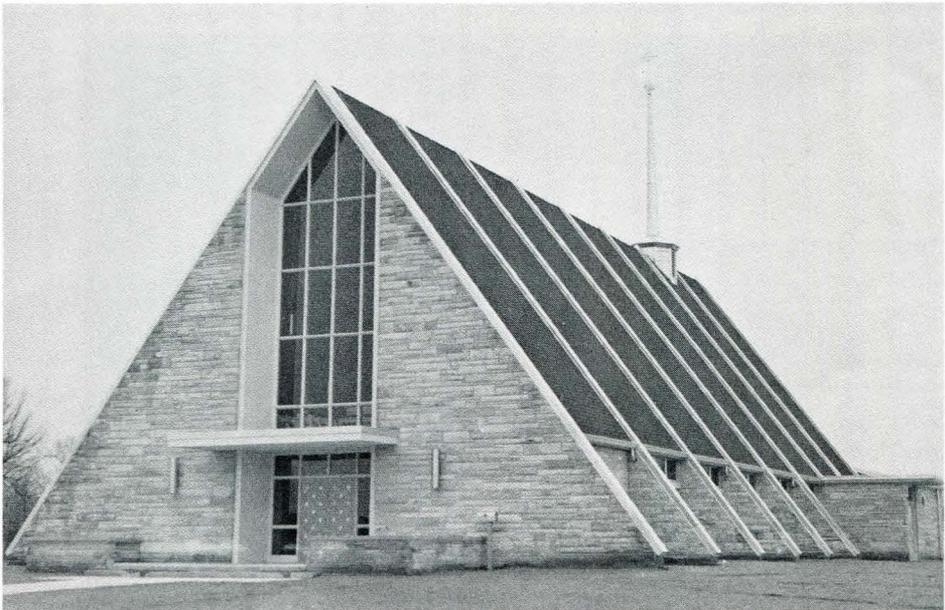
The original rectory was constructed in the area of the current playground, but unfortunately was damaged by fire in November of 1975. The remains of the house were sold and moved to Parkway Drive. One year later, in November of 1976, ground was broken for a new rectory.

On June 23, 1977, at the age of 64, Father Gleason died.

Father Joseph McNally began work as the pastor of St. Columba within days after Father Gleason's death. Father McNally remained the pastor at St. Columba until 1989.



The original plan at the St. Columba complex included an eight classroom building by an auditorium/ gymnasium. The revised plan, approved in 1963, is as we know St. Columba and All Saints Catholic School today.



The Catholic School

– Early Years

The first Catholic school was established by Father Martinovic in 1855. The building was located near the original church site at 6th and Washington Street. The Sisters of Providence from St. Mary's of the Woods taught at the school.

– Closing

Due to lack of funding, the school closed its doors in 1858. The next twenty years left the Catholic community without a school and presumably children went to the public school. There is, however, very little data during this period.

In 1878, a new school building was completed and dedicated by Bishop Chatard. The Sisters of Providence returned in the fall of 1878 and remained at St. Bartholomew's school until 1919. Sisters that first year in 1858 included: Sister Gertrude, Sister Rosina, Sister Bernadette and Sister Euphemia. Sister Euphemia assumed the leadership of the school. Some references indicate that a tuition was required to attend school until Father James B. Delaney arrived in 1908. One hundred and twenty-five students were enrolled in 1878, some of whom were not Catholic. Twenty of the 125 students were enrolled in what they called "fancy work".

At the close of the first year, almost half of the student enrollment received their first communion.



Early classroom setting.

When property was purchased on the present church site (Sycamore Street) in 1891, a new school was built. Dedication was not made, however, until 1902. Nearly six years later, Father Delaney equipped the school with "modern conveniences".

The new school on Sycamore Street had only two classrooms, although from time to time classes were also held in the nearby convent. The second level of the building functioned as the parish hall. School programs were often times held in this hall. The Christmas program was always very well attended. There was a stage at the south end of the hall which could only be reached by a dark narrow staircase accessed through the cloakroom below. This large hall was later converted into more classrooms.

By 1920, the school's enrollment had dwindled to 58. The Providence Sisters were recalled back to St. Mary's of the Woods. The Ursuline Sisters from Louisville came to Columbus and taught at the school from 1920 until 1926. During this time, the convent was badly burnt and had to be completely rebuilt. Without the sisters, Father Timothy Kavanaugh and Father Ralph Doyle took over the teaching at the school for only a short period.

In September of 1930, Benedictine Sisters Felicitas Halter, Adelaide Schwartz and Madeline White from Ferdinand, Indiana took charge of the school. The Benedictines were the last religious order to teach in Columbus.



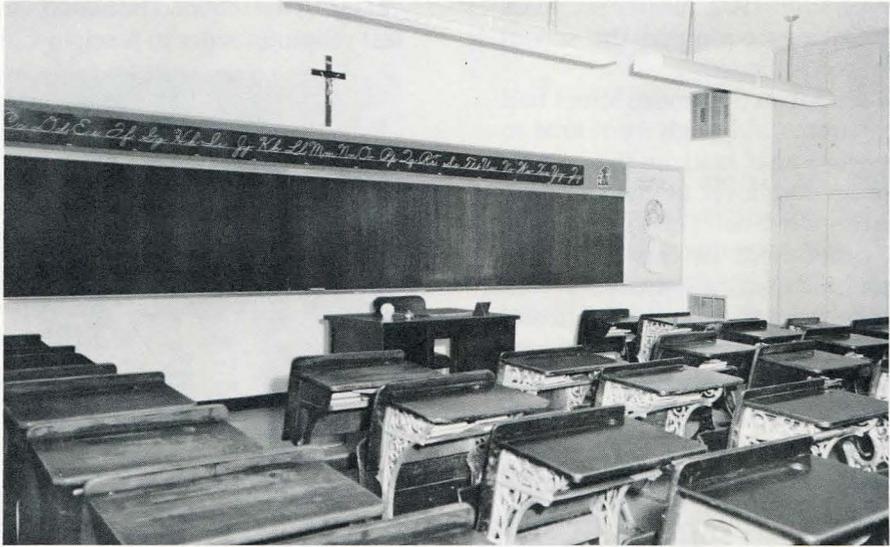
Grade school graduation, 1940s.



1922 graduating class.

By 1950, 100 students were enrolled at the school. Fourteen were in the graduating class. Three Sisters and one housekeeper in residence directed at the school.

In 1955, the original convent on the corner of 8th and Sycamore was torn down and expansion began on the school, which is now the present building site. The Zaharako home on the corner of 8th and Chestnut became the new convent.



School classroom, 1950s.



For several years, many young boys and girls enjoyed the direction of the Sisters at the St. Bartholomew's school.

- All Saints Catholic School



The "C" stood for Catholic. Who do you think our basketball team played? The "L's" of course.

By 1960, four lay teachers were added to the teaching staff for the first time in addition to 6 sisters. By 1966, there were only 6 sisters yet 5 lay teachers on St. Bartholomew's staff. The enrollment was 259.

St. Columba school opened in January of 1964. Some say the mid-year split was difficult for students as well as teachers, but the division was necessary due to increasing enrollment and the building of the new church at 27th and Home Avenue.

- Consolidation

The Catholic community was soon to realize that two schools were impossible to support financially. In 1979, St. Bartholomew and St. Columba schools were consolidated to "provide better educational programs for children of both parishes at a lower overall cost". Classes took place at the 27th and Home Avenue building. During the first year of the consolidation, the school name was changed to St. Bartholomew/St. Columba (or vice versa depending on which church you attended).

In 1980, the school's name was changed to its present one, All Saints.

1991 enrollment is 311 students with 16 classrooms from grades one through eight. The average class size is 23.

Currently, the Sycamore Street building is home to Joy Howe School.



Patrol boys assisted younger children across the streets nearby the school.

- Sisters and Lay Teachers

Ursuline Sisters from Louisville, KY*

1926 - 1927

Sr. M. Berchmans Schueler
Sr. M. Arthur Gleason
Sr. M. Melania Wessels

1927 - 1928

Sr. M. Roberta Zehe
Sr. M. Arthur Gleason
Sr. M. Melania Wessels

1928 - 1929

Sr. M. Alexine Simon
Sr. M. Gertrunella Schutte
Sr. M. Melania Wessels

* Records indicate that the Ursuline Sisters were in Columbus, Indiana from 1919 to 1929. The superiors did not keep lists of the Sisters' assignments until 1926.

Benedictine Sisters of Convent Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana, who have served at St. Bartholomew Parish/School, Columbus, Indiana, 1930 - 1961.

1930 - 1931 / 1931 - 1932

Sr. Felicitas Halter
Sr. Madeline White
Sr. Adelhaide Schwartz

1932 - 1933 / 1933 - 1934

Sr. Chrysostom Metzger
Sr. Pauline Kelly
Sr. Adelhaide Schwartz

1934 - 1935 / 1937 - 1938

Sr. Pauline Kelly
Sr. Mary William Moore
Sr. Adelhaide Schwartz

1938 - 1939

Sr. Pauline Kelly
Sr. Mary Andrew Gogel
Sr. Adelhaide Schwartz

1939 - 1940

Sr. Petra Hofgesang
Sr. Marguerite Hunter
Sr. Mary Grace Vogel

1940 - 1941

Sr. Petra Hofgesang
Sr. Marguerite Hunter
Sr. Walburga Goeltl

1941 - 1942

Sr. Petra Hofgesang
Sr. Marguerite Hunter
Sr. Annelle Libs
Sr. Philomena Diers

1942 - 1943

Sr. Scholastica Harpenau
Sr. Annelle Libs
Sr. Benita Bieber
Sr. Philomena Diers

1943 - 1944 / 1944 - 1945

Sr. William Moore
Sr. Annelle Libs
Sr. Benita Bieber
Sr. Philomena Diers

1945 - 1946

Sr. Marguerite Hunter
Sr. Benita Bieber
Sr. Mary Alice Schnur
Sr. Philomena Diers

1946 - 1947

Sr. Marguerite Hunter
Sr. Benita Bieber
Sr. Mary David Gambrall
Sr. Philomena Diers

1947 - 1948 / 1948 - 1949

Sr. Marguerite Hunter
Sr. Benita Bieber
Sr. Mary Carol Messmer
Sr. Philomena Diers

1949 - 1950

Sr. Madeleine White
Sr. Gemma Gettelfinger
Sr. Mary Victor Kercher
Sr. Philomena Diers

1950 - 1951

Sr. Pauline Kelly
Sr. Bernarda Dugan
Sr. Gemma Gettelfinger
Sr. Irene Hoehn
Sr. Wiltrudis Winkler

1951 - 1952

Sr. Rose Bettag
Sr. Ambrose Neu
Sr. Augustine Dusch
Sr. Mary Anne Kruer

1952 - 1953

Sr. Ambrose Neu
Sr. Geraldine Ruppel
Sr. Alexis Bauer
Sr. Lois Hohl

1953 - 1954

Sr. Adele Weyer
Sr. Geraldine Ruppel
Sr. Mary Leo Boeglin
Sr. Phyllis Gronotte

1954 - 1955

Sr. Adele Weyer
Sr. Geraldine Ruppel
Sr. Phyllis Gronotte
Sr. Wilfrieda Effing
Sr. Mary Ruth Ringeman

1955 - 1956

Sr. Adele Weyer
Sr. Evarista Wittmer
Sr. Wilfrieda Effing
Sr. Mary Ruth Ringeman
Sr. Phyllis Gronotte

1956 - 1957

Sr. Evarista Wittmer
Sr. Wilfrieda Effing
Sr. Mary Henry Schiff
Sr. Juanita Maschino
Sr. Phyllis Gronotte

1957 - 1958 / 1958 - 1959

Sr. Mary Benedict Livers
Sr. Amata Alvey
Sr. Mary Majol Wargel (Sr. Dorothy)
Sr. Gregory Gettelfinger (Sr. Norma)
Sr. Jacqueline Shively

1959 - 1960

Sr. Mary Benedict Livers
Sr. Amata Alvey
Sr. Mary Majol Wargel
Sr. Joceal Schenk
Sr. Jacqueline Shively
Sr. Felicitas Halter

1960 - 1961

Sr. Mary Benedict
Sr. Lucia Betz
Sr. Joceal Schenk
Sr. Jacqueline Shively
Sr. Georgina Kruer
Sr. Mary Justin Ott

**Benedictine Sisters who have served at St
Bartholomew, St. Columba, and All Saints Catholic
Schools 1961 -1987.**

1961 - 1962

Sr. Lucia Betz
Sr. Mary Benedict Livers
Sr. Mary Xavier Mueller
Sr. Mary Oliger
Sr. Mary Caroline Seghers (Fortunata)
Sr. Georgina Kruer

1962 - 1963

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Lucia Best
Sr. Patricia Ann Dede (Mary Helene)
Sr. Mary Caroline Seghers
Sr. Jeanne Voges (Mary Hubert)
Sr. Carlene Eckert

1963 - 1964

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Lucia Best
Sr. Patricia Ann Dede
Sr. Mary Frederic Turner
Sr. Georgina Kruer
Sr. Carlene Eckert

1964 - 1965

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman (Marcellus)
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Carlene Eckert
Sr. Gertrude Baurley

1965 -1966

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman
Sr. Evangela Brenner
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken (Clarita)
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Gertrude Baurley

1966 - 1967

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger (Mary Gregory)
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Gertrude Baurley
Sr. Pauline Will

1967 - 1968 / 1968 - 1969

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Gertrude Baurley
Sr. Paula Goss
Sr. Marian East

1969 - 1970

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman
Sr. Cleophas Wolfe
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Gertrude Baurley
Sr. Marian East
Sr. Laura Duffy (Marilyn)

1970 - 1971

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Mary Ann Kruer
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Laura Duffy
Sr. Marinell Dever

1971 - 1972

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman
Sr. Carol Falkner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Mary Raymond Obert
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Laura Duffy

1972 - 1973

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman
Sr. Carol Falkner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Laura Duffy

1973 - 1974

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Sharon Bierman
Sr. Carol Falkner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Callista Tenbarga
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Elvira Dethy
Sr. Laura Duffy

1974 - 1975

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Carol Falkner
Sr. Mary Sue Freiberger
Sr. Norma gettelfinger
Sr. Callista Tenbarga
Sr. Maurice Wagner
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh
Sr. Laura Duffy

1975 - 1976

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Carol Falkner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Mary Luke Jones
Sr. Callista Tenbarga
Sr. Maurice Wagner
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh

1976 - 1977

Sr. Rachel Best
Sr. Evangela Breuner
Sr. Mary Luke Jones
Sr. Callista Tenbarga
Sr. Maurice Wagner
Sr. Cecilia Murtaugh

1977 - 1978

Sr. Mary Vincent Hormuth
Sr. Marietta Lueken
Sr. Sylvester Will
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1978 - 1979

Sr. Catherine Gardner
Sr. Marietta Lueken
Sr. Sylvester Will
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1979 - 1980

Sr. Carmelita DeVoy
Sr. Catherine Gardner
Sr. Mary Kay Greenwalt
Sr. Sylvester Will
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1980 - 1981

Sr. Carmelita DeVoy
Sr. Catherine Gardner
Sr. Mary Kay Greenawalt
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1981 - 1982

Sr. Carmelita DeVoy
Sr. Catherine Gardner
Sr. Mary Kay Greenawalt
Sr. Mary Constance Kleiman
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1982 - 1983

Sr. Evangela Brenner
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1983 - 1984

Sr. Mary Joan Wargel (Mary Linus)
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1984 - 1985

Sr. Evangela Brenner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Mary Joan Wargel
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1985 - 1986

Sr. Evangela Brenner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

1986 - 1987

Sr. Evangela Brenner
Sr. Norma Gettelfinger
Sr. Anna Rose Lueken

* The above information was contributed by the Archives of Convent Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana.

**Principals at Both Schools in Addition to
Benedictine Sisters**

Mr. William Carnes
Dr. Barbara Fox
Mrs. Patsy Koenig (currently principal)

Lay Teachers at St. Bartholomew

Mary Brandt	Barbara Dunlap
Iris Huysentruyt	Esther Mosier
Fred Jarisinski	Donna Nicholson
Barbara Ballman	Betsy H. Billings
Nancy F. Green	Jill Keach
Ann Pace	Sue Gerth
Leigh Collier Oney	Colleen Coleman
John Butler	Terry Mensch

Kelley
Rick Spradling
Mary Sanneman

**Lay Teachers - St. Columba/St.
Bartholomew; then All Saints (after
consolidation)**

Betsy H. Billings	Joni Hill Calkins
Kathy Barnosky	Andrea Sullivan
Barb Dunlap	Eileen Bormann
Janet Graham	Marjorie Bierlein
Janet Chasteen	Linda Heldt
Jeanette Colburn	Kathy Loser
Rita Stone Peters	Elaine Watson
Susan B. Curry	Peggy Scherschel
Kelly Huff	Mary Brandt
Lois Kuras	Sara Grenat
Cheryl McGee	Cathy Grayson

Hot Lunch Program

Cathy Dampier
Lynn White

Secretaries

Claudia Ford
Barbara Hager

Aides

Sue Folkman
Sande Wheatley Haven
Pat Dehner
Teresa Sings
Kay Simpson
Yoko Stahl
Vicky Smith

Current Staff All Saints

Merle Ankney	Robin Campbell
Lois Aebersold	Susan Ingermann
Colleen Coleman	Donna Nicholson
Karen Ripberger	Kathy Limberg
Sue Snyder	Marijane Hittle
Diane Beeker	Judy Nagel
Sally Reindl	Kathy Schubel
Sue Gerth	Teresa Wray
Donna-Marie Kane	Pat Zeigler
Roberta Steir	Peggy Hadar
Catherine W. Woodworth	

Richard Vondermuelen - Maintenance
Kathy Anderson - Secretary
Anne Combs - Chapter 1 Aide
Lucia McMahan - Aide
Elzbieta Bidwell - Aide
Pat Bridgetts - Aide
Bobbi Pittman - Aide
Pam Murphy - Hot Lunches

Centennial Celebration

1941

Dear Parishioners:

On May 18, 1941, the members of St. Bartholomew Parish celebrate the centennial of the Parish. As we look back upon the work of those who have gone before us, the sacrifices they made to establish the Church of Christ in Bartholomew County, our voices are raised in thanksgiving for these beloved souls, who gave everything in order that they might properly worship the crucified Savior. How a few families worked unceasingly for years that they might worship their God, is well-known. First in a private home and later they raised funds enough to build the first Catholic Church on Washington Street. Then, in 1891, the present church was built, due again to the sacrifices of the good parishioners of that time. We are today enjoying the fruits of their labor.

During the course of time, necessary improvements, to the church and school especially, have been necessary. During the year of 1939, it was found necessary to make improvements to the present school building. Due to the generosity of the members of the parish, these improvements have become a reality. Since the improvements have been made at the cost of \$3, 218.61, all of this amount has been paid with the exception of \$555.00. In order to liquidate this debt, we have decided to have a raffle again this year. We ask your whole-hearted support in order to make this raffle a success. Your committee has decided on the following prizes, most of which have been donated by generous parishioners.

One Diamond Ring, Lady's or Gentlemen's, by Jack O'Bryan, value \$100.00.

One Alexander Smith Rug, 9 x 12, donated by Joseph V. Hilger.

\$15.00 in Merchandise, by Dell Brothers.

1 Bicycle – Montgomery Ward, Frank O'Donnell, Manager.

1 Pair of Tovey Shoes, value \$6.75.

1 Quilt, donated by Mrs. Chris Droste and family.

These prizes should appeal to everybody. Last year, your spirit of co-operation was wonderful. This, our centennial year, should be even better. So I ask you either to take these chances or to sell them, and return the proceeds to this Rectory as soon as possible. Without you, I can do nothing. With your co-operation, we can go over the top as we did last year, and make some other necessary improvements. The drive will close Monday, April 21, 1941, at which time the winning numbers will be drawn, but the sooner you return your books, the better I can decide about other necessary improvements for the Centennial. The chances are three for a quarter, or \$2.00 for one book.

Trusting you will show the same loyalty as the pioneer members of the parish, who established our present beautiful edifice, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

GEORGE E. DUNN

Excerpts from

"History of Bartholomew County"

By Father Victor Schnell

Of the two Catholic churches of Bartholomew County, St. Bartholomew, at Columbus, so named after one of the Apostles of the Lord, is the oldest. It was built in 1841. The lot on which the building stands was purchased from Mr. Marshall, Mr. Case, Mr. Barber, and Mr. Gwynn for \$188. The lot, 150 by 150 feet, which in 1841 was "way out in the woods north of town", is at present one of the finest and conveniently situated in Columbus. The church was built with a view to last.

Mr. Glanton was the contractor, and seems to have been the most successful carpenter of Columbus in those days. The Catholic Church was the fourth church built in Columbus and survives all others.

In point of construction, the St. Bartholomew church is the most substantial frame building in the county at present. An addition having been built to the church, 250 persons can now be comfortably seated in it.

Two objects nearly as old as the church, deserve to be mentioned – a painting and a bell. The painting was executed by one of Columbus' early artists, Mr. George Comstock, in the year 1844. It is a representation on canvas of Calvary, also termed a cruxifixion, showing in life size the Savior on the cross.

The bell, though small, is a good bell, and was purchased from Mr. Coffin, Cincinnati, in 1848 for \$130. The bell is easily distinguished from other bells by its clear, undecided, unmistakable ring.

The earliest Catholics of Bartholomew County came from Maryland. Mrs. Basil Owens was unquestionably the first Catholic settler in this county. Born in Montgomery County, Md., in 1794, she moved to Kentucky, where she married Basil Owens, who was not a Catholic himself; thence she moved with her husband to this county in 1820, settling on a farm in the sixteenth section, east of Columbus. When, in 1821, Bartholomew County was organized, it contained one, solitary Catholic. Mrs. Owens died in 1852, at the age of fifty-eight, and was buried in the last resting-place of the pioneers of eastern Bartholomew County, the Sand Hill graveyard.

Between the years 1835 and 1840, there settled in the town of Columbus, James D. Farrall, Edward Brown, John M. Gwynn, John McCabe, Peter Kinny, John and Patrick Farrall, and a few others. From his arrival, in September 1839, till his death, January 8, 1861, Mr. James Farrall was the leading Catholic in Columbus.

It is no less creditable to the liberality and unity of the small number of Catholics then living at Columbus, to have built a church costing \$1,200, and leave no debt. It seems that the neighborly spirit of the old settlers, in log-rolling and house-raising, also extended to church-building.

In 1850, the St. Bartholomew congregation numbered about thirty families.

The first priest visiting these parts, of whom there is any recollection by Catholics of Bartholomew County, was Father Lalumiere. He visited the few scattered families in the southeastern parts of Indiana, and in doing so at regular intervals, laid the foundation of subsequent congregations and churches.

The next priest succeeding Father Lalumiere in visits "few and far between" was Father Shaw, who was the best-known priest in Southern Indiana. He had been a captain in the English army.

Father Vincent Baquelin may justly be called the first pastor of Columbus, and father of the first Church in Central Indiana. He was a Frenchman of low stature, but what he lacked in size, he

possessed in zeal and activity, to elevate himself in the love and esteem of his people. After thirty years, he is most favorably remembered by Catholics here and elsewhere. In 1846, the Catholics were shocked and grieved on hearing of his death. On a sick call, Father Baquelin was thrown and dragged to his death by his horse.

Father Maloney took charge of Columbus in 1846, and remained its pastor until 1853, having his home in Scipio. Two years before his death, he became partially paralyzed, which paralysis became worse as the infirmities of age increased. He died in August, 1874.

In May, 1855, Father Edward Martinovic, better known as Father Martin, became Pastor of St. Bartholomew's Church. In the fall of 1855, an attempt was made to establish a Catholic school, which prospered and remained promising until the breaking out of the war, when the Sisters of Providence again withdrew from these missions, on account of Father Martin returning to Austria, his native country, and leaving Columbus without a Pastor.

In 1865, Father William Henry Orem became resident pastor of Columbus. He was a convert to the Church; endowed with the gift of eloquence, he was admired both by the Catholics and Protestants. During his administration, the parsonage was built, now occupied by the Sisters of Providence conducting the St. Bartholomew's School.

Since January, 1873, Father Victor A. Schnell is in charge of St. Bartholomew Church, besides attending the churches of Edinburg and Franklin, and the Catholics scattered through Bartholomew and Johnson Counties.

In November, 1874, the Pence property on Washington and Harrison Streets was purchased, which secured to the congregation one-fourth of the entire square, equal to 200 feet front by 150 feet deep. The location being very central and on the principal street of the city, and affording sufficient room for church and parsonage, schoolhouse and Sisters' dwelling, it is considered the most desirable and convenient church property in the city.

On the 4th of June, 1878, the contract for building the St. Bartholomew Schoolhouse, which, when complete, cost \$3,000, was awarded to Messrs. Keller & Brockman.

In 1861, when the war of the rebellion broke out, the Catholics of Columbus numbered about fifty families, in the entire county about seventy families. Yet, this small number of Catholics furnished a large number of Union soldiers. No less than sixty-five Catholics have volunteered belonging to St. Bartholomew Church and being attendants from it – one volunteer to each family. They served either in the command of Capts. Keith, Gaffney, McGrayel or Harrington. The names of these sixty-five soldiers are on record.

Since the days when the first priest visited these parts and held divine service before a congregation composed of one or more families; since the time when mass was offered up in the house of Mr. James D. Farrall for the five Catholic families residing in Columbus in 1840, to the present day, the Catholic Church has progressed slowly and steadily. Where, sixty years ago, there were three priests, there are now in the State of Indiana 248, with 259 churches, not counting the chapels.

In Bartholomew County there are about one hundred families, or five hundred Catholics in all, children and adults. Since Sarah, the wife of Richard Carter, our respected fellow-townsmen, was born, hundreds of infants have been baptized and confirmed in the St. Bartholomew Church. When, on September 2, 1878, the school was opened, in charge of the Sisters of Providence, there were in residence 125 scholars, Protestants and Catholics; inclusive of pupils in fancy work, 150.

Mrs. James D. Farrall, Mrs. Edward Brown, Mrs. Peter Kinny, Mrs. John McCabe, Mrs. Mathew Gaffney and Mrs. John Burke – ladies favorably known and respected – are survivors of the pioneer generation of Bartholomew County Catholics. May many future happy years be allotted to them to be the bearers of pioneer tradition.

Archbishops

Vincennes

Most Reverend Simon Gabriel Brute de Remur, 1834-1839.

Most Reverend Celestine de la Hailandiere, 1839-1847.

Most Reverend John Stephen Bazin, 1847-1848.

Most Reverend Maurice de St. Palais, 1848-1877.

Most Reverend Silas Murean Chatard, 1878-1918.

Indianapolis

Most Reverend Joseph Chartrand, 1918-1933.

Most Reverend Joseph Elmer Ritter, 1933-1946.

Most Reverend Paul C. Schulte, 1946-1970.

Most Reverend George Biskup, 1970-1979.

Most Reverend Edward T. O'Meara, 1979-present.

Priests

St. Bartholomew Parish Priests

1841-1846	Father Bacquelin
1846-1853	Father Maloney
1855-1863	Father Martinovic
1863-1865	Father Glouesse
1865-1872	Father Oren
1873-1885	Father Schnell
1885-1907	Father Oster
1907-1908	Father Wagner
1908-1920	Father Delaney
1920-1921	Father Griffin
1921-1923	Father Baron
1923-1927	Father Hillen
1927-1932	Father Kavanaugh
1932-1934	Father Lannert
1934-1939	Father Scheper
1939-1948	Father Dunn
1948-1956	Father Somes
1956-1963	Father Gleason
1963-1966	Father Dooley
1966-1972	Father Minta
1972-1977	Father Dede
1978-1982	Father Schoettelkotte
1982-1987	Father Koopman
1987-1989	Father Harpenau
1989-present	Father Banet & Father Green

Recorded St. Bartholomew parishioners who entered religious life.

Father John McShane
Ordained May 28, 1904

Father Francis Diekhoff
Ordained May 25, 1920

Father Daniel McShane, a Maryknoll missionary, said his first mass on November 15, 1914.

Former Father Jerry Bettice, became a Marinist Brother in 1973.

Father Daniel Staublin
Ordained May 22, 1982

Sisters of Providence:

Bridget Sullivan	Sr. Mary Victor
Mary Poulten	Sr. Mary Imelda
Anna Shea	Sr. Mary Victoria
Helen Warner	Sr. Mary Marcella
Mary Warner	Sr. Aloysius Cecilia
Geneva Schnell	Sr. Agnes Cecilia

Sisters of Benedict:

Jeanne Davis	Sr. Mary Wilma
Billie Davis	Sr. Mary Jeanne

Diane Stier and Maureen Grady entered the Order of the Holy Cross.

First Communion Celebrations



1903



1916



1944



1951



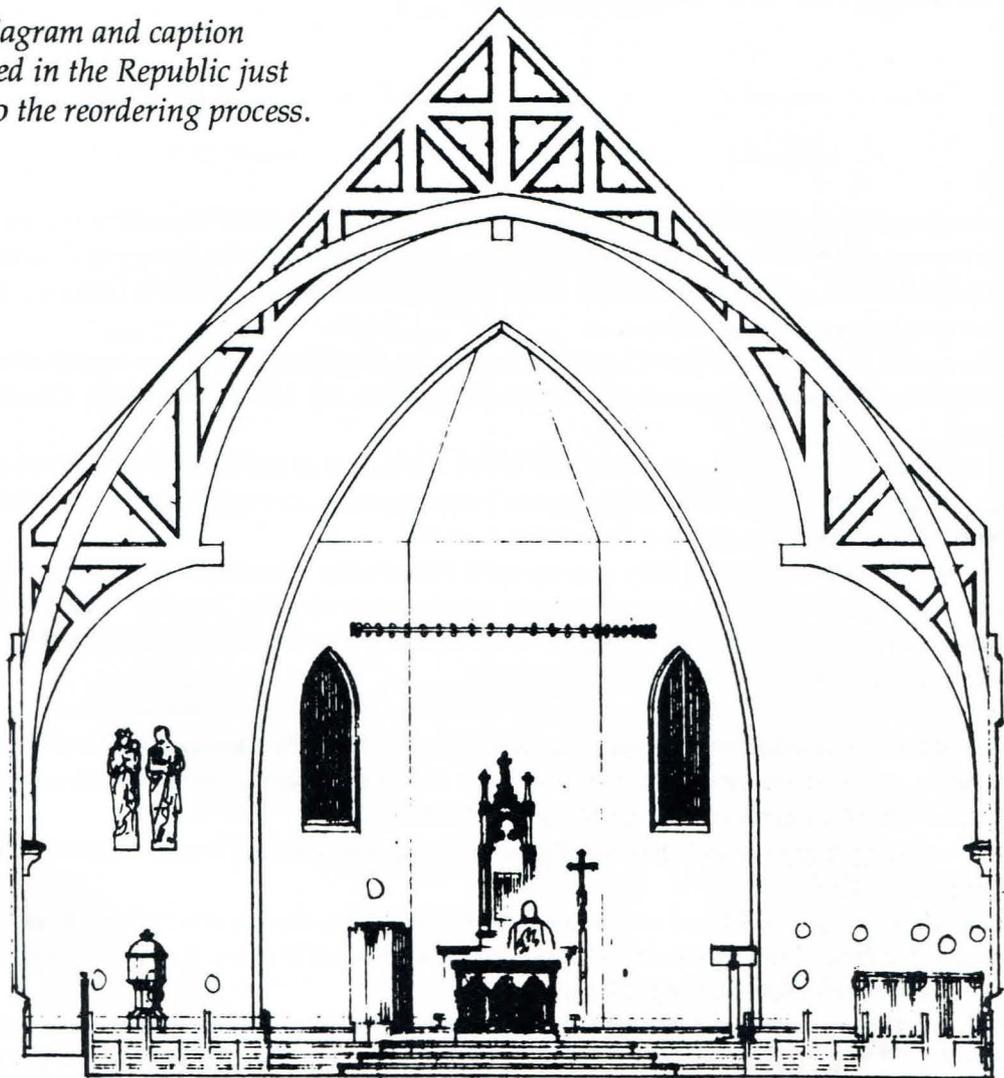
1956



1960s

Renovation – 1970s

This diagram and caption appeared in the Republic just prior to the reordering process.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW RENOVATION —

The newly designed front worship section of the St. Bartholomew Roman Catholic church, 729 Sycamore, features a reconstructed altar, inclusion of a baptismal at left and new placement of marble statues of the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, at left. Renovation of both the in-

side and outside of the church begins next week and is expected to be finished by early November. Architect for the plan is Bruce Adams of New Haven, Conn. Adams designed the clubhouse for the Par Three golf course here earlier. The church was built in 1891.

Prominent Groups and Organizations

– Knights of Columbus

A Brief History by Dr. William Bickers

For the purpose of this publication, brevity is a must. It would be far beyond the scope of this article to present all the details, both small and large, as they pertain to the history of Council 1414. It is also impossible to give the names of all those knights whose hard work have made this council a success these past eighty-two (82) years.

So it was that in 1909, a group of Catholic men decided to affiliate themselves with that national body called the Knights of Columbus, whose catch words are Unity, Fraternity, Charity, and Patriotism.

The Knights are active in youth, civic, and social work. One of the Councils chief projects is to help support the Father Gibault Home for Boys in Terre Haute, Indiana, which is a home to boys who for various reasons have not gotten a "good shake" in life.

The Charter date for Council 1414 was 25 April 1909. In the "Evening Republican", now "The Republic", there appeared a very complimentary article concerning the "big day" – the founding of the Council. For it was on that day, forty men were inducted into the Knights of Columbus. In that class William O'Donnell was elected Grand Knight.

Council 1414 had no real place to call "home" until May 1946 when the thirteen room Brockman Home located at 703 Third Street was given to the Knights by Frank Brockman. Charloote Brockman, Frank's sister, donated many of the furnishings to the home. Later other furnishings from the discontinued USO Center were purchased by the Council.

A remodeling program was began during the term of Grand Knight Joseph Warfel in 1955 and was completed in 1960.

The "Old Home" was sold and a new one built on land that, during World War II, was known as Atterbury Air Base. The address of the new home is 4440 Middle Road. It was dedicated 19 June 1983 during the term of Grand Knight Gerald Stahl.

The Council now numbers 316 members and its present Grand Knight is John Hudecek.

Council 1414 is fortunate enough to have one of its members, Harold Neville, as Past District Deputy and presently State Program Director, a well regarded and time consuming state office.

And so it is that we have quickly taken you from the dim past to the present. All of the Charter members are gone now – but there are new ones to take their places. And they will come to the forefront as in the past when their good work was not known as just Catholic affairs – but totally American.

Charter Members

John Carr, Jr.	James Broderick	Christian Droste
Edward G. Brown	Alfred Egalite	John Carr, Sr.
Harry M. Fahey	John Dahn	James E. Ferry
Raymond E. Daly	Bernard Fettig	Father J. B. Delaney
John C. Hilger	Roger T. Dixon	Joseph V. Hilger
Harry Fahey, Sr.	Daniel W. Malloy	Michael Fitzgerald
August Myers	Patrick Flannigan	Frank O'Donnell
John R. Gaddis	William V. O'Donnell	John M. Gordon
Joseph McShane	Andrew Hilger	Alex A. Petering
Francis G. Hill	Albert E. Schumaker	John F. Hyde
Sylvester Scott	Patrick J. Canary	William A. Stevens
John E. Kehoe	William Park Stevens	Frank Lander
James E. Weaver	George Mahoney	John W. Weaver
John A. Mock	Thomas C. Weaver	Edward E. McFee
James L. Yates	George McKeehan	Condy McShane
Charles O'Donnell	Charles Myers	Louis J. Richard
George Nicklaus	Albert Schwartzkopf	Bernard Niehaus
Joseph J. Sheets	Patrick J. O'Connor	Henry Uphaus
	Fenton Wright	

– Women's Guild

The Women's Guild has been active in St. Bartholomew parish for a number of years. The following section is taken from the program for the Consecration of the Altars in 1913:

The Altar Society

Like every other parish, St. Bartholomew's is not without its band of good married women, who by their united efforts, are constantly doing good for the congregation. By their holy example in frequenting the sacraments and working hard to realize finances, and thereby lightening the burden of the pastor, they are a source of edification to the men and are examples to the young women and children.

Space will not permit us to mention the great amount of good they have done in this parish. In the recent overhauling of the church they have cheerfully assumed the burden of paying for the carpet in the sanctuary, in the sum of eight hundred dollars.

God bless them and grant success to their every effort undertaken for His honor and glory.

The present officers are:

Mrs. Thomas Wright, President
Mrs. Harry Fahey, Vice President
Mrs. Joseph Sheets, Secretary
Mrs. Alfred Allen, Treasurer

The members of the Executive Committee are:

Mrs. George Nicklaus
Mrs. Frank Hoffman
Mrs. George Habig

Presently, the Guild provides funeral luncheons and special decorations for the church in addition to their help with the Catholic Relief Fund.

From the days of a "band of good married women," the Guild is a valuable organization for the present St. Barth. Church.

– Youth Groups (CYO)

Youth groups in St. Bartholomew's history have organized to participate in the Indianapolis Archdiocese Catholic Youth Organization.

Many parishioners have graciously volunteered their time to sponsor the local organizations that offer youth opportunities to be involved in various church activities.

In 1980, Father McNally asked Mike Pence to organize activities for the Summer '80 program. Youth gathered that summer in the house in back of the present church office for bible study, singing, games, area adventures and fellowship.

After that summer, the Board of Education agreed to allocate finances so that a youth minister would remain on staff.

In 1985, the church office was moved from the white house on Chestnut Street to a section in the old school building where it remains today. Youth petitioned the parish councils for the former parish office. In 1985, the white house on Chestnut Street was designated the Youth House and activities are held there today as well as the youth minister's office being located there.

Five years of part time youth coordinators led to the present full-time Youth Minister position for the Catholic Community of Columbus. Kathy (Davis) Shanks was the youth minister from 1985-1990. Lisa (Folkman) Teague began in 1990 and is the present youth minister.

Recent Years to Present



May Processional, 1940



May Processional, 1946.



First Communion masses filled the church in the 1950s.



The school cafeteria, which also served as the parish hall, was completed in 1956. This same parish hall is used today for meetings, wedding receptions and the very popular Coffee and Donuts provided by the "friendly folks of the fellowship committee."

1965

Altar was turned so that the priest could face the congregation.

Mass was said in English, not Latin.

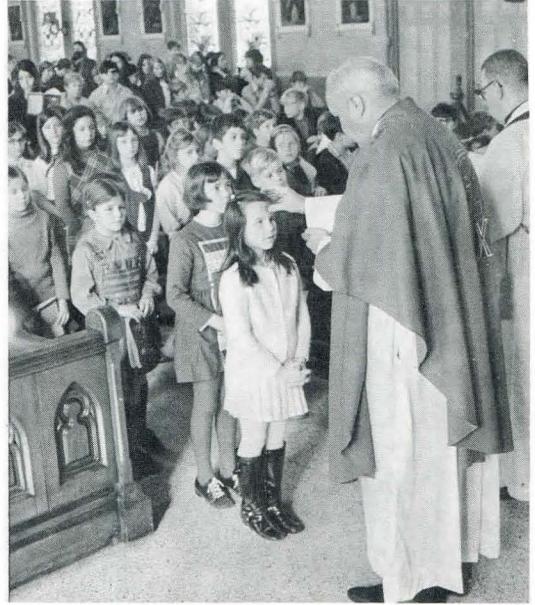
Late 1960s

The Women's Guild sponsored an annual Beer Garten at the fairgrounds on 25th Street. This annual event was popular with a sell-out crowd into the mid-seventies.

Preschool CCD was offered for the first time. The current coordinator, Sharon Taylor, began the program almost twenty years ago.

1969

Operation Presence Retreat was held for all parishioners. Because the response was so great, all classes for this retreat were held in the 1st Presbyterian classroom. Phyllis and Harold Ralph were the leaders.



Father Minta and Father Harvey administering communion.



Many parishioners enjoyed the beauty of St. Bartholomew Church.



Christmas Mass celebration, early 1970s.



This home was purchased from the Zaharako family. Located at 8th and Chestnut, it was originally the church's convent before becoming the present rectory.

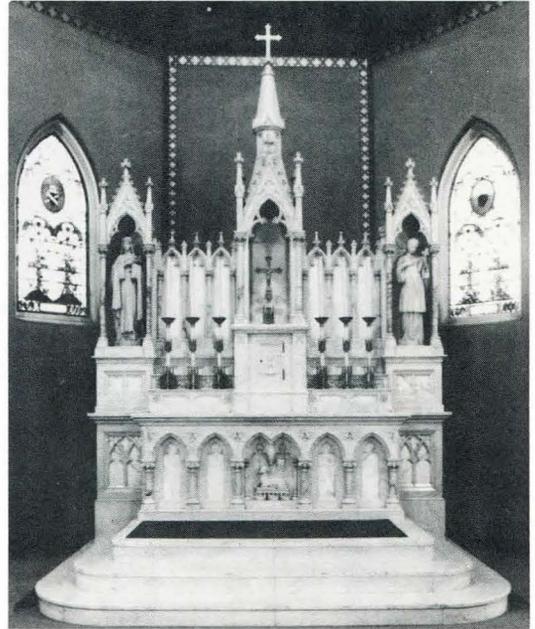
Reordering

1973

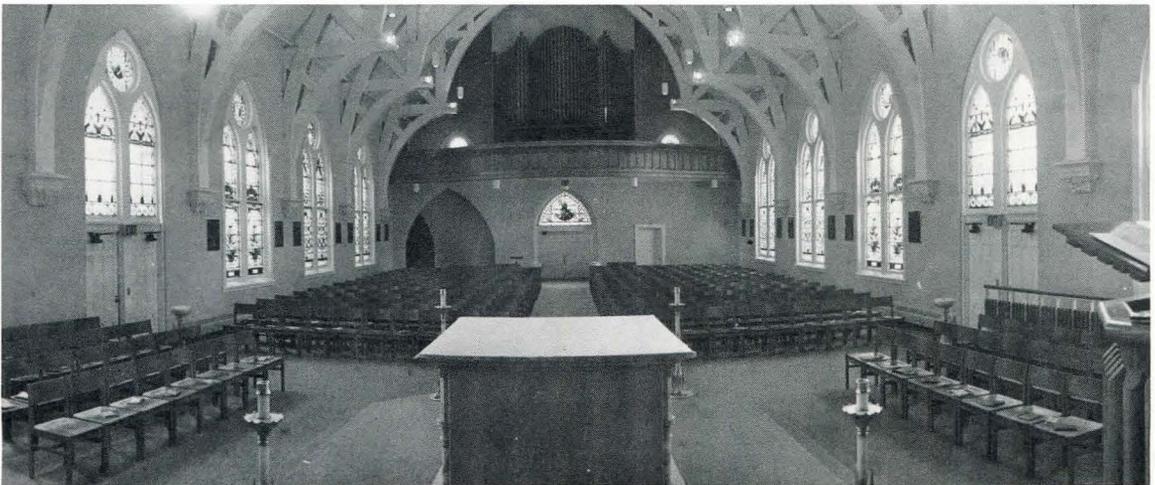
After both thoughtful and passionate discussion, the interior of St. Bartholomew's Church was reordered. Bruce Adams, an architect from Connecticut was hired to bring the 19th century structure into the 20th century.

This was a very innovative idea. In fact, it was one of the first of its kind in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

During the reordering, parishioners enjoyed Sunday mass at the First Presbyterian Church facility.



The original altars at the Sycamore Street church were pieced together to make up the present day altar.



Interior of St. Bartholomew church just after the reordering in the 1970s.



This rectory, located on the parking lot side of the church, was demolished during the reordering in the mid -1970s. At that time, Father Dede moved into the rectory at 8th and Chestnut and the Sisters moved back into the brick home now occupied as a homeless shelter.

1975

St. Bartholomew church sponsored the Tran family from Vietnam. Parishioners gathered together to provide housing, clothing, medical attention and various other assistance that made for an easy transition. The co-chairpersons were Gary and Christy Gron.

1978

Birthline, which remains in operation today, began operation. Birthline offered mothers an alternative to abortion. Both Catholic parishes in Columbus supported the organization. Marlene Dollinger was the chairwoman.

1979

Agape dinner, to celebrate Holy Thursday, was held in the church. Tables were brought over from the school building and set up in the church to provide seating for the many parishioners who attended this event.

St. Bartholomew and St. Columba schools unified to become St. Bartholomew/St. Columba Catholic. Classes were to take place at St. Columba's facility, while the facility at St. Bartholomew would be rented to Bartholomew Consolidated Schools for use by Central Junior High.

1980

St. Bartholomew/St. Columba School Corporation became All Saints Catholic School.

1982

St. Bartholomew Parish Council decided to run a Capital Fund Drive to raise pledges to support the \$275,000 church budget.



Reconstruction of the church's steeple was completed in September of 1982. The roof was replaced and repaired in 1991.

1984

The Boards of Education at both St. Columba and St. Bartholomew parishes combined to make the Columbus Board of Total Catholic Education. Each year to follow, the president would alternate between the two parishes.

1985

The Catholic Community hired their first full-time administrator to coordinate the youth programs at both Catholic churches.

Kathy Davis-Shanks reinvented the group in the archdiocesan C.Y.O. Presently, Lisa Teague coordinates the youth activities.

Consolidation of St. Bartholomew and St. Columba Parishes

1989

In 1989, the parishes of St. Bartholomew and St. Columba combined to create the Catholic Community of Columbus. Upon this agreement, the two parishes would work as one community sharing both a pastor and an assistant pastor. The parish councils at both parishes, now the pastoral council, also consolidated.

1990

The Catholic Community of Columbus began the "Renew" process. Parishioners gathered in hosts homes to share scripture passages and the Catholic faith.

Thoughts on Art

There is a confidence of faith to be found in the stone, beams and stained glass of a church. The building itself does not limit God's presence within its walls but provides a focal point to compliment the spiritual center of our community. We ascend the steps and press ourselves between the large doors, entering a place where quiet thoughts and prayerful reflection are encouraged. A tradition of art is well established in the Church, and Saint Bartholomew church continues that tradition both in its architecture and decorative elements. The church interior is a collection of religious artworks gathered over the years, and realigned in a beautiful expression, in accordance with the Vatican II guidelines.

The north and south sides of the church are pierced by seven sets of three windows. The Sanctuary (east end) is lighted by two small windows. The main entrance (west end) repeats the side window sets, one on each side of the double doors, a half circle spans the doors and a large circular window is centered in the choir loft at the west end of the church. The windows were restored in 1973. Close inspection reveals the difference between the original and restoration glasses used, although the difference is minor and does not interfere with the feel or beauty of the windows.

The current Sanctuary and center altars were rearranged from altars donated by William Brockman, John Carr and Joseph Hilger around 1913. Although these altars were originally arranged in a traditional pre-Vatican style, they also serve well in the current Vatican II style.

Sesquicentennial Celebration

In November of 1989, the first meeting of the sesquicentennial committee was held. Members of the committee were: Abe Schumaker, Judy Meyer, Kathy Schubel, Colleen Coleman, Kathleen Sheehy, Jim Kauper, Beth Parkhurst, Rita Hallum, Judy Jackson and Father Robert Green. The committee was charged with planning appropriate activities for the Catholic community of Columbus to celebrate St. Bartholomew's 150th anniversary.

The committee organized the following events:

In June of 1990, a kick off celebration took place at Donner Park. The shelter house was converted to an outdoor chapel, where over 500 parishioners came to worship. Father Stephen Banet and Father Robert Green concelebrated the Mass.

St. Columba and St. Bartholomew musicians, led by Theresa Wray, combined to provide the music. A balloon release preceeded mass, where balloons were later returned to us from as far away as West Virginia and Kentucky. A delicious buffet was provided by the fellowship committee, while parishioners pitched-in with desserts. The young adult and youth groups provided games and entertainment for the young and old.

"Moments in History" were shared one weekend of the month at all masses. These were read at each mass in order to share some of our Catholic heritage. In addition, the historical banner was displayed those same weekends. The completed banner was displayed at the final celebration.

Jim Kauper chaired the committee that produced a video history of St. Bartholomew. The video included the history of Catholics in Columbus as well as several interviews from long-time members.

A history corner was shared during coffee and donuts at each parish. Many items were displayed including old photographs, grade cards, first communion outfits, and wedding gowns.

A long range legacy was formulated in honor of St. Bartholomew's 150th year. An endowment was established for educational opportunities for parishioners. The Board of Education was to distribute the funds according to proposals of any parishioner wishing to use the money for education opportunities within the Catholic community.

In order to fund most of the activities in honor of St. Bartholomew's 150th year, the Catholic Community Club was formed. Each registered parishioner was given the opportunity to place \$1 in the pool every week. On Monday a name was drawn and if the parishioner participated that week, he/she would split the winnings with the Sesquicentennial Committee. This was a very successful event.

The church building itself received a face lift. The roof shingles were replaced, the interior was painted and an outdoor meditation area was created in the courtyard.

To culminate the year long celebration, the Archbishop celebrated mass with the entire Catholic community underneath tents on St. Bartholomew's property on June 10, 1991. Several former parish priests returned for the mass.

The Columbus Symphony Orchestra gave a performance, a catered dinner was served, and music and dancing followed dinner.

The cornerstone was opened where old newspaper prints and photographs were found. A time capsule was buried at that same location.



St. Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church.