



1889



1989



*Centennial Jubilee
St. Josaphat Parish
Detroit, Michigan*

St. Josaphat's Parish

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Centennial Jubilee

Celebrated
May 21, 1989



St. Joseph's Parish
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
Centennial Jubilee

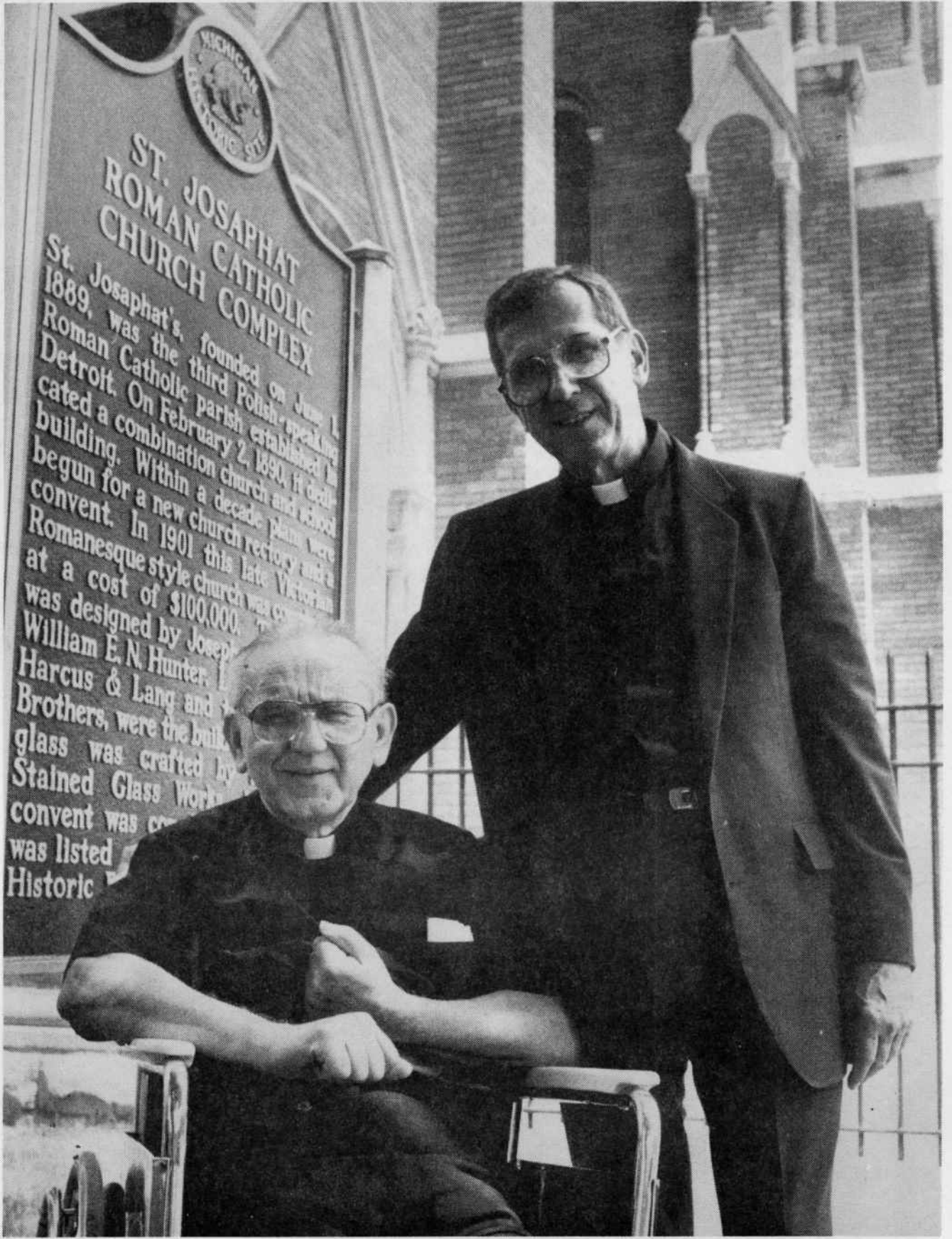
Celebrated
May 27, 1889

Dedication

TO THE PRIESTS and parishioners, living and deceased, whose faith has been the "columns" in holding our church together, through these 100 years of changes.

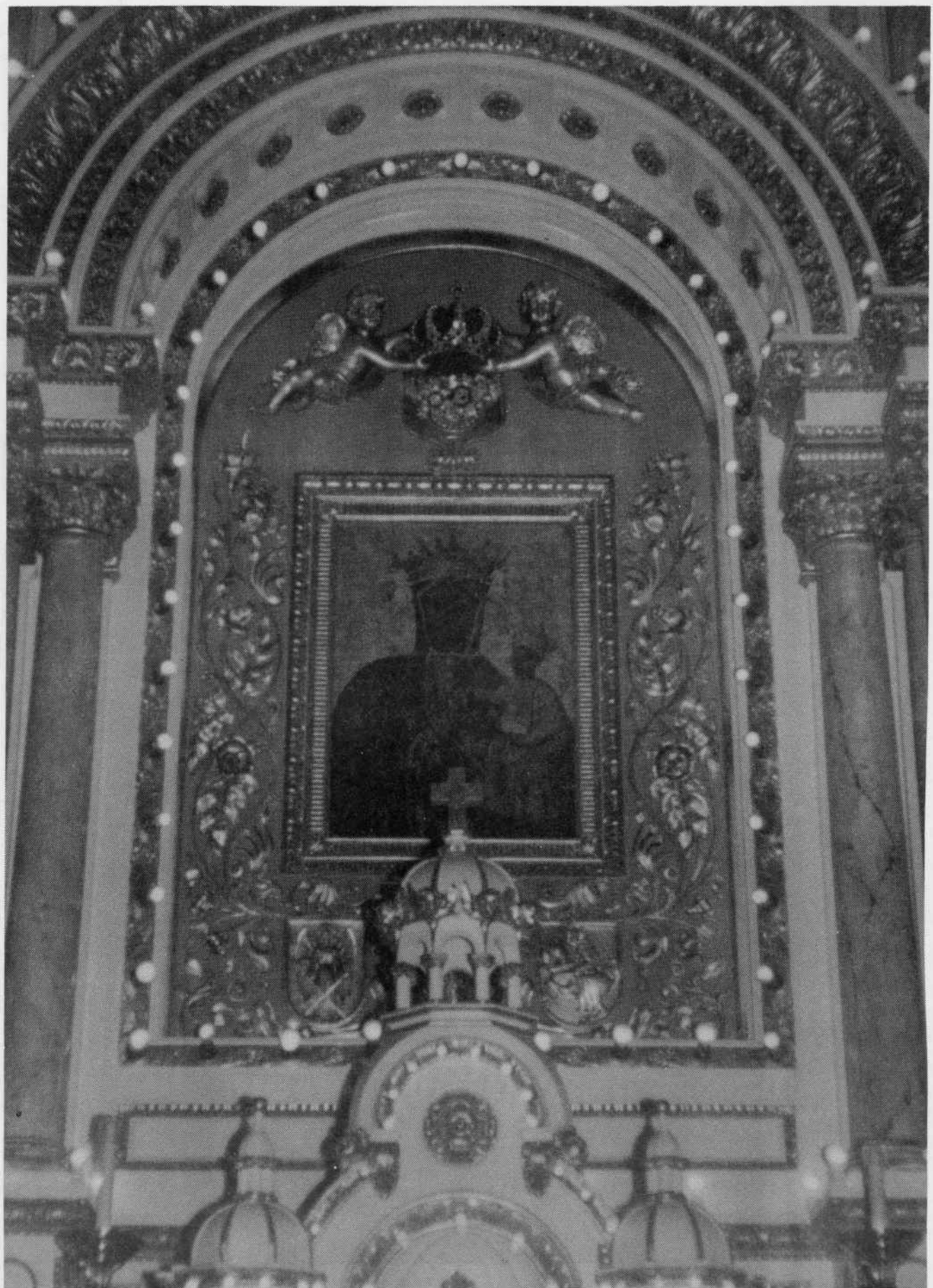
TO FR. DOLOT, who endlessly worked for the good of St. Josaphat's and restored her to the beauty years have hidden from our eyes!

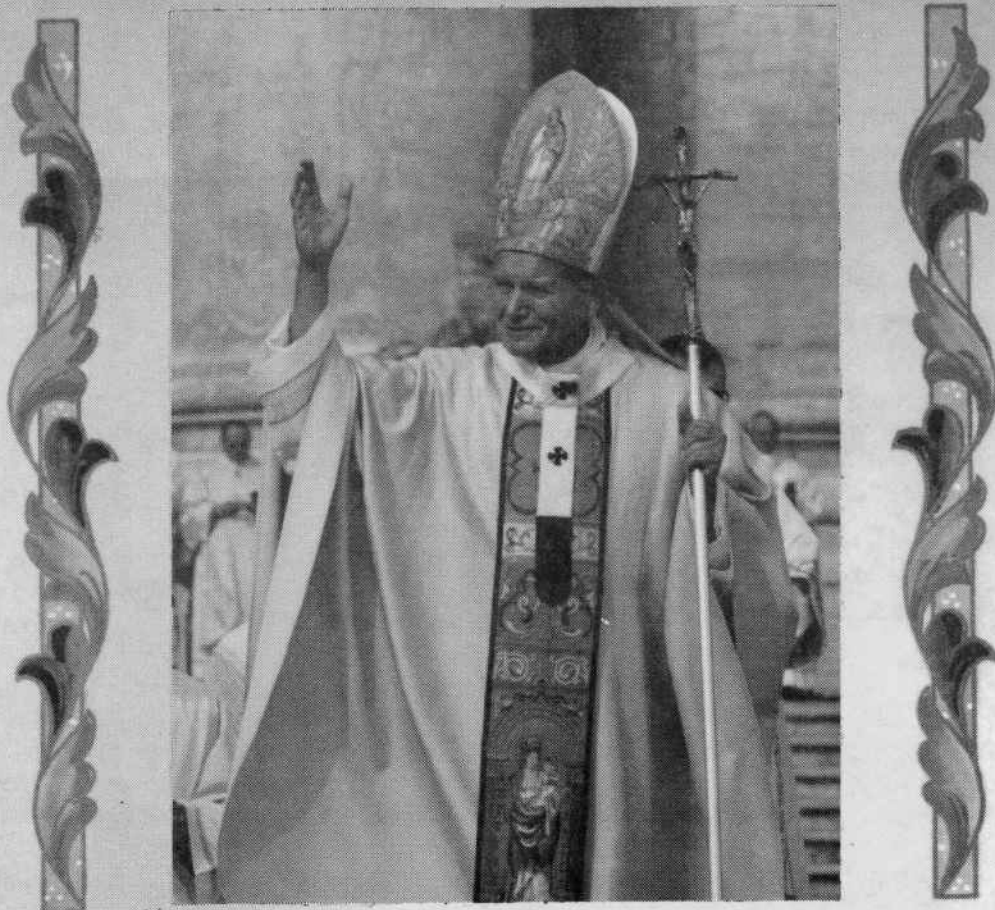
TO FR. MARKOWICZ, our current pastor, for learning to understand our love for our parish, and moving forward in her behalf, with his achievements!



**ST. JOSAPHAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC
CHURCH COMPLEX**

St. Josaphat's, founded on June 1, 1889, was the third Polish-speaking Roman Catholic parish established in Detroit. On February 2, 1890, it dedicated a combination church and school building. Within a decade plans were begun for a new church rectory and a convent. In 1901 this late Victorian Romanesque style church was completed at a cost of \$100,000. The church was designed by Joseph William E. N. Hunter. The Brothers, were the builders. The glass was crafted by Stained Glass Works. The convent was completed in 1902 and was listed as a National Historic





His Holiness John Paul II

lovingly imparts His Apostolic Blessing
as a pledge of divine protection and graces to

Rev. Walter J. Markowicz,

Pastor and the Parishioners of St. Josaphat Parish

on the occasion of the

100th Anniversary

of the founding of the Parish - 1889 ~ 1989

Ex Aedibus Vaticanis die 31. I. 1989

+ Antonius Brašić

Archiepiscopus
Ecclesiarum Summi Pontificis



Edmund Cardinal Szoka
Archbishop of Detroit



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

1234 WASHINGTON BLVD.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

February 6, 1989

Dear Father Markowicz,

I am pleased to send this letter of congratulations to you, your staff and the parishioners of St. Josaphat parish as you celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the parish.

The founding of St. Josaphat's parish marked an important moment in the early development of the Archdiocese of Detroit. The unique contributions made over these years by the priests, religious and laity of your parish to the local church of Detroit are remembered in this centennial celebration.

The influence of St. Josaphat's upon the newly arrived immigrants from Poland will never be adequately measured. That influence, however, is real and genuine. Without St. Josaphat's, the area around Canfield and the Chrysler freeway would not have had the unique witness of faith provided by this family of faith.

I know that the priests, religious and laity of the parish are involved in the work of handing on the faith to the present generation of parishioners. I congratulate all of you for the perpetuation of our Catholic heritage.

May the blessings that have come to this parish community over these many years be equally abundant in the years ahead.

With all best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ *Edmund Cardinal Szoka*
Archbishop of Detroit

Reverend Walter A. Markowicz
Pastor, St. Josaphat Parish
691 East Canfield Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48201

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

333 WASHINGTON STREET

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

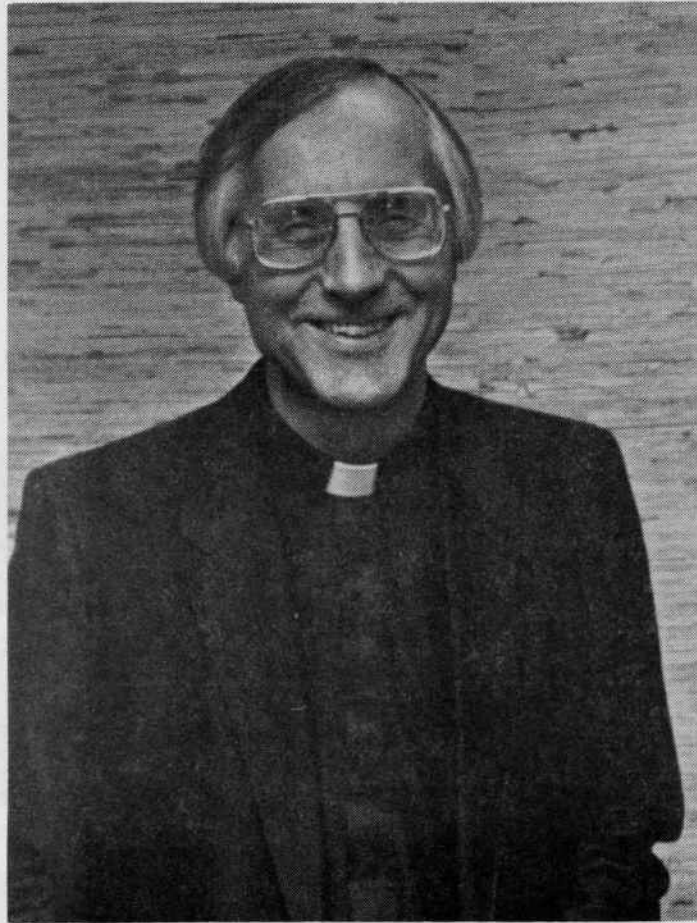
6/1/88

Dear Mr. [Name],

It is a pleasure to hear from you and to know that you are still active in the life of the Church.

The [Name] is a very important part of the life of the Church and we are glad to have you back.

I hope you are well and that you are enjoying your time in the [Name].

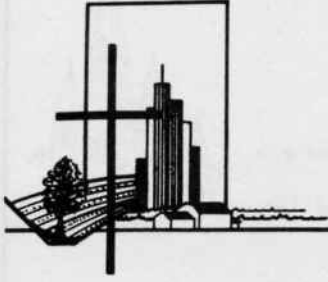


Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton
Asst. Bishop/Centercity Region

Edmund Cardinal Szoka

Thomas J. Gumbleton

Reverend Father [Name]
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]



ST. JOSAPHAT CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

1234 Washington Blvd./Detroit/Michigan 48226-1875

April 20, 1989

Dear Walt,

I write to offer you and all your people my sincere congratulations on the 100th anniversary of St. Josaphat's Parish.

One hundred years isn't really such a long time when speaking about the history of the entire Church. But it is a long time when speaking about the history of a particular parish. (I know -- my own parish, St. Leo's, celebrates its 100th anniversary this year as well!)

The people of St. Josaphat's began with very little money, very few resources. The best they had to give was hard work and a tireless commitment to build a community of faith. As communities go, they did exceptionally well. The location of the parish, in the very heart of the city, provided opportunities for Catholics and non-Catholics alike to find a refuge and for many, a home. As pastor for a number of years, you have seen the fruits of the labors of those who came before you, and you've planted seeds of encouragement and hope among the people who now call St. Josaphat's their home.

I congratulate every parishioner, from the oldest to the newest. You share a faith that is timeless and a success that cannot be measured in numbers, budgets or written reports. They can be measured only in the heart, and only by the Lord.

Please know of my prayers for all of you. May you be richly blessed for another hundred years at least!

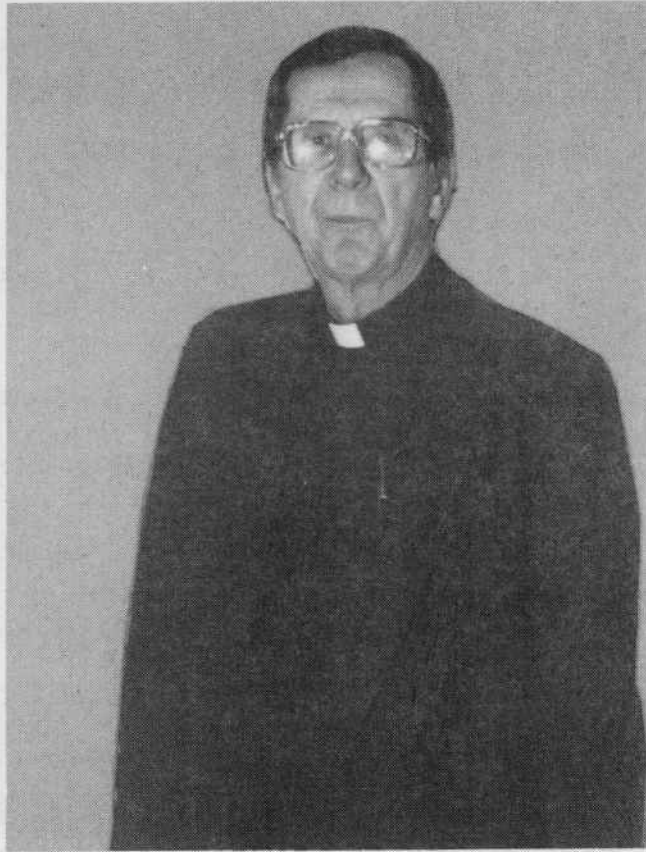
Sincerely in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Gumbleton". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Thomas J. Gumbleton
Asst. Bishop/Centercity Region



ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT



Rev. Walter A. Markowicz
Pastor St. Josaphat Parish

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Faint, illegible text on the right side of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.

Faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page, including what appears to be a signature and a name, possibly "Thomas A. ...".



ST. JOSAPHAT CHURCH

691 EAST CANFIELD AVENUE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201

PHONE (313) 831-1072

Spring 1989

Dear Parishioners, former parishioners,
friends and relatives of parishioners and former parishioners:

A hundred springs ago St. Josaphat parish was founded. Each spring had its summer, its fall and its winter and there have been a hundred of them. The summers were the glory days, the falls were sobering, the winters days of letdown and concern. Inexorably the joy and hope and resurrection of each spring launched us full strength.

Whatever the season, whatever the reason, think spring!

Five years ago I came to this sheepfold of the Lord, a question mark to me and to the flock that was so accustomed to the voice of an old shepherd and friend. Five years in retrospect are only five percent of the history of this faith community but they have succeeded in erasing hesitancy and concerns. A new spring is dawning for St. Josaphat's, full of hope and resurrection. It's a time for the new planting, for new perennials along with the hardy old.

May God bless us all as we toil where called in the sheepfold of the Lord!

Sincerely,

Rev. Walter A. Markowicz
Pastor 1984-1989



STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

JAMES J. BLANCHARD
GOVERNOR

October 7, 1988

Greetings:

On behalf of the citizens of the State of Michigan, it is an honor to extend my warmest personal and official welcome to all in attendance at this 100th Anniversary Celebration of the St. Josaphat Church. At your special Mass and ceremonies on May 21, 1989, and your centennial celebration starting on June 19, 1989, it is my hope that your celebration will inspire you to continue your spiritual contributions in the future.

This church and its congregation have been appreciated by many as they have provided support and caring to the community over the years. Each of you should take great pride in the fact that you are able to celebrate such a special as this.

I regret that my schedule does not allow me to be with you to share in this occasion. Please accept my most sincere best wishes for an enjoyable event and much continued success.

Sincerely,

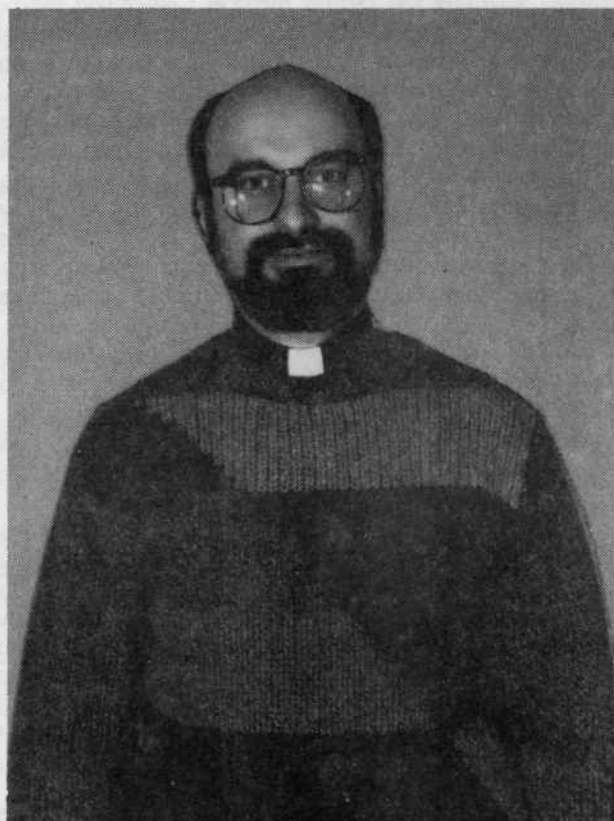
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Blanchard".

James J. Blanchard
Governor

St. Josaphat's Pastoral Team



Sr. Mary Finn, H.V.M.



Brother Mike Byzewski, B.F.C.C.



Monsignor Edmund Fournier

St. Josaphat: a Memorable History

The magnificent St. Josaphat Church, wearing its crown of three steeples, stands on Canfield Avenue - a royal sentinel guarding the Detroit Medical Center and the I-75 Expressway. The venerable landmark signals the Centennial Anniversary Celebration of the parish and notes a story which began even earlier.

In the early days of Detroit, a pitched battle was fought between the Indians and the white settlers in a narrow valley near what is now the Canfield Hastings intersection. Little is known about that skirmish today except that it was unusually vicious and bloody. So bloody, in fact, the settlers in later years called it "The Battle of Bloody Run," because, as they put it, "blood flowed in the valley like a river."

It was near this battlefield that St. Josaphat Church was built some 100 years ago. But the St. Josaphat story goes back much further than that. Its remarkable history is tied to another remarkable history - the coming of the Polish immigrant, homesick for the land of his birth but hopeful of the future, to the mushrooming city of Detroit.

The St. Josaphat story properly began in 1870 when a handful of Poles decided that a Polish-speaking parish was needed to serve their religious needs. And, thus, was born St. Albertus Church, named in honor of that well-known Polish saint who himself died a martyr's death in attempting to unify dissident factions in the church. But it soon became apparent that St. Albertus parish alone could not handle the thousands of Polish families who began to pour into the city. Accordingly, two years later, St. Casimir's parish arose on the west side of town.

The controversial priest, Rev. Dominic H. Kolasinski, laid the foundation for St. Casimir's parish during the summer of 1882, rebuilt St. Albertus in 1885 (present Church), and later built Sweetest Heart of Mary outside the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Detroit.

The St. Josaphat story now jumps to 1889. More Poles entered the city. Extremely nationalistic, they formed "Little Poland" community groups, mostly on the east side. Even the larger, rebuilt St. Albertus Church was not big enough to serve the more than 4000 Polish families then living in Detroit. Apprised of the situation by Bishop John Foley in June of 1889, the Rev. Casimir Rochowski was asked to organize a new parish in the area just this side of the railroad tracks from Dequindre Street. Plans for the third Polish church in Detroit were set in motion.

Father Rochowski's first act was to summon all those parishioners who were interested in building a new parish. Held in the St. Albertus parish hall, the meeting attracted a small but enthusiastic group of churchmen dedicated to the imposing task set before them. Chosen to head the planning committee were Thomas Zoltowski, president, and Stanley Kabacinski, secretary, aided by Julius Kosecki, Thomas Glowny, and Joseph Nowakowski, committee members. The first item on the agenda was to find a land site for the future parish. And here, the committee encountered a stroke of good fortune. Apparently, Mr. Zoltowski owned a sizeable acreage of land on Fremont (now Canfield) and Hastings Avenues. He charitably offered to donate 12 lots on Fremont for the new edifice. Needless to say, his offer

was joyously accepted and the next phase of the operation began.

John Begrin was named building contractor, and plans for a two-story structure with the basement to house a church and school were submitted and accepted. The first floor was designated for a school and living quarters for the teaching sisters, while the second floor became the church proper. The basement was structured to contain steam heat furnaces and four classrooms, the latter to double as meeting rooms for church societies.

As the parish began to rise from the ground, the Rev. Anthony Leks was named pastor of this new Polish section by Bishop Foley. Because of the absence of a permanent rectory, however, Father Leks was forced to live in a house some distance away on the south side of Canfield near St. Antoine.

Events soon followed with dazzling speed. On October 6, 1889 the cornerstone was blessed; shortly after on February 2, 1890, the church itself was blessed. Church records indicate three baptisms were held the following Sunday: Francis Cymbrowicz, born February 6, son of Francis Cymbrowicz and Ann Krajenka; John Kazmierczak, born January 25, son of Frank Kazmierczak and Maryann Gacka; and Anna Okray, born February 6, daughter of John Okray and Teresa Fetczyn.

The First marriage took place on April 29, 1890, between Joseph Tocki and Anna Szulc; the second on May 5, 1890, between John Krajenka and Catherina Rafalska; the third on May 19 between Matthew Szczesniak and Rosalie Szrejber. To aid the church committee, the following churchmen were selected as ushers: Frank Bastuba, Joseph Berchel, Michael Merecki, Frank Karbowski, Stanley Zientarski and John Szramkowski. Among the families living within the St. Josaphat area were: Balowski, Slotowski, Schemanski, Kosmowski, Klepaczyk, Konieczny, Budnik, Szafran, Kosmowski, Utas, Wisniewski, Wesolowski, Kopydlowski, Matuszczak, Domzalski, Domagalski, Bartkowiak, Walkowski, Radlik, Cyrowski, Rejman, Sadowski, Blaskiewicz, Malinowski, Pasternacki, Witkowski, Polcyn, Hildebrandt, Siudowski, Kulwicki, Lukaszewicz, Mioskowski, Jablonski, Jermolowicz, etc.

The early history of the fledgling parish indicates that its troubles did not end with the building of the church. Indeed the first two years can be described as "stormy". It is true that St. Albertus Church again came to its aid by donating its old rectory to St. Josaphat's, but Father Leks lived there one year. Tormented by a \$28,000 debt which, in his opinion, was unpayable, Father Leks resigned his pastorship and was replaced by the Rev. Martin Mozejewski and an assistant, Rev. Florian Chodniewicz, just out of the seminary. But Father Mozejewski's tenure proved to be even shorter than his predecessor's; he resigned because of ill health several months later and left for Brazil in South America.

For St. Josaphat's, this meant another pastor - this time, a young, energetic, forceful priest, the Rev. John Rzakowski, who proved to be the answer for many of the problems besetting the parish. Under his pastorship, the church grew until it numbered over 1,000 families. Various

business enterprises sprouted in the neighborhood until it became known to many as the "downtown" of the center city. Among the concerns were Witkowski and Leszczynski, clothing; Myslowiecki, shoes; Melin and Jermoliwicz, furniture; Zoltowski, Zientka and Kulwicki, taverns; Balowski, Kopydlowski and Wolanski, groceries; Pasternacki, drugs; Prusinski, baked goods; Konieczny, tobacco; Kosmowski, shoe repair; and Pesta, blacksmith. Included in the professional ranks were Boleslaus Pasternacki and W. K. Kwiecinski, physicians.

Another type of problem - growing pains- led directly to the building of a new structures and the razing of the old church buildings. Noting the influx of people and businesses in the area after ten years, Father Rządowski came to the conclusion that a larger edifice was necessary. Accordingly, plans were laid for the construction of a new church, rectory and janitor's home the latter building to contain a central heating system for all the new additions. To accomplish this purpose, it became necessary to purchase four more lots from Mr. Zoltowski who, after the transaction, offered \$500.00 for the new church. Before actual construction, Father Rządowski sold the old rectory to an auction sale for \$100.00. The purchaser was Mr. Pesta who transferred it to Forest Street along side his blacksmith shop.

With these preliminaries out of the way, construction began under the direction of Mr. Kessler, architect; Mr. Knot, mason; and the Harcus and Lang Company, carpentry. The Harcus firm also contributed to the construction of the main altar. The side altars (i.e. the altar of the Sacred Heart, Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Francis) were built by the Jermowicz Company, which also was responsible for the new pews. From the old church came the side altar of St. Anthony. In all, the new structures totaled some \$100,000 in cost, half of which was subscribed almost immediately.

That first year, the new parish had only one bell which stood in the wooden belfry between the school and the rectory. Completely dissatisfied with this state of affairs, Father Rządowski, who admired the sound of the bells emanating from a church on Chene and Hale Streets, obtained the serial number on those bells and purchased their equivalent from a Pennsylvania firm. He christened the new bells Thomas, Matthew and John.

To cover building expenses, the parishioners at their general meeting decided that each family would donate at least \$25.00 and that a standard donation for stained glass windows in the church would be \$100 and \$25 for lower and upper, respectively. Approximately \$50,000 was collected in this fashion, and a like figure was received via a bank mortgage in 1901. During the next six years, the debt was reduced by some \$15,000, leaving the parish still in debt for \$35,000. Furthermore, in 1907, a new home for the sisters was completed.

Faithfully aiding Father Rządowski during his pastorship were assistants Rev. Apollinaire Tyszka, Rev. Sylvester Kolkiewicz, Rev. John Mueller, Rev. Nicholas Wybraniec and Rev. Walter Wienczek, who was officially appointed as a curate. His long and inspirational pastorship was to come to a sudden and unexpected end after 24 years of guiding the parish through its difficult, formative years. His death on June 29, 1939 caused considerable gloom over the parish which had lost not only a grand administrator but also a great Polish patriot who, in several capacities,

initiated and carried through many national celebrations and devotions at the parish. History will long remember him and his masterpiece - St. Josaphat Church.

The life of the parish was also the life of church societies. The first was the St. Josaphat Society, followed by the Rosary Society, St. Anthony Society, St. Peter Skarga Society, Sacred Heart Society, Third Order of St. Francis, Y.M.C., Altar Society, Holy Name Society, Alumni of St. Josaphat High School, P.N.A., Christian Mothers and Catholic Order of Foresters.

After the death of Father Rządowski, Bishop Foley chose the Rev. Joseph Lempka as the new pastor. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the parish was the building of St. Josaphat High School, an institution which served the area with distinction until its closing many years later. His accomplishments were as varied as they were important. During World War I, for example, he was greatly responsible for recruiting soldiers for the Polish Army.

A Polish patriot in every way, Father Lempka encouraged the ladies of the parish to take an active part in collecting funds for Poland and in sewing clothing for the soldiers and the homeless. Oftentimes, he entertained well-known, influential people at the rectory at his own expense, hoping thereby to help the Polish cause in as many ways as possible. His love of Poland did not interfere with his administrative duties at home, for he paid out the parish debt, painted the interior of the church, and constructed an iron fence around the church grounds. During his administration, he was ably assisted by Rev. Stephen Trepczynski, Rev. Bernard Jarzembowski, Rev. Stanley Wasielewski and Rev. Joseph Gorski.

A new face came upon the St. Josaphat scene in 1926 in the person of Rev. Maximilian Gannas following the transfer of Father Lempka to St. Stanislaus replacing the deceased pastor, Rev. Frank Grzella. Rev. Gannas, then pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka in Wyandotte, Michigan, lent his experience in soliciting funds to complete the many repairs of parish property that were deemed necessary. A former professor and a lover of music, he devoted much of his time to upgrading the educational standards of the high school. Besides introducing a course in domestic science to the school's curriculum and adding a modern kitchen to accommodate students who did not live in the immediate area, he was instrumental in getting accreditation for the school from the University of Michigan.

Father Gannas, who also reorganized the Holy Name Society, Altar Society, Christian Mothers and Ushers Club, was assisted in order by Rev. Joseph Gorski, Rev. Peter Borkowicz, Rev. Edmund Behrendt and Rev. Sigmund Osmialowski. His pastorship came to an end in the Golden Jubilee year when Edward Cardinal Mooney transferred him to a much larger parish, St. Francis of Assisi. His replacement was one of St. Josaphat High's graduates, Rev. Edmund Lukasiewicz. In all, six members of the parish have been ordained as priests: Rev. Joseph Utas, Rev. Edmund Lukasiewicz, Rev. Aloysius Guzicki, Rev. Edward Wolschon, Rev. Maximilian Kaminiecki and Rev. Francis Szaniawski.

The new era which seemed destined for St. Josaphat's with the advent of one of its own sons never was to materialize, for Father Lukasiewicz died suddenly and unexpectedly shortly after assuming his new post. The

parish was administered for several months by another alumnus, Rev. Sigmund Osmialowski, later Pastor of St. Cyprian's in Riverview. He, in turn, was succeeded by Rev. Alexander Jarzembowski whose pastorship lasted for some 20 years. It was largely through his personal efforts that the church was redecorated from within, and parish grounds maintained in good order.

During this time, the Parent-Teacher Guild of St. Josaphat's Parish rendered enormous services in maintaining the grade and high schools. This worthy organization served the students by furnishing bus transportation, supervising and cooking noonday meals, supplying recreational materials, conducting outings, and in general, being instrumental in developing a new and added interest in the schools.

Due to circumstances beyond his control, Fr. Jarzembowski was forced to order the closing of the grade and high schools at the end of the school year in June, 1960. In poor health for many years, the closing of the school he loved so much may well have contributed to his untimely death on September 28, 1959.

Many tears were shed when news of the school closing reached the ears of alumni who cherished fond memories of St. Josaphat High School. Today, many thousands point to the school as their "alma mater," including some ten priests, over 50 sisters in the religious orders, and hundreds of men and women in all walks of life - civic, professional and commercial. Winners of softball championships in 1937 and 1939, the school nevertheless boasted mostly of its fine basketball teams throughout the '30's. These included: 1934, Michigan Catholic Fourth Division Championship; 1935 Michigan Catholic East Side Second Division Championship, and M.H.S.A.A. District Class C Championship; 1936, M.H.S.A.A. District Class D, and M.H.S.A.A. Regional Class D Championship at Lake Orion; and 1938, Catholic High School League Third Division Championship, and M.H.S.A.A. District Class D Championship at St. Clair Shores.

A momentous episode in the annals of St. Josaphat's was the First Pontifical High Mass on the American soil, celebrated by the Most Rev. Bishop Rembert Kowalski, O.F.M. This unforgettable honor, given to the parish took place, by the explicit order of His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney, on Christmas Day of 1953, at 10:30 a.m. Friars of Duns Scotus, brothers of Bishop Kowalski accompanied him at the Mass and in the choir. The Kowalski family members were our parishioners.

Following the death of Father Jarzembowski, the parish came under the administration of Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz who, in addition to his post at St. Josaphat, served simultaneously as assistant vice chancellor in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Among his first acts was the demolition of the school building in the summer of 1961 at a cost of \$4,300, and its subsequent redesignation as a parking lot for church goers. Other improvements in church properties followed, including the renovation of the rectory kitchen and the redecoration of the sister's convent which became the parish hall. At the request of the chancery, all St. Josaphat school records were transferred to St. Albertus School to comply with state laws requiring that permanent school records be administered by a school principal and then to the Archdiocesan Office.

On January 19, 1962, this energetic and devoted priest was sent by the Archdiocese to St. Casimir Church with instructions to build a new church. He, in turn, was succeeded by the Rev. Francis J. Dolot, then an assistant at St. Hyacinth. During this time Father Dolot devoted himself to one primary administrative goal: make the church area as beautiful as possible.

Three major problems had to be tackled before this goal could be realized however. One was to slow the tide of families transferring to other parishes; perhaps the answer lay in a church that was convenient and modern. Another problem was to repair and redecorate the church but at a minimal cost to the parishioners. And, finally, the last problem was the survival of St. Josaphat itself in the face of an ever-sprawling Medical Center which was seeking additional land in the area.

Among the steps taken to insure all the conveniences possible for church goers were: a firm blacktop parking lot complete with a drainage system, three separate gas heating units for church, rectory and parish hall in place of a central heating system which had proved cumbersome in the past, new padded kneelers with firm rubber, and an extra-sensitive public address system in the church. Also, the pull bells in the church were converted to automatic, electric bells, much easier to use.

To cut down service costs, many parishioners contributed their time and money in tackling the problem of repair and renovation. The Czerniakowski family donated evergreen trees to the parish, while through the efforts of Mr. Max Dombinski, several other evergreens were planted around the rectory. In August, 1963, 24 parishioners showed up on two consecutive Saturdays and painted the rectory, janitor's home and parish hall. Parishioners also placed new roofs on the janitor's home and on the parish hall. Mr. Joseph Hebel, an artist, renovated the sanctuary wood to its original oak wood sheen, and repainted statues. Arnold and Stanley Bell with the help of Stanley Guzdziol remodeled the parish hall to its present state.

Since 1962 Tom and Elaine (Nowodworski) Balawender volunteered their services and time to care for the church altars and sanctuary - 27 years of continuous service. Their daughter Christie, along with Stanley and Lillian Bell, Ann and Walter Borninski, Ed Borninski, Betty and Kay Meisner, Ralph Meisner and Jim White are always on hand helping Tom and Elaine with this task.

A volunteer ground crew keeps the outside looking neat and clean: Ann and Walter Borninski, Virginia and Ray Kreps, Ed Krystiniak, Betty and Kay Meisner, Dorothy and Andy Sponski, Matt Ventline. Mrs. Agnes Ventline always sends a hot lunch for the workers.

When the question of renovation came up, there was some talk that St. Josaphat might be razed in order to make room for the New Medical Center. The decision of the Archdiocese to give permission to Father Dolot to spend \$24,300 for sandblasting and tuckpointing and silicining meant a renaissance for St. Josaphat's. Another \$28,800 was approved for the reroofing of the church building and other work on the steeples.

In 1981, Immaculate Conception closed it's doors - some of their parishioners found a new home at St. Josaphat's. With joy we welcomed them into our parish

family. They joined in and lent a helping hand with all our endeavors.

The beloved Fr. Dolot retired in 1984 due to ill health. The parish then welcomed its present pastor, Rev. Walter Markowicz. The scholarly pastor is also a professor at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, a columnist for the Michigan Catholic Newspaper, and head of the Archdiocesan Campus Ministry Office. He continues the parish tradition of building a strong bond and unity among his parishioners, and working together with them to complete church projects. During the past five years Rev. Markowicz has directed the restoration of the church steeples, roof and bells.

Monsignor Edmund Fournier assists on weekends as part of the Parish Team which includes Brother Michael Byzewski, B.F.C.C. and Sister Mary Finn, H.V.M. The Parish Team has a new mission for St. Josaphat's - to tie the parish into the community and into the Medical Center. Brother Mike serves as the liaison person for the parish. He

has long been active in inner-city projects and in 1988 received the annual Martin Luther King Award in recognition of his tireless work with these groups and with international medical groups. He recruits personnel and acquires equipment to establish medical facilities in Tanzania, Nigeria and South America. Brother Mike also sets up medical projects for the poor in the Detroit area.

So much for the past - a past that is rich in church and human history, for it is a record of hard times, good times, troublesome times, exciting times. What about the future of St. Josaphat? What additional chapters will be added to the St. Josaphat Story? The future looks bright, indeed. Bordered by the Chrysler Expressway, Mack, Woodward and Warren, the St. Josaphat area is presently undergoing a changing landscape. A Medical Center, one of the finest in the country, is already a reality. All homes surrounding the parish have been demolished and replaced with multiple family units. So the future looks bright and exciting.

And so, the St. Josaphat Story continues . . .



ORIGINAL ALTAR FROM FIRST CHURCH

The Architectural Description of St. Josaphat

St. Josaphat R.C. Church, an impressive late Victorian Romanesque style structure of 1899, is constructed of red-orange common brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. It is approximately 132 feet by 56 feet and seats almost 1200. The rectory, convent, and boiler house are also located on the property.

Constructed to serve a Polish congregation, St. Josaphat combines many elements taken from the northern European ecclesiastical tradition. Towered west fronts and triple tower groups were used extensively in the territory between the Schelde and Elbe Rivers between 1000 and 1200 A.D. and are considered one of the most magnificent manifestations of early Romanesque architecture. Clearly derived from this tradition, the facade of St. Josaphat is dominated by a large, central tower of almost 200 feet in height which is flanked by twin buttressed towers containing secondary entrances. The round arch, also characteristic of the Romanesque, is repeated in the enriched arches of the portals and the arcaded fenestration of the towers. The verticality of the facade is emphasized by the development of the square towers into octagonal spires, the transition masked by the use of pinnacles at the corners of the towers. A fleche rises from the roof ridge at the transept crossing. The gables which mark the ends of the transept are punctuated with rose windows. The main body of the church consists of a higher nave flanked by lower aisles; the nave is covered with a steeply pitched roof. The steeply pitched roof, typical of those found in northern European countries which receive heavy snowfall, was once sheathed in slate. Only the spires have retained the original grey slate.

The church's cruciform plan has at the north end of the barrel vaulted, three aisled nave a broad transept which matches the central aisle in height. The apse is preceded by a short antechoir. Marble columns with gilded capitals carry round arches which support the clerestory which is lit by round-headed windows. The narthex, preceding the nave and aisles, is separated from the nave by a wall. Dual stairways lead to the choir loft which is cantilevered out into the nave. The strong eclecticism of the Victorian period is revealed in St. Josaphat by the union of the strongly Romanesque plan with fine Baroque decorative detailing evidenced by the bas relief angels found between the arches of the nave.

The flat plasterwork surfaces are painted ivory and architectural details such as column capitals are gilded. As part of the strong Catholic tradition of utilizing religious iconography as an important element of church decoration, St. Josaphat has extensive ceiling frescos.

Depicted over the main altar is the Holy Trinity. Above each of the confessionals are murals representing contrition. At the northeast is a representation of the Original Sin of Adam and Eve, at the northwest the Denial of Peter, at the southeast Mary Magdalene, and at the southwest the Prodigal Son. The Birth of Christ and the Last Supper are placed over the communion rail.

Events which are important in the history of Polish Catholicism are shown on the walls which separate the sanctuary from the side altars. On the eastern side is the Pilgrimage to Czestochova. Pilgrims annually travel on foot from Warsaw to Czestochova, the national shrine of Our Lady of Czestochova, the patron saint of Poland. On the west is the Miracle of the Wisla River. This painting was added to the church in the 1950's; it depicts a World War I battle which occurred near the Wisla River

where a small band of Polish troops defeated Russian troops through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin.

The Resurrection, representing the eternal life of the soul, is shown on the northern portion of the nave ceiling directly above the place where caskets are placed for funeral services.

The four authors of the gospel are shown in the groin vault of the crossing; St. John on the north, St. Matthew on the east, St. Mark on the south, and St. Luke on the west.

Also on the nave ceiling is a medallion with Mary, Queen of Poland surrounded by prominent Polish saints as well as what appears to be Elizabeth of Hungary, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Longinus, St. Martin of Tours, and the Polish eagle.

Other murals found above the nave are the Holy Family and the Blessing of the Children. Over the choir loft is St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music.

St. Barbara, patroness of a happy death, and St. Alexander are depicted in the eastern arm of the transept. St. Stanislaus, a popular Polish saint, and St. Bernard are shown over the western transept arm.

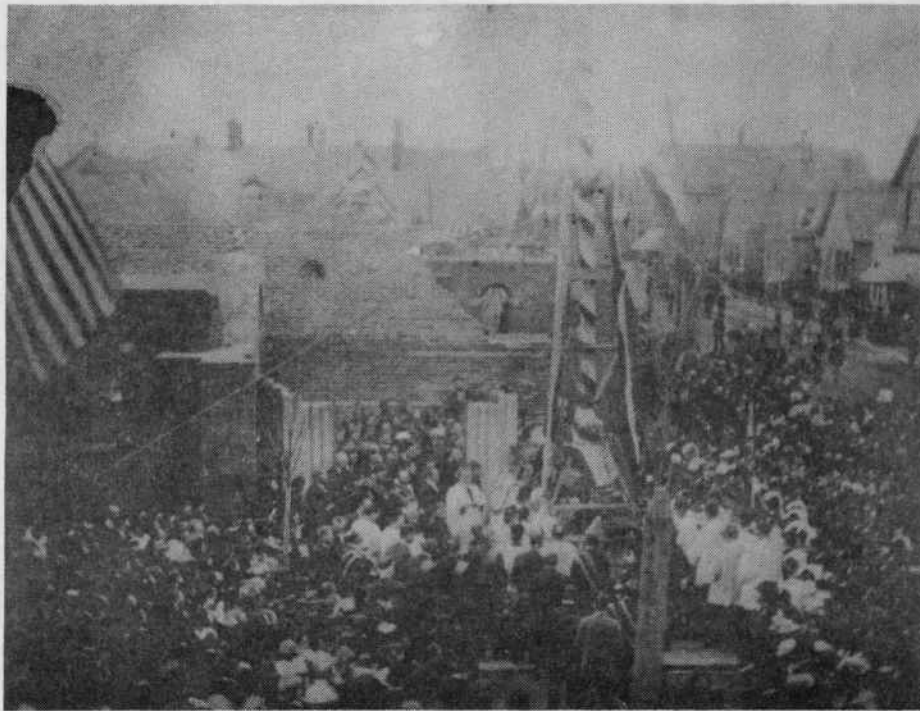
The round headed stained glass windows illustrate the twelve apostles. Beginning at the northeast corner and moving clockwise, the windows depict St. Peter, St. James, St. James the Less, St. Bartholomew, St. Thomas, St. Simon, St. Jude, St. Andrew, St. Matthew, St. Philip, St. John, and St. Paul. The rose window on the eastern transept arm is St. Joseph and the medallion on the western rose window is of Mary, Mother of God. This rose window was wind damaged recently but the original glass was saved with the exception of the central medallion.

The architectonic Baroque high altar is composed of five stages and polychromed in white and gold. Although essentially Baroque in character, the altar borrows its overall proportion and decorative detailing from the Romanesque tradition. It is constructed of wood accented with polished marble. The central panel, which depicts St. Josaphat and Our Lady of Czestochova, is framed by polished marble columns with gilded Corinthian capitals surmounted by an arch enriched by classical moldings.

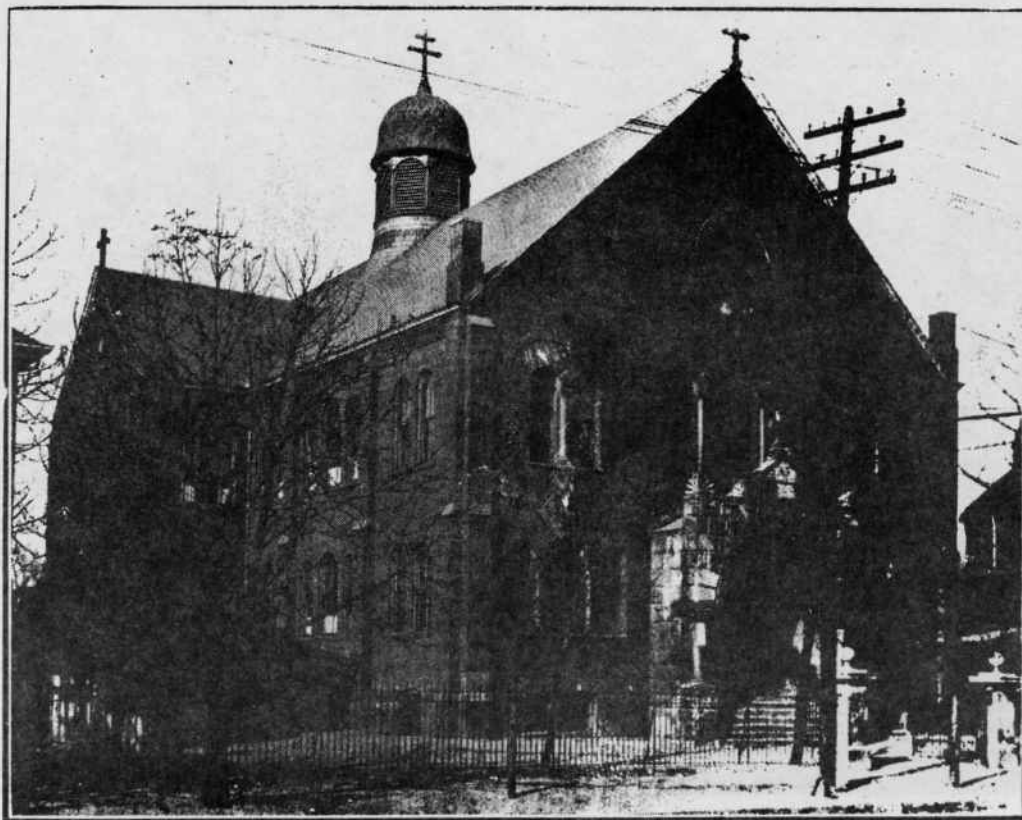
The side altar on the east is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the side altar on the west dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. The altars of the side chapels were taken from the original church of 1889. The eastern altar is dedicated to St. Francis and the western chapel to St. Anthony. The pews, woodwork, and wainscoting are of white oak. The present organ was purchased from a Protestant church and installed in 1960. The stations of the cross are original and are labelled in Polish.

Another significant feature of the interior is the electric lighting system unaltered since it replaced the original gas fixtures in the early part of the twentieth century. The apse and altarpiece are highlighted by bare bulbs installed along the ribs of the apse vault, the pendants of the ribbed vaults, and the arches of the altarpiece surmounted by a crucifix outlined in small bulbs. A large, very open chandelier composed of tiers of small globe bulbs hangs above the sanctuary.

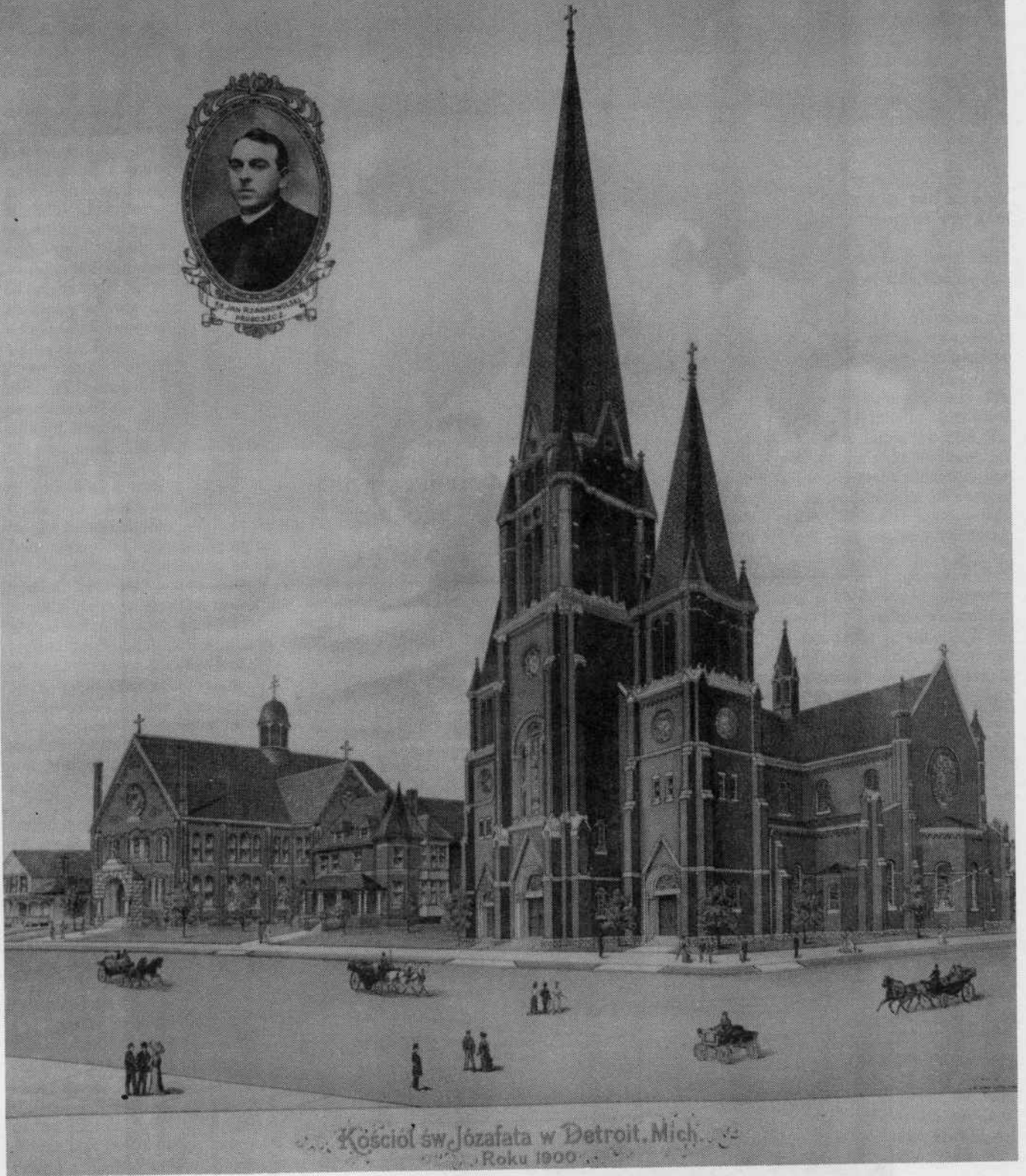
As part of a major building restoration campaign of the 1970's, the exterior of the church was sandblasted. The interior wall surfaces were cleaned and the frescos restored by John Nalapa. In the early 1950's the frescos were painted by Kalol Malczykja, a Polish artist from Krakow and his wife Milada. All of the oak woodwork was refinished.



Laying of the Cornerstone
October 6, 1889



First Church and School



Kościół św. Józefa w Detroit, Mich.
Roku 1900

First Church and School

Church Interior



**Church Interior
Around 1900**

Anniversary (1863-1963)

Page 9781-10

Page 9781-10

Church Interior



1958



1979

Pastors who served St. Josaphat's during the past 100 years . . .



Rev. Casimir Rochowski
Pastor 1889 - 1890



Rev. Anthony Leks
Pastor 1890 - 1891

NO PICTURE
AVAILABLE



Rev. John Rzakowski
Pastor 1891 - 1915



Rev. Joseph Lempka
Pastor 1915 - 1926



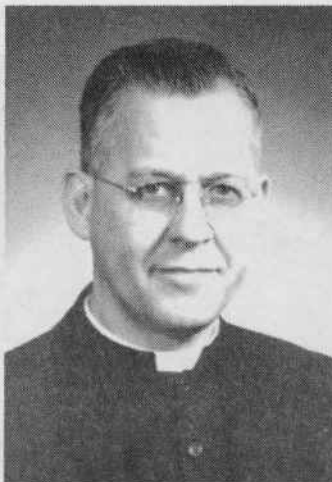
Rev. Maximilian Gannas
Pastor 1926 - 1939



Rev. Edmund Lukasiewicz
Pastor 1939 - 1940



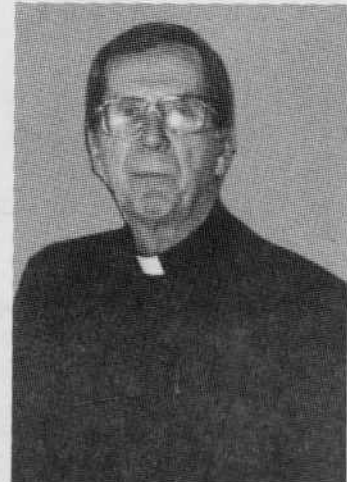
Rev. Alexander Jarzembowski
Pastor 1940 - 1960



Rev. Joseph Karasiewicz
Administrator (1960 - 1961)



Rev. Francis Dolot
Pastor 1961 - 1984



Rev. Walter Markowicz
Pastor 1984 - 1989

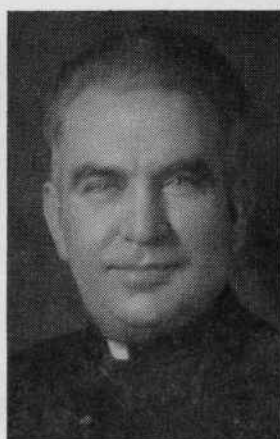
FORMER ASSISTANTS AT ST. JOSAPHAT



Ladislaus Wiencek
1913 - 1917



Bernard Jarzembowski
1918



Stephen Trepczynski
1919 - 1921



Stanislaus Wasilewski
1922 - 1926



Joseph Gorski
1927 - 1929



Peter Borkowicz
1930 - 1931



Edmund Behrendt
1932 - 1938



Zygmunt Osmialowski
1939 - 1941



John Krause
1942 - 1943



Ladislaus Golas
1944 - 1949



Vincent Oberc
1950 - 1961

NOT PICTURED

Florian Chodniewicz
1891

Nicholaus Wybraniec
1904

John Mueller
1905 - 1907

FORMER WEEKEND
ASSISTANTS



Stanley Nierychlewski
1962 - 1984



Albin Trublowski, S.V.P.
1978 - 1980

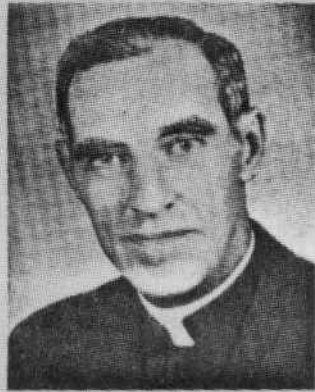
PRIEST OF THE PARISH



REV. JOSEPH UTAS



REV. EDMUND J. LUKASIEWICZ



REV. ALOYSIUS GUZICKI



REV. EDMUND J. WOLSCHON



REV. MAXIMILIAN KAMIENIECKI



REV. FRANCIS J. SZANIAWSKI

USHERS



Top Row: Matt Ventline, Andy Sponski, Ed Borninski, Ray Kreps, Stanley Bell, Ed Krystiniak, Vince Kozlowski

Bottom Row: Andre Ouellette, Walter Borninski, Kay Meisner, Mike Balawender

Not Pictured: Ed Bucko, Zig Zyglia, Conrad Piebiak

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY



Lorraine Krajewski, Outgoing Secretary
Lottie Szczpanski, Treasurer
Irene Buras, President
Betty Jean Ventline, Secretary

ALTAR SERVERS



Top Row: Christie Balawender, Ron Hyso, Tom Balawender, Conrad Piebiak, Steve Hyso

Bottom Row: Ted Bogel, Joseph Galeczka, Christopher Piebiak, Tim Bogel, Laura Piebiak

SOCIAL CLUB OFFICERS



Dorothy Sponski, Helen Wertheimer

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE



**Top Row: Betty Meisner, Kaye Meisner, Ed Borninski, Pat Borninski,
Helen Wertheimer, Andy Sponski, Walter Borninski, Al White, Elaine
Balawender, Tom Balawender**

**Seated: Ann Borninski, Dorothy Sponski, Fr. Walter Markowicz,
Suzanne White, Karen Keller, Betty Jean Ventline**

PRESENT PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOSAPHAT

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Mrs. Bernice Artymovich	Mr. P. Filipek	Mr. and Mrs. L. McKenna	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Thewes
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Mr. Leonard Bialkowski	Theresa Grozenski	Mr. and Mrs. E. Niziol	Mrs. Rose Walkowski
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Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Bogel	Dr. and Mrs. Earl Hartwig	Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Palomba	Mr. Wojciechowski
Mrs. Stella Borkowski	Mr. and Mrs. D. Herman	Mr. and Mrs. J. Pancho	Theresa Wojciechowski
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Bominski	Mr. Thaddeus Herula	Mr. and Mrs J. Panetto	Miss D. Wojtaszek
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bominski	Ms. M. Hinz	Mrs. F. Parry	Mr. and Mrs Kenneth Wrobel
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Brother Michael Byzewski	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jelsomeno	Mr. and Mrs. Chester Piebiak	
Mrs. Genevieve Cader	Mr. and Mrs E. Jerome	Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Piebiak	
Ms. Elena Caoili	Mr. and Mrs. G. Jozwiak	Ms. Ofilia A. Piencinaves	
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Capulong	Mrs. A. Kaatchuba	Mrs. Angeline Pinkava	
Ms. Carolina Cedre	Mr. and Mrs. G. Keller	Ms. Teodora A. Pontaoe	
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cibor	Ms. Coleen Knight	Ms. C. B. Pruss	
Mrs. Jerome Cieszynski	Ms. Nancy Koliba	Mr. Alfred Radabaugh	
Mr. and Mrs Timothy Clever	Mrs. Amanda Kornacki	Ms. Olive Radlicki	
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Copioli	Mrs. C. Kosek	Miss Alice Reppke	
Mr. and Mrs Paul Couturier	Mrs. W. Koski	Miss Dolores Reppke	
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Cricelli	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Koslakiewicz	Miss Dorothy Reppke	
Ms. Hurtenia Cdfa Cruz	Mrs. L. Kosmowski	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Rosinski	
Mrs. Theresa Czarnota	Mrs. Angeline Kotlarz	Ms. Rhunda Rozek	
Miss Patricia Czech	Mr. Brian Kopce	Mr. and Mrs. H. Rozycki	
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Mrs. Anne Drewno	Mr. Edward Krystyniak	Mrs. Antoni Sobilo	
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Mr. A. Engelhart	Mr. and Mrs S. Lyczynski	Annette Szczepanik	
Miss Marina Estrella	Mr. and Mrs. J. Maciag	Angeline Szczesniak	
Mrs. F. Ewald	Mr. Edward Maciejko	Mrs. L. Szczepanski	
Ms. E. Ewald	Ms. Mary Joy Mamuyac	Mr. and Mrs C. Szulczewski	



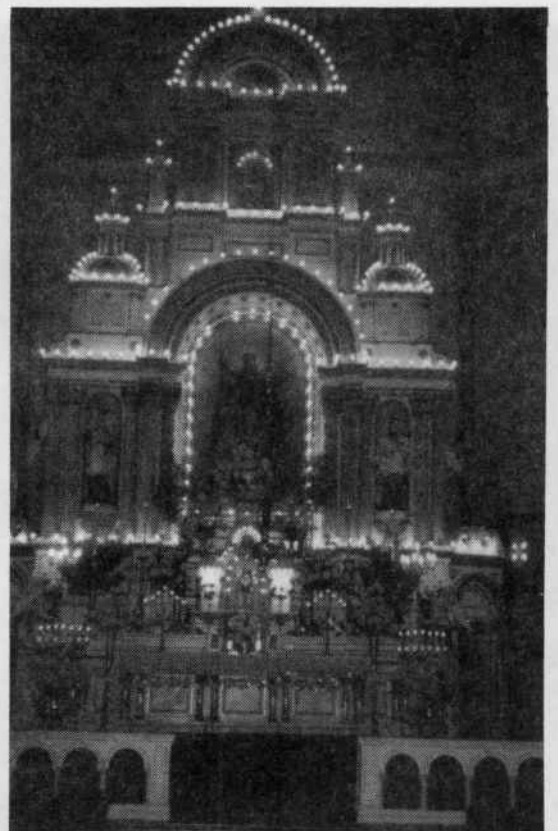
REPOSITORY



BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS



CORPUS CHRISTI



40 HOURS DEVOTIONS

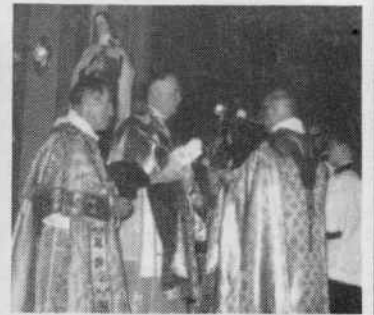
1930's



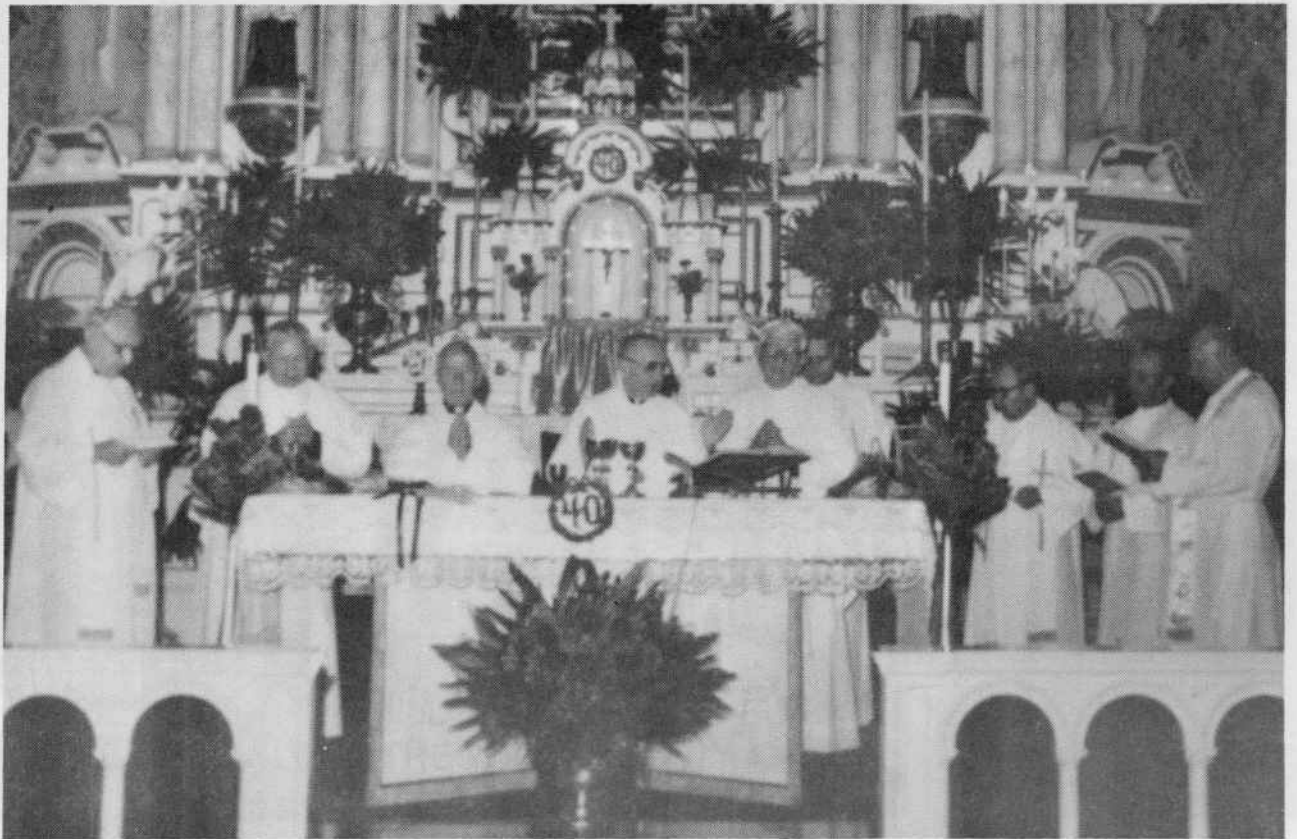
1950's



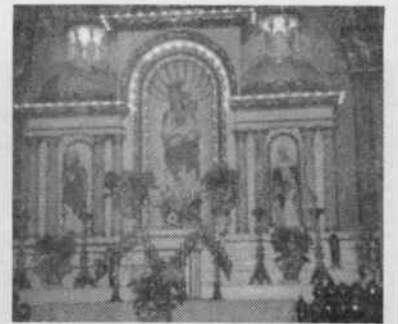
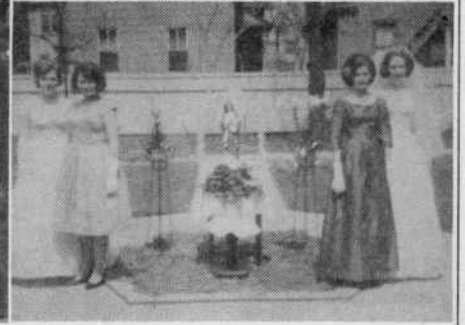
75th Anniversary



Fr. Dolot's 40th Anniversary



"O Mary We Crown Thee"



AND JOSAPHAT'S ROOTS CONTINUE

Hopefully the young of our parish will continue their ancestor's love for a church literally built by generations of their blood.

May they be the "future columns", who in some way keep their love for St. Josaphat's and generate her story for many years to come!



Joseph Galeczka



Christie Balawender



Michelle Galeczka



Jason White



Megan Keller



Lisa Piebiak



Christopher Piebiak



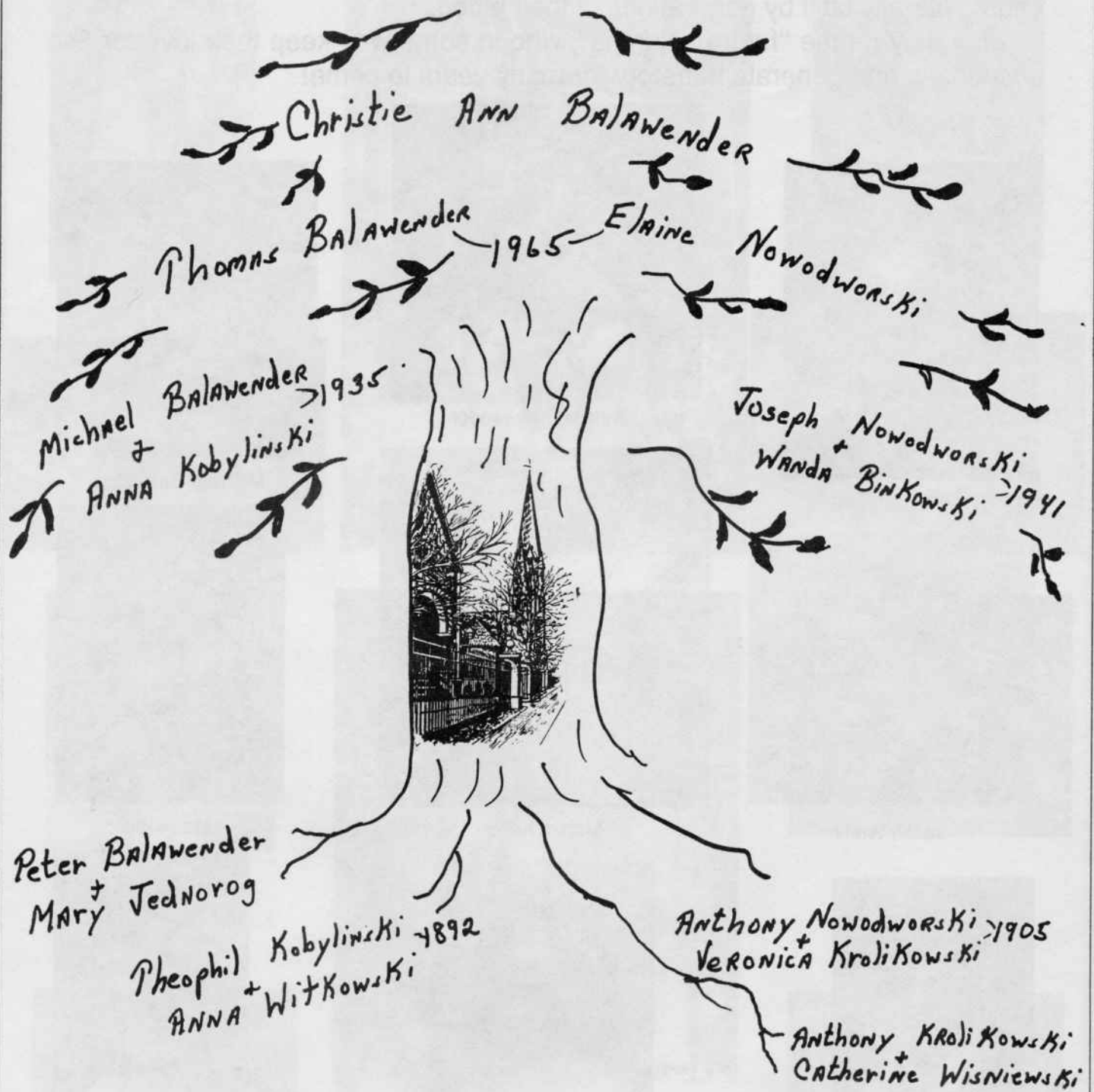
Laura Piebiak



Linda Piebiak

"I BELIEVE THE CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE, TEACH THEM WELL AND LET THEM LEAD THE WAY"

Our Roots At St. Josaphat's



Michael Balawender
Robert '58 and Nancy Balawender - - David and Mark
Thomas and Elaine Balawender - - Christie

SOCIAL CLUB

The Social Club of St. Josaphat was organized on March 28, 1979

With "no money on hand" the late Fr. Dolot donated \$100.00 to get us started, and the use of the Hall Facilities.

The "Objective" of the Club was to keep it "Social" - - to get to know each other and enjoy each others company. This we are accomplishing with - - Dinners, Trips, Parties and our Annual Retreat.

God Bless us and Our Parish that we may hold on for many more years to come.

Helen Wertheimer
Dorothy Sponski

Congratulations on the

100th ANNIVERSARY

of St. Josaphat Church

From the Parish Ushers

OFFICERS

Walter Borninski ~ Edward Bucko
Kaye Meisner

Mike Balawander
Stanley Bell
Edward Borninski
Vince Kozlowski

Ray Kreps
Edward Krystyniak
Andre Ouellette
Conrad Piebiak

Andrew Sponski
Matthew Ventline
Zig Zyglia

In Memory Of



LEON and MARY MEISNER

also

Best wishes from

Kay and Betty Meisner

Best Wishes

From

**Dr. and Mrs. Edward R.
Borninski
and family**

Karen



Tom



Jim



Sarah



Mary

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HOURS:
MON., THURS., FRI. 9-8
TUES., WED., SAT 9-5

THE OFFICERS and MEMBERS OF THE

*ALTAR-ROSARY SOCIETY OF
ST. JOSAPHAT*

extend

To the Pastor and People of St. Josaphat Parish, heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of this Centennial Anniversary. We join with you in spirit in thanking God for the many Blessings He has bestowed on your parish in the past one hundred years and in petitioning Him to continue to favor you with an abundance of His Divine Grace

Irene Buras President
Betty Jean Ventline Secretary
Lottie Szczepanski Treasurer
Lorraine Krajewski Outgoing Secretary

In Memory Of



**Al J. Mroczkowski
Class of '37**

**given by
Elsie Mroczkowski
Class of '37
and sons
Charles, David, Jerome,**

BEST WISHES
FROM

HYSO FAMILY

Joseph and Pauline

*Robert and Joann Szachta
Matthew and Jennifer*

*Ernestine Hyso
Teresa, Michael and David*

*Joseph N. and Margaret Hyso
Stephanie, and Erica*

Steven Hyso

*Ronald and Carol Hyso
Katherine and Daniel*

Bruce and Julianne MacLeod

CONGRATULATIONS

To St. Josaphat's Parish and Parishoners on the occasion of your Golden Jubilee.
WE SALUTE YOU ON THE MAGNIFICENT PARISH YOU HAVE!

DETROIT CORNICE & SLATE CO., INC.

ESTABLISHED 1888

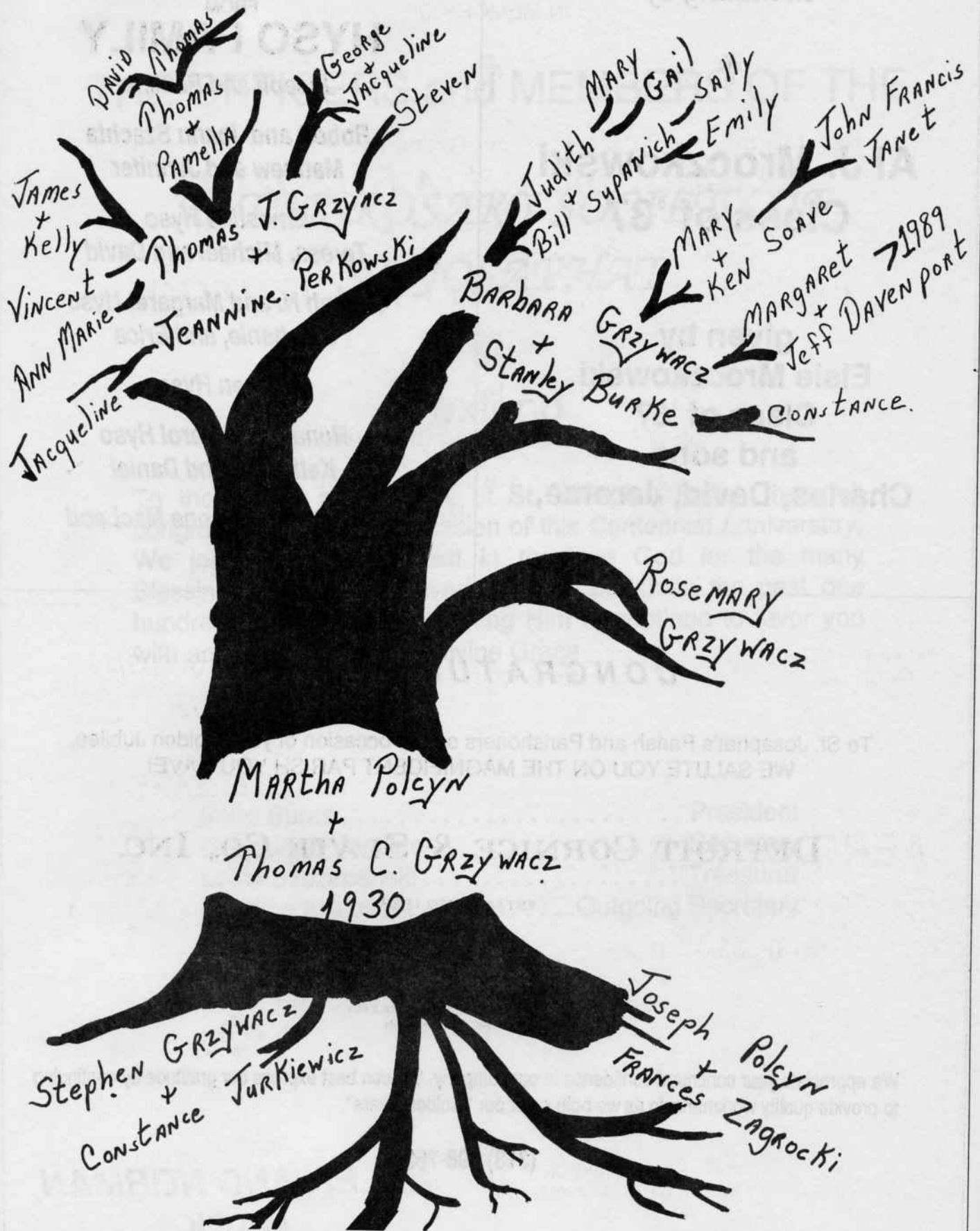


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We appreciate your continued confidence in our company. We can best express our gratitude by continuing to provide quality workmanship as we both enter our "Golden Years".

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Thank You St. Josaphat's For Our Roots - - -



IN MEMORY OF



Great Great Grand Parent ~ Great Grand Parents ~ Grand Parents
ALBERT and JULIA GUZDZIOL

Great Grand Parents ~ Grand Parents ~ Parents
FRANK and MICHALINE GUZDZIOL



By

Stanley and Lillian (Guzdziol) Bell
Joan and Arnold ('52) Bell
Al and Janice Lee (Bell '57) Steuve
Jan, Josh and Tim ('60) Bell

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***CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR
100TH
ANNIVERSARY***



***HELEN AND NORMAN
MACK***

*In Loving Memory
Of Our Parents*



**Stanley and Annette
Bartkowiak
And Our Big Sister
Annette Bartkowiak**



Stanley (Mary) Bartkowiak, Jr.
Julia (Henry) Kolasa
Rose (Edward) Helisek
Theresa (Emery) Stefanko
Esther (Frank) Fifelski
Gerard (Vivian) Bartkowiak

In memory of early
Organizers of the Church

***Prusinski Family
and
Merecki Family***

God's Blessings
for the
Jubilee

Dorothy Prusinski

*Congratulations
from*

Leona and Bernie Rust

Dianne - Joe - Nicole Ervine

Darlene - Ronald Trefzer

Congratulations on your Centennial

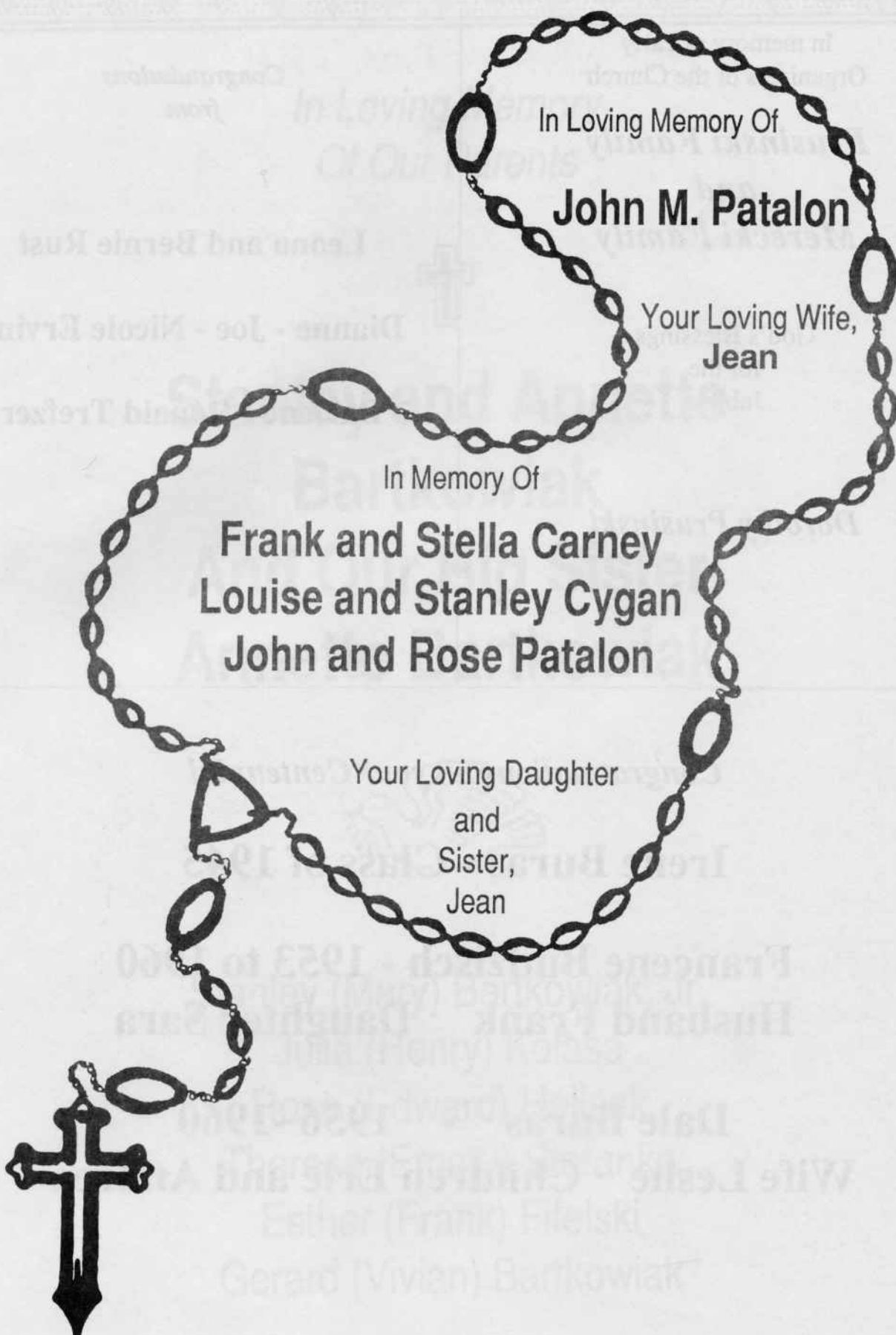
Irene Buras - Class of 1945

Francene Budzisch - 1953 to 1960

Husband Frank Daughter Sara

Dale Buras - 1956 -1960

Wife Leslie Children Eric and Andrea



In Loving Memory Of

John M. Patalon

Your Loving Wife,
Jean

In Memory Of

**Frank and Stella Carney
Louise and Stanley Cygan
John and Rose Patalon**

Your Loving Daughter
and
Sister,
Jean

STO LAT!

STO LAT!

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MAMA ROSA'S PIZZA**

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Karen M. May, Bachelor of Science H.R.D., Oakland University

Rick S. May, Petty Officer Third Class, Nuclear Power, U.S.N.

Congratulations From

THE GARR FAMILY

Bernard and Mary

**Rosemary (58) and Richard
May**

**Judith (59) and Warren
Kriskywicz**

**Bernadette and John R.
Putrow**

Joseph and Anita Garr

Camille and John Goscicki

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE

PARISHONERS

ON THE

100TH

ANNIVERSARY

CASSIE KOSEK

AND

ANDRE and VICKY

OUELLETTE

Lawrence M. Calcaterra and Edward J. Wujek

combining their family traditions



have established



Wujek - Calcaterra

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*May God Favor St. Josaphat
with His Blessings on this
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"Sila naszego Narodu opiera sie na lacznosci z wiecznym i niezwycezonym Kosciele Bozym, zbudowanym na Opoce Piotra i jego nastepcach Papiezach." Kardynal Wyszynski

W stuletnia rocznice Parafii Kosciola Sw. Jozefata, schylamy czola przed tymi ktorzy budowali, a na nowe stulecie, wysilek przeszlosci niech bedzie natchnieniem dla nowego pokolenia przyszlosci,

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Our Dear Parents



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TEOFIL KOZLOWSKI



and

Our Grandparents

Kozlowski

Sliwinski

and

Sienkiewicz

also

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Rev. Father Vincent Oberc
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by

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*Thank you to the people of
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for 100 years of Prayer and Service
to the Archdiocese of Detroit.*

*Thank you Father Markowicz
for 45 years of Priesthood.
We wish you a happy 70th birthday,
good health, and every blessing
in your "retirement"*

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St. John Chrysostom

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In Loving Memory



**Maximilian and Stella
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PARISH**

**“MAY YOU LIVE
100 MORE”**



**From
Jim, Mary
and
Lesley Hurren**

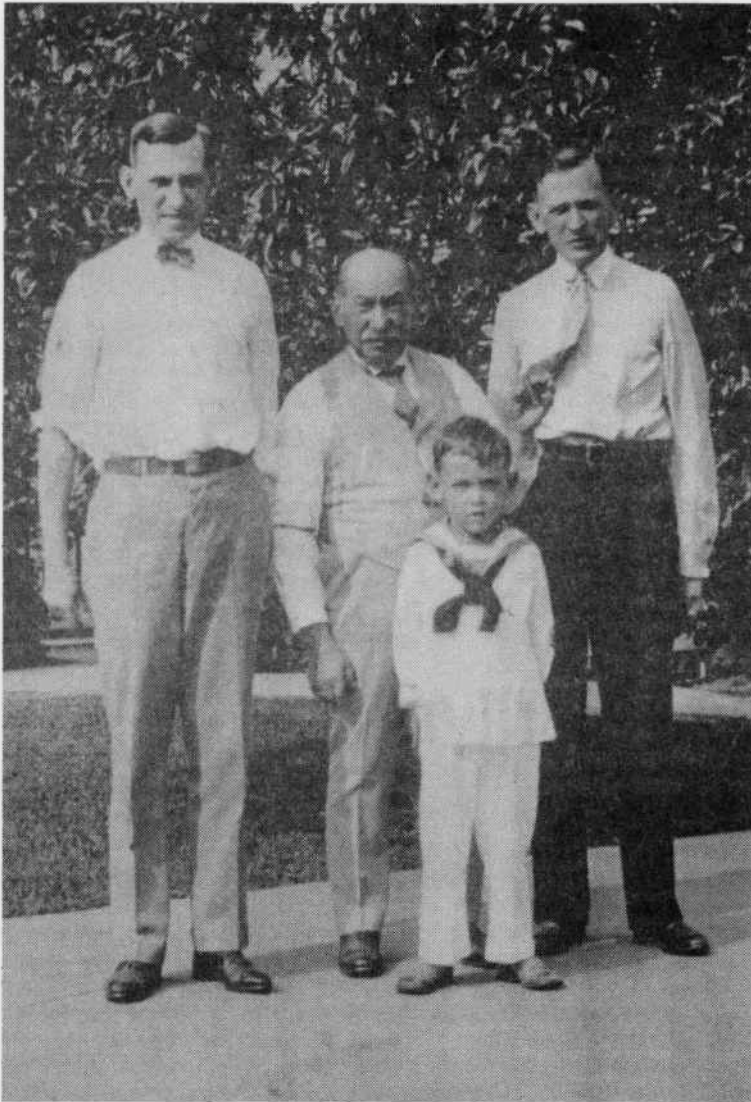
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**IGNACY and ANNA WALKOWSKI
JOSEPH WALKOWSKI
THERESA WALKOWSKA
ANN WALKOWSKA**

**From
JOSEPHINE WALKOWSKA**

Witkowski's salutes St. Josaphat's



Photograph taken in 1926: Vernon Witkowski, 2nd generation; Joseph Witkowski, founder of Witkowski's; Max J. Witkowski, 2nd generation; Vernon Witkowski, Jr., 3rd generation.

Sto Lat!

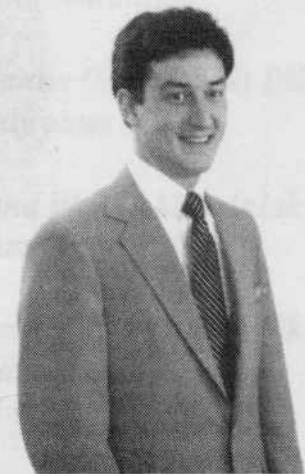
In 1889, my great-grandfather, Joseph Witkowski, was one of the founders of St. Josaphat's. Since then this beautiful church has been close to all of our lives. In 1905, with his two sons, Vernon (my grandfather) and Max (my granduncle), Joseph Witkowski founded his clothing store. Joining the firm in 1949 was my father, Vernon, Jr.

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**GOD BLESS
and
MANY MORE YEARS**



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Harry Jarzynski
Frank Marciniak**

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We have many fond
MEMORIES
of the Parish . . .

Irene Marciniak

*Ronald and Deanna (Marciniak) Bill and
Family class of 1957*

*Kenneth and Phyllis Marciniak
and Family class of 1959*

*Stanley and Beverly (Marciniak) Sikorski
and Family
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From

**Veronica Szwaracki Elnitsky
Edward V. Ziarnko
Pauline Stachelski Ziarnko**

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REV. ALBIN TRUBLOWSKI
"forever in our hearts"



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Rev. Francis Dolot***



*Conrad, Lori,
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Congratulations Boris and Arlene Muchnij

Congratulations from Thaddeus P. Herula

Anna and Irene Zmudczynski

In Memory of Mr. Frank Radlicki

Teri Banas and John Foren

Congratulations on this Special Day 100 Years

Ann Cieszynski

Mr. and Mrs. Jack P. Corsi

Mrs. Anastasia Kuczynska

God's Blessings in the Years to Come.

Irene and Chester Kraszewski

Greetings to all Josaphites

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Congratulations, Ed Krystiniak

Congratulations, Amanda Kornacki

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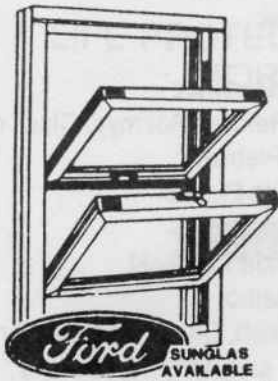
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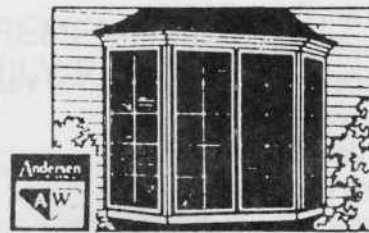
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From

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Skomski

THANK YOU

A special thank you to all who have supported our endeavors in making our "centennial" a memorable occasion! Your help in contributing in any way . . . whether financial . . . or other was greatly appreciated.

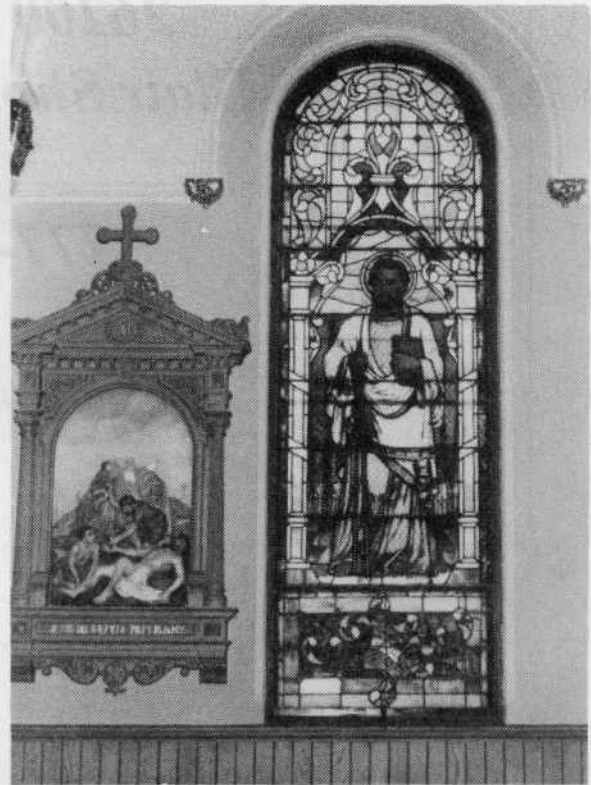
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