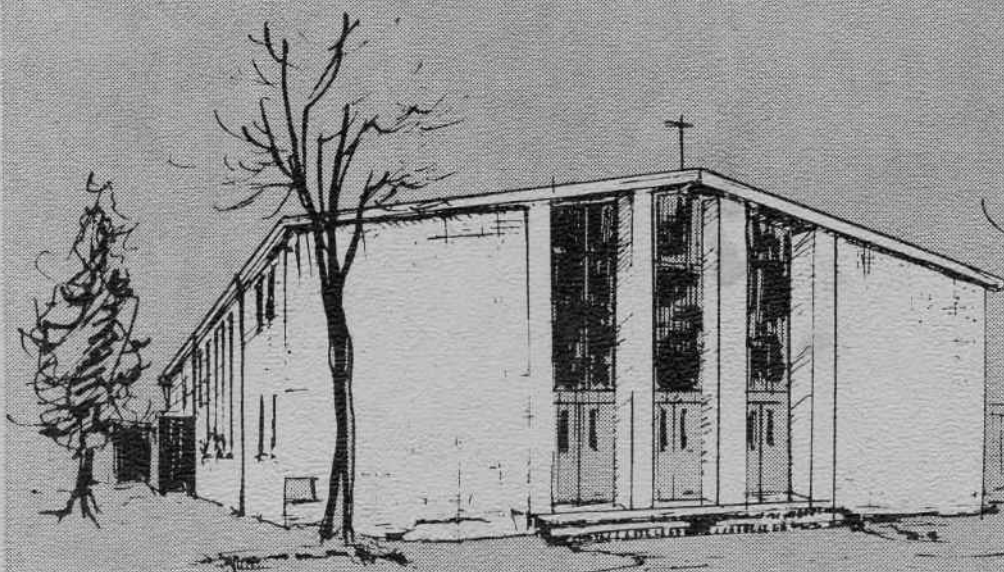


50th Anniversary

1926 - 1976



**St. John the Baptist
Catholic Church**



St. John the Baptist

Dedication

To the founders of this parish who labored ceaselessly to “plant the first seed” from which St. John’s has so fruitfully grown.

To the priests and sisters who have left everything, sacrificing their lives to serve the Lord in organizing, sanctifying, guiding and teaching.

To the faithful members of the parish who understand their tremendous responsibilities, and thus through sacrifice and contributions, help in maintaining and building of the churches, schools and other facilities throughout the years.

To the Catholic Church in Detroit of which we are a part, and which is celebrating this year the 275th anniversary of its founding. Also to this grand country of ours which is also celebrating its 200th Bicentennial.

To those who have passed on, may God grant eternal happiness, and to you who are yet with us, may He grant Graces and Blessings on your road to Eternity.

We dedicate this Album.



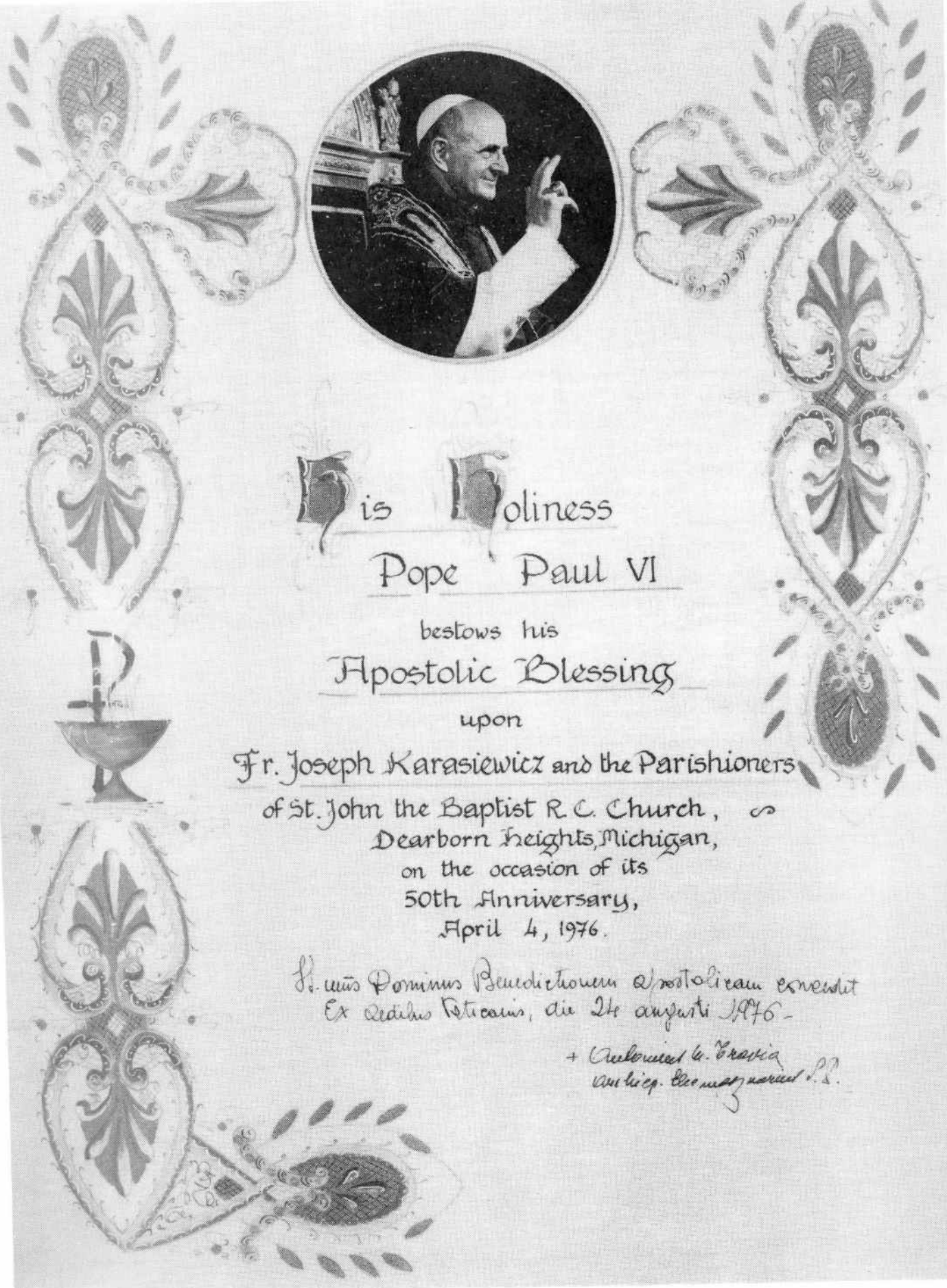
His Holiness
Pope Paul VI

bestows his
Apostolic Blessing
upon

Fr. Joseph Karasiewicz and the Parishioners
of St. John the Baptist R.C. Church,
Dearborn Heights, Michigan,
on the occasion of its
50th Anniversary,
April 4, 1976.

*Sanctus Dominus Benedictioem apostolicam exersit
Ex Aedibus Vaticanis, die 24 augusti 1976 -*

*+ Aelbertus G. Bravia
Antiep. Eec. mag. natus P.S.*



Archdiocese of Detroit

1234 Washington Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48226

VICAR FOR PARISHES OFFICE

Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton
237-5855

Rev. Dale J. Melczek
237-5857

Sr. Peggy Schmidt, IHM
237-5850

Black Secretariat
237-5913

Latin-American Secretariat
237-5887

August 27, 1976

Dear Father Karasiewicz,

I have the invitation to join with you and your parishioners on the occasion of your 50th Anniversary as a parish. I would very much like to join with you on September 26th. However, I am already scheduled for participation in the Pax Christi Convention being held that weekend in Detroit.

Even though I can't be there in person, I wanted to extend my congratulations and best wishes on this very happy occasion. Fifty years is a long time. St. John the Baptist Parish has seen many changes in all those years, and has grown as a community dedicated to the work of Christ.

I pray that God will bless you and all of your people for many more years to come. May St. John the Baptist Parish continue to be a source of strength and an example of what a Christian community can be, for the entire Archdiocese of Detroit.

Sincerely in the Lord,



Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton
Vicar for Parishes

Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz
St. John the Baptist Parish
26123 McDonald
Dearborn, Michigan 48125

TJG/mw

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

orchard lake, MI 48034

SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS SEMINARY
SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE
SAINT MARY'S PREPARATORY

CENTER FOR POLISH STUDIES & CULTURE
CENTER FOR PASTORAL STUDIES
POLISH-AMERICAN LITURGICAL CENTER

Phone: 313 / 963-8075 • 313 / 682-1885

Office of the President-Rector

15 września 1976

Reverend Joseph Karasiewicz
St. John the Baptist Parish
26123 McDonald
Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

Dostojny Księżu Proboszczu,
Rodzino Boża Parafii Św. Jana Chrzciciela,

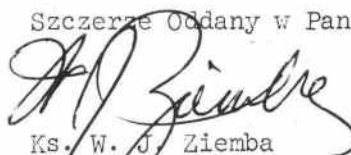
Na Jubileusz Wasz, Dostojni Rodacy, patrzymy przez pryzmat Świętego Mile-
nium Polski, skąd otrzymaliśmy światło Wiary Chrystusowej i gorącą miłość
do Świętej Bożej Rodzicielki. Na Jubileusz Waszej Parafii patrzymy na
tle życia Polonii Amerykańskiej, która już przed laty obchodziła swoje
stulecie założenia pierwszej parafii Panny Maryi w Texas. Patrzymy w per-
spektywie Jubileuszowego Roku Założyciela Seminarium, Księdza Dąbrowskiego.
Na Wasz Jubileusz patrzymy też w perspektywie kiedy pierwsze parafie kato-
lickie zostały założone w Dearborn Heights i okolicy.

50 lat służby w Kościele Chrystusowym to piękny okres czasu, to historia
nie tylko tej wielkiej rodziny parafialnej, ale każdej w niej rodziny,
każdej indywidualnej duszy, która w życiu parafialnym starała się być Bożą.

Dziś wraz z Księdzem Proboszczem, nasza Uczelnia Chrystusowa Orchard Lake
prosi Dobrego Boga, aby wszystko coście uczynili dla Kościoła Świętego, dla
Katolickiej Polonii, i dla Seminarium Polskiego było Wam policzone na niebo.
Wieleście uczynili i wiele też otrzymaliście błogosławieństw Bożych. Oby
Matka Boża Królowa Ludu Polskiego i Serdeczna Matka prowadziła Was w Przy-
szłości.

Modlimy się z Wami, cieszymy się z Wami, i gratulujemy Wam, Rodzino Boża
Jubilatko, Parafio Św. Jana Chrzciciela.

Szczerze Oddany w Panu,



Ks. W. J. Ziemia
Rektor

WJZ:gam



ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

orchard lake, MI 48034

SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS SEMINARY
SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE
SAINT MARY'S PREPARATORY
CENTER FOR POLISH STUDIES & CULTURE
CENTER FOR PASTORAL STUDIES
POLISH-AMERICAN LITURGICAL CENTER
Phone: 313 / 963-8075 • 313 / 682-1885

5

Office of the President-Rector

September 15, 1976

Reverend Joseph Karasiewicz
St. John the Baptist Parish
26123 McDonald
Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

Dear Father Karasiewicz, and
Members of the Parish of St. John the Baptist,

The Family -- the basic unit of our social structure, that nucleus from which, through the Parish, the bonds of Christian love are fostered, developed, and spread to join all of humanity -- bears witness to the fact that man does not stand alone. In his life he must seek communication and interaction with his brothers. He must experience himself, he must experience his God in and through others.

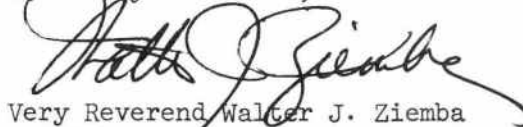
The love of Christ, the worship of the one, true God has for centuries united man in a strong bond. It is this religious bond fortified and complemented by common links of history, culture, and language which have made the Parish Family such an important, revered, and treasured element of the Catholic Polonia.

Indeed, the Polish soul centers around an intense love, a deep and abiding fidelity to God, country, and heritage. And the Polish spirit has found the source of all these things in the Family and in the Parish.

Today, we the Orchard Lake Family -- students, faculty, friends, priests, and sisters -- rejoice with you in celebrating the 50th anniversary of St. John the Baptist Parish. The Church of St. John the Baptist has been an effective witness for the past 50 years to the rich and living heritage which the Poles have always found in their Parish-Families. We send our congratulations, our wishes of happiness to you, Father Karasiewicz, and to your Parish for 50 years of active cultivation and development of the Christianity which led so many to Christ.

May the God of all men bless you and join us all, by His Friendship, into the love which gave us new life and eternal joy. And may we together seek to live in that special Family which shares in so great a love, so great a heritage, and so great a faith.

Sincerely in Christ,



Very Reverend Walter J. Ziemia
President - Rector



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 3, 1976

TO THE CONGREGATION OF THE CHURCH OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

It is a pleasure for me to join you in the celebration of your fiftieth anniversary.

I think it is well to recall as we celebrate our Bicentennial year that wealth and power do not measure the greatness of this or any other Nation. Our spiritual principles and moral values constitute real wealth. You have demonstrated tolerance, understanding, and love and by your dedication and hard work you have proven that a people's greatest strength is its own faith.

I salute you, and I join in your prayers for continued spiritual strength in the years ahead.

Ronald R. Ford

PHILIP A. HART
MICHIGAN

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE
JUDICIARY

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 16, 1976

The Rev. Fr. Joseph Karasiewicz
Church of St. John the Baptist
26123 McDonald
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125

Dear Rev. Karasiewicz:

Mrs. Hart and I would like to add our congratulations to those of the Dearborn Heights community and friends on the 50th anniversary of the Church of St. John the Baptist. Certainly as you celebrate this anniversary along with the birthday of our country, it is a good time for reflection upon the past and for rededication to the ideals upon which our country was founded.

Best wishes for a joyous and meaningful celebration and for many more years of success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip A. Hart". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Philip A. Hart



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

WILLIAM D. FORD
FIFTEENTH DISTRICT
MICHIGAN

August 24, 1976

Dear Father Karasiewicz:

I was most pleased to learn from Mrs. Rosemary Grubbe that you are planning a Golden Anniversary Celebration on the occasion of the fiftieth birthday of the Church of St. John the Baptist.

Let me take this opportunity to send my congratulations to you and your parishioners, and my sincere best wishes for a joyous and successful observance.

Spiritual leadership was never more needed than in today's complex world, and I wish you and your church all of God's blessings in the years ahead.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William D. Ford".

WILLIAM D. FORD
Member of Congress

WDF/frn

Rev. Father Joseph Karasiewicz
Church of St. John the Baptist
26123 McDonald Street
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125

ROBERT P. GRIFFIN
MICHIGAN

United States Senate

OFFICE OF
THE ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 4, 1976

The Reverend Joseph Karasiewicz
Church of St. John the Baptist
26123 McDonald
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125

Dear Father Karasiewicz:

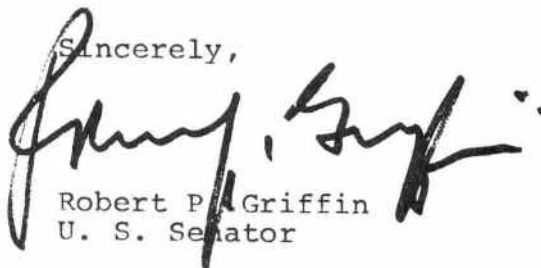
It is a pleasure to send warm greetings and sincere congratulations as St. John the Baptist Church celebrates its golden anniversary during this Bicentennial year.

As we take this time to reflect on our great national heritage, we can be grateful for the wisdom and abiding Christian faith of our Founding Fathers, who conceived our great experiment in freedom under the eternal protection of Divine providence.

May we greet our next century with renewed faith in our American system. And may this church, which is observing its 50th anniversary, continue to serve as a source of strong moral and spiritual leadership for its members and the entire community.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. P. Griffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Robert P. Griffin
U. S. Senator

RPG:mm1



STATE OF MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LANSING

WILLIAM G. MILLIKEN
GOVERNOR

August 12, 1976

Reverend Joseph Karasiewicz
Church of St. John the Baptist
26123 McDonald
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125

To the Members of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church:

Greetings.

In this Bicentennial year, all Americans are reminded of the freedoms they enjoy in this country. It was 200 years ago that the signers of the Declaration of Independence, inspired Divinely they said, took the first steps toward what evolved into a democratic system of government unique in the modern world.

Fifty years ago, the founders of St. John the Baptist Church utilized the individual and religious freedoms guaranteed in our Constitution when they established this parish.

As we look forward to the next one hundred years, let us work toward the goal of truly making all people more equal and assuring that everyone is genuinely free to pursue his or her own destiny.

The good work that your church has begun will, I am sure, continue to be felt in your community and this state.

Kind personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William G. Milliken".
Governor

City of Dearborn Heights

"CITY WITH A FUTURE"

August 9th, 1976

Father Joseph Karasiewicz
Church of St. John the Baptist
Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Dear Father Karasiewicz:

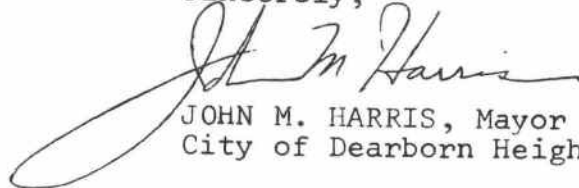
It has recently come to my attention that St. John the Baptist Church is celebrating it's 50th Anniversary in the year 1976.

This is an appropriate year for such a milestone since it coincides with the Anniversary of our Country. The religious freedom that we enjoy was one of the freedoms that prompted our early settlers to move here; one of the things that gave them stamina to face the hardships of a new world.

I am very pleased to extend to your church and congregation Anniversary wishes not only from myself as Mayor but from the 82,000 citizens that make up the City of Dearborn Heights. The spirit that you have shown at St. John's for the past fifty years in religion, education, your charitable work, and sports events in this city, have given you the the energy to be successful and will give you the ability to celebrate many more Anniversaries with the same strong religious and community feeling that you express today.

My heartfelt congratulations.

Sincerely,



JOHN M. HARRIS, Mayor
City of Dearborn Heights

JMH:sc





ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Carreathers, Eva
Grade 8
May 6, 1976
Religion

John the Baptist, the immediate forerunner of Jesus, sent by God to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. John was of priestly descent on the side of both his parents. His father, Zacharias, was a priest of the course of Abija, while his mother, Elizabeth, belonged to the family of Aaron. They are described as being "righteous before God, walking in all the commandments of the Lord blameless." He was born in a city of the hill country of southern Judaea, about six months before the birth of Jesus. His parents were then old. His birth had been foretold by an angel to Zacharias while he was serving in the temple. The angel told him that his prayer for a child would be answered and that his wife would give birth to a son who was to be named John and who was to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. About his childhood and youth we know only that he lived as a Nazarite in the desert and that he was filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth. It is thought by some that he was a member of a Jewish sect of monks called the Essenes, but there is no clear evidence that this was so.

His first public appearance is carefully dated by Luke (3:1,2), according to the way time was then reckoned. This was somewhere about A.D. 26 or 27. His early ministry was laid in the wilderness of Judaea and in the Jordan valley. The main theme of

his preaching was the near approach of the Messianic age and the need of adequate spiritual preparation to be ready for it. His mission was to prepare the people for the advent of the Messiah so that when He made His appearance they would recognize and accept Him. His message did not harmonize with what many of his hearers expected, for while they looked for deliverance from and judgment upon the foreign oppressor, he said that the Messiah would separate the good from the bad and would cast into the fire any tree which did not bring forth good fruit. Many of the Jews, especially the Pharisees, thought that they would enter the Kingdom of God automatically, simply because they were physically descended from Abraham, but John declared in no uncertain terms that this was not so at all. He called upon them to repent sincerely of their sins and to be baptized. The Baptism by water which he administered signified a break with and cleansing from sin. His Baptism was not something utterly new to the Jews; it had its roots in practices already familiar to them: in the various washings required by the Levitical law (Lev. 11-15), in the Messianic lustration foretold by the prophets (Jer. 33:8; Ezek. 36:25, 26; Zech. 13:1), and in the proselyte baptism of the Jewish Church. His baptism, however, differed essentially from these, in that while the Levitical washings brought restoration to a former condition, his baptism prepared for a new condition; the Jews baptized only Gentiles, but he called upon Jews to be baptized; and his baptism was a Baptism of water only in preparation for the Messianic Baptism of the Spirit anticipated by the prophets.

While the multitudes of common people flocked to the Jordan, Jesus also came to be baptized. Although Jesus and John were cousins, it appears that John did not know that Jesus was the Messiah until he saw the Holy Spirit descend upon him at his baptism (John 1:32-34). When Jesus came to him for baptism, he saw that He had no sin of which to repent, and would have refused, had Jesus not insisted, saying that it was necessary for Him to fulfill all righteousness. Shortly after, John said to two of the disciples as they saw Jesus pass by, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29), and they left him to follow Jesus. He recognized the subordinate and temporary character of his own mission. For some unexplained reason, some of his disciples did not leave him to follow Jesus; and when some of them came to John with the complaint that all men were coming to Jesus, he said to them, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30), and that he was not the Messiah, but only the forerunner of the Messiah. Little is known about John's training of his disciples beyond the fact that it included forms of prayer (Luke 11:1) and frequent fastings (Matt. 9:14); but he must also have taught them much concerning the Messiah and His work. The loyalty to him is shown in their concern over Jesus' overshadowing popularity, their refusal to abandon him in his imprisonment, the reverent care they gave his body after his death,

and in the fact that 20 years later there were disciples of his, including Apollos, the learned Alexandrian Jew, in faraway Ephesus (Acts 19:1-7).

The exact time of John's imprisonment or the length of time he was in prison is not known. It is clear, however, that Jesus began His ministry in Galilee after John was put in prison and that he was in prison approximately seven months at the time he sent two of his disciples to Jesus to inquire whether He really was the Messiah. This inquiry seems strange in view of his previous signal testimonies, and is probably to be explained either in the interest of his disciples, who needed assurance that Jesus was really the Messiah, or in some misgivings of his own because the Messianic kingdom was not being ushered in as suddenly and as cataclysmically as he had expected, and perhaps because he thought he was being forgotten while others were being helped. When the two disciples returned to John, Jesus expressed Himself in the frankest appreciation of John, declaring him to be more than a prophet and God's messenger sent to prepare the way for Him (Matt. 11:10-19).

The Gospels tell that John met his death through the vindictiveness of Herodias, whose sin of living in adultery with Herod, John had denounced. Josephus, on the other hand, attributes John's death to Herod's jealousy of his great influence with the people. He also says that the destruction of Herod's army, in the war with his spurned wife's father-in-law, was regarded by the Jews as God's punishment upon him for the murder of John. Josephus undoubtedly gives, not the real reason, which he would not dare to give to the public, but the reason Herod chose that the public be given.



Grade 8 Room 210 - 1976

Fifty Years of Blessings

Fifty long years ago,
People with their hearts aglow
Had built a parish,
That we would one day cherish.

Through sacrifice and love,
And many blessings from above;
Through hard times and good,
There Saint John's stood.

Fifty years past today,
We thank God when we pray;
And hope that St. John's is here to stay,
To reach the Diamond glories day.

Jacqueline Slaneo
Grade 8

Myra D. Ford

7 May 1976

St. John the Baptist

The father of John the Baptist, Zachary, who belonged to the priestly house of Aaron, was offering sacrifice in the Temple at Jerusalem when the angel Gabriel announced to him that, despite the old age of himself and his wife Elizabeth, a son was to be born to them. Because of his disbelief, Zachary was struck dumb until the child's birth. While the child was still in Elizabeth's womb, it leapt with joy when our Lady visited Elizabeth. After the child's birth, Zachary fulfilled the angel's instructions by naming it John; Zachary regained his speech and composed the beautiful song called the BENEDICTUS.

During his youth, John lived a penitential life in the Judean desert, perhaps together with monklike Jews called Essenes. In about A.D. 27, John began to preach a baptism of repentance, in the area of the lower Jordan; his disciples included the future apostles Peter, John, and Andrew. Despite John's protests, Jesus asked John to baptize Him. Many thought the Baptist was the coming Messiah, but John clearly denied this before the Pharisees and Sadducees and pointed out to his disciples the true "Lamb of God." Jesus.

John rebuked Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee, for marrying Herodias, the wife of the ruler's half brother. Herod imprisoned John in the fortress of Machaerus, but he feared to do anything more to him. Although imprisoned, John was able to see his disciples, whom he sent to Jesus for word of His activities. But when Herod promised anything to Herodias's daughter Salome as a reward for dancing, Herodias ordered her to ask for the head of John. The Baptist's influence lived on: St. Paul was to find at Ephesus persons he had converted and who knew only of John's baptizing. His chief feasts are on June 24 (his birth) and on August 29 (his execution).

The following have served as pastors of St. John's

- *Rev. John Bona 1926 to 1927
*Rev. John Hewelt 1927 to 1930

The following have served as resident pastors of St. John's

- *Rev. John J. Bartkowiak 1930 to 1939
*Rev. Theodore F. Kowalewski 1939 to 1958
*Rev. Mitchell Witkowski 1958 to 1969
Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz 1970 to

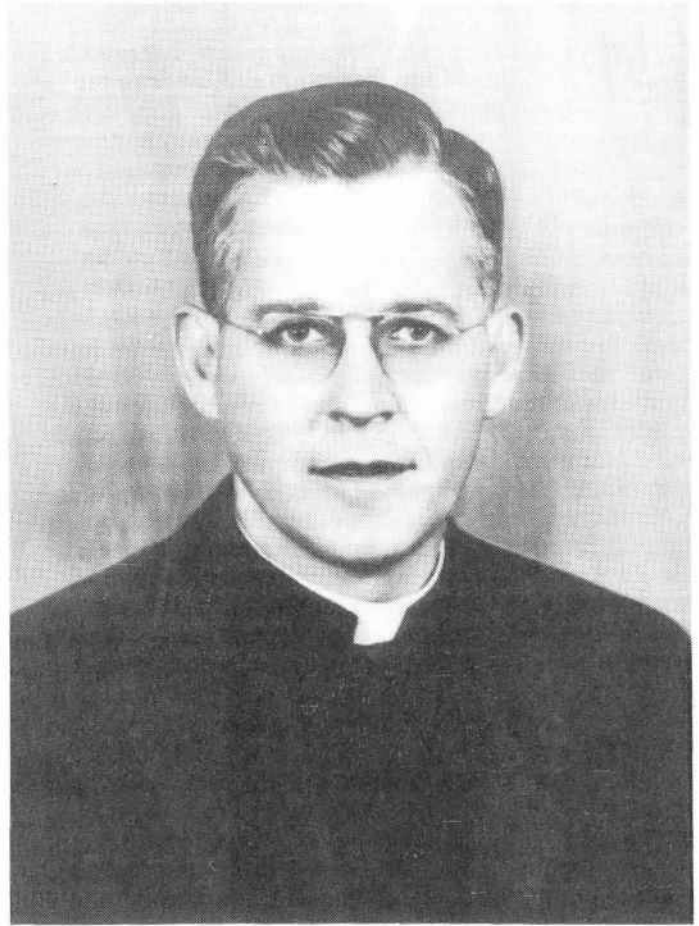
The following have served as weekend pastors

- Rev. Edward Skrocki 1940 to 1945
Rev. Michael Koltuniak 1945 to 1962
Rev. Anthony Kosnik 1962 to

The following have served as resident assistant pastors

- Rev. Francis J. Szaniawski 1945 to 1950
Rev. Eugene Kijek 1950 to 1952
Rev. Leo L. Kulinski 1952 to 1957
Rev. Joseph Matlenga 1957 to 1958
Rev. Francis Wahowiak 1958 to 1963
Rev. Jerome Swierzb 1963 to 1970
Rev. John J. Chrobak 1970 to 1973

*Deceased



Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz
Our Present Pastor
1970 to



Rev. Mitchell Witkowski
1958 to 1969
3rd Resident Pastor



Rev. John J. Bartkowiak
1930 to 1939
First Resident Pastor

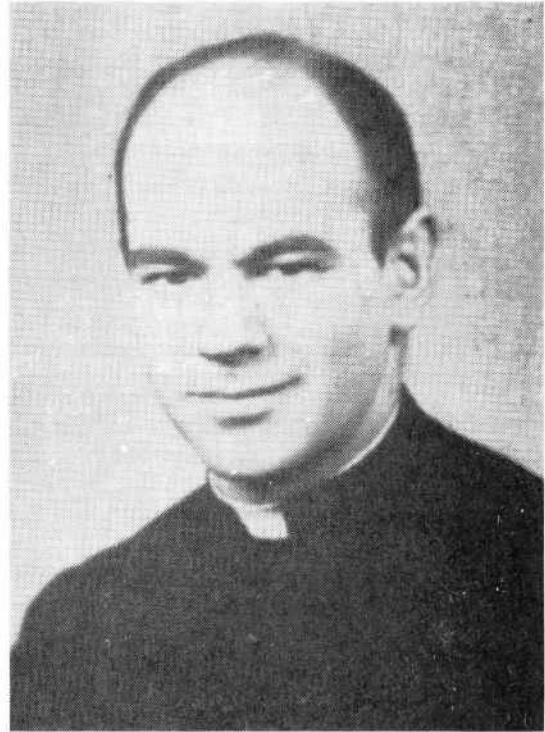


Rev. Theodore F. Kowalewski
1939 to 1958
2nd Resident Pastor

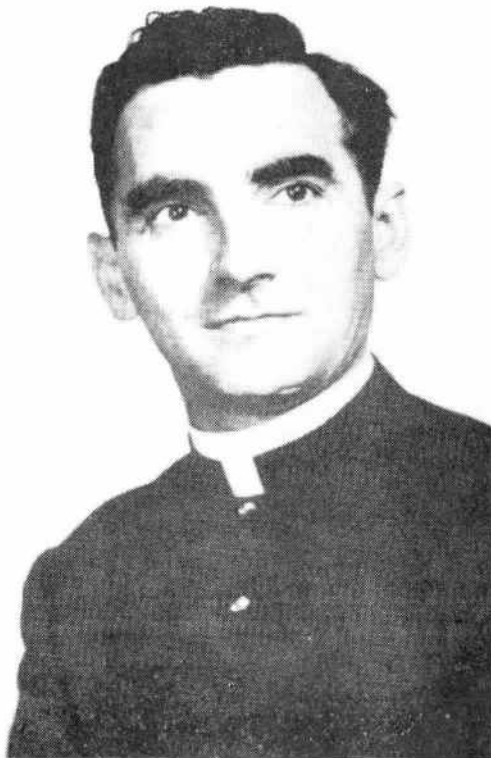


Rev. Edward Skrocki
1940 - 1945

**Coming to
assist
as Weekend
Pastors**



Rev. Michael Koltuniak
1945 - 1962



Rev. Francis Szaniawski
1945 - 1950

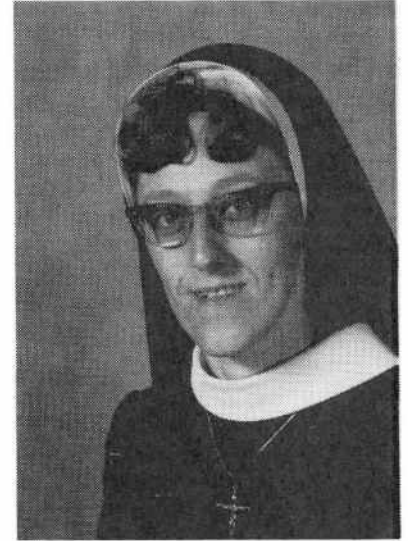
**Resident
Assistants**



Rev. Eugene Kijek
1950 - 1952

VOCATIONS

VITA



Fr. Raymond James Studzinski, O.S.B., son of Leonard and Stella Studzinski, was born on April 18, 1943, in Detroit, Michigan. He attended St. John's Grade School and Sacred Heart High School, Dearborn, Michigan, and St. Meinrad Seminary High School, St. Meinrad, Indiana, and was graduated from the latter in May, 1961.

He received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from St. Meinrad College in May, 1966. In the summer of 1963 he was accepted into the monastic community of St. Meinrad Archabbey and made his solemn profession as a Benedictine monk in September, 1969. His theological studies were begun at the St. Meinrad School of Theology in the fall of 1966.

In the fall of 1968 he was accepted as a graduate student in the Graduate School of Indiana University in the Department of the Study of Religion. While at the University, he studied under Dr. David H. Smith, Dr. William F. May, and Dr. David Bidney. Dr. Smith has acted as reader for his thesis.

After completion of course work at Indiana University, Fr. Raymond resumed his course of studies at St. Meinrad and was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in September, 1969. He received the degree of Master of Divinity in May, 1970 from St. Meinrad. In September, 1970 he entered a doctoral program at Fordham University, New York, where he is presently a Ph.D. candidate in historical theology. In 1973 he joined the faculty of St. Meinrad School of Theology where he is currently an associate professor of theological history.



Sister Mary Joan is the eldest of four daughters of Edward and Genevieve Szkutnicki, 24918 Cherry Street, Dearborn, Michigan. Her elementary education was at St. John the Baptist School for eight years. She graduated from the eighth grade in 1955. After attending O. L. Smith Junior High School for the ninth grade, she attended Edsel Ford High School for three years and graduated in June of 1959.

That following August 30th, Sister Mary Joan entered the postulate of the Sisters of St. Joseph, T.O.S.F. in Garfield Heights, Ohio where she also began her studies in Elementary Teaching by attending St. John College in Cleveland, Ohio. After two years of novitiate and four years as a Junior Profess Sister, she made her final vows on August 10, 1967 in the Marymount Convent Chapel. That same summer on June 7, 1967 sister received her B.S.E. degree in Elementary Teaching from St. John College.

The intervening years have seen her return to Michigan to teach and do her graduate work at the University of Detroit during the summers. In June of 1972 she received her M.A. degree in Curriculum Construction from the University of Detroit.

Sister Mary Joan enjoys teaching and has taught at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Oak Park, Michigan; SS. Peter and Paul in Garfield Heights, Ohio and at St. Anthony in Belleville, Michigan. At present she is teaching the third grade here at St. John the Baptist where she attended school as a child.

Sister Mary Roberta (formerly Anna Pelz), is the daughter of Ignatius and Victoria Pelc. Sister Roberta entered the Franciscan Order on October 9, 1934. The first sister to enter the convent from St. John's. Presently Sister Roberta is in Ohio.

HISTORY

When nine men met at the home of Joseph Bartos of 3902 Jim Daly, composed of Messrs. Joseph Bartos, Albin Bartos, Thomas Niemczewski, Frank Niemiec, Paul Waske, Gielarzyn, Szydlowski, F. Pietrowski and John Lukasiewicz to discuss the possibility of bringing a church to this rural area of Wayne County fifty years ago, they could hardly have had an idea that their discussion would result in the St. John's community we have today. But as we built our church and our school and came to know each other, this is what came to be.

This area, like so many in the metropolitan Detroit area, grew up hand in hand with the Roman Catholic Church. Cadillac built St. Anne's Church when he founded Detroit as Fort Pontchartrain in 1701. Throughout the region, as areas became settled, Catholics built churches to maintain their religious and cultural traditions. The Poles who settled in the Westwood area of Dearborn Township had that same desire for a cohesive religious community.

These Poles came to Dearborn Township with the opening of the Ford Plant in River Rouge shortly after the end of World War I.

In those "Roaring Twenties" the auto industry boomed and times were good. Workers moved away from the city to be close to their place of employment. But many of the newcomers to this area found the trip to Sacred Heart in Dearborn, the nearest church at that time, a long and difficult one over poor coun-

try roads. Others found the language difficult to understand. So it was that at the home of Mr. Joseph Bartos, those nine men drew up a petition to the Chancery seeking a church and a Polish-speaking priest for this growing region of Dearborn Township.

The bishop moved quickly on their request and assigned Fr. Bona from Melvindale to meet the needs of the Polish community. The first Mass was held outside on one chilly, wintry day in 1926.



House where Masses were held until church was built - 1925 - early 1926

Graciously, the Pokrzewnicki family offered their home as a location for Mass each Sunday until the first church was built.





The early parishioners gave generously of their time and materials as they worked swiftly. And so it was very soon thereafter that they erected the first church of the parish. Mr. Lukasiewicz, one of the nine men who had petitioned for a church, donated twelve lots for use as parish property. Fr. Bona contributed \$600 toward construction of the church. On April 4, 1926, about 60 persons proudly attended the first Mass held in the new church. The following week the first Baptism was performed. Fr. Bona celebrated the first marriage ceremony in the church in May and performed the first funeral Mass in October. Documents show that the parish was officially placed under the patronage of St. John the Baptist on June 4, 1926.

That September the first classes were held when the church doubled as a school during the week. The first class graduated the following June.

Fr. Bona left in the early part of 1927 and was replaced by Fr. John Hewelt. Later that year, the first financial report was filed and the first parish picnic was held. The fledgling parish was on its way.

Fr. Hewelt received permission from the Chancery to build a school in October of 1923. The parish, ready with plans, again moved ahead rapidly and completed construction of the school the following spring. The school, finished on June 23, 1929, was already staffed with three sisters from the Order of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio. The first convent was a home across the street from the church.

Students enrolled in the new school in September of 1929. Later that month, the community celebrated the first registered Communion and Confirmation rites. Thirty-two boys and twenty-five girls received



First Holy Communion and were also confirmed.

A month later, tragedy struck the nation when the stock market crashed. Many men in the area soon lost employment as industry slowed down. But the strong community commitment that built St. John's, continued. People responded as generously then as they had before the crash. In 1930, the parish built a



Convent was erected for our teaching sisters from a burned out home - 1930.

convent for the teaching sisters and began a collection to build a rectory. Early that year, Fr. Hewelt left and Fr. John Bartkowiak was named the first resident pastor.

The church settled down now with its first full time pastor, and a school and a convent already built. In the fall of 1931, a new school wing was added and the teaching staff was enlarged with the change to the teaching Sisters of St. Joseph from Garfield Heights, Ohio. With the hard times, funds for the rectory came slowly, but the building was completed in 1934 with



Left: First Priests' Home

Right: First Sisters' Home

Both homes were rented by the parish at that time. They still stand across the parish properties.

help from many parishioners. After living in a house next door to the sisters during the first three years at St. John's and living in the school for another, Fr. Bartkowiak finally had a place that he could call

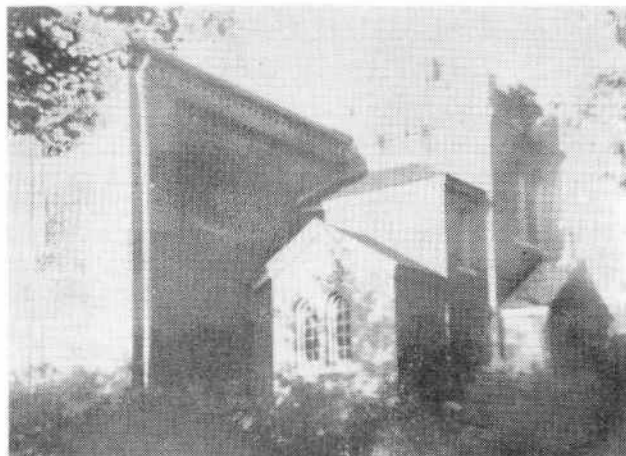


Rectory built for first resident pastor - 1934

home. He stayed in the rectory until he left St. John's in 1939. Fr. Theodore F. Kowalewski was appointed in his place.

And then, with increased industrialization at the start of World War II, the community began to grow again and a need arose for another priest. Fr. Edward Skrocki, from St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, began to assist Fr. Kowalewski on weekends. In March of 1945, Fr. Francis Szaniawski was appointed St. John's first resident pastor. Fr. Skrocki left later that year and was replaced by Fr. Michael Koltuniak for the weekend help.

After the war, the boom continued. Young men returning from the service found this community, with a well established Catholic Church and school, an ideal place in which to settle. St. John's grew even more rapidly. In 1948, a new convent was purchased



First school building, built in 1929 at the cost of \$16,000.00

for the sisters. The young people moving into the community brought young children with them. The school again was too small. With the permission of



His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, ground was broken for a new school on May 2, 1948. The modern facility was completed in record time, but not quite soon enough for the opening of school that September. The Archbishop blessed the new facility on October 17, 1948.

School enrollment kept booming and the parish kept growing, but not without change. In 1950, Fr. Francis Szaniawski left as assistant pastor and was replaced by Fr. Eugene Kijek.

A Solemn Jubilee Mass the next year marked the first twenty-five years of St. John's service to this community. Fr. Kijek left the following year and was replaced by Fr. Leo L. Kulinski.

Meanwhile, the beautiful white frame church that served so well for so many years proved inadequate

for the needs of the rapidly growing parish. Just as the area's population explosion resulted in a need for a bigger school building, the time had come to build a bigger church. Construction began in May 1954 on the new church. His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney blessed the new structure on October 27, 1955.

In 1957, Fr. Leo L. Kulinski left St. John's and was replaced by a new assistant pastor, Fr. Joseph Matlenga. Fr. Matlenga's stay was short: both he and Fr. Kowalewski left the next year and St. John's received a new pastor, Fr. Mitchell Witkowski, and a new assistant pastor, Fr. Francis Wahowiak. In 1962, Fr. Koltuniak left as weekend assistant and was replaced by Fr. Anthony Kosnik. The following year, Fr. Wahowiak left and was replaced by Fr. Jerome Swierzb.

With the Vatican II Council in 1963 came new ways in the church. In 1969, a steering committee was formed to draft the outline for a parish council. Later that year, on November 23, the parish was saddened by the death of Fr. Mitchell Witkowski.

Fr. Jerome Swierzb, the assistant pastor, performed the duties of pastor until February 18, 1970, when Fr. Joseph Karasiewicz was appointed pastor. Within a week Fr. Jerome left for another appointment, and was not replaced.

That year marked the end of the construction period at St. John's. A new baptismal font, donated by the Rosary Altar Society was dedicated early in February. Later that year, the first parish council was held and the first parish council officers were sworn in in December.

On sick leave from his diocese of Marquette, Fr. John Chrobak took up residence at St. John's on August 5, 1970, and performed the duties of an assistant pastor until August 9, 1973, when he was recalled by his bishop.

St. John's celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1976, and continues to grow in its life in Christ.

The First to Seventh Recorded Baptism here at St. John's

1. Dolores Bonkowski	11, April 1926
2. Anna M. Arling	11, April 1926
3. Stanley Murzin	18, April 1926
4. Leonard Filipowicz	30, May 1926
5. Joseph H. Kalicz	4, July 1926
6. Dolores Bacalia	4, July 1926
7. Eleonora C. Bartos	26, July 1926

The First Recorded Deaths

1. Tekla Jakubowska	1926
2. Robert John Konkolewski	1926
3. Orlandus Robertson	1926

The First to Sixth Recorded Marriage at St. John's

1. Albert Bukowicz Helen Jakubowska	May 25, 1926
2. Francis Lukomski Wladystawa Jasinski	May 25, 1927
3. Hugo Boelter Anna Rosa	August 11, 1927
4. Edmund Machuta Agnes Filipowicz	March 19, 1929
5. Alex Teppert Mary Oelrichs	September 16, 1929
6. Alvin Klawinski Doris Blanchard	October 26, 1929

First List of Parishioners

Bartos, Jozef & Anna
 Bartos, Jan & Martha
 Blaszczyk, Piotr & Wiktoria
 Boguszewski, Franciszek
 Bobkowski, Wlad. & Stanislaw
 Bukowski, Wojciech & Zofia
 Czarnota, Antoni & Bronislawa
 Filipowicz, Jan & Apolonia
 Florentyna, Franciszek
 Kaniowski, Jan & Zofia
 Gielaczyn, Jan & Bronislawa
 Kulas, Julian & Bronislawa
 Niemczewski, Tom & Michalina
 Niemiec, Franciszek & Agata
 Piendel, Jozef & Marianna

Pelc, Ignacy & Wiktoria
 Pelc, Sebastian & Anna
 Pietruk, Andrzej & Stanislaw
 Promo, Franciszek & Zofia
 Tryl, Teodor & Marianna
 Waske, Pawel & Zofia
 Sobstyl, Wojciech
 Patryas, Franciszek & Maria
 Pietrowski, Feliks & Ludwika
 Prus, Stanislaw & Emilia
 Szydowski, Stan & Marianna
 Surdel, Karol & Stanislaw
 Szymko, Jan & Katarzyna
 Jakubowska, Jozefa
 Kurtyka, Jan & Korolina

Klaus, Piotr & Stanislaw
 Klimkowski, Teodor & Rozalia
 Konkolewski, Jan & Anna
 Korbel, Tomasz & Rozalia
 Kowal, Joseph & Apolonia
 Krzeszowski, Franc & Maria
 Maciejewski, Jan
 Mokierski, Mateusz & Anna
 Madry, Hipolit
 Nabozny, Jacob & Marianna
 Trzeska, Tom & Franciszka
 Urban, Wladyslaw & Ewa
 Jakubowski, Jan & Jozefa
 Papuga, Max

Following families were also early parishioners:

Bacalia	Wrobel	Holubka
Tomkiewicz	Rochowiak	Metz
Lukasiewicz	Roddy	Mercier
Kaczor	Andrusiak	Boes
Warunek	Robakiewicz	Slotka
Czarnota	Hildebrandt	Czop
Murzin	Lessel	Guziak
Gajewski	Simko	Urban
Myszkowski	Golonka	Piatek
Majewicz	Budnik	Karczewski
Roza	Andrzejewska	Martin
Toporek	Bubrowski	Zimnicki
Wengrzyn	Prokop	Lewandowski
Zaskwara	Plocha	Stopa
Przekopowski	Pokrzewnicki	Machine
Ciupak	Sokolowski	Grendel
Prajs	Tarlecki	Mrozowski

First church, first building, built in 1926, first Mass celebrated April 4. Cost of building of church.



**Kosciol Sw. Jana Chrzciciela
 St. John the Baptist Church**

Building	\$ 8,000.00
Basement	585.00
Pews	1,300.00
Confessionals	150.00
Communion Rails	185.00
Lawn	150.00
Toilet	90.00
Misc.	40.00
TOTAL	\$10,500.00



First Financial Report

Income

Seat Collection	\$140.00
Sunday Collection	758.00
Holy Father Collection	10.00
Catholic University	10.00
TOTAL	\$918.00

Expense

Pastor's Salary	\$500.00
Communion for Altar	27.64
Incense & Candles	29.40
Telephone	10.05
Fuel	64.00
Assessment	102.00
Repairs	57.74
TOTAL	\$790.74

15 years later Financial Report

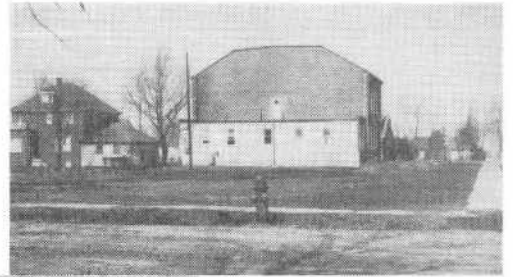
(1941)

Income	\$12,988.94
Expenses	\$12,194.61

Pictures of Parish Properties & Buildings



Typical Scene Sunday Mass

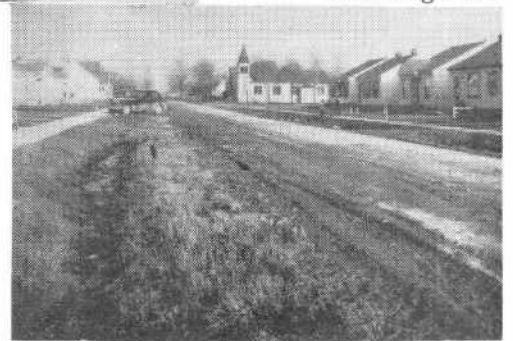


Back of School, empty property, now present school erected



Church, Sisters' Convent, School

Street Scene Looking East



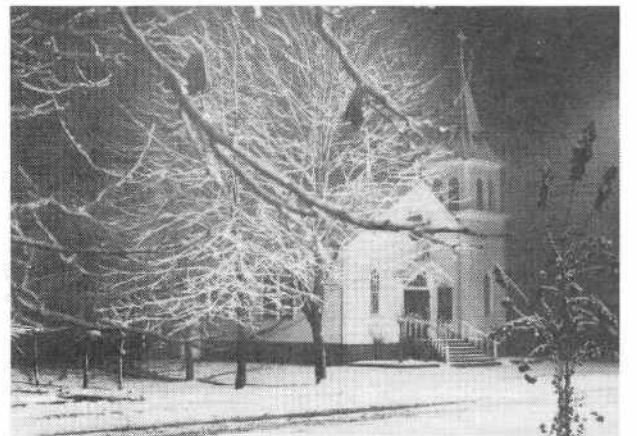
Rectory



Rectory, School from Eton, Fellrath Rd. corner

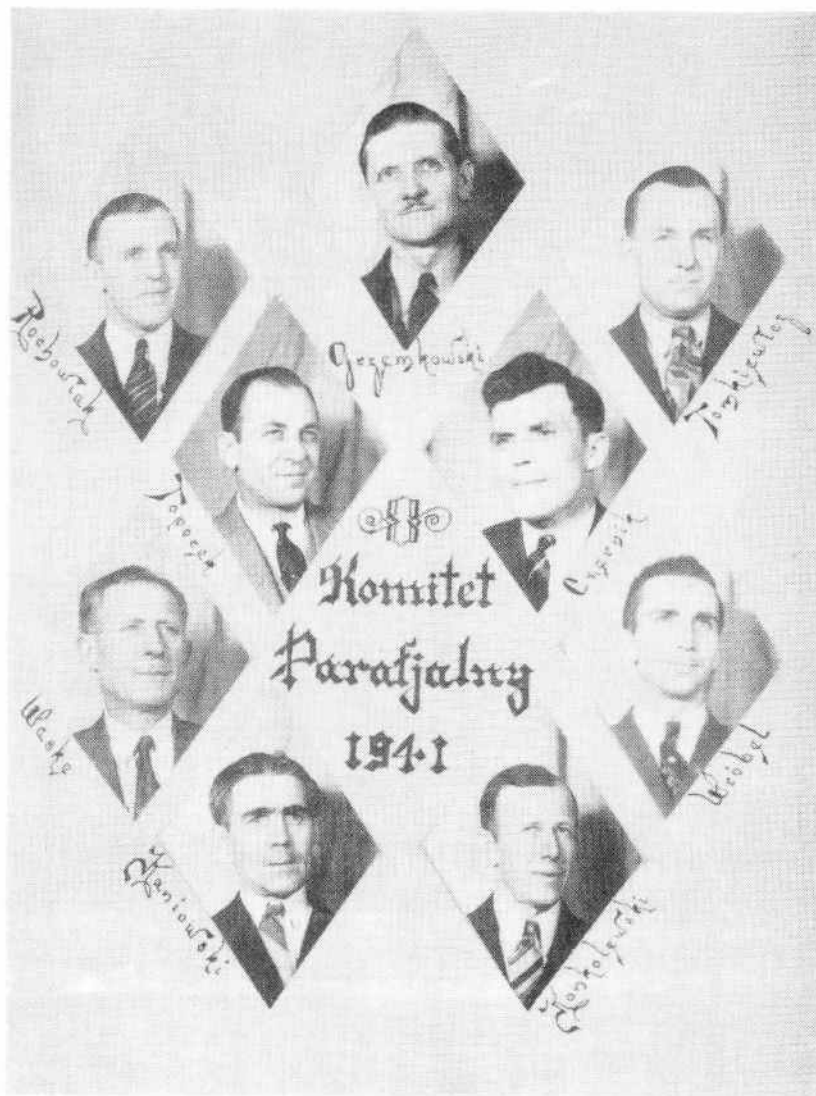


Entrance of School, center Rectory, Church



Night Scene

**Parish Committee
1941**



**Members of Holy Name Society
of St. John's**



Rev. Theodore F. Kowalewski, pastor of St. John Parish, sinks the guilded shovel into the sod during the ground breaking ceremonies for the new school building. Watching the ceremony are (from left to right) Paul Waske, Chairman of the Church Committee; Recorder's Court Judge John J. Maher; Pastor, Father Kowalewski; Hamilton Robichaud, District 8 Supt. of Schools and Leo Authier.



Father Kowalewski happily giving a speech after ground breaking ceremony for new school - May 2, 1948.



Laying of the cornerstone of St. John's new school by Monsignor Tobias Morin, Dean, as the Pastor of St. John's, Father Theodore Kowalewski and Father Michael Koltuniak looks on.

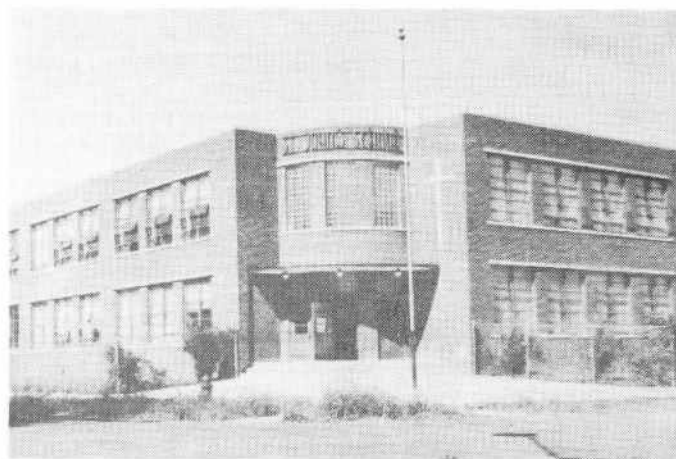


View of progress on building of new school - 1948.



Cardinal Mooney Blesses Our New School

The new St. John School was blessed by His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, on October 17, 1948. Pictured are: Cardinal Mooney, Msgr. Joseph Pfeiffer and Father Theodore F. Kowalewski.



Completed new St. John's School built in 1948.

Top: The Graduates entertain with a comical skit on the stage. Bottom: The Graduates sing farewell and say good-bye as they prepare to leave our school for higher studies.



Top: Our Kindergarten Graduates. Bottom: Children Happily Cheering the Opening of Another School Year at St. John's - 1949. They are Happy to be Back.



Sister Mary Anisia, Principal, Sister Mary Clemens, Sister Mary Valencia, Sister Mary Delphine, Sister Mary Oswaldine, Sister Mary Dorothy (not photographed), Sister Mary Angela, Sister Mary Justine, Sister Mary Veronica. Sister Mary Anisia is also the parish organist.

Our Sisters in 1951, helping us celebrate the Silver Jubilee. They teach and guide your children to be good Catholics and citizens. Missing from the picture is Sister M. Dorothy, Keeper of the House.



1948 - New convent purchased for the sisters which stands to this date across the street from the present church.



A familiar scene every May 1st. Members of the Young Ladies' Sodality crowning the statue of Blessed Mother. Looking on is Father Theodore Kowalewski and the altar boys - 1951.



Sisters of St. Joseph serving St. John's. Left to right: Sister M. Rogers, Sister M. Joan, Sister M. Generose, Sister M. Juanita, Sister M. Cyrilla, Sister M. Leonille, Sister M. Electa, Sister M. Olivia.

The gratitude of the Sisters of St. Joseph to our common founder, Rev. Bona, finds symbolic expres-



sion in the many years of dedicated service provided by them to the physical needs of students and faculty of St. John's.

In addition they still launder the altar linens, polish our chalices, flower our altars, vacuum the floor, and pray - for the cause of St. John's and its service to the people of God.



St. John's Church Choir - 1967

Membership in the St. John's Choir has dwindled to a "precious few." The choir attempts through music, to enhance the prayer life of St. John's Parish Family. They participate in worship each Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

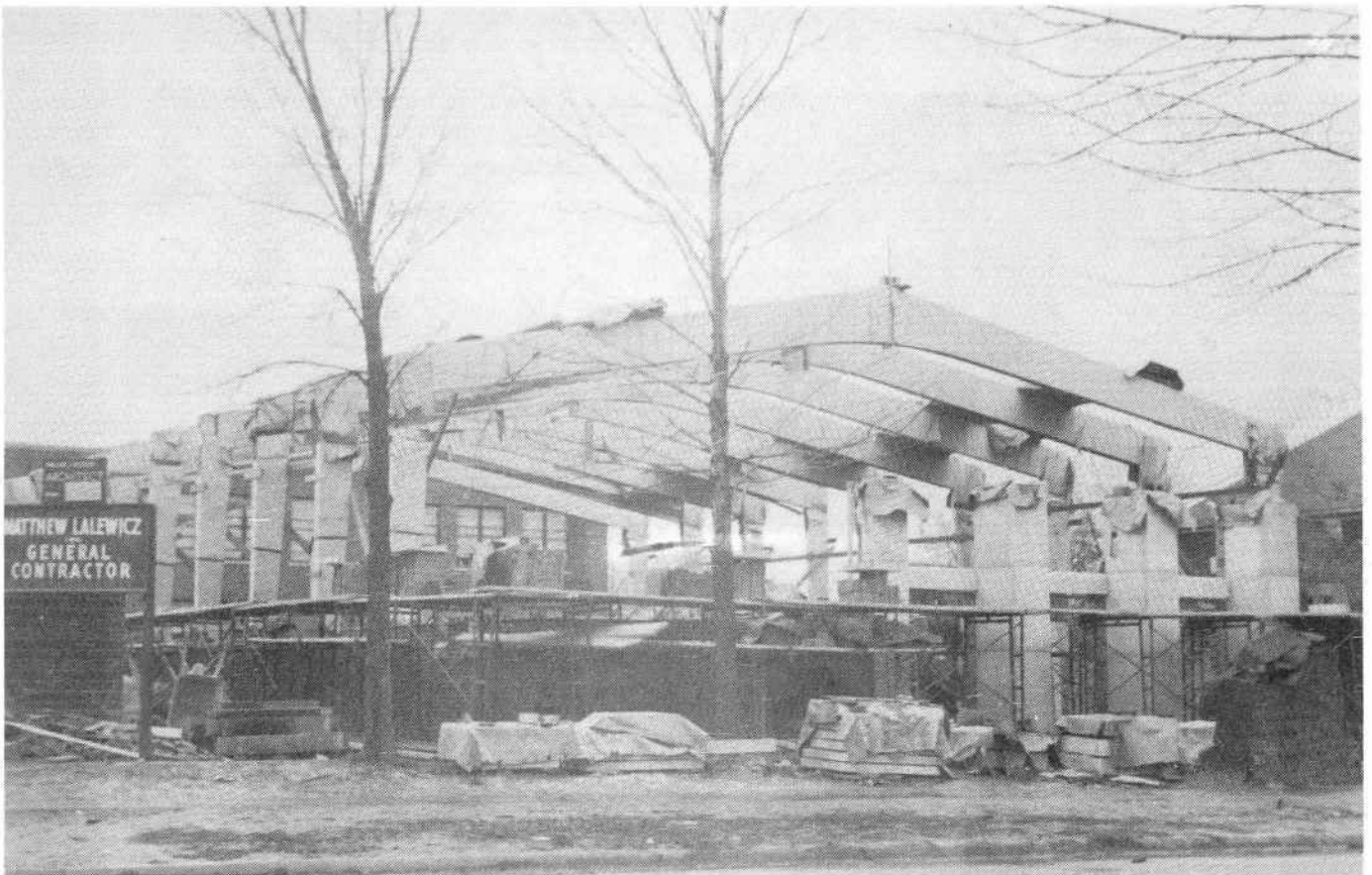
Members meet each Tuesday evening, except for brief vacations in spring and summer, under the

direction of Sister Cyrilla, who is both Director and Organist. These rehearsals prepare them for their joyous vocal presence at all major feasts and events scheduled in our church.

At the invitation of our pastor, choir members join him in the celebration of the Mass at the Advance Nursing Center on the third Monday of each month.



Father Kowalewski and parishioners looking on prior to ground breaking ceremonies in May 1954.



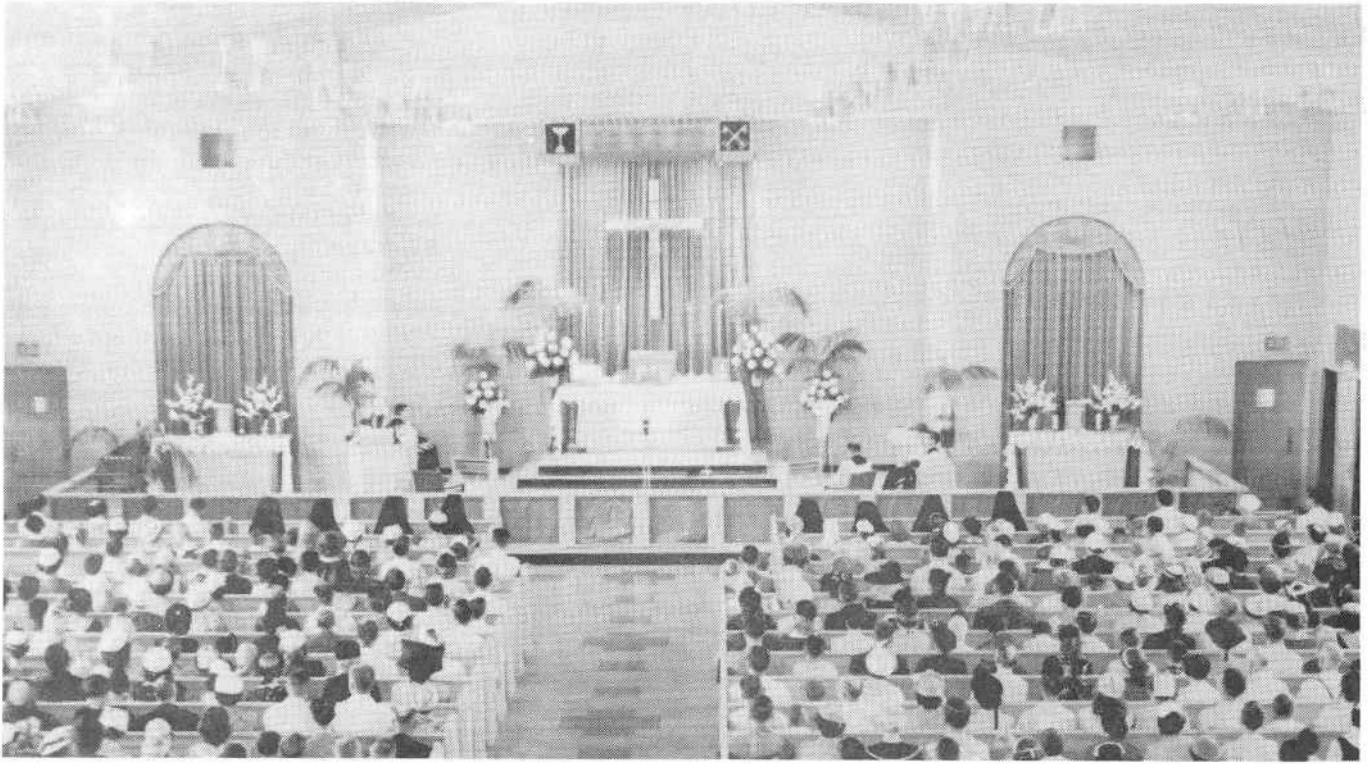
View of progress on building of new church Dec. 25, 1954.



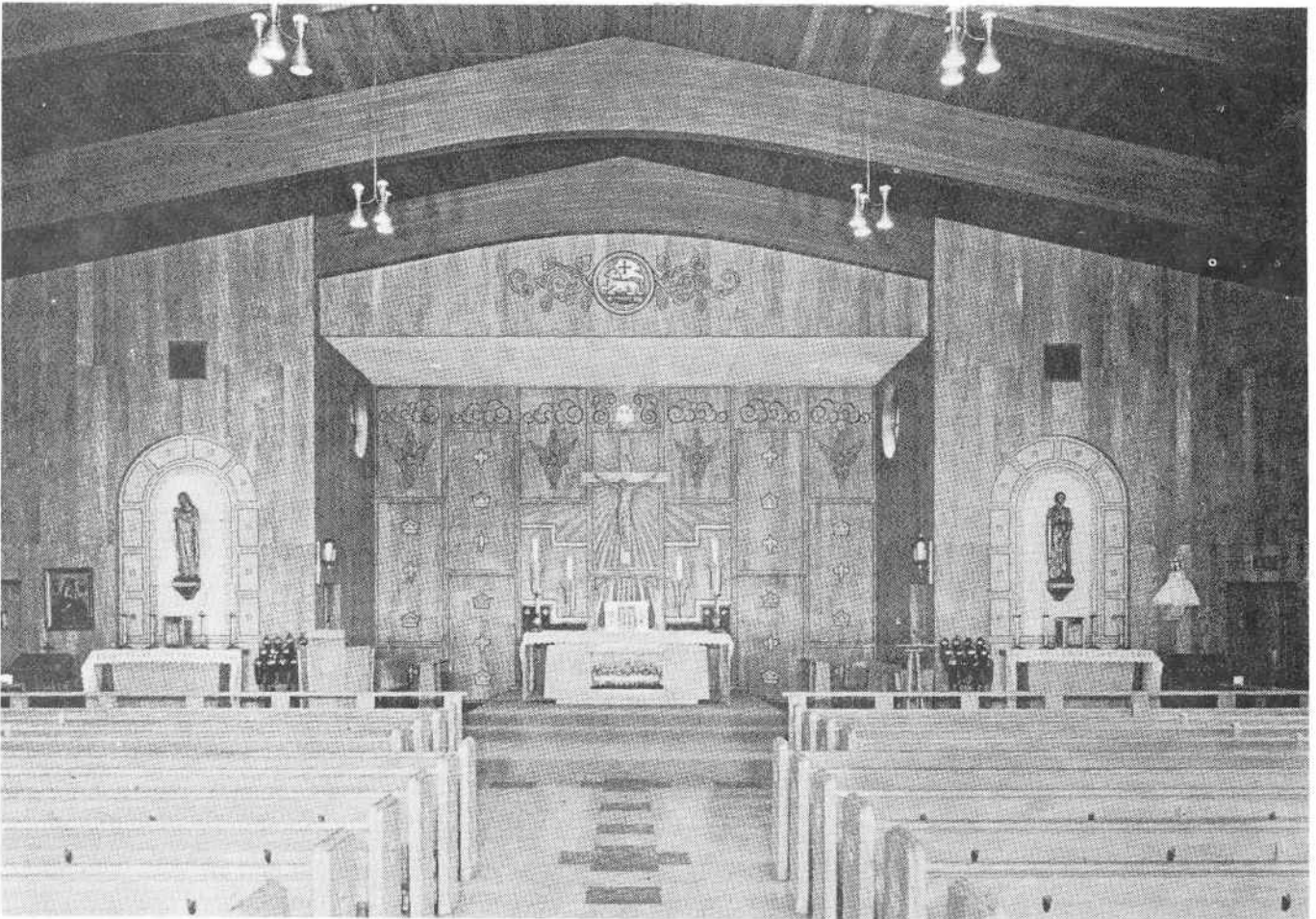
View of completed new church 1955.



Father Kowalewski blessing the people before first Mass - 1955.



Interior of church during first Mass - 1955.



Interior of church after new paneling and paint - 1966.

Organization & Society...

...that served St. John's throughout the years:

Rosary Society
 Altar Society
 St. Cecilia Society
 Ushers' Club
 Sztandar Polski, PNA
 Merciful Heart of Jesus

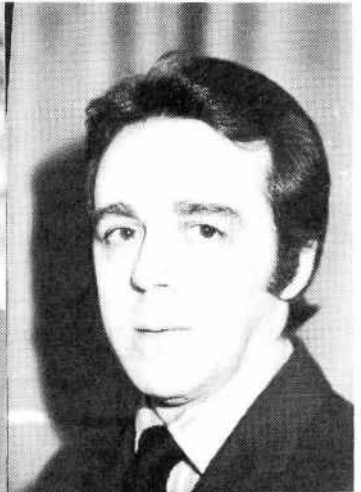
Young Ladies' Society
 Holy Name Society
 Church Committee
 Boy Scouts
 Booster Club
 Club 12

Altar Boys (Knights of Altar)
 Girl Scouts
 Choir
 Lectors
 School of Dance P.R.C.U.A.
 Brownies

Lectors of St. John's

Frank Adams
 Andy Bavol
 John Buczynski
 Charles Chieca
 Gerald Donnelly
 Pat Dunn
 Mr. Fillippi
 John Hayes

Bert Johnson
 Ruben Lopez
 John McLain
 Walter Quillico
 Steve Rutkowski
 Chuck Tesier
 Valentine Warunek



Officers of St. John's Ushers' Club - 1976

President: Ted Ceckiewicz

Vice President: Donald Myszkowski

Secretary: Ruben Lopez

Treasurer: Leo Aniol



USHERS' CLUB

St. John's Ushers' Club dates back to the early days of the church when a few men faithfully would make the Sunday collections. Without records, dates and names could not be mentioned. These men were brought together because of their willingness to help the priest. Socially the Ushers' Club provided the leadership for many parish activities including bazaars, feather parties, picnics, banquets, festivals,

A.D.F., bingo. The list could go on and on.

Usually we take for granted the services of those men who are frequently with us. They are with us every Sunday and at other occasions. When they do well, we say nothing. When they fail once, we complain. Yet, they donate their time and effort for the welfare of you, the parishioner.

Members of St. John's Ushers' Club

Leo Aniol
Robert Ball
Ray Barnes
Andy Baval
Alex Beaudet
Felix Belkowski
Edward Borowski
James Breen
John Buczynski
Robert Buddie
Joseph Busch
George Cassar
Ted Ceckiewicz
Charles Chieca
Charles Cousins
Ray Cox
Jerry Donnelly
Pat Dunn
Edward Ferkowicz
Baldassare Fillippi
Walter Galazyn
Gerald Gauthier
Walter Gorecki

Lawrence Guibord
David Guminski
John Hayes
Fred Hobbins
John Hopkinson
Louis Iadonisi
Richard Igras
Robert Jantzen
Bert Johnson
William Karczewski
Carl Kirsch
John Kissel
John Ksiazek
Ken Kubitz
Chester Kuchta
Lawrence Kulik
Mike Kulp
Robert Labadie
Zigmund Laneski
Frank Lankajtus
Ted Lavelly
Robert Lefebvre
Ruben Lopez
Stan Maciborski

Robert Minton
Adam Murzin
Joseph Murzin
Donald Myszkowski
Jerome Nosal
Manuel Paliza
Matt Pikula
Anthony Ploucha
Jan Pultorak
Walter Quillico
Thomas Roddy
Steve Rutkowski
Edward Rzucidlo
Raymond Samuel
Walter Seres
John Simon
Leonard Stronski
Ed Szkutnicki
Chuck Tesier
John Warunek
Valentine Warunek
Ray Wojkiewicz
Ray Woods
Robert Woods

Parish Council

The Parish Council is the coordinating and unifying structure of the parish community. It is the means of achieving full participation by the whole parish by giving all a voice in encouraging, guiding, and directing the various aspects of parish life. The council is a parish in miniature. The members bring together the needs and hopes of all the parishioners, seeking to discover, in the light of Christian faith, the direction the total parish should take.

Only a small portion of the fifty year history of St. John the Baptist Parish has been shared by the Parish Council. As recently as 1969, a steering committee drafted the outline for the Parish Council, presented an interim constitution to the parish, and then organized the nomination and parish-wide election of the first council which took place in the fall of 1970.

From this first council in 1970 to the present 1976 members, the Parish Council has moved slowly but steadily to assure a role as your representatives and your voice in the Church.

The first elected members to the council were Hank Wathen, Helen Piwowar, Valentine Warunek, John McLain, Michael Ploucha, Christine Lemon, Al Maci, Virginia Schmelzer, William Siegel, Adam Murzin, Frank Adams, John Hayes, Robert LeFebvre, Raymond Barnes, and Geraldine Filippi.

The first elected officers of the council were: Hank Wathen, president; Valentine Warunek, vice-president, and Christine Lemon, secretary.

Since the first election to the present year 1976, elections were held to replace 5 outgoing members. The Parish Council consists of 17 members; 15 lay people, Fr. Joseph Karasiewicz representing clergy, and Sr. Mary Cyrilla, religious.



Geraldine Flippi



Michael Ploucha



Frank Adams



Adam Murzin



Christine Lemon



John Hayes



Valentine P. Warunek



Robert Lefebvre



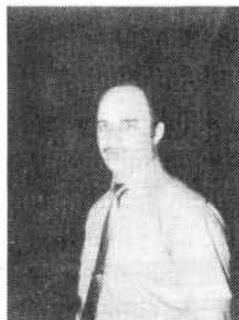
William Siegel



Helen Piwowar



John McLain



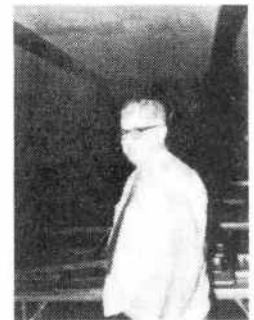
Al Maci



Virginia Schmelzer



Raymond Barnes



Hank Wathen

**St. John
the Baptist
Parish Council
1976**

Father Joseph Karasiewicz
Sister M. Cyrilla
Gerald Grubbe
Chuck Baslock
Valerie Buddie
Mike Kulp



Wally Quillico

Ted Lavelly

Ruben Lopez



Valentine Warunek

Zigmund Laneski

Ray Cox

Bob Buddie



Sue Breen

Marie Cousins

Theda Johnson

Theresa Breen

The History of the Rosary Altar Society

The Rosary Society came into existence in 1925 with Michalene Niemczewski, president, with 11 members meeting in homes to say the rosary.

The Altar Society came into existence in 1943 with 26 members and the following officers: president, Florence Hanson, vice president, Mary LePay, secretary, Dorothy Bowman, treasurer, Mary Kubiak.

In 1958 the two Societies joined, thus the Rosary Altar Society or ROSARIANS. A rosarian is required to recite the fifteen decades of our Lady's rosary every day and to reflect on the Mysteries of Catholic Faith concerned with the Incarnation, Birth, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and to say a rosary for deceased members and husbands. To help with the needs of the Church. Women praying and working together with Mary as our proctor, to give spiritual benefits wherever needed.

Through the early years with the aid of the Holy Name Society raised monies with bingos and raffles to build the new church and school.

Contributed over \$3,000 to the Mothers' Room in the church, Holy Water containers, linens for the altar, vestments and albs for the priests, cassocks and surplices for the altar boys, purchased Communion dresses for the less fortunate, landscaping for the church. The latest donation - the Baptismal Font in memory of Rev. Mitchell Witkowski, dedicated Feb. 1970 by Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz and Rev. Jerome Swiezb, a beautiful cross and red cassocks for the altar boys.

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary making group, with Margaret Blair as chairman for years, made over 3000 rosaries and donated them to the missions, sponsored Jubilians of our parish for couples who have celebrated 25, 35, 40 and 50 years with Mass, papal blessings from Rome and reception. Mrs. Ann Kirsch has been chairman for years.

Donations to the boys in Vietnam, sponsored a child with leprosy, sewing and mending clothes for Plymouth State Home, Jonnie coats, Christmas parties at Wayne County and Veterans' Hospital, donated a record player to the girls at Vista Maria, toys for tots, migrant workers, baskets of food to the needy, helped less fortunate from our parish, etc. Every year when Forty Hour Devotions are held in our parish the ladies cook and serve food to the visiting priests, dishes and silverware to the church hall. Adopted a Korean orphan for one year, medical missions and Pope's Store Room, etc.

To the school - playground equipment, helped establish the library, typewriters, projectors, movie screens, gave Christmas parties with goodies and gifts for many years. The latest donations are for the Science Project.

To the sisters' convent, donations for the station wagons, sewing machine, stove, linens, food, etc. The last few years we have held benefits and proceeds turned over to the convent.

The Rosary Altar Society at the present time, is rolling cancer bandages and contributing to the Christ Child Plan, layettes for Social Services of our community.

The present membership of the Society is 98 ladies with the following elected officers: president Virginia Schmelzer, vice president Ethel Traxler (acting), with Bernice Bacalia (Honorary) treasurer Agnes Iadonisi, recording secretary Julia Emmitt, corresponding secretary Dolores Rzucidlo. Committees: Activities, Louise Litnanski; Membership, Theda Johnson; Spiritual, Theresa Breen; C.C.W.A.D., Anna Kirsch; Social, Ann Stevens, Stella Skocen; Parliamentary Committee, Theresa Hobbins, Ann Barnhart and Margaret Blair; History, Loretta Novak; Decorations, Cecille Mercier; Relief, Ethel Traxler; Blood Bank, Clara Macaborski; Prefects, St. Elizabeth, Loretta Minton; St. Jude, Julia Ringwelski; St. Margaret, Isabella Chieca.

P.S. All monies left in treasury end of year turned over to the church.

Past Presidents of Rosary Society

1. Mrs. Michelene Niemczewski 1925 to 1928
2. Anna Konkolewska 1929 to 1930
3. Anna Grendel 1931 to 1941
4. Bernice Bacalia 1942 to 1943
5. Stella Andrzejaska 1943 to 1944
6. Anna Grendel 1944 to 1945
7. Anna Toporek 1945 to 1946
8. Agatha Roza 1946 to 1951
9. Bernice Majewicz 1951 to 1953
10. Agatha Roza 1953 to 1958

In 1958 the Rosary Society joined with the Altar Society, thus the name was changed to the Rosary Altar Society.

Altar Society Past Presidents

1. Mrs. Margaret Remisowski 1943 to 1946
2. Mrs. Lillian Bonk 1946 to 1948
3. Mrs. Angelina Willette 1948 to 1949
4. Mrs. Viola Boes 1949 to 1950
5. Mrs. Mary Poceta 1950 to 1951
6. Mrs. Florence Hanson 1951 to 1952
7. Mrs. Mary Lapay 1952 to 1954
8. Mrs. Yvonne Rondeau 1954 to 1955
9. Mrs. Julia Ringwelski 1955 to 1956
10. Mrs. Marie Cousins 1956 to 1957
11. Mrs. Martha Otjens 1957 to 1958
12. Mrs. Ann Kirsch 1958 to 1960
13. Mrs. Ann Barnhart 1960 to 1961
14. Mrs. Dolores Rzucidlo 1961 to 1963
15. Mrs. Virginia Schmelzer 1963 to 1965
16. Mrs. Marie Cousins 1965 to 1966
17. Mrs. Genievieve Pondell 1966 to 1967
18. Mrs. Clara Maciborska 1967 to 1968
19. Mrs. Joan Lansfield 1968 to 1969
20. Mrs. Lois Grendel 1969 to 1970
21. Mrs. Joan Lansfield 1970 to 1971
22. Mrs. Stella Beatty 1971 to 1973
23. Mrs. Ethel Traxler 1973 to 1975
24. Mrs. Virginia Schmelzer 1975 to 1976
25. Mrs. Virginia Schmelzer 1976 to 1977



June 1975 to June 1976

President: Virginia Schmelzer
 Vice President: Bernice Bacalia (Honorary)
 Treasurer: Agnes Iadonisi
 Secretary: Julia Emmitt
 Corres. Secretary: Dolores Rzucidlo

June 1976 to June 1977

President: Virginia Schmelzer
 Vice President: Ethel Traxler (Acting)
 Treasurer: Agnes Iadonisi
 Secretary: Julia Emmitt
 Corres. Secretary: Dolores Rzucidlo

The Rosary Society

The Holy Rosary Society was organized in May 1927 by Mrs. Alexandra Lukasiewicz. At that time they had 39 members. Its first officers were Michaeline Niemczewski, president; Catherine Ciupak, vice president; Martha Bartos, secretary; Mary Murska, treasurer. The Rosary Altar Society

has helped the parish tremendously, in the early days of the parish.

They have provided spiritual, charitable, financial, social service, assisted other parish organizations and many, many more, too numerous to mention. The Society women have made their presence known in all facets of parish life with special emphasis on the warmth and friendship among its members.

Altar Boys



Teen Club Officers

1975-1976

President: Kathy Filippi
 Vice President: ... Shirley Myszowski
 Secretary: Jean Piowar
 Treasurer: Sue Breen

Scouting at St. John's 1958 to 1976

The purposes and aims of the Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America became a part of the youth program of St. John's in the latter part of the year 1958. Specifically the program is directed to duty to God, to helping others and duty to self in keeping oneself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight. This then is the precept of the Scout Oath and Promise.

With the approval of Fr. Mitchell Witkowski (deceased) and with Fr. Francis Wahowiak as our Scout Chaplain, the charter members of Troop 1142 met with officials of the Sauk Trail District of the Detroit Area Council, B.S.A. for the purpose of organization. These charter members were Charles J. Cousins, Leo J. Aniol, John C. Dzuiba, Frank C. Kaminski, John S. Warunek and Charles U. Chieca. With the completion of committee training completed under the direction of the Sauk Trail District Leadership Training Committee, appointments to committee were made with Mr. Cousins as Institutional Representative, Mr. Richard F. Horton, Chairman and Mr. Chieca as Scoutmaster.

Recruitment of prospective Scouts was begun in early 1959 and charter members of the troop were - Leo M. Aniol, Michael C. Cousins, James R. Horton, Timothy Malyszczek, Henry J. Modrzynski, Donald Renner, James Susek, Glenn Szoff, Robert and William Warunek, Gerald Pondell and Patrick M. Chieca.

Through the years that followed many father and son combinations became a part of the membership of Troop 1142. Some that come to mind of this historian are (in addition to the above named) Fritz and Fred Jakob, Roger and Dennis Mercier, Joseph Sultana, Jr. and son Joseph III, Walter Gorecki and Gerald, Robert Sullivan and Michael, Marvin Krey and James, Edward Rzcudlo and Anthony, Norman McLain and Michael, John Westfall and sons, Walter and Joseph Seres, Francis Wathen and Robert.

In early 1963 Mr. John Deloge was appointed Scoutmaster, followed by Walter Gorecki, Ollie Birkenmier, Harold Kuypers, Joseph Dickers, Edward Rzcudlo, Robert Minton and William Livingston.

Interesting anecdotes come to mind of past years. One would be the fact that at one time the Troop has had four brothers as members, these being the double set of twins of Mr. & Mrs. John Warunek. One story is told of how one of them pitched his tent on an incline and during the night, while still in his sleeping bag, wiggled his way under the tent and found himself under the morning sky. The Troop, always mindful of the spiritual development of its members, yearly attended the annual Scout Retreats conducted by the C.Y.O. and the Catholic Committee for Scouting at D.A. Scout Ranch in Metamora, Mich. In one of the first yearly retreats a violent storm came upon the site, blowing down all tents with the result that approximately 30 persons, soaked to the skin,

found themselves in one huge tent. Scouting is FUN and needless to say a good time was had by all.

One can well remember early fund raising projects such as the annual pancake and sausage breakfasts when hot water had to be heated on outdoor stoves with which to wash syrupy and greasy dishes and silverware and which only this type food fare can produce. This was all done in the old church, well remembered.

Scouting advanced and so did members of Troop 1142. Those that advanced to the rank of Eagle were - James Krey, Joseph Seres, Anthony Rzcudlo and John Westfall. They also, at the same time achieved recognition for their profession to the Catholic Faith by completion of the requirements for the Ad Altare Dei Emblem Award meaning - "To the Altar of God."

Through to the year 1966, young men of Troop 1142 whom we meet from time to time are David McTear, Michael Cousins, Joseph Seres and Anthony Rzcudlo. Time has a way of telling us that life goes on. The Troop prospered through to 1974 when unforeseen circumstances caused it to disband, however in mid 1976 the Troop reorganized. Current committee and Troop members are as follows:

Institutional Representative: Charles U. Chieca; **Chairman (Pro-tem):** Charles U. Chieca; **Committee Members:** Joan M. Bavol, Sharon Culp, Colleen Dusseau, Anne F. Davis, Martha E. Fuerst, Raymond Suwinski, Sarah R. Walton; **Scoutmaster:** Charles O. Dusseau; **Senior Patrol Leader:** Andrew P. Bavol; **Asst. Senior Patrol Leader:** David K. Dryja.

Patrols	Golden Eagle Patrol	Jaguar Patrol
Patrol Leader	Michael Fuerst	Ronald Bavol
Asst. Patrol Leader	Terry Washington	Chris Culp
	Terry Harned	Paul Bavol
	Mark Suwinski	Timothy Culp
	Arthur Walton	Christopher Davis
		Bennie Wesley

Shortly after Troop reorganization in 1976 Andrew P. Bavol was awarded his rank of Eagle in a ceremony at St. John's. He had completed his requirements while a member of Troop 720. It is interesting to note that seven members of the Troop serve as altar boys while one presently serves as a Lector. Opportunities to aspire to the priesthood have surfaced though they never fully materialized.

Cub Scouting in St. John's will have been in existence for the past seven years and two months. This program is for boys ages 8 through 10 years or in the 5th grade of school. Pack 1142 is a lively group of dedicated people. Since its founding, the Pack has brought Cubbing to many boys in the age group. Though not all have gone on to join Scouting in the older age group (11 to 13), a remarkable job has been done. Most of the Cubs are engaged in working on

their advancements and in particular the Parvuli Dei Emblem Award which means "Little Children of God." It is hoped that all will receive this recognition.

From Vatican City, His Holiness Pope Paul VI declared in a special message to the Scouts at the 11th World Jamboree held on the Plains of Marathon, Greece, stated, "Tomorrow, you and others like you, will be the leaders of your countries, and it is necessary that you prepare yourselves now for this task. To be good citizens, you must first recognize your relationship to God Who is the Father of all mankind. We are all His children and therefore brothers of one another. Remembering this, you will strive to do what is best for yourselves and for your neighbor, and in this way you shall be building the foundations for true peace. If you recognize the natural dignity and goodness of others, you will respect their rights."

Cadette Troop 673

- Marie Borowski
- Cindy Ceckiewicz
- Diana Coleman
- Shannon Cunningham
- Carolyn Currie
- Theresa Epperson
- Becky Hewitt
- Marey Hewitt
- Helia Igras
- Rosemary Kahl
- Dolorence Lawson
- Leader..... Diana Cunningham
- Terri Moore
- Carol Nault
- Laurie Olson
- Natalie Quillico
- Lori Sacka
- Suzanne Samuel
- Denise Slance
- Jackie Slance
- Jane Whitt
- Suzanne Wolf

Senior Troop 671

- President - Ann Fratrack
- Karen Guminski
- Karen Montgomery
- Donna Swan
- Adviser..... Diana Cunningham

Cub Pack 1142

Pack 1142 Committee

- Cubmaster
- Bruce Shippe 292-9367
- Committee Chairman..... Bruce Shippe
- Advancement Chairman
- Arlene LaFevé 292-2298
- Treasurer
- Frank LaFevé..... 292-2298
- Secretary
- Gloria Alexander..... 728-2731
- Den Leader Coach
- Delores Shippe..... 292-9367
- Webelos Leader No. 1
- Bob Bartnicki..... 563-5113
- Webelos Leader No. 3
- George Tovar 292-0064
- Den No. 1..... Phillis Crawford
- Ernestine Jackson (Assistant Den No. 1)
- Den No. 3
- Carolyn Tovar 292-0064
- Assistant Den No. 3
- Rita Bartnicki..... 563-5113



1976 Club 12 Weekly Bingo





The community of St. John the Baptist has gathered together on this day of the Lord, September 26, 1976 to celebrate fifty years as one people of God. We remember the past - the long, hard struggles of a newly formed parish. We are aware of the present - the days of challenge and growth. We look to the future - an era of hope for the promised reign of Christ. All - times of giving, and sharing, and praying.

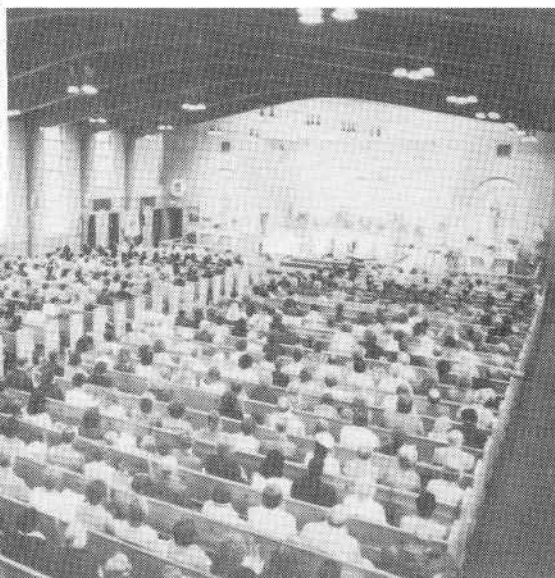
We come to this Eucharistic celebration with a newness of mind and life, and pray that we may renew ourselves and continue to share in God's eternal covenant.



CONCELEBRANTS

- Rev. Daniel Bogus
- Rev. John Mikula
- Rev. Edwin Szczygiel
- Rev. John Weier
- Rev. Wladyslaw Gowin
- Rev. Jerome Swierzb
- Rev. Dale Melczek

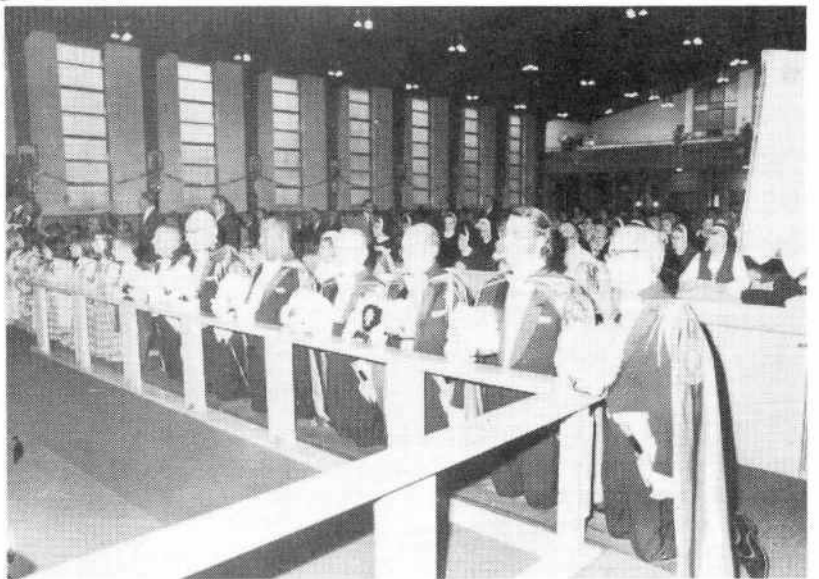
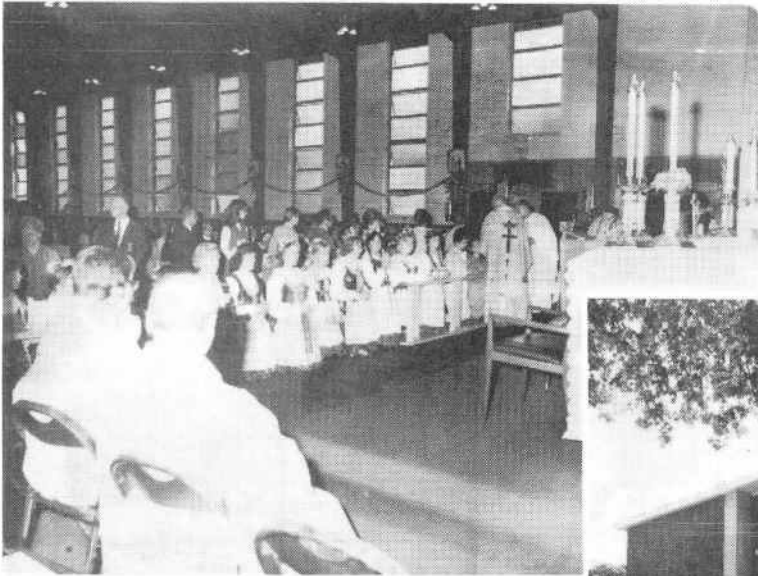
- Rev. Fabian Slominski
- Rev. Joseph Torzewski
- Rev. Frances Koper
- Rev. Raymond Studzinski
- Rev. Leo Kulinski (Sermon)
- Rev. Anthony Kosnik
- Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz



John Cardinal Dearden, Archbishop of Detroit
 Organist..... Sr. Mary Cyrilla
 Choir..... St. John's Choir & Students

Jesus calls us together in this solemn liturgy to recall our fifty years together, to keep in mind that the present is meaningless without our past, and continue to grow in His Spirit as one Body of Jesus.

"I am the Vine, you are the branches."



Social





EDUCATION

HAPPINESS

IS

KNOWING

ALL

THE

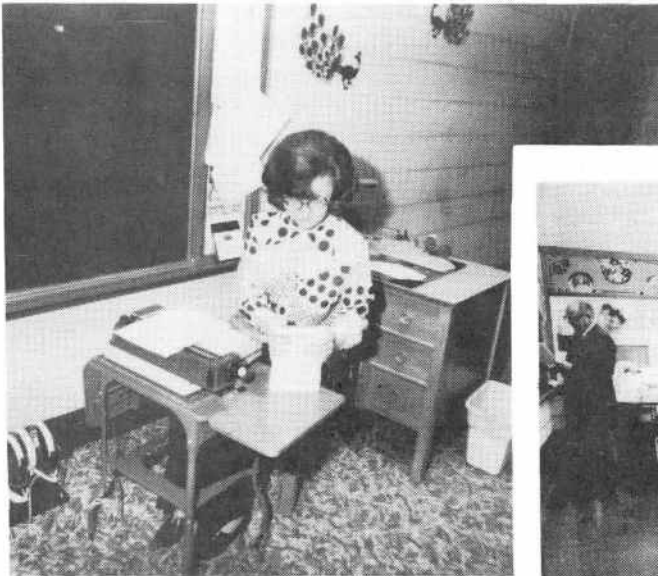
ANSWERS



Mrs. Montre, Speech Therapist



Sister Mary Cyrilla, Principal



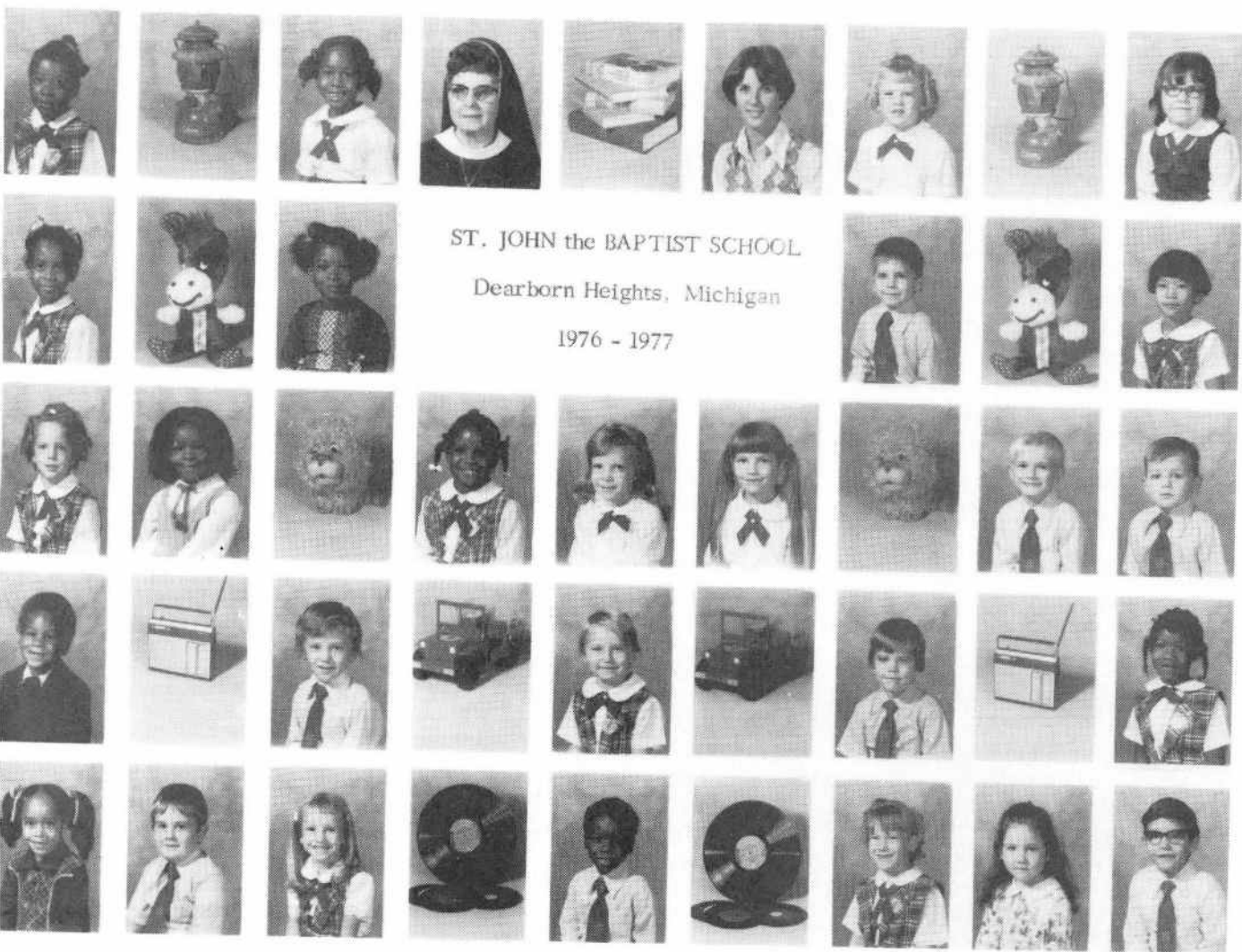
Dorothy Choate, Office Volunteer



Mr. Ryszard Mizialek, Language Instructor

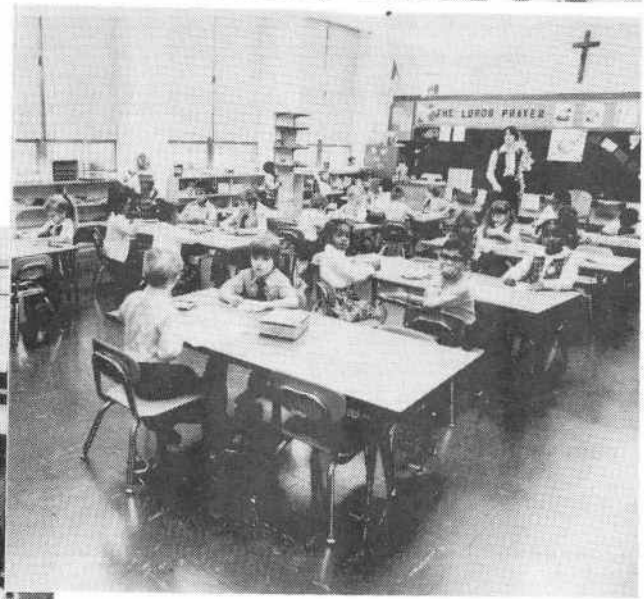
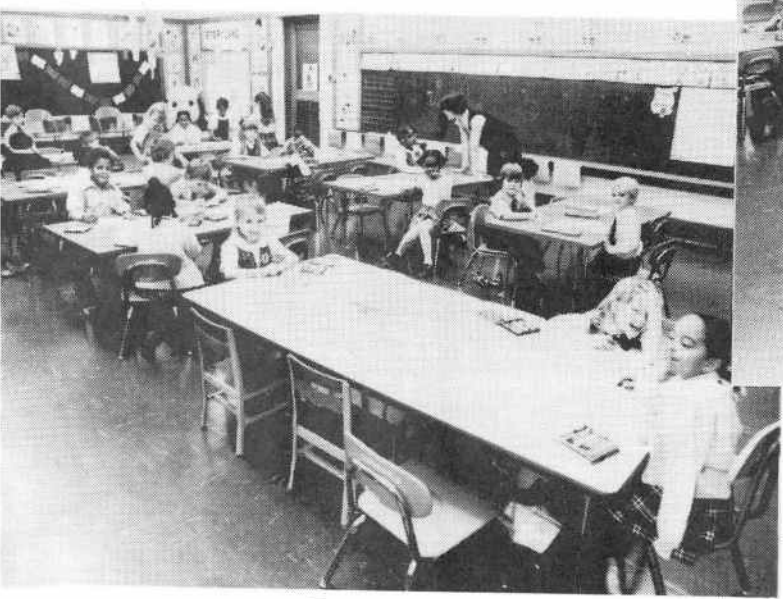


School Faculty



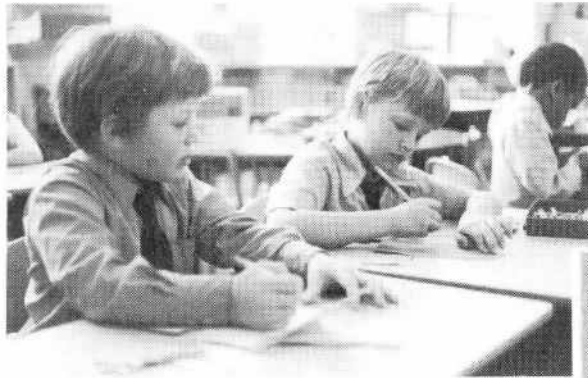
ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SCHOOL
 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 1976 - 1977

Kindergarten
 Mrs. Lynn Calonna, Teacher

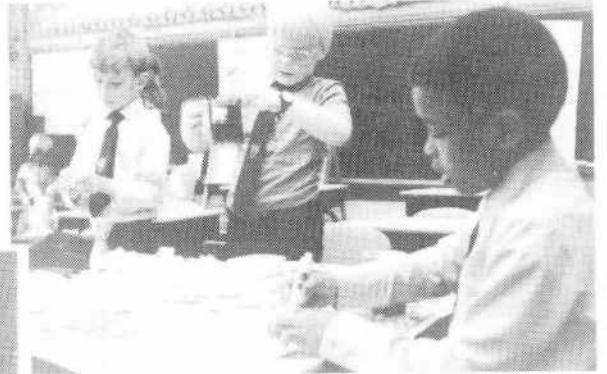




ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SCHOOL
 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 1976 - 1977



**First
Grade**



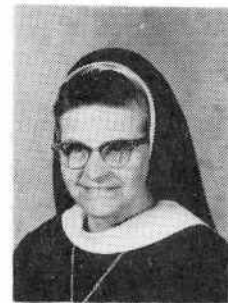
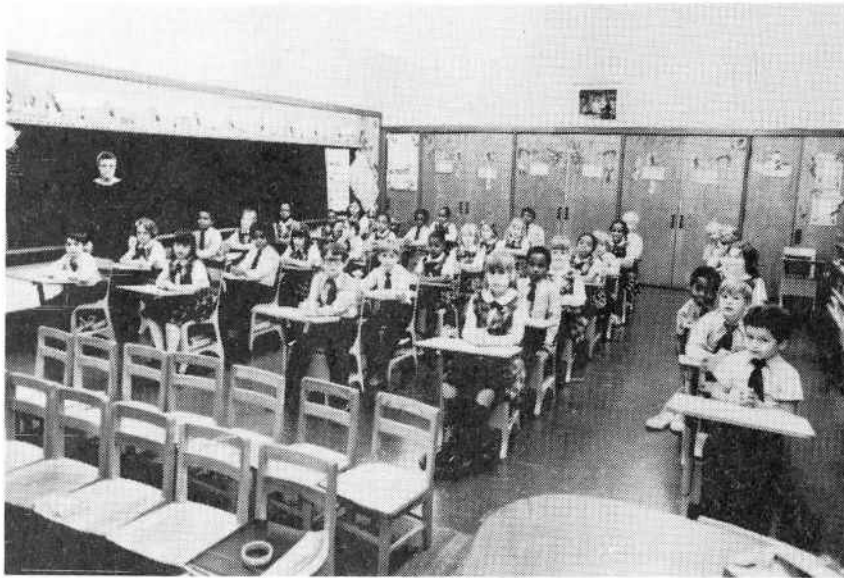
Mrs. Marilyn
Colton, Teacher





ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SCHOOL
 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 1976 - 1977

2nd Grade

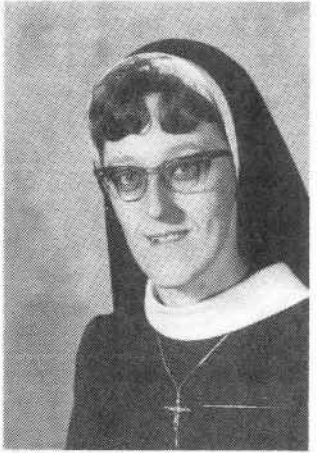


Sister Mary Electa, Teacher

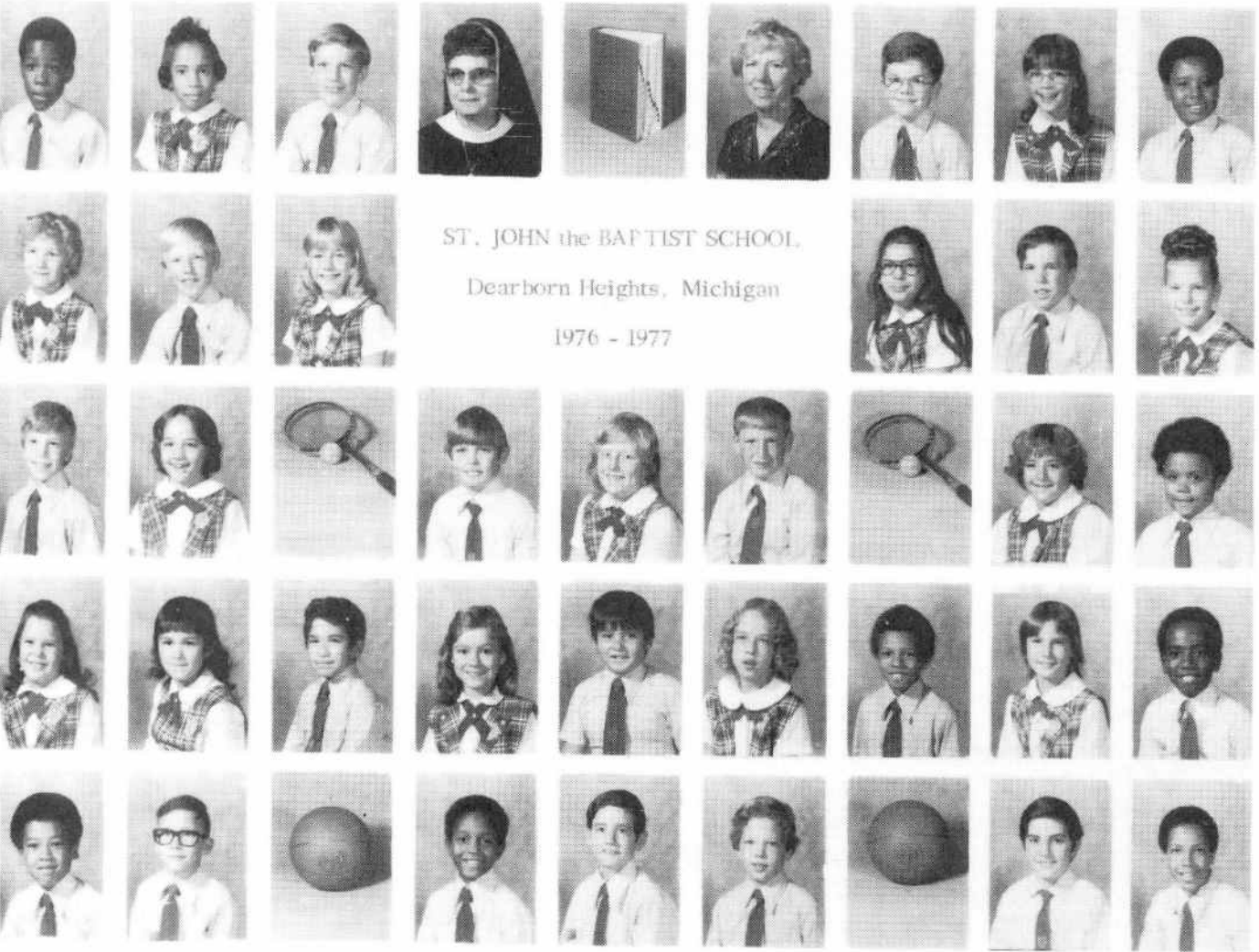


ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SCHOOL
 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 1976 - 1977

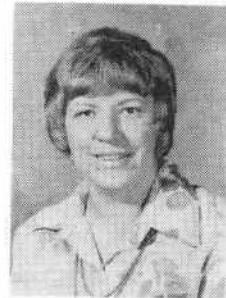
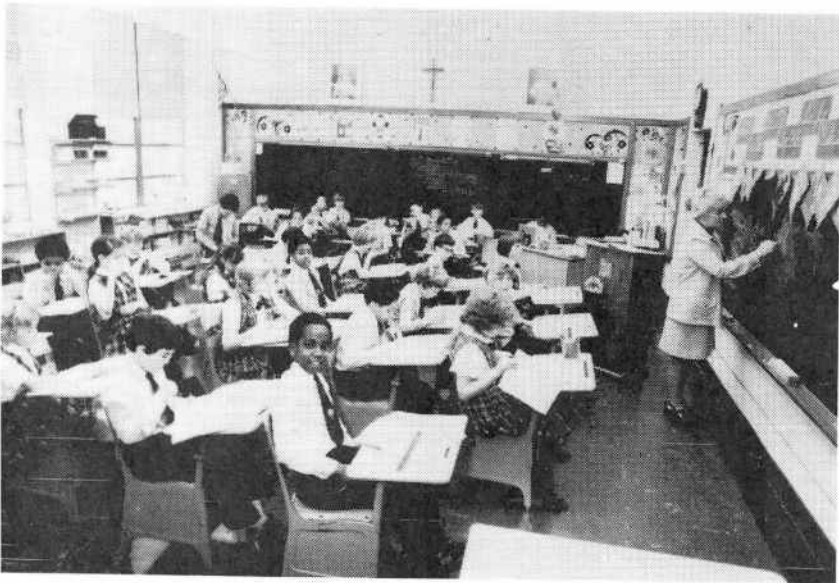
3rd Grade



Sr. Mary Joan, Teacher



4th Grade

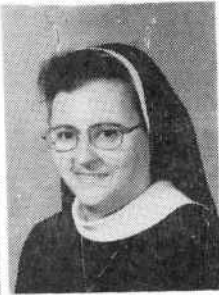


Mrs. Connie Sasin, Teacher



ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SCHOOL
 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 1976 - 1977

5th Grade



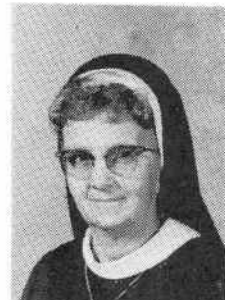
Sr. Mary Juanita, Teacher



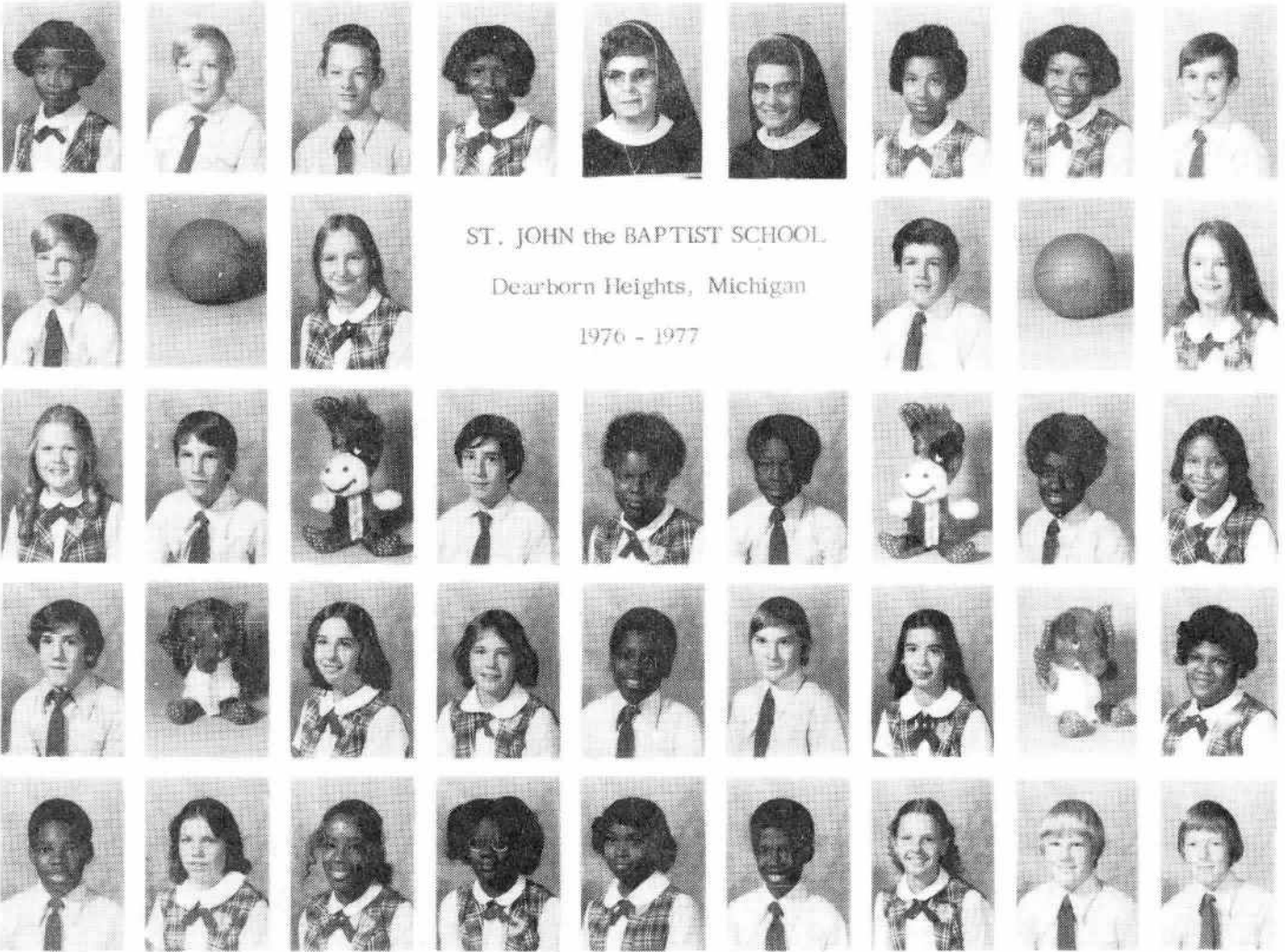


ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SCHOOL
 Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 1976 - 1977

6th Grade



Sr. Mary Generose, Teacher



7th Grade



Sr. Mary Leonille, Teacher



8th Grade



Sr. Mary Rogers, Teacher

School Library

The idea of having a school library was initiated by Sister Mary Florence who was school principal at the time. With the aid of some of the parishioners, a book fair was held and about 300 books were donated to the school.

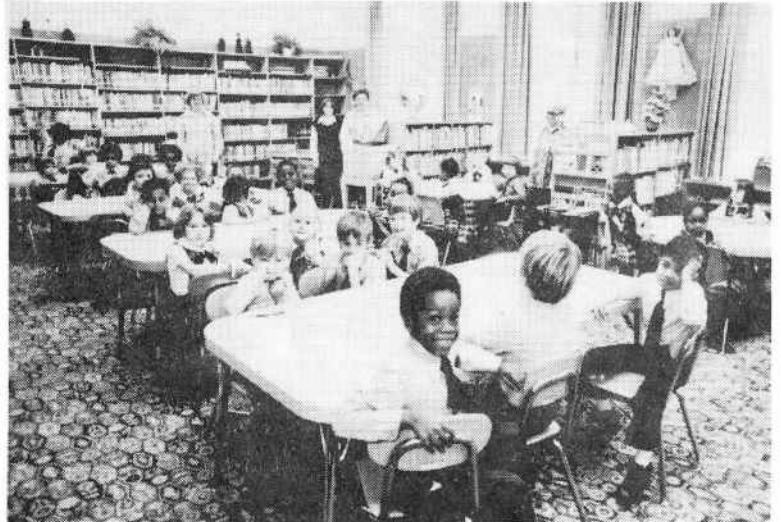
This was the beginning of what is now a 6,000 volume library. Throughout the years, the library has been

staffed by volunteers from the parish. These ladies check out books to the students, do book repairs and in general, follow up on all the necessary work to be done to keep the library in operation.

Presently, there are fourteen ladies on the library staff with Marie Cousins being the coordinator.



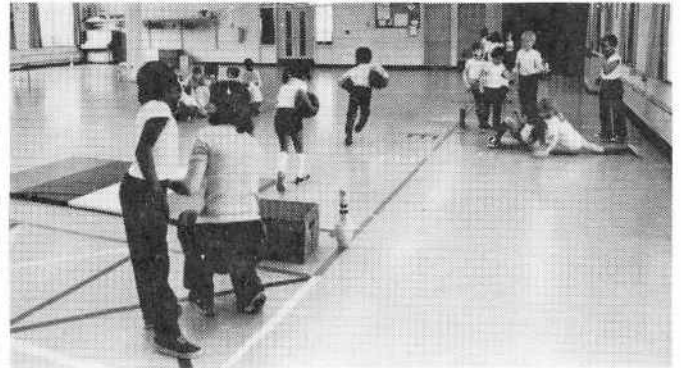
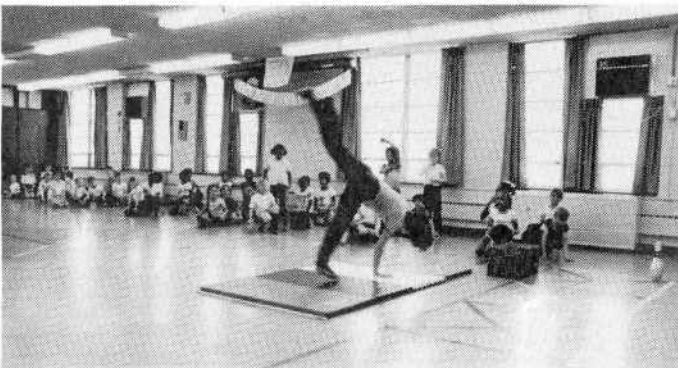
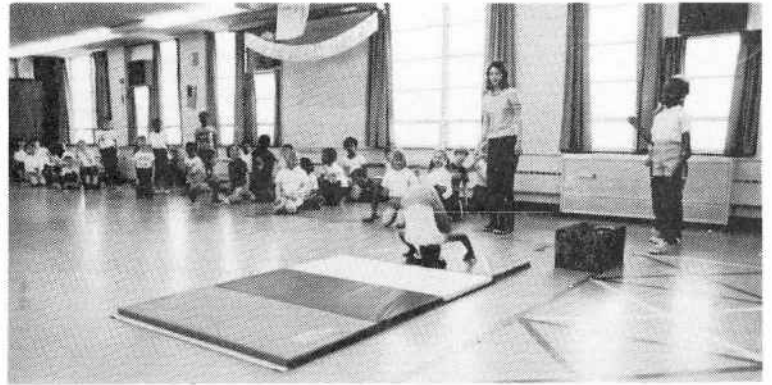
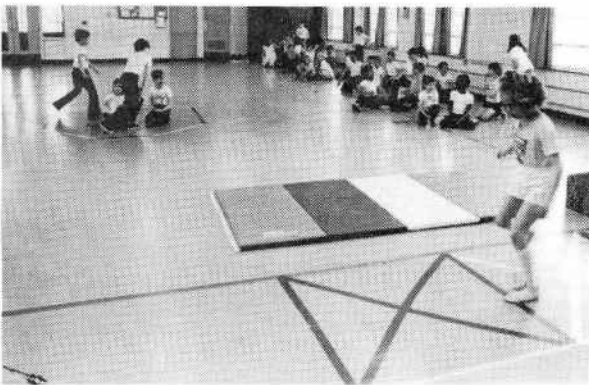
Standing left to right: Carolyn Tovar, Lorraine Shelton, Barbara Shell, Donna Lightell, Eleanor Kanski, Roseann Quillicco; Seated: Anne Jantzen and Marie Cousins.



Not pictured: Marion Ferkowicz, Gloria Alexander, Janice Swartout, Paulette Davis, Sandra Zimmerman, and Nan Rousseau.

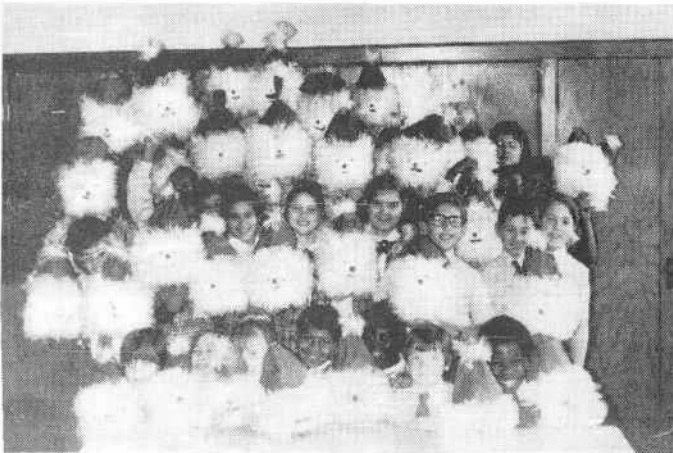
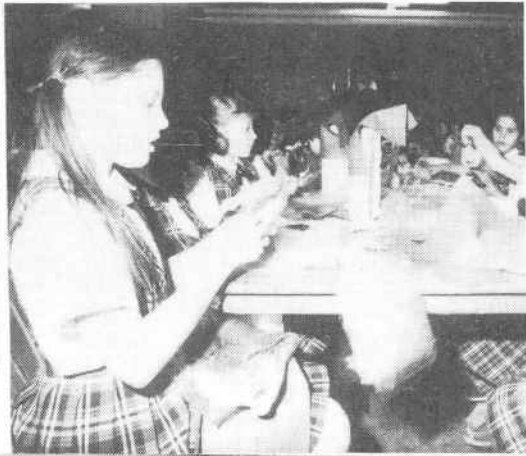
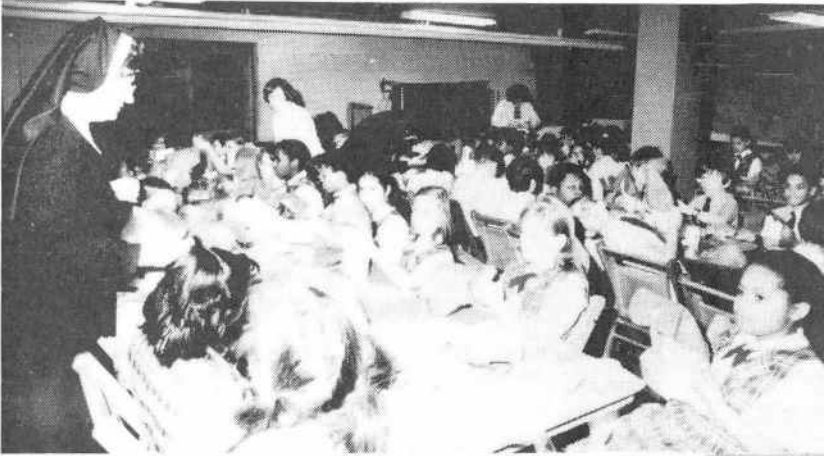
Physical Education - Grades 1 and 2

Teacher: Mrs. Lynn Colonna



Art - 4th and 5th Grade

Teachers: Mrs. C. Sasin and Sr. Mary Juanita



Candy Drive

Our New Year of '76 and the second semester of school opened with our Candy Drive Fund Raiser. Volunteers were recruited for bank sales with Joan Buzo and Maryann Seres, serving as chairpersons of the committee. With the bank sales and the participation of the students a total of \$4,500.00 was earned by the school for our new science room.

The Third Graders won a day off from school and the traveling animal for having top sales among the classes. Prizes were awarded to the fifteen highest families and to the individual high student in each grade who did not qualify for a family gift. The highest faculty salesperson was Sr. Mary Generose.



Students awarded prizes

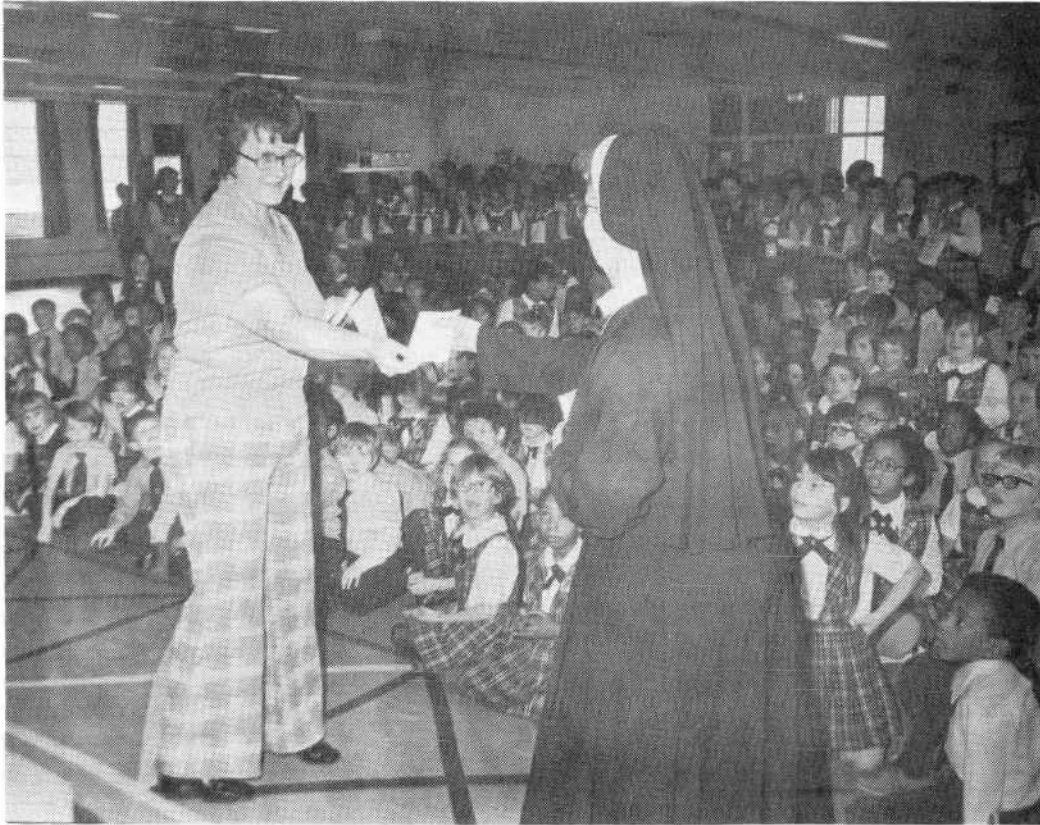


1st row, left to right: Tovar, Sikora, R. Carreathers, R. Wallace, J. Wallace, Schockley, D. Ross, McLain, Newsom.

2nd row: Ferkowicz Family, W. Ross, Kaniowski Family, D. Simms, Shell Family, B. Ross, Buzo,

Jantzen, Simon and Sr. Cyrilla.

3rd row: W. Deyampert, Johnson, Dixson, E. Carreathers, Nosal, Fitzpatrick, Height, Drake, A. Deyampert, Kulik, G. Carreathers.



Highest Teacher - Highest Student

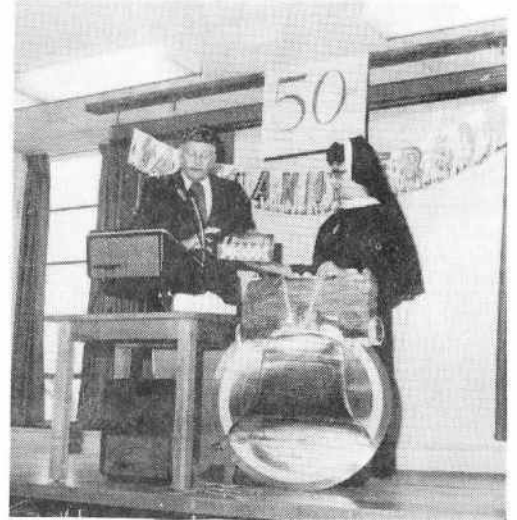


Third grade highest sellers.

As the Nation Celebrated Its 200th Birthday St. John Celebrated Its 50th Anniversary



1. Presentation of the Bicentennial Flag to St. John's School by V.F.W. Poast 9973.



2. SAFETY PATROL

First Communion Breakfast

A breakfast is served the morning following First Communion Sunday, to the First Communicants and their families. It is at this time the parents and children show their appreciation to their religious coordinator.



1. Father Joe, Pastor



2. Sr. Cyrilla, Principal, addressing Communicants and families.



3. First Communicants



4. Sr. Cyrilla, Sr. Electa, First Communion Coordinator, Father Joe, Margaret Shelton, Mrs. Lorraine Shelton, Breakfast Chairman.



5. Kitchen Volunteers.



6. Parents



7. Parents



8. Guest Table

Field Trip

Fourth grade students enjoyed a Field Trip to the Science Museum in Ann Arbor. Points of interest were exhibits consisting of nature and wildlife scenes, Indian and Eskimo dioramas, and the prehistoric era. Also seen was a demonstration in the astronomy dome. A lunch was served in the cafeteria.



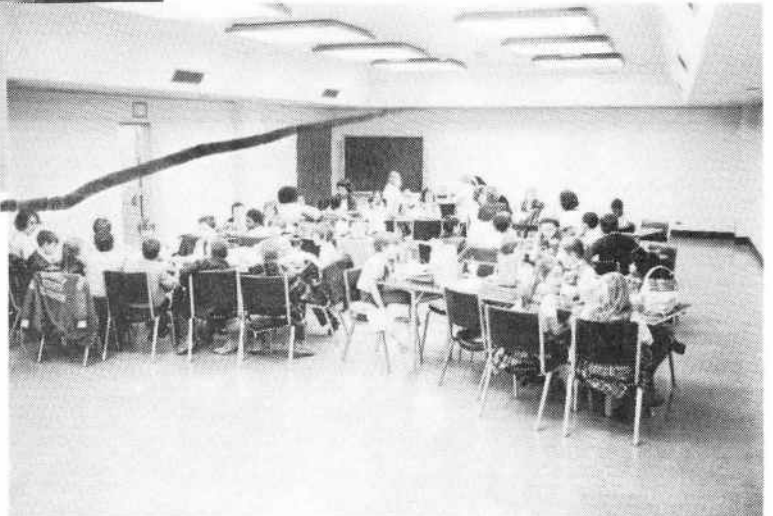
1. Students



2. Scene in the astronomy dome.



3 & 4. Students and faculty in cafeteria.



May Crowning Procession

Presently the honor of being May Queen is given to an eighth grader.



1. Elaine Nosal May Queen



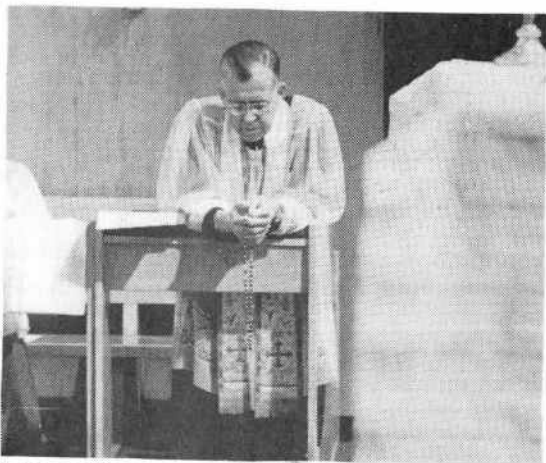
2. Donald Swann, crown bearer, Carol Nault, Elaine Nosal, Connie Ford.



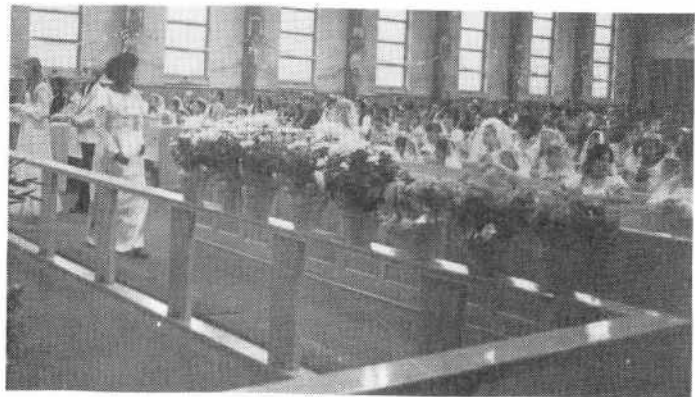
3. Students in procession



4. Recitation of rosary



5. Deep Reverence - Father Joseph Karasiewicz



6. Congregation

Mothers' Luncheon

The highlight of the year for the Moms of St. John was the annual Potluck Luncheon. Chairpersons of

the event were Mrs. Carol Kaniowski and Mrs. Marge Nosal.



Faculty



Atrium Society Members (guests)



Mothers



Food display table.

Christmas

Christmas was celebrated at St. John's School with the traditional language program. The program consisted of songs and skits performed in Polish, German and Spanish.

As an added feature the St. John's School of the Dance performed traditional Polish dances. The program closed with the entire assembly singing "We Wish You A Merry Christmas."



Audience



School of the Dance Performers.



Sixth Graders performing a skit.

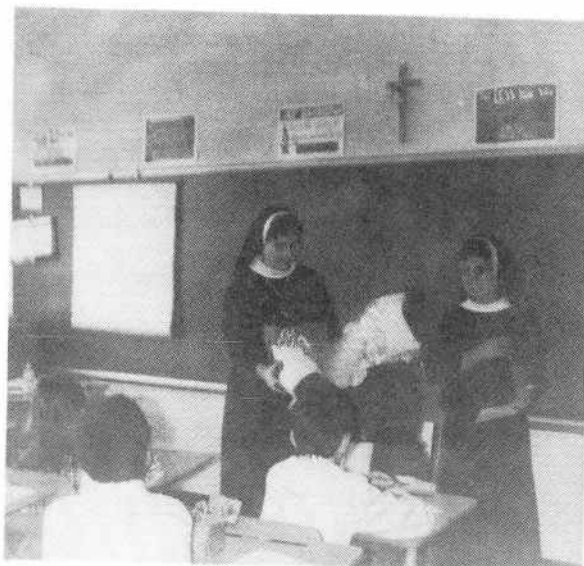
Operation Santa Claus



Father Joe wishing everyone the best of holidays.



Sr. Rogers whispering to Santa her Christmas wish.



Sr. Juanita receiving gift from "Operation Santa Claus."

Santa's Secret Shop

Santa's Secret Shop was held on Dec. 2nd thru 4th. The children were given the opportunity of buying gifts for their families. Prices ranged from ten cents to two dollars and fifty cents.



Committee



Mrs. Seres helping Sr. Leonille with her selection.



Mrs. Buzo extending a helping hand.



Shoppers



Shoppers



Mrs. Hobbins and Shoppers

School of the Dance Christmas Party

Santa visits the children and parents at their annual Christmas party. Refreshments were served and gifts were given to all the children.



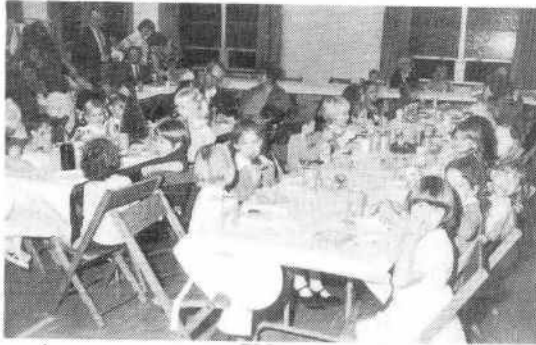
Linda Blicharz, dance instructor serving the nuns.



Picture of nuns



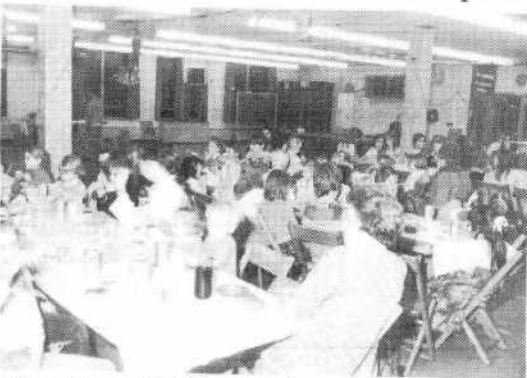
Um! Um! Good



Group No. 2



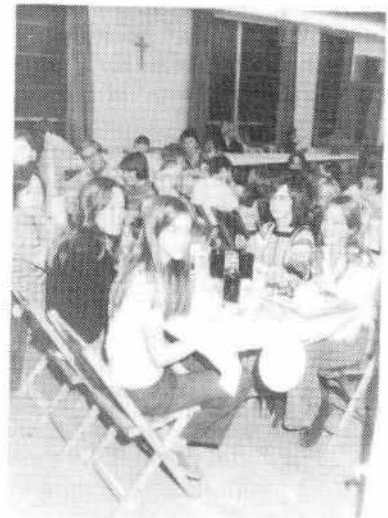
Group No. 3



Parents and Friends enjoying the party.



Group No. 4



Group No. 5



Santa's gifts to the children.

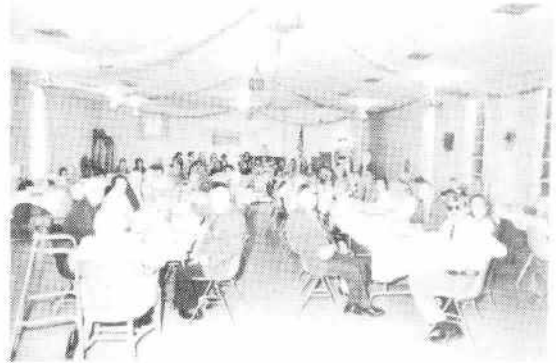
Senior Citizens' Party

St. John's Senior Citizens' Christmas Party at the Weddel Community Center in Dearborn Heights. Carolers are St. John's School children and Sister Mary Cyrilla. The party was headed by Mr. John

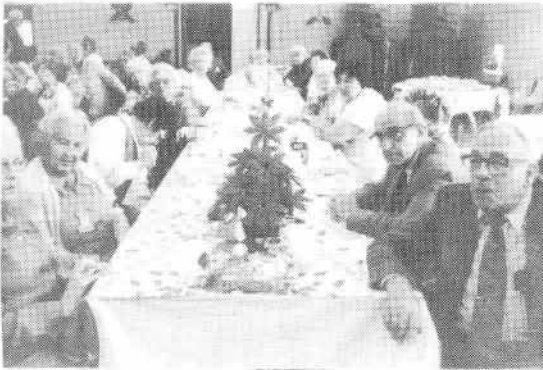
Kubik. Honorable guests were Father Joseph Karasiewicz, Mayor Harris, and Parks and Recreation John Lankford. Santa Claus was Ray Cox.



Table of guests



Picture of seniors



More senior citizens



Father Joe mingling with Santa



St. John carolers



Carolers and Santa



Santa presenting gifts.



Carolers

**Dearborn Heights
Dancing School
P.R.C.U.A. of
St. John the Baptist**

**Past and Present Officers
1971 - 1973**

Director:..... Patricia Pindzia
President: Betty Donnelly
Vice President: Adele Buda
Secretary:..... Gloria Maitland
Treasurer: Mary Kreminski (Deceased)
Teacher: Shirley Galanty

1973 - 1975

Director:..... Irene Pastuszka
President: Marianne Curran
Vice President: Rose Kulik
Secretary:..... Alice McMahan
Treasurer: Maryann Seres
Teacher: Shirley Galanty

1975 - 1977 (Present Officers)

Director:..... Patricia Pindzia
President: Joyce Gregorich
Vice President: Marion Ferkowicz
Secretary: Peggy Foley
Treasurer:..... Joan Buzo
Teachers: Polish: Richard Kubinski
(Deceased)
Tap & Ballet: Linda Blicharz



**Merciful Heart of Jesus
No. 1413**

**Polish Roman Catholic Union
Organized: 1948
Reorganized: September 1971**

Present Officers:

President:..... Marion Ferkowicz
Secretary:..... Reta Bartnicki
Treasurer:..... Joan Buzo
Directress:..... Patricia Pindzia
Fin. Sec.:..... Jeanne (Kurtyka) Wisniewski

Purpose: 1. Respect our Catholic Faith. 2. To learn and help our brothers from Poland and other Slavic countries. 3. To enhance the knowledge of our children in ethnic dancing.

First Officers:

President: Joanna Michon
Treasurer:..... Frances Kurtyka
Rec. Sec.: Lucille Michon
Fin. Sec.: Jeanne Kurtyka

Marriages 1976

Jill Denise Ford & William David Attard - January 3
Diane Marie Perry & Patrick Denis Morrissey - February 21
Mary Ann Holubka & David Michael Blum - February 28
Robin Lynn Bridenthal & Thomas Patrick Connolly III - April 24
Julianna Pniewski & John Dennis Lazar - May 1
Marcia Ann Dombrowski & Richard Lynn Toler - May 15
Carol Sue Henson & Mark Andrew Rodriguez - May 22

Deborah Merna & Glen Alfred Zielinski - June 5
Debra Ann Wiltshire & Danny Ray Sims - June 12
Janice Mary Smyt & Edward William Oz, Jr. - June 18
Alice Scollen & Hugo Schaefer - July 6
Cynthia Lee Chlebek & William Stephen Spisak - August 21
Sharon Ann Cunningham & Joseph John Chlebek - August 21
Laura Lee Aniol & Vito Manzari - September 17
Pamela Anne Monat & John Martin Sherpe, Jr. - October 23
Joanne Emelia Munoz & Ronald Walter Weclowski - October 22

Baptisms 1976

Wallace, Matthew Eric	January 4	Nichols, Keri Lyn	June 6
Pietras, Matthew Thaddeus	January 4	Miller, Stephanie Kay	June 6
Fedorko, Christopher Paul	January 4	Beatty, Alisha Danielle	June 27
Sawchuk, Michael Donald	January 11	Lemieux, Terri Marie	July 11
Schave, Brenda Jean	January 11	Tovar, George Alan	July 18
Beauchamp, Carly Anne	January 11	Downs, Jeremy Jason	August 1
Jones, Rene Ann	January 25	Muschott, Eric David	August 15
Klee, Wendy Paula	January 25	Maci, Jessica Marie	August 15
Stifler, Deborah	January 30	LaPointe, Anthony James	August 22
McCurdy, Christopher Michael	February 8	LaPointe, Kelly Marie	August 22
Flores, Gilbert Andrew	February 8	Lang, Scott Alan	August 29
Schlieve, Michelle Renea	February 15	Dryja, Charles Michael	September 12
Navarre, Adam Patrick	February 22	Coles, Shannon Marie	September 12
Wirtz, Brian Thomas	February 22	Bora, Kimberlee Lynn	September 12
Hutchinson, Stacey Frances	February 22	Andrews, Christopher Michael	September 25
Stephens, Cathy Jo	February 22	Roberts, Scott William	October 3
Papizzo, Mario George	March 3	Guitar, Scott Jeremy	October 10
Zuilkowski, Robert David	March 7	Friend, Michael Gary	October 17
Gutowski, Joseph Lee	March 7	Beach, Michael Joseph	October 24
Fisk, Kathryn Melissa	March 14	Mitchell, Suann E.	October 24
Zukowski, Andrew Kenneth	March 14	Martin, Daniel Adam	October 31
Fulayter, Amy	March 14	Munie, Kevin John	October 31
Fisher, Wendy Aileen	March 14	Zarosly, Kevin Ross	October 31
Cortez, Kristin Erin	March 21	Kilpatrick, Cynthia Jane	October 31
Klein, Theresa Lynn	March 21	Brothers, Jessica Louise	October 31
Rivers, David Alan	March 28	Wong, Anthony Lin	November 7
Kiah, Christine Renee	March 28	Howe, Melissa Marie	November 7
Lewis, Angela Marie	March 28	Schneider, Sheila Lynn	November 7
Grubbe, Daniel Joseph	April 4	Zenk, Jennifer Marie	November 7
Zebio, Jennifer Renee	April 4	Weber, James Martin, Jr.	November 14
O'Neill, Sean Joseph	April 18	Napolitano, Dominic Michael	November 14
Banks, Gabriel Shannon	April 25	Grenke, Robert Michael	November 14
Andrews, Carrie Ann	April 25	Lowe, Stefanie Michelle	November 14
Andrews, Tracy Lynn	April 25	Siedlik, Nicole Lenee	November 14
Dosh, Lori Christine	April 25	Ross, Warren Lee	November 15
Monat, Thomas Arron	May 2	Jean, Rebecca Ann	November 28
Bacon, Anthony Edward	May 2	Gajewski, Terry Vernon	December 12
Tellish, Jennifer Marie	May 9	Foerster, Valerie	December 18
Pietruk, Ryan Vincent	May 23	Lounsbury, Robert Evan	December 19
Pontone, Leah Marie	May 23	Vermilya, Matthew Harlan	December 19

Death Register for 1976

Harrison P. Bergeron
Erwin Anthony Bielicki
William Cygan
Rita Dewyer
Caroline Goliat
Gregory Paul Guibord

John F. Kalbarczyk
Joseph Knedgen
Margaret Lankajtus
Katherine Ann McCormick
John M. Makowiel
Anthony Miller

Gus A. Schmidt
Dorothy Smith
John S. Tofil
Arthur J. Young
Alfred Zielinski
Fabio Zuiani

First Holy Communion Class of "1976"

BOYS

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baronner, David 2. Bavol, Tom 3. Carpenter, John 4. Coleman, James 5. Davis, Timothy 6. DeGhetto, John | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Green, Gregory 8. Krzywdzinski, Kenneth 9. Kubitz, Jac 10. Kushner, David 11. Louisias, Michael 12. Mendoz, Chris 13. Peters, Larry | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Prasol, Mark 15. Quillico, Gary 16. Ross, Warren 17. Sova, Roger 18. VanAssche, Thomas 19. Witherspoon, David 20. Zillifro, Frank |
|--|--|---|

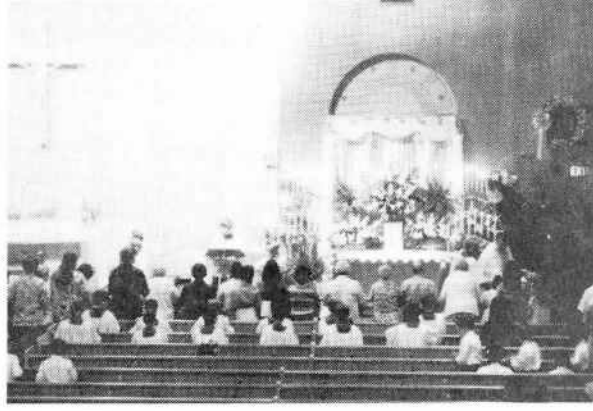
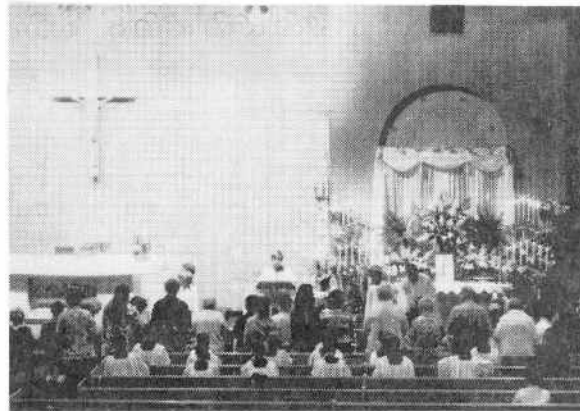
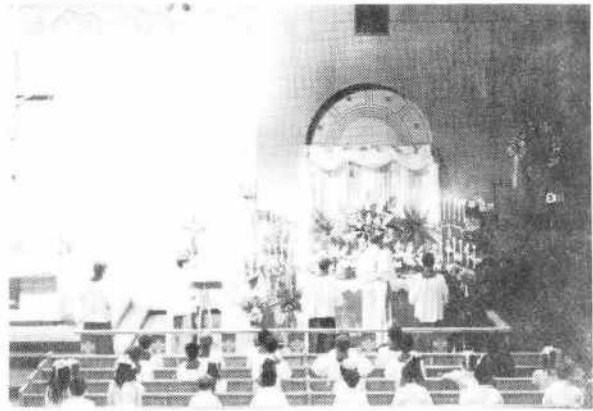
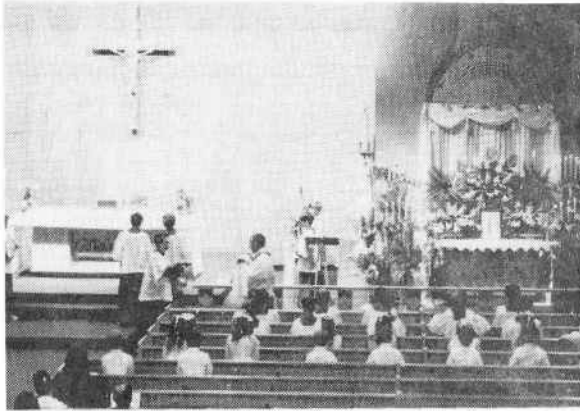
GIRLS

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crowley, Julie 2. DeNoyer, Tina 3. Dorusha, Tina 4. Dionisi, Jaclyn 5. Fernandez, GERALYN 6. Golba, Karen 7. Haykus, Valerie 8. Keiper, Robin 9. Klee, Susan 10. Kushner, Dolores 11. Luton, Lisa | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Maxwell, Jacqueline 13. McDaniel, Melissa 14. McMahan, Pamela 15. McMahan, Paula 16. Olepa, Linda 17. Peters, Cathy 18. Polzin, Marie 19. Rempert, Danette 20. Ross, Brenda 21. Selewski, Judith 22. Shelton, Margaret | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. Slone, Wanda 24. Steeg, Teresa 25. Stolberg, Cindy 26. Stolberg, Dawn 27. Taft, Dawn 28. Tank, Ann Marie 29. Tervo, Sandra 30. Towery, Cheryl 31. Waun, Laurie 32. Wienclaw, Regina 33. Young, Lisa 34. Zombirt, Sherry |
|--|--|--|

Graduates 1976

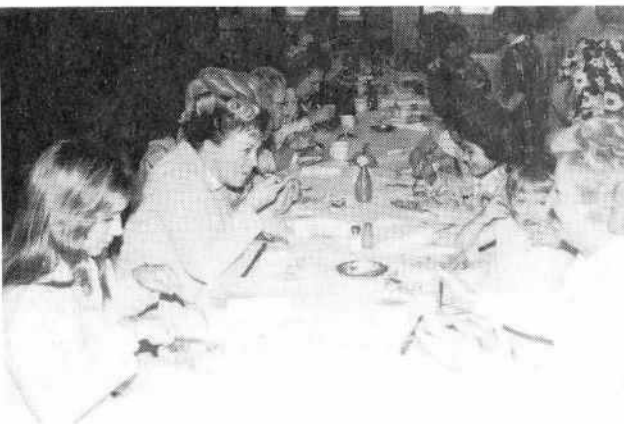
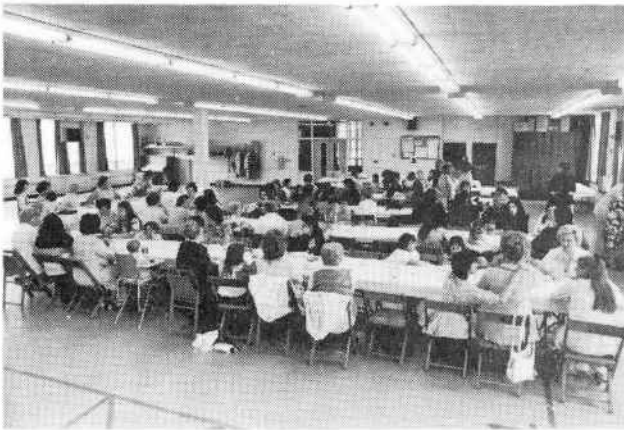
- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Martin Bergiel 2. Michael Buddie 3. Lynn Dixon 4. Matthew Fasbender 5. James Grady 6. James Haygood 7. Henry Johnson 8. Gregory Kahl 9. James Keown 10. Michael Koch 11. Kevin Krzeszowski 12. Thomas Kukulka 13. Zigmund Kukulka 14. Michael Oliver 15. Joseph Prasol 16. James Stevens 17. Donald Swan 18. Michael Wojciechowski | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 19. GERALYN Belkowski 20. Marie Borowski 21. Eva Carreathers 22. Karen Drake 23. Therese Epperson 24. Myra Ford 25. Margaret Fuerst 26. Mary Lawson 27. Rosanne Lefebvre 28. Kathleen Maitland 29. June Miller 30. Carol Nault 31. Elaine Nosal 32. Lori Sacka 33. Beth Ann Sass 34. Angela Simm 35. Jacqueline Slanec 36. Jane Whitt 37. Rita Wright |
|--|---|

1976 Easter Services

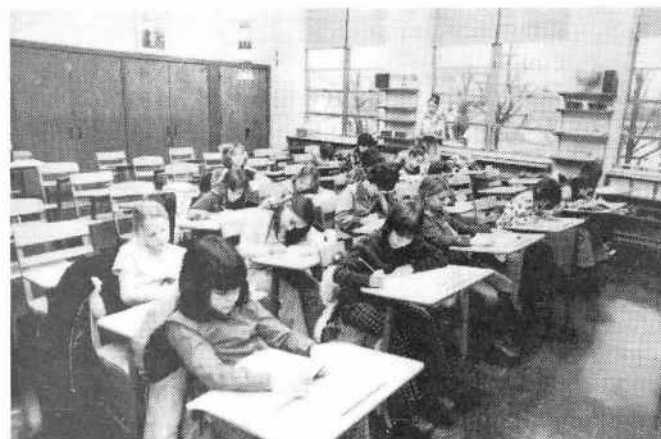
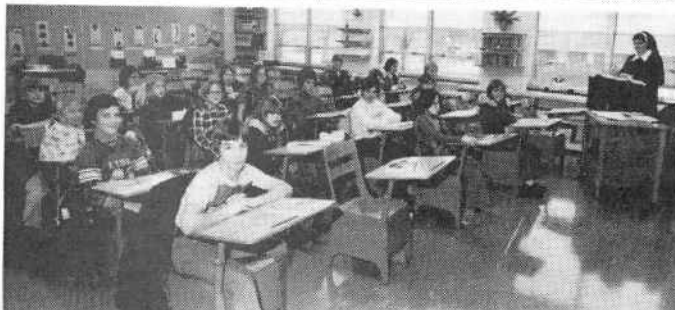
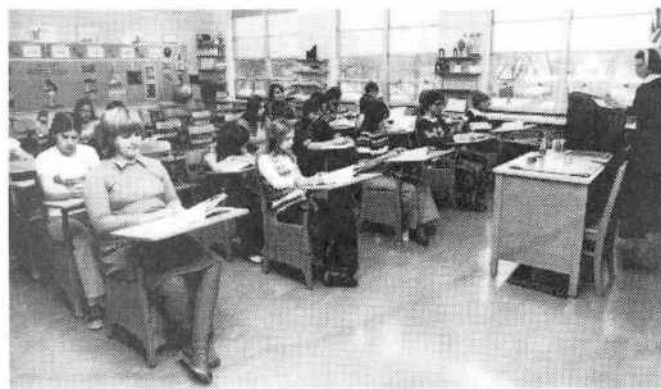
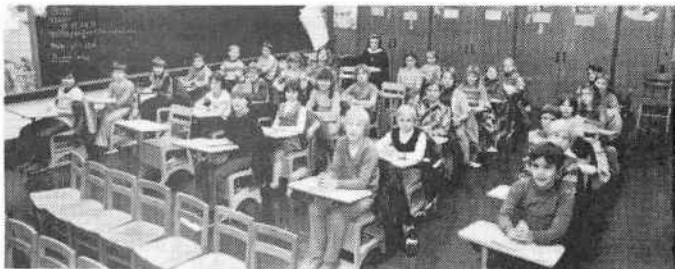
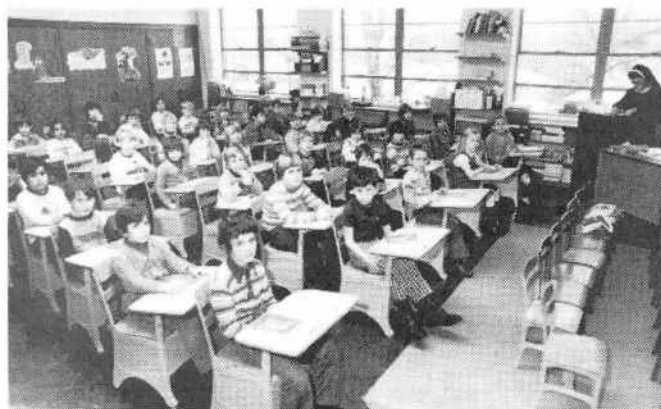
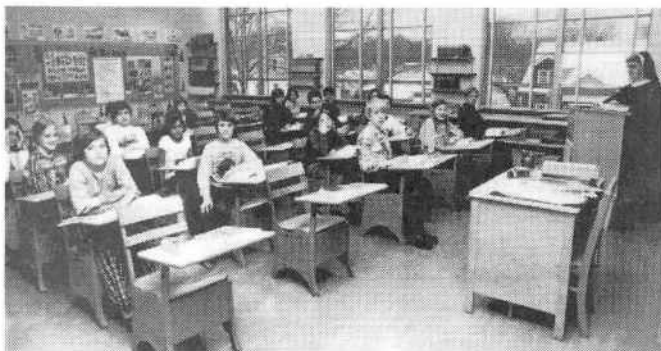


1976 Rosary Altar Society Mother and Daughter Breakfast

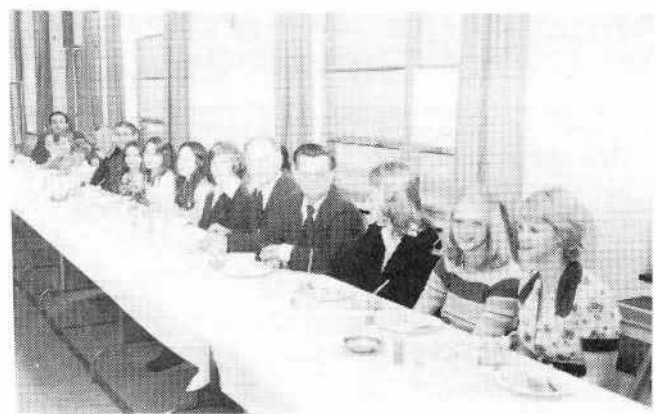
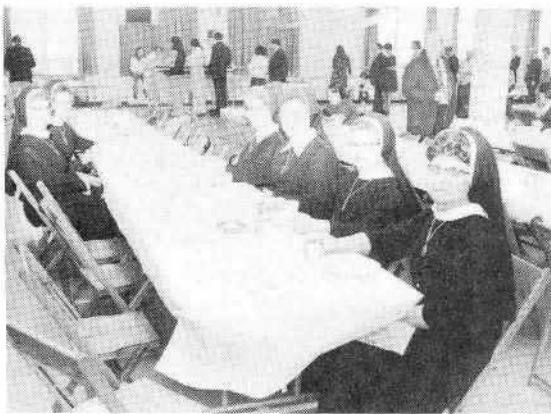




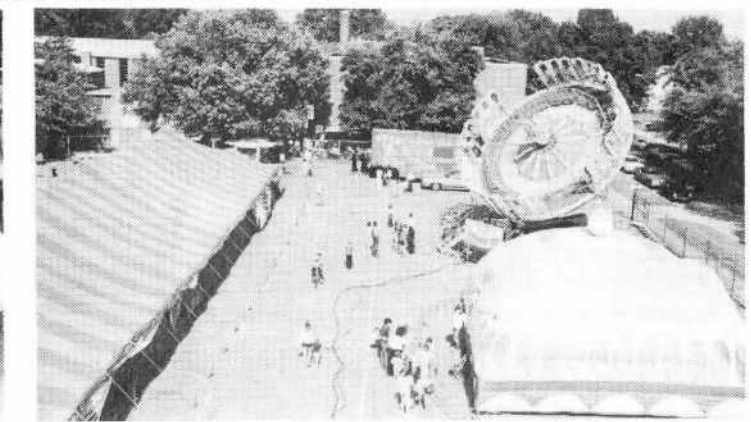
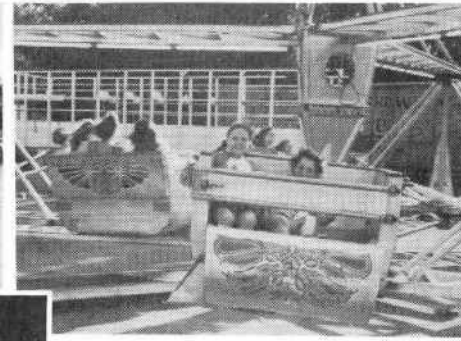
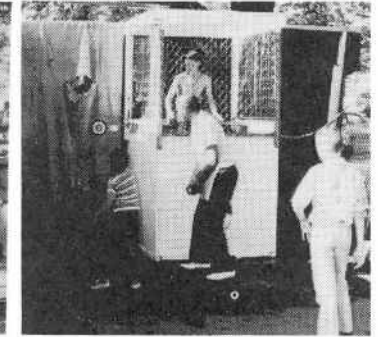
1976 St. John's CCD Classes 1976 - 1977

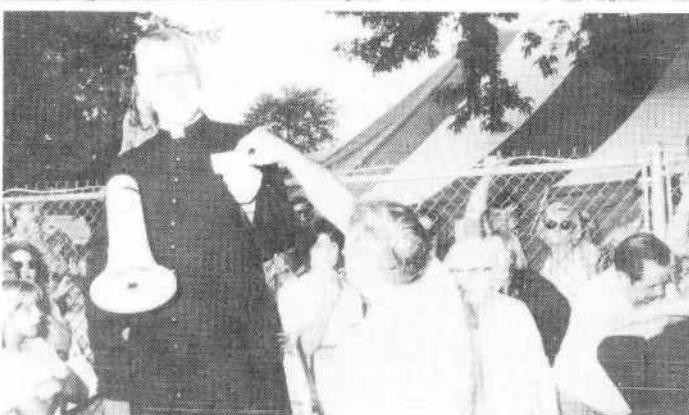
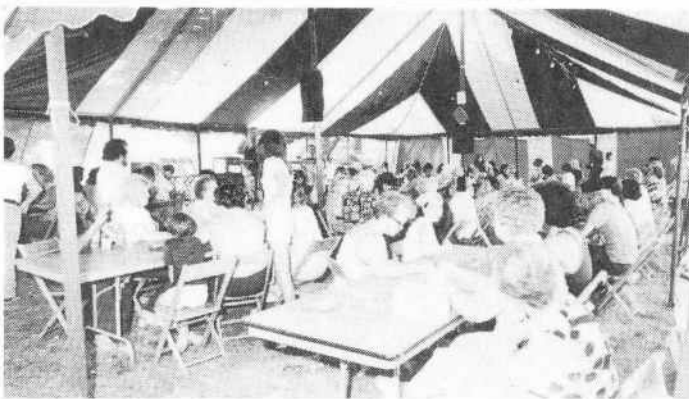


1976 Ushers' Club Breakfast

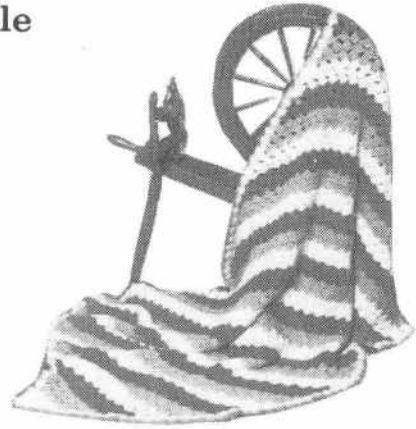


1976 St. John's Parish Festival

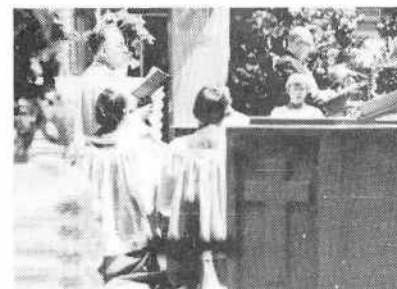
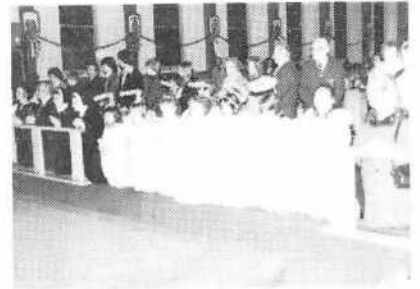
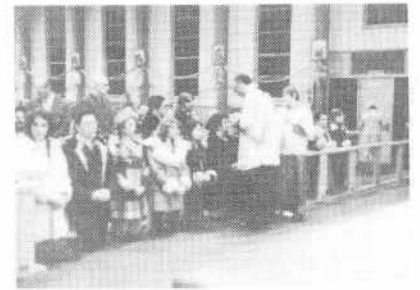




1976 Annual Rummage Sale



1976
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
December 24



*May God Bless
Our Parish Family
Here at
St. John's
For
Many More Years
to Come*

Fr. Joseph Karasiewicz

CONGRATULATIONS
To
St. John's Parish
On Your
50th Anniversary



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No. 302

Notre Dame Council No. 3021
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 Phone 721-4100

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District Deputy, Walt Zacharias	422-2109	Inside Guard, Felix Sawicki	722-5782
Supreme Insurance Advisor,		Outside Guards, William Gossman, Jr.	941-6973
Leo F. Sulla, F.I.C.	844-1132	Gary Nault	728-1656
OFFICERS:		Program Director, Dave Smith	722-4675
Grand Knight, B. Gossman, Sr.	721-1677	Membership Director,	
Deputy Grand Knight, Gene Sims	937-1465	J. Landskroener	326-3639
Chancellor, Thomas Daly	459-4239	Church Director, P.G.K. Ed Okon	422-2470
Financial Secretary, Dennis J. Speck	278-6225	Council Director, Stu Bierkamp	728-4518
Recorder, P.G.K. Charles Cousins	292-8769	Community Director, John Kissel	565-2250
Warden, Edward L. Gascoyne	728-1622	Squire Counselor, B. Sweikowsky, Jr.	728-6361
Treasurer, P.G.K. John Hayes	292-8458	Athletic Director, Hank Blayer	722-8284
Lecturer, Robert J. Sweikowski, Sr.	721-7607	ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR	
Trustees: P.G.K. Louis Iadonisi	292-9757	Boysville Director, Lloyd Rolls	941-3483
James Dowd	728-7620	Blood Bank, Ray Adams	728-7675
Stanley Gnas	941-1254	Building Manager, Ray Adams	728-7675
		Youth Director, Joe Matlock	728-6119

1926

Congratulations On Your 50th Anniversary

1976



*From the Officers
and Members of*

*Moroz Pietrowski
V.F.W. Post 9973
Dearborn Hgts.*

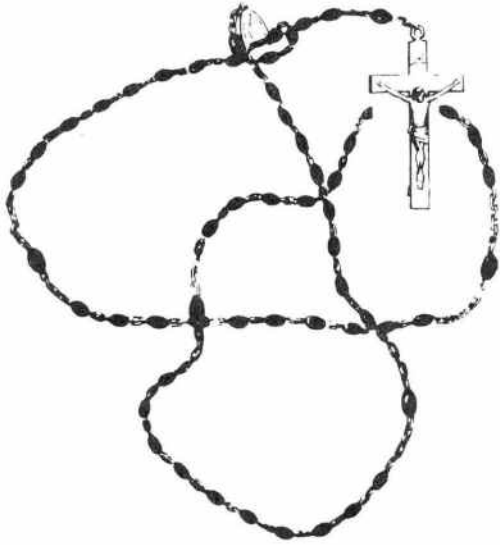
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1926

1976



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*The family
that prays together
stays together.*

*Join with us
in promoting
the Rosary*

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RECORDING SECRETARY
Mrs. Julia Emmitt

PRESIDENT
Mrs. Virginia Schmelzer

**CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY**
Dolores Rzucidlo

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT
Mrs. Bernice Bacalia

TREASURER
Mrs. Agnes Iadonisi

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz

St. John the Baptist Ushers' Club

**God Bless Our Parish
Always On Their 50th
Golden Anniversary**

*We extend Our Congratulations to
St. John the Baptist 50th Anniversary*

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kusak & Son, Cass
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Kusak & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Kusak & Family
Mrs. Loretta Prohownik
Mrs. Frances Hall

SISTERS
 OF ST. JOSEPH
 OF THE THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS
 EXTEND
 CONGRATULATIONS
 and
 GOD'S BLESSINGS.
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Congratulations on Your

50th Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Studzinski

**Congratulations
and Best Wishes
To Our Pastor,
Our Sisters
and Parishioners.**

**Eighth Grade Students
of Room 210
1975 - 1976**



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Relieved

*I visited the altar rail
Tonight, when I was blue
And everything seemed wrong to me,
Until I came to You.*

*A cross I had throughout the day,
My path, a shadow crossed;
A thing of grief had saddened me
And peace of mind I'd lost.*

*I went to Christ and knelt with Him
And begged His precious care,
And then my cross the lighter grew.
It was easier to bear.*

*I left it at the altar rail
Just as I came away,
And now my soul is happy,
My heart is light and gay.*

*The grief and sorrow that was mine
No more my peace will stay;
I left them at the altar rail
Just as I came away.*

Congratulations and Best Wishes

TW. 2-3838

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Fifty Years

F - is for our Father Who helps us on our way;
I - is for the Infinite Wisdom that Guides us every-day.
F - is for the Future Joy we hope to attain;
T - is for the Truth we wish to retain.
Y - is for the Years we spent together here;
Y - is for Youth we hold so very dear.
E - is for the Effort of the dedicated people;
A - is for the Angels upholding our steeple.
R - is for the Religious Truths we hear in our parish;
S - is the School all of us so dearly cherish.

Grade 6, Room 208
1975 - 1976

*Our Best Wishes for
the Future Years to Come*



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**Cathrine Mullin
by
Edna L. Quarles**

*Congratulations and Continued
Success to St. John the Baptist
Church on Their Golden Jubilee*

**Dearborn Heights Dancing School
P.R.C.U.A. No. 1413**

In Loving Memory of

**Sarah and Walter Rose
Michael and Aquila Cesario**

**Parents of
Frank and Frances Cesario**

**In Loving Memory of
Chieca and Kwarcinski
Families**

by
Charles and Isabelle Chieca

***Congratulations
to Our Parish***

On Its Golden Anniversary

**John & Jeanne Wisniewski
David, Larry, John
Karen & Laura**

**John & Joan Kissel Family
The Mac Wallace Family
Fred (R.S.) Irene Pierceall
Sharon Culp & Children
Mr. & Mrs. John Gladis (Simko)**

**Willard and Eunice Nault, Family
Theodore and Marie Ceckiewicz, Family
Mary Beauvais
Sister Mary Leonille**

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Sandra Kay

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If Your Hair Is Not Becoming to Him,
You Should Be Coming to Us.



God Bless the Pastor,
Sisters and All the
Parishioners of St. John's

Sister Mary Juanita
& Students of Grade 3
1975 - 1976

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Husband & Father
James E. Plunkett

from
Lorraine Plunkett & Children

Happy Anniversary from
the Families of:

Mr. & Mrs. John St. Peter
Mr. & Mrs. Karl, JoAnn Simrak
Mr. & Mrs. Robert, Margaret Karl

In Loving Memory
Husband & Father
Gerald Lansfield
By Wife, Joan & Sons

Congratulations to St. John's
on Their 50th Anniversary

Charles & Marie Cousins



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*Congratulations on Your
50th Anniversary*

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**Congratulations on
50th Anniversary**

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and Family**

*Congratulations
Paul Waske
and Son
Signs
563-7857*

**In Loving Memory of My
Husband
John and Son, Johnny
Helen Schuster**

**In Memory of
Stephen and Anna Harchick
from
Daughter, Sons and Family**

In Gratitude to God
for the Blessings on
St. John's Parish Family.

Happy Jubilee Year and
Many More Years to Come.

Sister Mary Cyrilla and Sisters

**Congratulations and
Thanks for the Many
Wonderful Memories**

**Mr. & Mrs. G. R. Beatty
Stella & Bud**

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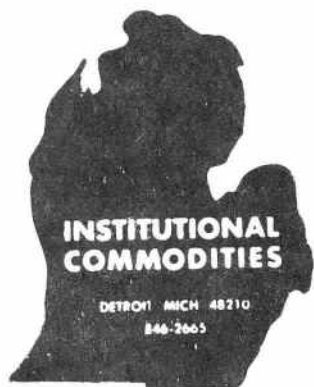
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Sister Mary Rogers and
Students Grade 7
Room 209

1975 - 1976

God Bless Our Parish
From:

Valentine & Marcelene Warunek
John & Irene Warunek
Tom & Valerie Koselka
Eric & Rosanne Pichini
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*In Loving Memory of
Son and Brother*

Robert F. Wielkopolan
By

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wielkopolan

Congratulations to:
St. John's Parish and May
God's Blessings be
Everlasting.

The DA & Bert Johnson

Thank You

**Annapolis Avenue
Bike Shop**

John Kubiak

**Best Wishes To All
the Parishioners and
Friends of
St. John the Baptist
on Their Golden Jubilee**

*Teachers, Students
Lunch Mothers
1975 - 1976*

IN APPRECIATION

To the Priests and Sisters of the Parish ...

*To those who supplied us with pictures and
information ...*

To the Advertisers, Sponsors and Patrons

*To the Parishioners and Friends who in any way
contributed to the success of the Jubilee
and Album Book ...*

We express our sincere appreciation.

The 50th Anniversary Committee

Valentine P. Warunek - Chairman

Charles Cousins - Co-Chairman

Marie Cousins - Secretary

Mary Ann Seres - Treasurer

Virginia Schmelzer

Ethel Traxler

Ted Lavelly

Ziggy Laneski

Marion Ferkowicz

Joan Buzo

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Mr. & Mrs. William Cygan

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Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Dunn & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Emmitt

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Dr. Burton D. Fogelman
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Kaninowski, Jr.
Bill & Jonnie Karczewski & Children
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Karczewski
Mr. & Mrs. Wacław
Kibittlewski (Deceased)
Mr. & Mrs. Carl & Anna Kirsch
Mr. & Mrs. Chester Kuchta

Mr. & Mrs. Zigmund Laneski & Lori
Frank Lankajtus
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur & Lisa LaPointe
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore & Caroline Lavelly
Dr. Jack N. Levine
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Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Louisias
& Children
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Mr. & Mrs. Machowicz, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Maciborski
Mrs. Frank Macyda
Mr. Edward Majewicz
Mardeusz & Kubik Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dominick Mazzocco
& Family

Helen McLear & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Roger & Cecille Mercier
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Minton
M. K. Sales
Al. Lucy - Monte Carlo Bar
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Mousseau
Mrs. Ann Mrozowski
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Murzin
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Murzin
Mr. & Mrs. Donald A. Myszkowski
Edward Myszkowski

Mr. & Mrs. E. Napier
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Nosal & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Novack

Mr. & Mrs. Roman Pelc
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley J. Pelc
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Pikula
Piwowar Family
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony & Alvira Ploucha
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Debbie Ploucha
Mr. & Mrs. Jan Pultorak

Mr. & Mrs. Gene A. Riley
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Ringwelski
Angeline Robakiewicz
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Robakiewicz
Thomas & Marguerite Roddy
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen J. Ruthowski
& Family
Mr. & Mrs. Edward T. Rzucidlo & Son

Nick & Virginia Schmelzer
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sefcheck & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Seres & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen A. Shelton & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce & Dolores Shippe
& Family
Steve and Elizabeth Sholtz
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Sielski
Mr. & Mrs. Wytol Skocen & Family
Mr. & Mrs. F. Smyt
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Sorich (Machine)
Spoor Family
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Steeg
Edward & Ann Stevens & Children
Michael R. Stimiac
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley & Arsenia Swierlik
Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse & Wanda Szczepanik
Mr. Edward Szkutnicki

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tessier
Mrs. Felexa Thirlwell
George, Carolyn Tovar & Children
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Traxler

Veteran's Cleaners

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Witherspoon
& Family
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond & Anne Wojkiewicz
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Wojtas
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Woods
Mr. & Mrs. Walter J. Wrobel & Linda

St. John's Brownie Troop No. 487
St. John's Cub Scout Pack No. 1142
Students CCD Grade 2, 1975-1976
Students 1st Grade Room 103,
1975-1976

Students Grade 2 Room 101, 1975-1976
Students Grade 4 Room 203, 1975-1976
Students Grade 5 Room 207, 1975-1976
Students Grade 6 Room 208, 1975-1976

