



St. Lawrence
DETROIT, MICH.

1922 — 1972

GOLDEN JUBILEE



ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

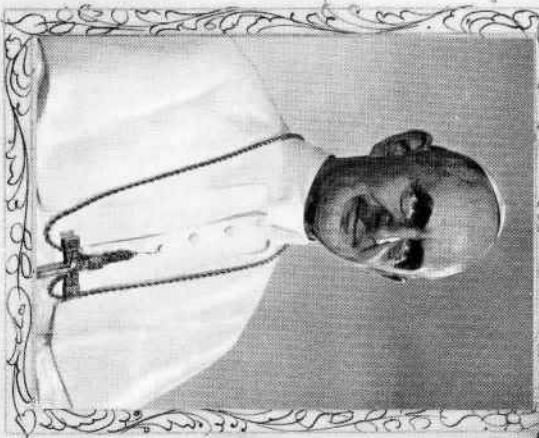


Nost Holy Father
Rev. Pastor Jerome H. Syele,

and the Members of the Saint
Lawrence Parish Family, on the
occasion of the 50th Anniversary
of the founding of the Parish,
October 15, 1972, humbly beg a special

Apostolic Blessing
as a pledge of divine graces and
favours.

*As was desired by the Parish Council & Holy Fathers, the 31-7-72
* Attested in the Parish of St. Lawrence.*



Dearly Beloved Members and Friends of St. Lawrence Parish Family:



With happiness and gratitude St. Lawrence Parish celebrates "Life in Christ" on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of this parish. For five decades the Eucharistic Christ has abided in your midst. He has been, and continues to be, the source of love, strength and nourishment, your hope and comfort. He is forever our priest, prophet and king... our Saviour.

His Presence is the constant reminder that He lived, suffered, died, and was resurrected to bring hope to every one in this parish of St. Lawrence, The Martyr. His love is for all. The hope He gives is for each person, regardless of nationality, finances, education or achievements. It is He who has been the unifying force in this devoted, humble and struggling parish-family.

By the grace of God we are what we are and His graces for all who are or have been a part of this parish-family have not been fruitless. We should all be profoundly grateful to God for all the graces that He has showered upon those who claim this as "my parish". Please God that all who are members of this parish will be what they should be in the next years. May the love and life of Christ be reflected in this Christian community for many years to come. May everyone strive to "Live Christ" and be a "Brother and Sister in Christ". Never let the image of our Patron Saint be obscured by the "ever changing times"; rather may the radiance of his joy in suffering inflame your hearts with zeal to do what we are able to do for God and Country.

I am grateful for the six years of my priestly life that I have spent in your midst, and I will continue to work and pray that you "may burn with the Spirit of Christ" and attain the happiness promised to us by God our Father.

Fr. Jerome A. Szele



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

1234 WASHINGTON BLVD.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

June 28, 1972

Dear Father Szclc:

Within the very near future, St. Lawrence Church will celebrate the golden jubilee of its establishment. It is good to know that you are planning to commemorate the anniversary with the solemnity and the joy that it merits.

Because of another commitment, it may not be possible for me to be with you on October 15. However, I do welcome the opportunity that this letter offers me to congratulate you and the entire parish community.

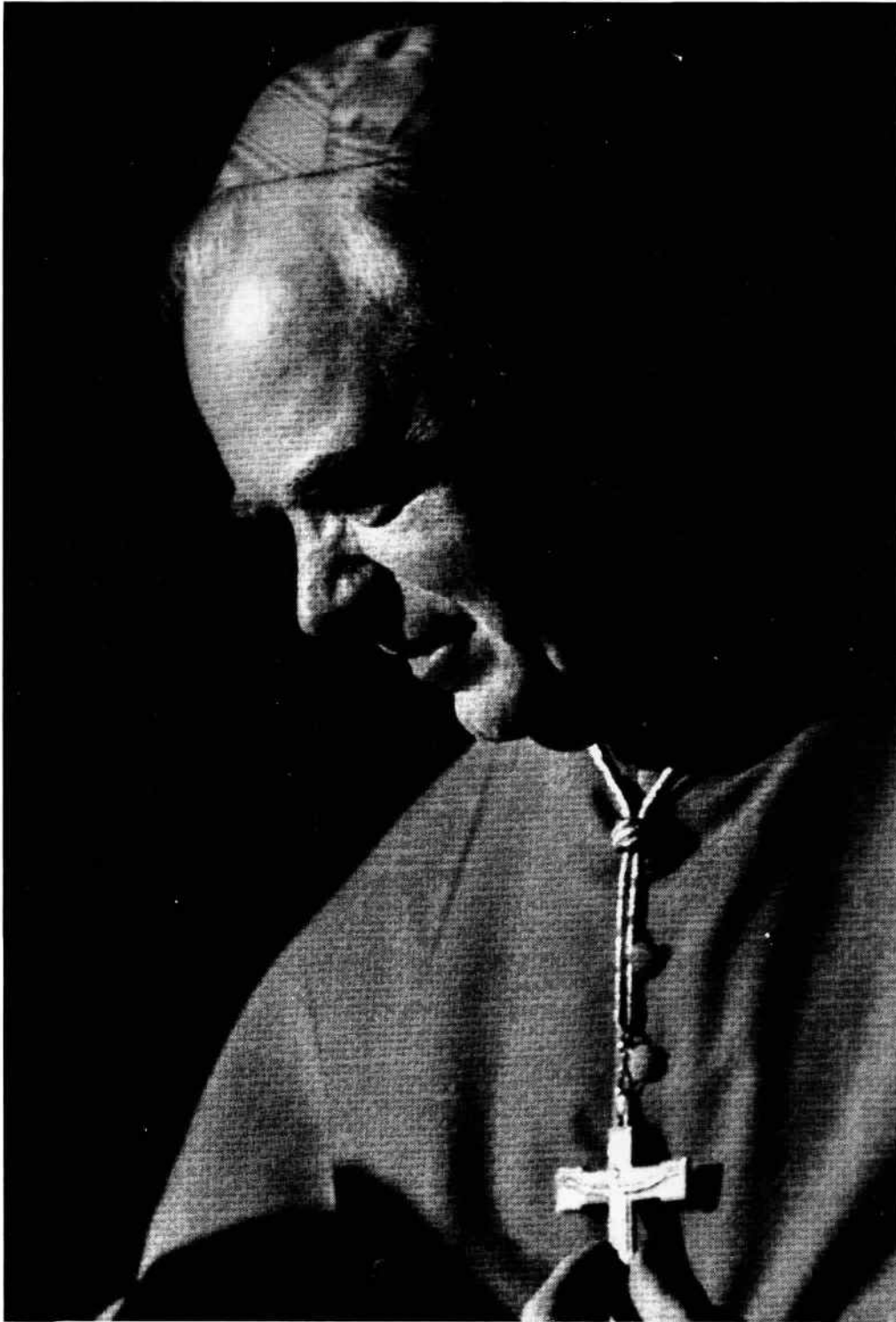
A jubilee celebration is before all else a day of thanksgiving to God for blessings received. I know that as the parish and its friends unite in a special action of prayer, they will ask God in His goodness to continue to make St. Lawrence abidingly faithful to its mission.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John Card. Haskin
Archbishop of Detroit

The Reverend Jerome A. Szclc
Pastor, St. Lawrence Church
4811 Lonyo Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48210



HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL DEARDEN
Archbishop of Detroit

City of Detroit

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

ROMAN S. GRIBBS
MAYOR

St. Lawrence Church
4811 Lonyo Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48211

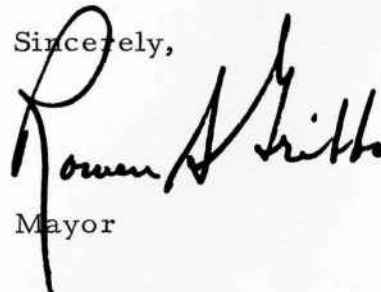
Greetings:

It is with extreme pleasure that I offer the City of Detroit's congratulations to the parishioners of St. Lawrence Church.

The Golden Anniversary of your church's founding represents a half-century of dedicated faithfulness and service to humanity. The spiritual enrichment provided by the church is forever needed by all men and a most desirable of exigencies in these often troubled and complex times.

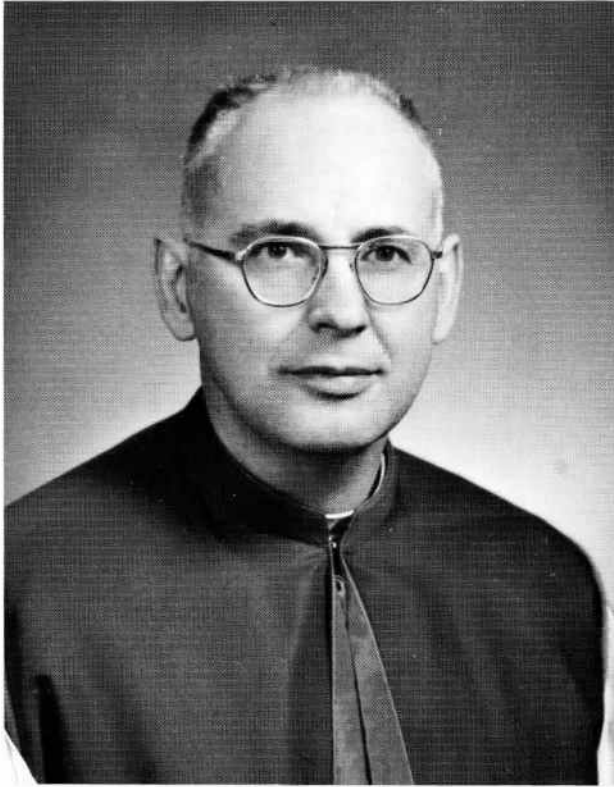
On the occasion of your Golden Anniversary, I offer you this City's good wishes, prayers and warmest congratulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roman S. Gibbs". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

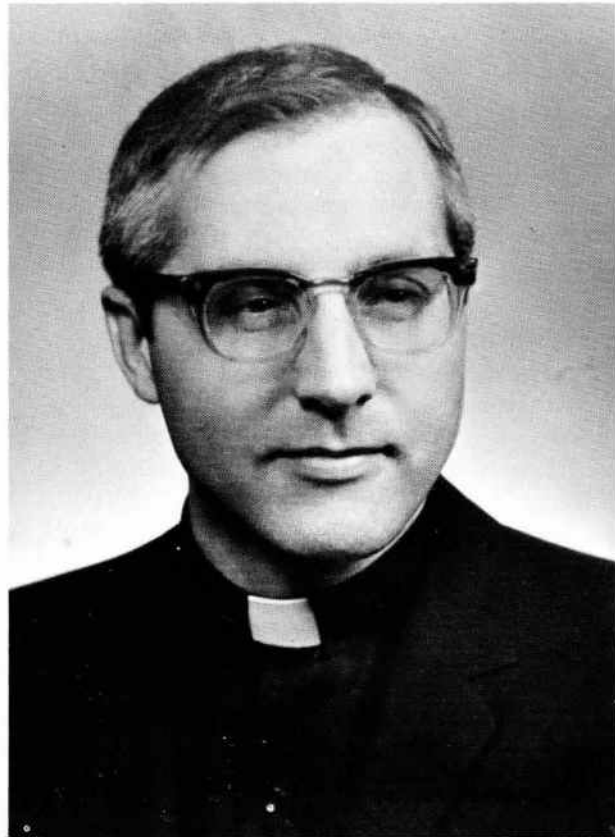
Mayor

RSG/bm



*Auxiliary
Bishops
of
Detroit*

*MOST REV. WALTER J. SCHOENHERR, D.D.
Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit
Vicar for the Clergy*



*MOST REV. THOMAS J. GUMBLETON, D.D.
Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit
Vicar for the Parishes*



Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

It would, on first thought, seem fitting that the pages contained herein be dedicated as a memorial to the faithful of St. Lawrence Parish, whose humble prayers and diligent work have brought us to this Golden Anniversary Year.

They are the heroes of this venture; local heroes to be sure, but nonetheless within the parish circle. To those outside the magic circle, their exploits may seem ordinary, their deeds unmemorial, their breath of Spirit only human.

But to those within, whose lives have been touched, whose souls have been enriched spiritually, whose world has been stabilized, they have indeed proven themselves heroic men and women, worthy of remembrance.

Yet even as these thoughts cross our minds, we cannot but recognize the ills of our humanity, the unrest and insecurity of our times, the continued lack of dedicated effort in doing Christ's work.

During this brief span of fifty years we have witnessed depressions, violences and wars, which still are problems prevalent in our world today. Within our hearts there are feelings we all share in somehow in the sins of our days, that the neglect of things divine, to do justice and to love commitment and to walk humbly with God and man, has rendered us unworthy of ourselves, to be so remembered.

But there remains One, who was with us from the beginning, who walked this earth, who shared our human flesh, who was tempted, even as we, but who remained sinless. TO JESUS CHRIST, The Crucified, The Risen Lord, we dedicate these pages, so that we, this Parish-Community of St. Lawrence, may continue to be alive after these Golden Years . . . ALIVE WITH THE LIVING CHRIST.

People Make a Parish



In 1922 the area around "Addison Switch" was a fast growing community. Previously a part of the sprawling Springwells Township, it had been annexed to the growing Metropolis of Detroit in 1917. Many of the streets were still unpaved, but Michigan Avenue was considered one of the most efficient thoroughfares with its east and west-bound traffic lanes separated by the street-car tracks and the "safety zones". It was during this year that Henry Ford made history announcing that all employees at his automobile plant were to be hired at five dollars a day. This unprecedented wage announcement caused many more men to move their families to the western edge of the city of Detroit and obtain work in the Rouge Plant.

The need of a new Catholic Parish in the neighborhood was unquestionable. Although St. Stephen, St. Andrew and Our Lady Queen of Angels parishes were already established just east of the area, they were all primarily Polish-speaking parishes and didn't meet the needs of many of the new residents. In the late months of 1921, a group of four men — Mr. George Warner, Mr. Frank Schmitz, Mr. Henry Malesky and Mr. Paul Fischer — met with Bishop Michael J. Gallagher and requested his permission to canvas the neighborhood and explore the possibility of establishing a new parish. All of these men had moved in from Greenfield Township, later known as Fordson and presently a part of the City of Dearborn. Their families had been among the German settlers of that area who had helped to establish St. Alphonsus Parish in 1852. In approaching their new neighbors they were pleasantly surprised to find that in addition to their own German families, there were many people of various ethnic backgrounds anxious to help organize a new parish. A review of the early records of the parish read like a Roll-Call of Nations with the Irish Doyles, Duggans, and Condras; the French LaFromboise, Beaudoins, and LaPointes; the English Taylors, Parsons, and Reeds; the Italian Messiscos and DeSantos and a considerable number of Polish families.

By early 1922 the self-appointed committee of four reported back to the Chancery of Bishop Gallagher with their findings and were assured that their recommendations

of a new parish would be acted upon. On March 22, 1922, Father Von Mach was appointed to found the parish with territorial boundaries as follows: Livernois Ave. to the east, Wyoming to the west, the Michigan Central tracks to the south and Warren Ave. to the north. On March 29, Monsignor Doyle, Chancellor of the Diocese, with the approval of Bishop Gallagher, informed Father Von Mach that the parish would be under the patronate of the deacon-martyr of the early Christian era, St. Lawrence. The first Mass was celebrated on Sunday, April 23, 1922 in a rented upstairs flat above Gradecki's Pool Hall at 8803 Michigan Avenue. A temporary altar had been improvised from furniture donated by some of the charter members and the first Mass was celebrated for the success of the new parish. It was in the spring of 1922 that St. Lawrence Parish experienced its beginning of life and began a growth that has matured to the St. Lawrence of 1972. Father Von Mach lived in a rented house at 4901 Lawndale and soon became a familiar figure around the neighborhood. He drove a Model T Ford Coupe, affectionately nicknamed the Chicken Coop, and he made it a practice to become personally acquainted with all the new parishioners.

Property on which to build the church and school building was purchased from the Lonyo Brick Company in the Fall of 1922 and a temporary frame building to house the church was completed within seven months, by July of 1923, on the corner of Lonyo and Arnold. This building still stands bearing the marks of many important parochial functions through the years. Many of the furnishings for the interior of the building were made by the parishioners. The side-altars were made by Joseph Gebauer and Joseph Dornoff, while the kneelers were the work of John Gruber and Charles Fischer. The Communion-rail was brought in from Father Von Mach's home parish in Ruth, Michigan. The ladies of the Altar Society, who had organized almost as soon as the parish was established, made the altar cloths and communion rail cloth. It was in this neat little building that a period of five years that the parishioners worshipped, were baptized, married and buried from. This temporary building was used as the church until December of 1926. In the meantime the upper flat on Michigan Avenue was

retained as a Social Hall and many of the original parishioners, now living, recall with nostalgia the dances, box-socials and other gatherings they enjoyed during those years.

The School-Church-Convent building, as it stands today, was built according to the cornerstone, in 1926 by Talbot and Meier, Inc., at the cost of \$200,000. This new fire-proof building had accommodations for eight large classrooms, a basement church, and a floor for future expansion. The contract called for the completion by Christmas; the Midnight Mass was to be the first scheduled service. However, Mr. George Talbot, of the Contracting Co., who was also a charter member of the parish, died during the week and his Funeral Mass on December 24, 1926 was the first Mass celebrated in the new building. The Midnight Mass was celebrated as scheduled and the records show that it was offered in memory of Geraldine Gruber, the deceased teenage daughter of John Gruber, one the first Parish Trustees.

In June, 1928, the Parish felt its first great disappointment when it was announced that Father Von Mach was to be transferred to St. John the Evangelist Church in the predominantly German settlement on the East side of Detroit. With the permission of the Bishop, the Blessed Sacrament was removed from the sanctuary of the church for a few hours on a Sunday afternoon, and the people of the parish filled the church to capacity for a farewell program in honor of their beloved founder and pastor, who felt that a Polish-speaking priest and well-versed in English and mindful of the changing community, could better serve the needs of many more.

The following week, another reception was held, only slightly less well-attended, welcoming the new Pastor, Father Vincent Balcer, who had been serving as pastor of a rather young parish, Our Lady of Christians on the northeast side of Detroit. It appeared that rumors had reached Father Balcer's ears to the effect that now, perhaps, St. Lawrence's would become another Polish speaking parish, for in his welcoming remarks to his new congregation he announced that St. Lawrence Church was not to be a Polish Church, nor a German Church, nor a Irish Church; but was to be first, last and only a Catholic Church.



FR. LEO VON MACH
Founder and First Pastor - 1923-1928

The early years of Father Balcer's pastorate brought many hardships, which however did not curtail his enthusiasm to serve the entire community. His services were available to so very many and his generosity knew no limits. The years of the Great Depression which found many in the locality unemployed, the struggling families of modest income, the command for Catholic school attendance for all children of Catholic parents made it difficult to pay off the debt on the church-school building. At no time however, was any loan requested from the Diocese to meet current expenses. Through those years the people continued to sacrifice in order to maintain their church and school, when many were unable to pay any tuition or make any donation to the church.

St. Lawrence Parish briefly made headlines in the year of 1963 when Richard Cardinal Cushing of the Archdiocese of Boston, a personal friend of Father Balcer, visited the parish. The Detroit Free Press in its coverage of the visit of this distinguished and renowned churchman, referred to the "humble basement church of St. Lawrence," while accompanying pictures in the paper revealed the proud smiling faces of the parishioners. On this memorable visitation Cardinal Cushing personally visited with many elderly shut-in members of the parish. The contributions of the parishioners to the Latin-American Fund, founded by the Cardinal extended much needed missionary help. The proceeds of one of the festivals sponsored by the parish were given exclusively for this apostolate, which was so dear to the Cardinal and so well-understood by Father Balcer.

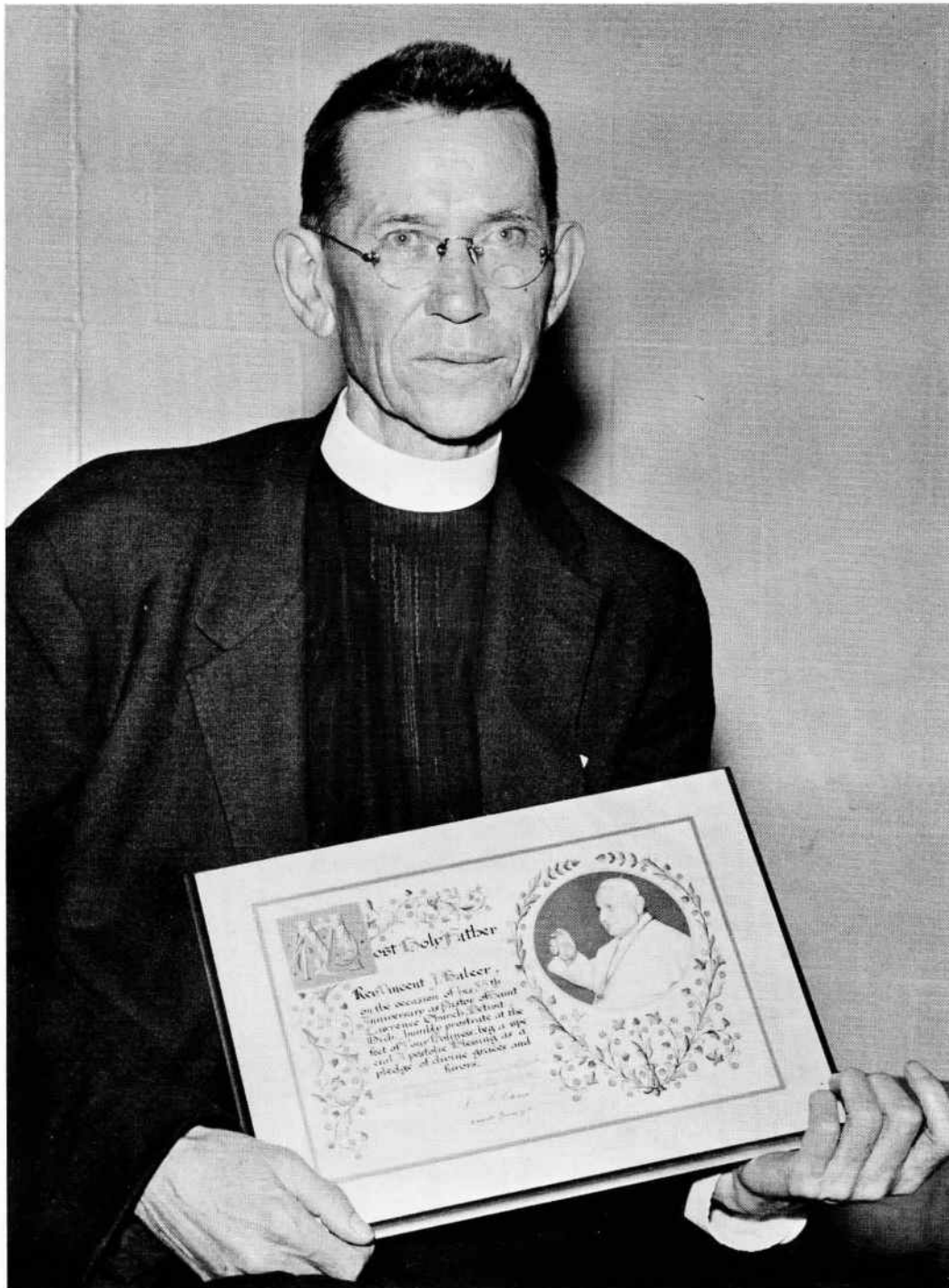
During the years of World War II, when many of the young men of the parish were in military service, every effort was made to be mindful of their absence from their families and Father Balcer insisted that contact be kept with these sons who in their boyhood years were so familiar to him. Recognition was given to the parish in its promotion and sale of U. S. War Bonds; a document in the parish files attests to that.

With the passing years, although many of the original parishioners had moved to the other side of eternity or to newer suburban localities, still others remained into the second and even third generation. Many

devoted families had to seek residence elsewhere when their homes and properties were taken for the construction of the Edsel Ford Freeway. The outward appearance of St. Lawrence property has remained unchanged. The rectory is a two-story home right among the homes of the neighborhood; the outdoor gaslight is the only distinguishing indication that this is not a private home, but the parish house. The neighborhood hasn't changed much either; some families moved in and joined the parish when homes were constructed on land south of the church on Lonyo Ave.; a public park in honor of President Woodrow Wilson stretches across the street from the church property; it was built on acreage that had been used to test small Army tanks during the war. It now provides recreational and restful facilities for the entire community. All through the Sixties there was an evident decline in membership, with the children marrying and moving away, and the "old folks" remaining and continuing to be devoted members of the parish.

In 1965, a gala reception and dinner was held in Sgt. Romanowski Post Hall in honor of the beloved pastor on the occasion of his forty-fifth anniversary in the Holy Priesthood. Although it had been noticeable for some time that Father Balcer's health was fast failing, it was at this banquet that it became shockingly apparent that he would be unable to continue much longer in the role of active pastor. It was the dedicated assistant-pastor, Father George Majewski, who did not spare himself to carry out many of the parochial pastoral responsibilities. It was during his assignment at St. Lawrence that the Pastor had the church floor tiled and new pews and kneelers installed. The 1960's was a decade of strong parish spirit marked by the spectacular summer festivals which were mainly the work of Father George. During those years the parishioners and especially the school children annually during the month of May marched in procession and crowned the statue of Our Lady in ceremonies either outside or in the church.

In June 1966 Father Jerome A. Szelc was appointed by John Cardinal Dearden to succeed Father Balcer. Father Majewski was appointed assistant at St. Stanislaus Parish.



*FR. VINCENT BALCER
Second Pastor - 1928-1966*

Fr. Balcer rejoiced in the blessing from the Holy Father, John XXIII, extended to him on his 35th Anniversary as Pastor of St. Lawrence Church. He grew old gracefully and he loved you whom he served and helped in so many ways.

Plans were made for the retiring pastor to remain in residence at the rectory. The Supreme Pastor, however, had other plans and Father Vincent Balcer was called from this life just one month later on July 26, 1966. After funeral services on July 30th on which day John Cardinal Dearden officiated and Father Henry Kreft gave the homily the body of Father Vincent was laid to rest in St. Stanislaus Cemetery in Bay City, Mich.

Father Jerome was officially installed as pastor on June 27, 1966 by the Dean of the area, Msgr. Clement Kern. Almost immediately under the zealous and energetic administration of Father Jerome and the cooperation of so many willing workers many changes began to be made, especially those recommended by the Decrees for the Implementation of Vatican Council II and the Detroit Synod. Christmas Day of that year was the day for an almost "miraculous" renovation and transformation of the sanctuary. Participants at Masses that day could not believe the "new appearance" of the interior of the church. The entire sanctuary was brought forward, so that many more could have sight of the altar. The architectural design of the background of straight lines and circles is evident in all the appurtenances, such as the two altars, the credence table, pulpit, president's chair and altar-boy stools, etc. The emphasis on shades of red, amber and yellow colors is noted in the carpeting, the windows and the plexiglass backdrop, which is illuminated by recessed lights.

The statues and shrines which had become so familiar as to be almost unnoticed in their former setting at the side altars were not discarded but were rather given a new honored place in the back of the church where they have the appearance of watching over the congregation during services and bidding a good day as the church empties. The placing of the organ on the south side of the sanctuary caused some consternation, until those aware of liturgical reform realized the necessity of this change for better choral participation and direction. The renovation of the sanctuary was made possible by the generous donations of the Altar Society, the Holy Name Society, the School Children, and individuals and families (a \$1,000 donation, five donations of \$500, and

many smaller ones helped defray the cost of \$7,000.00). The hand-carved statue of the Risen Christ above the tabernacle was the first in the archdiocese and its placement immediately focuses attention on the tabernacle, wherein is our "Living Eucharistic Lord." All new candleabra, processional crucifix, sanctuary lights, tabernacle, ciborium, linens, etc. were gradually obtained through the generosity of parishioners who wanted to contribute to the sanctuary which is so warm, "homey" and conducive to prayer and meditation. The Holy Family Shrine with the wood-carved statue of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was made possible by the proceeds from the Christmas Program given by the school children. The statue of the Infant of Prague, with a selection of vestments, has a prominent place near the organ; it also was donated. Many new vestments for liturgical services have been donated. All renovations and innovations have been in keeping with the spirit of the changes in the liturgy, but consideration has been given to the traditional elements which mean so much to very many of the elderly parishioners.

Within the first year of his pastorate Father Jerome, because of the need of a complete new roof on the church-school building and the repainting of the exterior, this work was done and paid for; the cost \$14,000.00.

The high hopes of providing finer educational facilities for the children of the parish impelled the pastor to seek cooperation from the parishioners and obtain the funds for many improvements in the school. A very contemporary and well-equipped library was made possible through the generosity of parishioners, whose names are inscribed on a Memorial Plaque in that room. It is hoped that with the need of adult Christian education the facilities will be used accordingly, when books and other reading matters are obtained.

In keeping with Vatican II emphasis on lay participation in parish administration, (liturgical, educational and financial and service) a Steering Committee was organized in January 1970 to formulate the Constitution of the St. Lawrence Parish Council. Even though many in the parish indicated no response to all appeals for participation, the following were elected by secret vote by the parishioners to form the First Parish



FR. JEROME A. SZALC
Third Pastor - 1966-1972

Council: Mr. Frank Ruczko, President; Mrs. Frances Berendt, Mr. Joseph Dziak, Mr. Joseph Fryz, Mr. Joseph Kubera, Miss Mary Margaret Mandy (Polando), Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mandy, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ralko, Mr. & Mrs. John Regis, Mrs. Norbert (Eleanor) Stencil, Mr. Robert Warner, and Mr. Ricardo Cruz. From its inception the Parish Council has been an active body and every committee in the Council (Liturgical, Educational, Community Life, Financial) is striving to know and achieve its own objectives. They are seeking better communications between clergy, religious and laity; increased parishioner involvement; and especially, a greater awareness of parochial problems and a response to ease the heavy burdens that were placed on a few individuals. The Council desires to maintain a strong feeling and a close unity for the parish. They want all members to share the true dimensions of "oneness with Christ," that belonging is more than being registered, having envelopes, or giving money; it means that we have the common task to work for Christ and His mission . . . we must work and be active for Christ. Among the numerous improvements that have been made in the short span of five years are the following: a complete new sacristy and work room for sacristan-ladies; a storage room for church supplies; closets for altar boy cassocks; an impressive statue of St. Lawrence on the north side of the main entrance to church and landscaping of the area along with gaslights that constantly are a beacon and guide to all who pass by.

Improvements in the church have been made almost continuously during the past three years; they were made only after sufficient consideration and sufficient funds were available; many of the improvements were made through the voluntary labors of a few parishioners and friends of the pastor who prefer remaining anonymous. Some of the more noticeable works are: new aluminum front doors replacing the original wooden doors; resetting of doors in the main entrance to church which have eased the entry of processions, especially of funerals; the baptistry was relocated in the "cove" near the main entrance and artistically decorated by Father John Krol just a month before he died; new electrical fixtures were installed in sanctuary, the shrines, sacris-

ties and main entrance; the confessionals were made more convenient for individual penitents; a "stained-glass" divider enclosed the old choir area; a pamphlet and book rack was designed, built and installed by one of the parishioners; the statues of the Crucifixion Group, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary were beautifully painted by the offering of the Altar Society. This Golden Jubilee Year has three so-called memorials; a fine Wurlitzer Concert Organ Model 4700, a large Leslie Speaker, and Chimes were purchased for \$5,845; they enrich our worship services and express our prayerful moods. The funds for the purchase of the organ were made possible after the Parish Council suggested that Advent Coin-Folders be distributed for the first time to the parishioners and larger donations be solicited from the Parish Societies and families and individuals. The names of the benefactors and donors are on a special plaque on the wall near the organ.

No less memorable and appreciated will be the beautiful and attractive redecorating of the church interior completed in May. The eight simple but exquisite hand-painted liturgical symbols, as well as the colorful stenciled border, have drawn attention and are a subject of conversation by all visitors to the church. Of necessity and because of an Ordinance of the Public Health Dept., lavatory facilities were constructed in a section of the ushers room at a cost of \$3,000.00. The last two mentioned projects were made possible after recommendation and approval by members of the Parish Council.

The living accommodations for the Sisters of St. Dominic, who have staffed the school since its beginnings, were also taken care of. Without any knowledge of the drastic reforms in convent-living that followed the Vatican Council which has resulted in many large convents today being almost vacant, concern was given to provide adequately for the Sisters here. In 1967 there were six Sisters in residence here. Many new furnishings were obtained for the convent: carpeting for chapel, parlor and community room; all new kitchen and laundry appliances; beds, living room chairs, television, and even an air-conditioner. The large open-spaces next to the convent, once proudly called the "boulevard" by the Sisters, since they used



The combined church and school structure completed in December of 1926 has provided a place for the assembly of the People of God to conduct the liturgical life of the Church and for the religious education of its members.

18-19-

it for recreation, especially roller-skating, now contains the "ceramic studio" to which many youngsters and just as many adults come regularly for classes in the fine work of clay artistry. The Sisters now stationed here are involved in parish apostolates that take them outside the classroom. After the closing of the school was announced, the Parish Council voted to have the Sisters remain if they so desired. The presence of the Nuns in their modified religious habits retains the image of the traditional Catholic parish and they are greatly loved and respected by both young and old.

Parallel to the material accomplishments of the parish are those of a spiritual nature. Indeed, the only purpose for St. Lawrence's Parish is to provide for the best care of the souls of its people. Through all the years there has been evidence that all who sincerely sought the Christian services were given prudent and honest consideration. The number of families who had their children baptized, their dead buried, their spiritual problems heard and often solved, the converts who received their instructions, through the ministry of the priests cannot be totalled. What was and is important: they were all part of the "Family of St. Lawrence Church" and "The Love of the Crucified and Risen Christ" was extended to each one of them.

Since Christian love knows no boundaries, all who today are part of St. Lawrence, will continue to work for Christ and for all who come seeking "The Way, the Truth, and the Life".

SO OUR SPAN OF FIFTY YEARS HAS BEEN RECORDED...

In this our Parish Golden Jubilee Year, it seems fitting that we of St. Lawrence should endeavor to evaluate these years. We could say that, from the material point of view the years have been perhaps a bit disappointing: there has been no magnificent church building erected; the school that tried so hard to educate so very many had to close because of financial setbacks; and possible other accomplishments of which we once dreamed, had to be set aside in the face of time. But let us look a little deeper into the very heart of St. Lawrence Parish. There we find the faithful people whose



Father Jerome and Mr. Carmine Oliverio discuss the Parish Sports Banquets that topped the lively School Athletic Programs.

spirits, though sometimes faltered by disappointments, disharmony, misunderstanding of goals and methods, has triumphed again. There has always been a spirit of sincere and humble generosity of the giving of self and what one was blessed with. So many through the years have offered their hands in labor in parish functions and diocesan level too; so many had the spirit to accept a challenge and head a new committee that had to be organized with the changing times; so many had the spirit which humbles one and brings one to the realization that all things are possible only through the Lord. The fact that we did not see the physical materialization of what once was considered a well-functioning parish does not overshadow the fact that many a wonderful soul prayed with us, worked with us, sacrificed with us. This is the real achievement of St. Lawrence Parish ... the sanctification of its people, the increased spiritual unity among us, and the awareness of total dependence on the One Truly Present among us and in us ... the Risen Living Christ. For these and for all our blessings we do communely offer our humble prayers of thanksgiving to the EVER-LOVING GODHEAD.



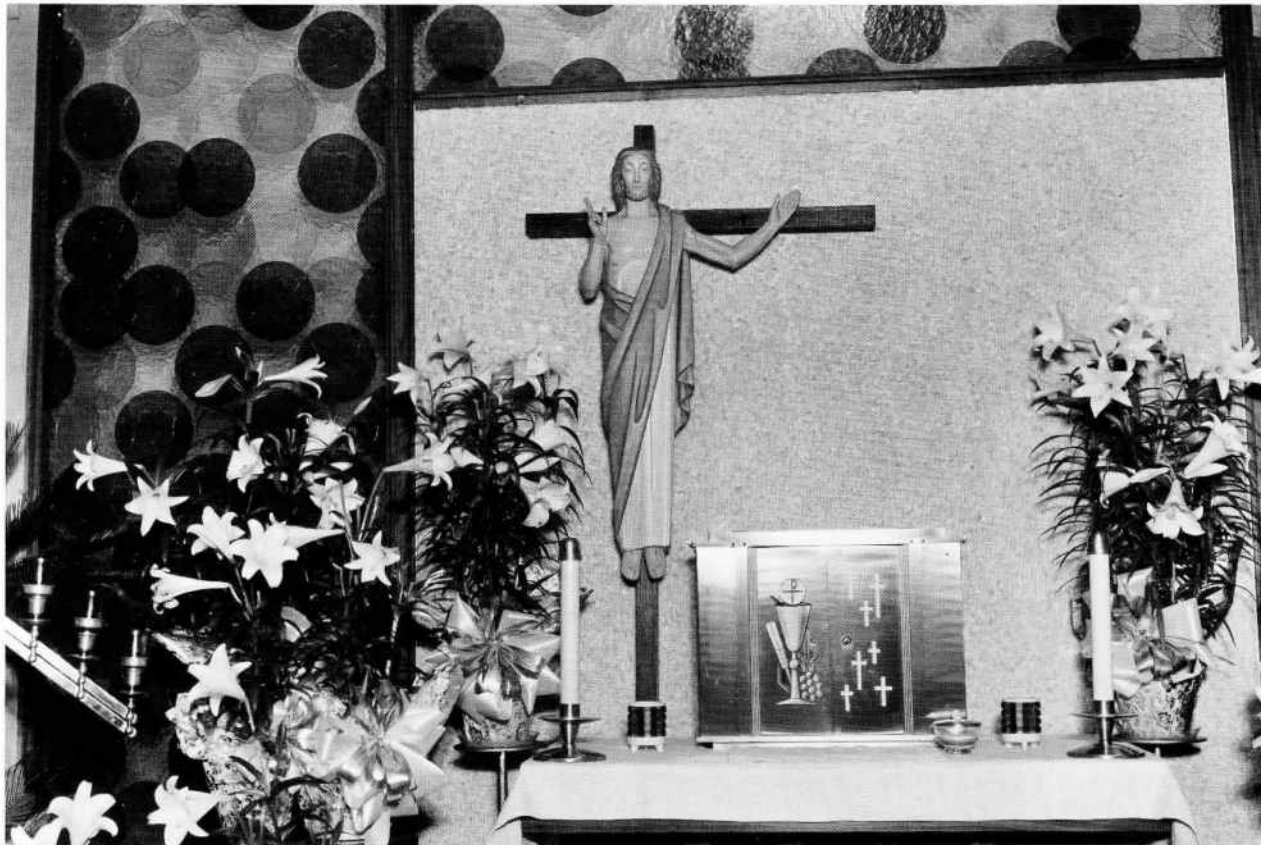
Our Parish Church is the center of our parish living: This empty building is brought to life by Christ's Presence in the Eucharist and in the people who share the Eucharist, forming and informing this community of Christian love and unity.

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Completely remodeled and refurnished Sanctuary designed to bring about a deep sense of participation in all liturgical activities, the center of our parish life.

- 22 -



"The heart of Christ is an immense furnace of love" Abbot Marmion. And the love of our Risen Lord in the Real Presence, so clearly indicated by the tabernacle and the statue, has consumed the hearts of so many of the humble and faithful members of St. Lawrence Parish Family . . . so that through Him we go to the Father.



The Organ – the celestial instrument. The organ console next to the sanctuary permits for better choral and congregational singing. The Infant of Prague Statue invites many to pause and invest a prayer frequently for some personal intention.



The Baptistry – the place for us to be born in Christ. It is here that one is introduced to God's life and the life of the Christian community. "All my life, I will praise the living God, My heart full of joy, I will bless His holy name," because I have been born by water and the Spirit.




Blessing and dedication of Statue of St. Lawrence, Patron of the Parish, by Father Jerome A. Szec on December 8, 1968. Statue designed and executed by Gino of Oxford, Michigan of fiberglass. It is a tribute to those of the parish who died in the service of our country. Altar boys are: Deric Buzanowski and Daniel Kus.



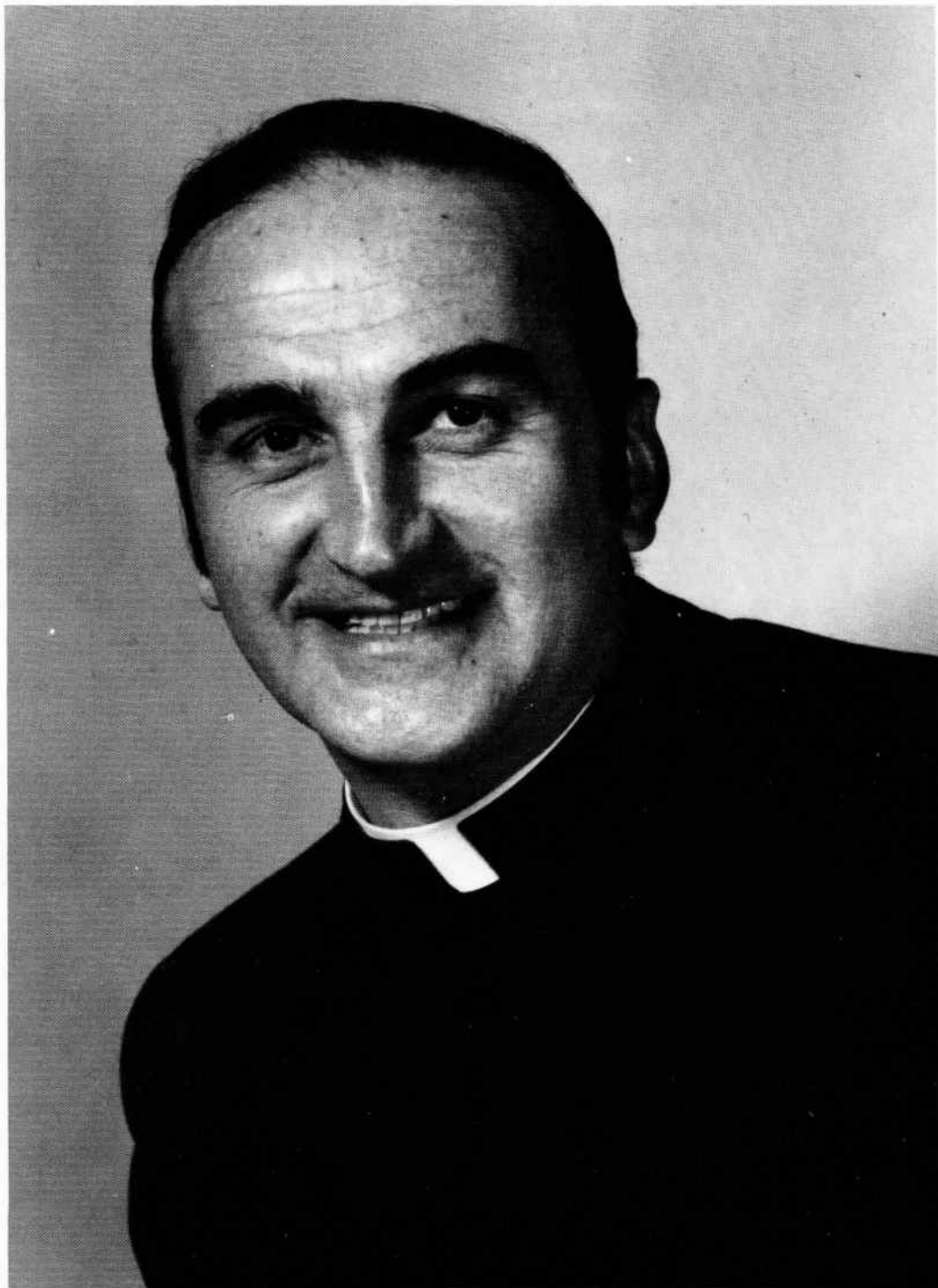
Holy Family Shrine: to the honor of Christ, the Divine Son of God; the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Our Savior St. Joseph, Carpenter of Nazareth, Foster Father of Jesus, Husband of Mary – the Family which is the Model for each member of God's Family in St. Lawrence Parish. Many stop here daily to kneel and pray privately.

GOD + BLESS YOU

MAY EVERY
GOOD AND
PERFECT GIFT
COME TO YOU
FROM OUR
HEAVENLY
FATHER
THROUGH
JESUS
CHRIST
OUR HIGH
PRIEST...




ST. LAWRENCE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Served to stimulate parish spirit, planned and cooperated for the success of this 50th Year Celebration, SEATED LEFT TO RIGHT: Nellie Joswick, Anna Fuchs, Father Jerome A. Szele, Bruno Cypress - Assistant Chairman, Sister Clare Genevieve, O.P., SECOND ROW: Paul Mandy, Ruth Mandy-Secretary, Chester Hojnicky, Frank Ruczko-Raffle Ticket Chairman, Lucille Wilemon-Parish Historian, Marcella Cypress-Jubilee Book Advertising/Patron Chairman, Joseph Henn, Sr.; THIRD ROW: Eleanor Stencel, Delphine Jaskulka, Barbara Henn, Joe Henn, Jr., Doris Henn-Assistant Chairman, Patricia Ralko-Jubilee Book Advertising-Patron Chairman, Eugene Ruczko. ABSENT: Joseph Kubera-Jubilee Celebration Chairman, Eugene Kowalski-Jubilee Dinner Ticket Chairman, Jane Kowalski-Decoration Co-Chairman, Adele Szostak-Decoration Co-Chairman.



FR. STANLEY A. KASPRZYK
Pastor - 1972



FIRST TRUSTEES OF ST. LAWRENCE PARISH – 1922: LEFT TO RIGHT: Rudolph Lapointe, Anthony Schneider, Father Raymond F. Buhl (newly ordained friend of Pastor), Father Leo Von Mach, John Gruber, Henry Malesky.



FIRST USHERS CLUB OF ST. LAWRENCE PARISH – Father Raymond Buhl and Father Leo Von Mach



CHURCH PICNIC in summer of 1926 held on the corner of Ford & Miller Roads, Profits were over \$8,000.

Remember When?



In 1929 the St. Lawrence School Orchestra increased to 21 members. Note no drummer.



THE SOUND OF MUSIC came forth from the School Orchestra in 1928. Whom do you recognize?

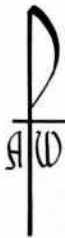




STYLES ARE ALWAYS NEW: Here two Sodality Members, Justine Iapointe (Lip-tack) and Monica Grulikowski pose at the picnic.

St. Lawrence School



Take Time . . .



- Take Time to THINK . . .
It is the source of power.
- Take Time to PLAY . . .
It is the secret of perpetual youth.
- Take Time to READ . . .
It is the fountain of wisdom.
- Take Time to PRAY . . .
It is the greatest power on earth.
- Take Time to LOVE and BE LOVED . . .
It is a God-given privilege.
- Take Time to BE FRIENDLY . . .
It is the road to happiness.
- Take Time to LAUGH . . . 
It is the music of the soul.
- Take Time to GIVE . . . 
It is too short a day to be selfish.
- Take Time to WORK . . .
It is the price of success.
- Take Time to DO CHARITY . . .
It is the key to heaven.

Even as St. Lawrence Church was still in the planning stages, the need of a school was apparent. In 1925, Father Leo Von Mach obtained permission from the Chancery to start plans for a school, if he could show that he had the moral and financial backing of the parish. The original trustees, Mr. Anthony Schnieder, Mr. Rudolf LaPointe, Mr. Henry Malesky and Mr. John Gruber were assigned the task of obtaining monetary pledges to help defray the cost. The annual report for 1926, shows that pledges of over \$13,000 had been obtained and that the building itself had been created.

The school opened in September, 1927 with an enrollment of almost three hundred students. It was staffed by the Sisters of St. Dominic from Adrian, Mich., with Sisters Grace Eleanor as principal, Sister M. Cecelia, music teacher and seven more teaching nuns. By December of the first year, Sister Cecelia had already formed a junior orchestra capable of performing in the school's Christmas Program. At the end of this program, Father Von Mach told the orchestra members and others present, that he would be willing to forego two of his three daily meals a day, to keep music study in the school and all he would ask in return was an occasional chance to hear the musicians perform.

In 1928, the first Commencement Exercises were held with eight pupils graduating. School enrollment however, increased with the years, so that by 1936 there were sixty pupils in the graduating class. It was this year that a ninth grade was added to the school. The intentions were to add a class each year until a full twelve year school curriculum was offered. In 1937 a tenth grade was added, but during the year word was received from the Chancery that any new High Schools were to be for a consolidated area rather than a single parish. In 1938, therefore, St. Lawrence School returned to strictly elementary education.

In the late fifties, the mothers of the pupils, with the approval of Sister Grace Eileen, school principal, became involved in assisting in school affairs, especially in ex-



FIRST GRADUATION CLASS OF ST. LAWRENCE SCHOOL, 1928 – FIRST ROW: Irene Rickinger, Lillian Protasiewicz, Father Leo Von Mach, Edwin Gruber, Marion Robacheski, SECOND ROW: Lucille Henn, Evelyn Becker, Ruth Otto, Mary McCaffery and Theresa Kalish. (Lucille prepared the Parish History for this Jubilee Book).



GRADUATING CLASS OF 1971 – ST. LAWRENCE SCHOOL. Only 24 students can say that they were the last graduating class of the school. The smiles are on their faces, but many parents had heavy hearts on that evening. Father Jerome and Judy Zionchek of course are not members of the class; they gave the spiritual and intellectual help.

tra curricular activities for the pupils. The first leaders in this group were: Mrs. Ruth Mandy, Mrs. Marie Groneau and Mrs. Jennie Kujat. Although the Mothers Club had not as yet been officially organized, this group laid the ground work for parent participation in the formal education of the children and led in many extra activities which the nuns alone had been unable to provide.

By 1960, the Mothers Club became officially organized. Mrs. Virginia Bartos was elected first president with Mrs. Marcella Cypress and Mrs. Mildred Kaleniecki as fellow officers. The Mothers Club sponsored the first of the Parish Festivals as well as many other money making projects. Through their efforts pupils of St. Lawrence School had the advantage of not only well-equipped classrooms, but also the participation in many interesting "field trips." The best remembered of these, perhaps, was the annual train ride to Durand, Mich. with Father Balcer as engineer. The most expensive expenditure was the purchase and installation of 8 Television sets for Archdiocesan closed-circuit TV.

After seven years, the Mothers Club was changed to the Parent-Teacher Guild so that the fathers, too could become active members. Mr. Gerald Hien was elected the first president. The P.T.G., like the Mothers Club, maintained as its primary purpose, the improvement of school facilities and opportunities. It was through the efforts of the P.T.G. that one of the third floor rooms was converted into a school library, fully furnished, with books suitable for study, research and pleasure.

One of the first things that Father Jerome sought and achieved was establishment of a school board in 1967, to help with school policy and administration. The lay members of the board were elected by the parishioners, the first such board including: President; Mr. Henry Kus; Mr. Jos. Fryz; Mrs. Irene Kajder; Mrs. Frances Berendt; Mrs. Armand Matte; Mrs. Eugene Kowalski and Mr. Stanley Rakowski. Theirs was indeed a most difficult job, coming as it did, at a time when the cost of education had risen to such a degree, that the tuition covered only a small portion of the actual expense. School enrollment too had fallen with the move to the suburbs of many of the younger

parishioners. The school Board offered several plans for financing the school, including an accepted tuition plan which called for a minimum offering of five dollars a week from all parents of pupils and a voluntary increase in contributions from all parishioners. Even this increase did not produce enough revenue to cover expenses of the school.

The passage of a bill which would provide for financial aid to Parochial schools in Michigan, brought new hope that St. Lawrence School could continue to function. However, in 1970, this bill was declared unconstitutional by the passage of the now famous Proposal C, in spite of the tireless efforts of many parochial school advocates. And St. Lawrence School, like many others in the archdiocese was forced to close its doors.

On June 18, 1971, twenty four pupils received their elementary graduation diplomas in the forty-third and final Commencement Exercises at St. Lawrence. The school had served its parish well and many a tear was shed in making and accepting the decision that it must close. Over two thousand former pupils recall with nostalgia their years at St. Lawrence — not only the four R's but also the extras that make childhood the magic thing it is — the yearly visit of Santa on the last day before Christmas vacation — the report cards given out by Father Balcer, always with his huge dog accompanying him — the special nine o'clock children's Mass — The Guitar "Folk" Masses — The Bob-Lo trip for Altar Boys and Service Girls — The Class Picnics in the Park across the Road — the ADF essay contests — the first time the nuns appeared with the familiar white habit ten inches off the floor — the Sisters in their Ford Station Wagon — the science fairs and its blue ribbons — the presentation of the American Flag that had flown over the Capitol Bldg. in Washington, D.C. by congressman J. Dingell and all the other memories of school days. So, although the school itself has closed, its influence remains for those two thousand persons who received their formal academic and religious education within its walls. They are surely better men and women for having had the privilege of attending St. Lawrence School...



In 1967 Father Jerome gave FIRST HOLY COMMUNION to 48 boys and girls of the parish. They know that GOD IS THE BEST OF EVERYTHING and they live in union with God's Family through frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist.



First Communion Class of Jubilee Year 1972: Father Jerome, Sister Clare Genevieve and Eleanor Stencel and the parents prepared these little ones to COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE and BE FED ON THE BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS.



"The Hall" – a most familiar, utilized and criticized place, which in its early years served as the parish church and after that for all kinds of getherings of adults, teens and children . . . meetings, programs, school activities, socials, bazaars, etc. Many memories are contained within the walls of this "still standing" memento.



A joyous moment at Christmastime for the Pastor and Santa Claus, with his favorite boy David Cowart. Annually the children are remembered during this time, by P.R.E.P.

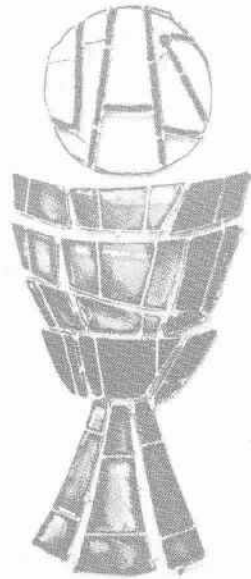


The Jubilarian, Father Vincent Balcer, as well as his priest-friends, absorbed in looking over the program honoring the pastor's 45th Anniversary in the Priesthood.



AT FR. F. BALCER'S 45th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION: Pleasant faces of genuine parishioners reflect their respect for the Catholic priesthood, June 27, 1965.

Priests Who Served St. Lawrence Parish



In its fifty years St. Lawrence Parish has been most fortunate in having the service of many dedicated priests. Each gave generously of himself just as the Divine Master insists from those whom He calls to be His disciples. Each added greatly to the spiritual and community growth and well-being of the parish.

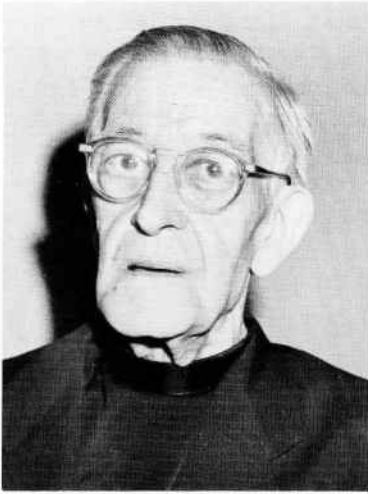
The three pastors, whose leadership has spanned the fifty years, have perhaps contributed more than any other individuals in the formation, growth and continuity of the parish structure and family. Because of them the parish was a warm, inspiring, protecting reality. Parishioners have felt that the parish was where they belonged, that these pastors loved them and cared about them . . . that their pastors knew their responsibilities and in a sense "were wedded" to this particular parish.

Father Leo Von Mach, the founder and first pastor, came originally from Ruth, Michigan, a rural Thumb Area town, and encouraged the parishioners of this newly found parish to take a personal active part in the planning of that parish. Father Von Mach left St. Lawrence pastorate for St. John the Evangelist on the E. Grand Blvd. of Detroit, in May, 1928. He died eleven years later on February 17, 1939.

Father Vincent Balcer was pastor of St. Lawrence from June 2, 1928 until poor health demanded retirement in June, 1972. Father Balcer was born in Bay City, Mich. on December 30, 1894 and attended school there, graduating from St. James High School. Later he attended St. Cyril & Methodius, Orchard Lake and Mount St. Mary Seminary, Norwood, Ohio. Ordained June 27, 1920, his first assignment was at St. John Parish in Ubyly. He also served as secretary to Bishop Plagens, and was assistant at Sweetest Heart of Mary and pastor of Our Lady Help of Christians. Father Balcer was uncompromising in his beliefs and was sometimes mistakenly looked upon as unduly strict and even unfeeling. However, a closer look proved him compassionate and most willingly helpful. He is most affectionately remembered for his acts of personal kindness and charity, his interest and love of steam-locomotives, and his "according to Hoyle" pinochle playing. Father Balcer died on Tuesday morning, July 26, 1966 and on Saturday a Requiem High Mass was celebrated by Most Rev. John F. Dearden, Archbishop of Detroit.

Father Jerome A. Szalc, the present pastor, is a native Detroiter; in fact a true West Sider for his family were members in the neighboring parish of St. Stephen. He attended St. Stephen Grade School and St. Casimir High School before enrolling at the University of Detroit. He took his philosophy courses at St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake and completed his theological studies at St. Mary's Seminary, Norwood, Ohio. He was ordained in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral by Edward Cardinal Mooney on October 26, 1946. His assignments were: St. Florian Church, Hamtramck; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Emmett; Assumption West, Detroit; St. Luke, Detroit; Ascension, Warren; Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Detroit. St. Law-

Former Assistants



REV. JAMES R. JOHNSON



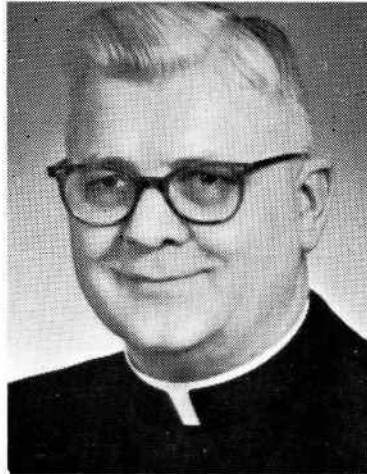
MSGR. THOMAS A. JOBS



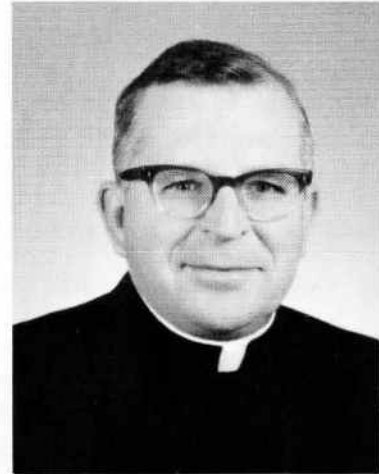
REV. LASALLE M. LENK



REV. BOGUSLAUS T. POZNANSKI



REV. EDWARD KALINOWSKI



MSGR. ARTHUR M. KAREY



REV. HENRY S. KREFT



REV. JOSEPH F. KERNOSEK



REV. GEORGE MAJEWSKI

REV. LEO MALKOWSKI - No Picture Available

JS

rence is his first pastorate. Father Szelc has endeared himself to the people through his gentle leadership in all manners, but most especially in his sincere and fervent celebration of the Liturgy. He constantly shows a deep concern for the spiritual welfare of all his people and he is willing to assist all in attaining a better life in time and in eternity. The physical renewal of the St. Lawrence Parish facilities under Fr. Jerome's initiative are described in the history of the parish. Father Jerome from the very beginning of his assignment here has promoted organizations to foster cooperation and betterment of all church ministries. He is responsible for the organization of the School Board within the first year here. All parents of school children could be involved through membership in the Parent Teacher Guild. The children and youth are not forgotten as Father encourages all programs (sports, social, educational) which demand adult supervision for good Christian upbringing. A great joy to Father is the "50 Up Club," the group of "senior citizens" who enjoy the activities that keep them mindful that they do belong to the parish and are still very important.

Father Jerome began the publication of the Parish Weekly Bulletin which he edits personally. The use of Missalettes for Liturgical functions, the improved congregational singing, the Eucharistic Days and Marian Devotions, the evening Masses, the meaningful Holy Week and Easter Services, the unique and inspiring Nativity Scene, the religious banners, are only a few of the means that have become such an important part in the life of the parishioners and this all through the primary efforts of Father Jerome. The greatest smile on Father's face is when he has a large attendance at any church function and even more so when there are very many recipients of Holy Communion at Mass. The preparation of children for First Holy Communion is so vital that Father interviews and interrogates each child individually.

No one knows how much sadness was in the heart of Father Jerome when it became necessary because of financial circumstances and small enrollment to accept the Cardinal's notice that St. Lawrence School would have to close with so very many other schools in the Archdiocese. Fortunately, al-

most 70% of the children who attended school here are enrolled in neighboring Catholic schools. A very well organized Parish Religious Education Program now takes care of most of the youngsters attending a public school. It is with the cooperation of the parents of these children that enables to maintain a fine Christian community spirit and family-centered religion. Constant focus is made to need celebrate God at home before faith can be alive anywhere else. Adult religious education is Father's painstaking concern at this time. When questioned about his priesthood in these days of confusion and criticism of the Church and clergy, Father Jerome expressed his desire to keep alive the "sensus Catholicus" among all his people and to strive to be a priest as a priest of Christ ought to be: a man of God, of prayer, of work, of dedication to the things of God for the happiness of man.

The three pastors were each supported in their pastoral ministry by priests, some of whom were assigned as residents in the rectory and others coming from other assigned duties permitting them to give week-end help to the parish.

The first of these priests was **Father William Rogers** who taught at the University of Detroit during the week. For close to ten years, from 1926 to 1936, Father Rogers helped in this manner. **Father James R. Johnson** was appointed on August 18, 1928 as assistant in residence. He remained until 1943, officiating at most of the weddings, funerals and baptisms during those years. After leaving St. Lawrence, Father "Jimmie" became chaplain at Memorial Hospital, Chattanooga, Tenn., where in 1969 he was awarded the Bene Merenti Medal, a Papal award, conferred for diligent and dedicated work and devotion to the sick.

Father Thomas A. Jobs, now Monsignor Jobs, was assigned to St. Lawrence in July, 1937 and remained until June, 1944. Monsignor Jobs' name became very familiar to all in the Archdiocese when he was Director of the Office of the Propagation of the Faith from 1947 until 1963 and lived at Holy Trinity Parish in "Corktown". Through those years he continued his friendship with many of the people of St. Lawrence Church and still returns for many special occasions. He finds it easy and a pleasure to reminisce

PRESENT
WEEK-END ASSISTANT



REV. JOHN SCHNEIDER, C.S.S.R.

FORMER ASSISTANT



REV. JOHN KROL



Sons of the Parish



REV. PETER BERENDT, C.P.



REV. JAMES E. BATES



FRIAR ROGER KAMINSKI, O.F.M. Conv.

about the "wonderful times" when he was at St. Lawrence. After a short pastorate at Our Lady of Refuge Parish, Orchard Lake, Michigan, Monsignor Jobs returned to the "big city" and presently is pastor of the Church of the Resurrection on the East side of Detroit.

Father Boguslaus T. Poznanski came to the parish in June, 1943, but stayed only until December, 1944 when he entered as chaplain in the U. S. Naval Service. Father Poznanski is presently pastor of Sweetest Heart of Mary Church, Detroit.

When Father Poznanski joined the Navy, **Father LaSalle Lenk** became the new assistant and some months later was joined by **Father Malkowski**, who together served the people diligently for about five years. Father Lenk remained at St. Lawrence until 1949 and at present is pastor of the Church of St. Germaine in St. Clair Shores.

Father Arthur M. Karey, now Monsignor Karey, served at St. Lawrence from 1949 until 1952. In 1950, **Father Henry Kreft** became a second resident assistant. Father Arthur and Father Henry were especially interested in the young people of the parish and the Club Laurentian flourished under their combined leadership. Father Kreft left St. Lawrence in 1955 and is now pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Auburn Hights, Michigan. From 1955 on the parish began to decrease in membership and the shortage of priests was becoming already acute in this diocese, and so only one assistant could be given for a parish of this size. **Father Edward F. Kalinowski**, affectionately remembered as "Father Kali," had a short appointment here. He is now deceased, having passed away at 59 years of age, while pastor of St. Raphael Parish in Garden City, Mich.

Father Joseph F. Kernosek, ordained in 1946 and best remembered as Father Joe, followed for the next five years. His tremendous sense of humor and joviality aided him in his priestly work which he shouldered so well. Even though he is now pastor the of famous "Labor Day Weekend Festival" sponsored by his parish of St. Aloysius in Romulus, Mich. Fr. Joe is still a familiar face at many St. Lawrence Parish functions. His exuberance and "new youthfulness" make him feel most welcome in the parish.

The last appointed by the Chancery in-residence assistant pastor was Father **George Majewski**, who remained until June, 1966. He was transferred to St. Stanislaus Church, Detroit, where he died at a relatively young age (only 18 yrs. in Priesthood) suddenly while at sleep in 1970. He will be always remembered for his concern for all in the parish and particularly for the elderly confined shut-ins of the parish. Father edited the monthly parish publication, **The Laurentian**, with the assistance of many who submitted articles and reports for publication. His frequent enjoyment of a good cigar added to his capable administratorship, which he fulfilled during the illness of Father Belcer.

For many years the Redemptorist Fathers from Holy Redeemer Parish willingly helped out on week-ends or giving Missions, Retreats and Forty Hour Devotions at St. Lawrence. Among them three of the most recognized are: **Father John Schneider**, **Father Dave Shannon**, and **Father Joseph Dustin**, the famous "banjo" priest. Of course, Father John Schneider is the most familiar because he has almost continuously for the past four years so graciously responded to Father Jerome's invitation for help. Father John will always remember the tribute paid to him on the Golden Anniversary of his ordination in 1970 by the people of St. Lawrence. A very thrilling moment was the presentation of the Apostolic Blessing from the Holy Father, Pope Paul VI at the Mass. Mention must also be made that the Franciscan Conventual Fathers from St. Anthony Monastery on Vernor Hwy. and the Marion Fathers from Iroquois Ave. Mission House were often ministering to the spiritual needs of the parishioners. Only one year was enjoyed by **Father John Krol** here at St. Lawrence. Fr. John, a very learned and talented man of God, who suffered heavily in the concentration camp during World War II came to Detroit to serve in many parishes before he came to St. Lawrence, where he really felt at home. His profound sermons, especially stressing the teachings of Christ according to St. Paul, were most powerful. He spoke fluently in seven languages and could read and understand five more. He suffered a heart attack on June 10, 1969 and was laid to rest with services at St. Lawrence and burial in the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Sons of the Parish

IN A SPECIAL SERVICE OF THE LORD

Reverend Father Peter Berendt, C. P.

The son of Harry Berendt and the late Frances Berendt. Father Peter attended St. Lawrence School graduating in 1942. He was ordained as a member of the Passionist Congregation on May 23, 1957 and offered his First Solemn Mass in St. Lawrence Church. Father Peter taught in the Passionist Seminary in Missouri, before being appointed director of Christ the King Retreat Center in Citrus Heights, California in 1969.

Reverend Father James E. Bates

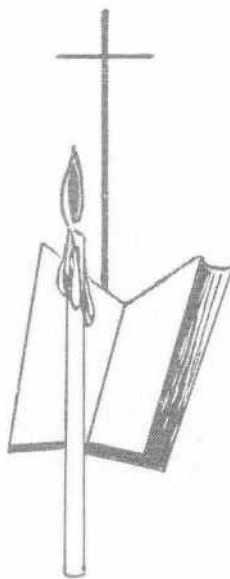
The son of Enoch L. and Josephine C. Bates, St. Lawrence parishioners for 40 years. Father Jim was baptized in St. Lawrence in April, 1941 by Father Balcer, and graduated from St. Lawrence School. He attended Sacred Heart and St. John's Seminaries and was ordained for the Archdiocese of Detroit by John Cardinal Dearden. He celebrated his First Solemn Mass at St. Lawrence Church on June 6, 1966. His first assignment was assistant at St. Philip Neri Parish. At present Father Bates is working as Counselor and Resource Personnel at Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South High Schools.

Friar Roger S. Kaminski, O.F.M. Conv.

The son of Julia and the late Leo Kaminski. Roger attended St. Lawrence School through the eighth grade and graduated from St. Hedwig High School in 1967. He was received into the clerical state in the Order of Friars Minor Conventuals (Franciscans) on November 24, 1971 at Regis College, Willowbrook, Ontario. Roger is a graduate from Loyola University in Chicago. He is now a theologian and is working toward a Masters Degree in Guidance and Counseling.

Reverend Father Raymond F. Buhl

Pastor Emeritus of St. Mary Magdalen, Melvindale, Mich. Even though not a member of the parish, Father Buhl offered his first Solemn Mass after ordination in St. Lawrence Church at the invitation of Fr. Von Mach.



Daughters of the Parish

IN A SPECIAL SERVICE OF THE LORD

Sister Mary Doris, I. H. M.

Sister Doris, formerly Agnes Henn, is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter Henn. Sister entered the Immaculate Heart of Mary Convent in Monroe, Mich, in 1929. She has taught elementary and high school pupils in numerous Michigan, Ohio and Puerto Rico schools. Sister Doris is presently working in the administrative office of the Hall of the Divine Child School in Monroe, Michigan.

Sister Rochelle Krasnodemski, O. P.

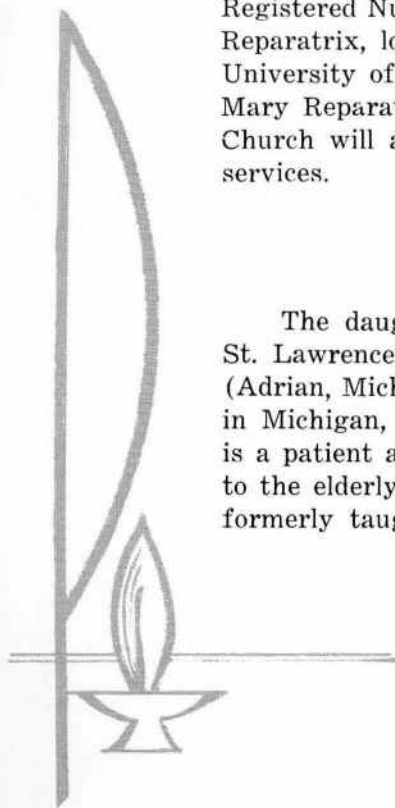
Sister Rochelle, formerly Mary Jane, is the daughter of Boleslaus Krasnodemski and the late Louise. Sister entered the Adrian Dominican Congregation on September 8, 1964 and took her first Religious Profession on August 6, 1966. She is presently enrolled at the Providence Hospital School of Medical Technology.

Sister Barbara Urda, S. M. R.

The daughter of Mr. Joseph Urda and the late Phedora, Sister graduated from St. Lawrence School in 1956 and from Holy Redeemer High School in 1960. She graduated from Providence School of Nursing as a Registered Nurse in 1963. She was for some years in the Convent of Mary Reparatrix, located in Cincinnati, Ohio, but at present is attending the University of Detroit. The singing by sixteen Sisters from the Order of Mary Reparatrix at her mother's Mass of Resurrection in St. Lawrence Church will always be remembered by those who were present for the services.

Sister Mary Clara Booker, O. P.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Booker, Gertrude attended St. Lawrence School and has been a Sister of the Dominican Order (Adrian, Mich.) for thirty-seven years. She has taught in various schools in Michigan, Illinois, New Mexico, and other locations. At present she is a patient at the Infirmary in Adrian, but spends many hours tending to the elderly nuns there, including Sister Louis and Sister Cecelia, who formerly taught at St. Lawrence School.



Daughters of the Parish



SISTER MARY DORIS HENN, I.H.M.



SISTER BARBARA URDA, S.M.R.



SISTER ROCHELLE KRASNODEMSKI, O.P.



SISTER MARY BOOKER



Keys to the 1964 Station Wagon presented to Sister Rose Clare, O.P. on October 27, 1964. Car was the gift of 32 donors. In picture also Father George Majewski, Mr. Eugene Kowalski and Mr. John Grybb.

Sisters of the Adrian, Michigan Dominicans

Sister Mary Diane McMeekin
Sister Mary Theophilus
Sister Jane Elizabeth
Sister Ann Xavier
Sister Ann Joseph
Sister Grace Eileen
Sister Agnes James
Sister Mary Lucina
Sister Rosemary Ferguson
Sister Paul Therese
Sister Richard Marie
Sister Barbara Cervenka
Sister Loretta Ruedisueli
Sister Mary Cecilia
Sister Marie Damien Schoenlein
Sister Marie Michael Sebol
Sister Marie Angela Scheonhofen
Sister Marie Merici Valgai
Sister Mary Bertram
Sister Agnes Gertrude
Sister Therese Cecil
Sister Mary Seraphica
Sister Matthew Marie
Sister Geraldine Maloney
Sister Therese McCall
Sister Therese Nightingale
Sister Virginia Corley
Sister Carol Fleming
Sister Thomas Josephine Lawler
Sister Rose Therese Audretsch
Sister Anita Marie Schmitt
Sister Ann Milicent Thomas
Sister Mary Lambert Juergens
Sister Joan Marie Meidingen
Sister Ann Louise Tatreau
Sister Rose Pauline
Sister Bernice Ann
Sister Mary Stephen
Sister Francis Michael
Sister Mary Austin

WHO TAUGHT AT ST. LAWRENCE SCHOOL
AND ARE NOW STATIONED ELSEWHERE



... Our most sincere thanks to all the living members of the Dominican Sisters and our prayers for all those who have NOW to rejoice in the Lord . . . for the years of dedication and service rendered to the people of St. Lawrence Parish.

*Adrian Dominicans established in 1892
NOW celebrating their 80th Anniversary*

*Our joys surge to jubilee
As we honor what is consummate:
More than the years –
Time – in – Eternity.*

Sister Maria Amabilis, O.P.

Cardinal Cushing at St. Lawrence Parish



Richard Cardinal Cushing loved all children. Here a "little one" from St. Lawrence Parish gives respect to this "great man of the Church." Father Balcer and Father George were most elated with this "special priest-guest."



A CARDINAL AND A PASTOR: Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston listens to his very close friend, Father Vincent Balcer, utter some intriguing remark.

SOME STATISTICS

Often times, statistics can be stark and cold. Sometimes, though, our imagination and reflection can warm them appreciably. Hopefully the bare statistics listed below will cause all of us to breathe a fervent, "Thank You, Lord, for letting me be a child of St. Lawrence's Parish Family."

Number of Baptisms from 1922 through 1972 — 7,070
Number of Marriages from 1922 through 1972 — 2,140
Number of Funerals from 1922 through 1972 — 1,510

First Baptism: Jerry Francis Duggan, son of Jeremiah and Julia (Monaghan) Duggan of 5400 Elmer on July 16, 1922 by Fr. Leo Von Mach.

First Twins Baptism: Leo and Leona Gruber, children of John and Elizabeth (Reckinger) Gruber, born February 3 and baptized February 15, 1925 named in honor of Father Leo Von Mach.

First Marriage: William Schall and Mary Ann Lach on August 7, 1922.

First Funeral: Floyd Gilbert, age 14, son of David & Anna, on May 10, 1922, with burial in Holy Cross Cemetery. Fr. Von Mach officiating.

Matilda Kummer, age 27, on June 2, 1928, with burial in Holy Cross Cemetery and officiating at services was Father Balcer, second Pastor.

John Liss, age 48, husband of Genevieve, on Aug. 30, 1966. First funeral service conducted by third pastor, Fr. Jerome A. Szalc.

First Altar Boys: Max Schnieder, Charles Blake and Steve Hamernick.
Organists: 1922-72: Miss Schipper, Miss Mabel Teevin, Mrs. Schneider, Miss Kathy Klebba (now Mrs. Bolan), Miss Barbara Grybb (now Mrs. Colbeck), Miss Mary Margaret Mandy (now Mrs. Colin Polando), Mrs. Mary Harhold, Miss Rosemary Troyan, Miss Ruth Rash, and Mr. Ralph Ivey.

Maintenance Men: Mr. Alfred Benninger, Mr. Paul Mandy.

Nothing quite so well measures the spiritual vitality of a parish family as the frequency with which its members nourish themselves on the Body and Blood of Christ. No statistics for this available; only God and very few souls know how often one has received Holy Communion from the day of one's First Holy Communion.

Servicemen's Memorial



A life-size statue of St. Lawrence, the young deacon who died for his loyalty to Christ after being burned on the gridiron, and the bronze engraved plaque attached to a stone base and standing prominently on the front lawn of St. Lawrence Church, is the MEMORIAL donated by the parents, Edward & Maryanne, family and friends of Pfc. Marine David J. Gronau. The memorial is in his memory and all St. Lawrence sons who died in U. S. Service.

A lifelong Detroit resident, David attended St. Lawrence Elementary School and was a 1966 graduate of Holy Redeemer High School, where he played football and baseball. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in April, 1967 and arrived in Vietnam Sept. 14. He was killed by a Viet Cong grenade, one month and a day after he arrived in Vietnam, October 15, 1967.

He was buried with full Military Services after church liturgy on October 30, 1967 in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

The statue was blessed by Father Jerome Szelc, Pastor, in the presence of many parishioners and with the services of men from the Sgt. Romanowski Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, on Sunday, Dec. 8, 1968 — the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of our country.

OTHERS FROM THE PARISH WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY ARE:

T5 Peter Henn, age 23, on August 13, 1943 at Camp Campbell, Ky.
Pfc. Alfred Raby, age 28, on August 28, 1943 in the Mediterranean.
Pfc. Walter Kielb, age 20, on June 22, 1944 in Saipan.
Pfc. James Martin, age 21, on July 15, 1944.
Pfc. Frank Balcer, on August 18, 1944.
Pfc. Edward Dzickowski, age 22, on October 20, 1944 in Italy.
Pfc. Ermelindo Falsetti, age 28, on October 25, 1944.
Pfc. Murle Knight, on January 27, 1945 at Luxemburg.
Pfc. Thomas Malloy, age 23, on April 17, 1945 in Italy.
Elec. 3rd Class Eugene Popek, age 19, on May 11, 1945 at Okinawa.
Pfc. John Gabel, age 27, on June 2, 1945.
Pfc. Edward Dryovage.
Seaman 3rd Class Ernest Witwer, age 18 on September 14, 1956
at Hutchinson, Kansas.

OUR PARISH IS NOTED FOR A TRULY APOSTOLIC SPIRIT IN ITS ORGANIZATIONS

Every parish is measured by the spirit of its parishioners and is, indeed, a reflection of that spirit.

When that spirit is illustrated by devotion of parishioners to many spiritual and apostolic endeavors it is a tribute to all who are members of the parish. St. Lawrence Parish has been noted for a fine, generous and fruitful spirit. It has provided for the necessities of the parish and cooperated always with all Archdiocesan projects and programs. The missions of the Church throughout the world have received immeasurably from the contributions of this spirit. The organizations of the parish even to this day, when the image of the parish is changing, are recognized for their help, cooperation and assistance.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This organization is concerned with helping people meet problems that arise from everyday life — offering spiritual and financial assistance as needed.

Those in real need are advised to make use of the resources that the community and city provides. Even though not very active at this time, through many years Mr. Frank Schmitz was very active and Mr. Louis Liptak from 1959 to 1969. Prayerfully the efforts of Mr. Joe Fryz, Mr. Joe Henn, and Mr. Chet Chojnicki will help to bring this vital group to activity.

USHERS CLUB

The St. Lawrence Ushers Club was organized in 1922, the same year the parish itself was formed. The Club records for 1923 thirty-one members with John Gruber, President. Two of the charter members, George Reckinger and Louis Liptak, have retained their membership until the present. Both are now on the Honoracy Roll.

The first official by-laws of the club published in 1923 include two in particular, which reflect the true aim and purpose of the group: The Ushers were organized for the

welfare of the St. Lawrence Parish and to work with and under the direction of the Pastor. Secondly, the group take actual charge of preserving order in and around the church during all services.

It is to the credit of the members, past and present, that these objectives have been followed with gratifying success. Throughout the years, the ushers have performed their assigned duties with quiet dignity and for the comfort of all the parishioners as a whole.

In 1972 the Ushers Club, while still retaining its original identity and purposes, became a part of the Men's Club of St. Lawrence.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Although the date of the official organization of this group in the parish is not known, it very probably was established at the same time as the Ushers Club, for in addition to their duties as Ushers, the members were urged to receive Holy Communion in a body monthly and generally carried out the functions of the Holy Name Society from the beginning. The objectives are to promote greater devotion to the Holy Name of God and of Jesus Christ and for closer family participation in the Mass and reception of the Eucharist. The spiritual advantages of membership are many. The Society has always been concerned about the youth in the parish and so has through the years been the financial and moral backbone for youth athletic programs. It sponsors the Little League and T-Ball Teams for all neighborhood boys, many of whom come from homes without any religious church affiliation. What better way is there to build Christian community and help the man of tomorrow? The Holy Name is now one of the branches of the Newly organized Men's Club of St. Lawrence Parish.

LADIES ALTAR SOCIETY

The Altar Society offers the women in our parish a focal point in expressing their



ST. LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL – to May, 1972: Enabling the People of God, Pastor, Priests, Religious and Laity to share in the many facets of parish life. SEATED AT TABLE (L. to R.): Frank S. Ruczko – First President of Council; Father Jerome A. Szelc, Pastor, Mrs. Paul (Ruth) Mandy – First Council Secretary; Joseph Henn, Sr., Joseph Dziak – First Vice-President; STANDING: Ann Fuchs, Joan Opiela, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ralko, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Jaskulka, Sister Clare, O.P., Religious Representative, Paul Mandy, Eleanor Stencel, ABSENT: Joseph A. Kubera – Present President of Parish Council; Joseph Fryz. NEWLY-ELECTED MEMBERS: Christine Stencel, Frank Bitonti, Do-Brudecki, Bernice Cichon, Margaret Sokol.



THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY – MEN'S CLUB – To promote greater devotion to the Holy Name of God and of Jesus Christ in the families and community. The spiritual advantages of membership are many; the service to youth is a prime objective. SEATED ON FLOOR: David Stencel, Philip Stencel, Eric Stencel, Paul Stencel, FIRST ROW BOTTOM: Edward Mojak, Alex Cyers, Thomas Condra, Robert Henn, Joseph Henn Jr., Father Jerome A. Szelc, Father John Schneider, CSSR., Joseph Fryz, Floyd Sperkoski, Clement Henk, Henry Gross, SECOND ROW: Louis Liptack, Leo Sanecki, William Malloy, Andrew Skuban, Edward Kubicek, Joe Henn Sr., Walter Sokol, Andrew Olenick, Vincent Rajnish, Edward Cyers, Eugene Kowalski, John Grybb, Leonard Jaskulka, George Reckinger, Bruno Cypress, TOP ROW: August Dohring, Julius Mager, Anthony Ryktarczyk, Paul Mandy, Joseph Dziak, Frank Ralko, Joseph Szydłowski, Chester Hojnicky, Michael Kushner, Julian Krol, Harry Berendt, Edward Lukowski, Jerry Shields, Mark Stencel, Norbert Stencel.

desire to enrich their spiritual lives, to increase their knowledge of the Church and to serve the parish in many ways.

The first officers included Mrs. George Talbot as president; Mrs. George Warner as vice-president and Mrs. Paul Fischer as secretary-treasurer.

The members provide for the care of the altar and sanctuary, the vestments, and the flowers. Even though the group is perhaps best known for their social functions, such as their card and bingo parties, bake sales, flower sales, etc., all these functions are merely the means to provide and care for the Altar linens, priests vestments, and general maintenance of the Sanctuary and Sacristies. The parish has a reputation, especially among visiting clergy and laity, for its ever-immaculate and neat sanctuary, clergy and altar-boy apparel and for ever-beautiful floral arrangements. Throughout the years the Society as always donated generously to every parish need and to many mission and other worthwhile projects.

There are presently 125 members on the membership roll, but it is constantly emphasized that membership is a privilege extended to all the women in the parish. The members are encouraged to join in Corporate Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month.

CANCER PAD SEWING CLUB

The Cancer Pad Sewing Group was organized in the late fifties by a group of six or seven women headed by Mrs. Virginia Bartos. Although the membership has never exceeded thirty women, the mountains of cancer pads that have been assembled by this small group, reflects the dedication and zeal of each of the members. Mrs. Marguerite Downes, who was devotedly headed the group for the last nine years, with almost weekly get-togethers, has collected tons of materials which were made into pads and bandages and distributed for use of cancer patients in hospitals, homes, and wherever needed. Mrs. Josephine Zientek, a member of this group, has made over 600 "Johnny coats" an abbreviated hospital gown, from white shirts, for the use of various medical groups. Several times a year a beautiful social gathering stimulates the dedication of this very charitable group.

FIFTY-UP CLUB

The 50 Up Club is the "newest" of the parish organizations, having been organized in 1969 through the encouragement of Father Jerome. With the many retirees and elderly members in the parish it was pastorally sound for such a organization to be founded. The response has been stimulating and every effort is being made to seek every one over 49 years of age. This group has shown itself to be "young" in spirit, although, as the name implies, the members most admit to being at least in their "golden" years. The first and still presiding officers are: Andrew Olejnick - president, Justine Liptack - secretary, William Rash - vice-president, and Catherine Reckinger - treasurer. There are approximately 50 members. Most of them share many enjoyable hours together at dinners, picnics, tours, outings, card games and other planned entertainment. Annually a special Liturgy is celebrated followed by a fine dinner-party. Most of the members are also known for their generosity of time and help in all parish activities.

PAST ORGANIZATIONS

During the fifties years as a parish there have been several other groups which have served well, but have been discontinued because of accelerated changes in the community. There are many sentimentalized memories of yesterday by those who were members of these groups at one time. Things never were as they used to be. Neither can they ever again be just as they were. Life is process; change is inevitable. A Parish Family must be a object of that also. The Laurentian Club was a young adult group, very active during the 1950's. They sponsored many dances and other social activities that answered the needs of the community during those years. The Loyalty Club was also active during the fifties. Its membership was restricted to students attending High School. The Sodality of Mary had many members among the students of St. Lawrence School and the image of Mary, the Virgin Mother of Jesus, was ever deeply impressed on the young ladies of the parish.

The crowning of the statue of Our Lady, usually in the month of May, was the highlight of the year for the Sodality members and for the entire parish. Even though



*ST. LAWRENCE USHERS: Assure services and concern for the benefit and comfort of the parishioners at all religious functions and contribute of themselves to the success of activities in the parish. **BOTTOM ROW:** L. to R.: Alex Cyers, Walter Sokol, Fr. John Schneider, Father Jerome A. Szalc, Chester Hojnicki, Paul Mandy, Floyd Sperkoski. **SECOND ROW:** Michael Kushner, Walter Klisz, Edward Cyers, Harry Berendt, Edward Mojak, John Grybb, Vincent Rajnish. **FOURTH ROW:** Julian Krol, Robert Henn, Frank Ralko, Joseph Henn, Jr., Eugene Kowalski, Joseph Henn, Sr., Edward Lukomski. **ABSENT:** Raymond Bartkowiak, Tim Beurer, David Kubicek, Al Cowart, William Karnafel, Adrian Morin, Edward Pilaske, Edward Rachwal, Stanley Rakowski, Honorary: Louis Liptack, Len Kotarski.*



*ST. LAWRENCE LECTORS – strive to communicate God's Word to the congregation and direct for better liturgical participation. **LEFT TO RIGHT:** Leonard Jaskulka, Joe Henn, Jr., Joseph Dziak, Pastor Father Jerome, Joseph Fryz, Frank Ruczko, Frank Ralko. **ABSENT:** Emil Bartz, Timothy Beurer, Fred Oklott, Larry Satkowiak.*

the Sodality as such no longer exists, the devotion to the Virgin Mother is still deeply fostered and practiced in the parish. Most of the young ladies of the parish upon making their marriage vows, along with their spouse, make an act of consecration and a presentation of flowers to the Holy Family, of which Mary is the model for all Christian wives and mothers. This invites for a happier marital and family life. Although in the recent years most emphasis is being placed on community singing, there is still memory of the Parish Choirs, especially for the major occasions of the liturgical year. There were several active choirs during the years under the direction of William Premsky and Frank Bitonti. At present Miss Ruth Rash capably directs and leads the parish, with excellent choral presentations at special celebrations in the church year.

The St. Lawrence School also had many groups that at one time or another functioned beautifully and provided activities for the children with excellent adult direction and supervision. Just to mention the Boy Scout Troop, Campfire Girls, Brownies, and Parent-Teacher Guild. Gratitude will always be rendered to the ladies who organized and worked in the Mothers Club, which after a few years became the nucleus of the PTG, so that both parents would share in the programs presented for school involvement. The benefits to the children in the last years of St. Lawrence School are well-known. So many expensive educational supplies, including the diocesan closed-circuit television setup & intercommunication set-up, were obtained through the sacrifices of the Mothers Club and the Parent-Teacher Guild.



PARISHIONERS OF ST. LAWRENCE FOR OVER 40 YEARS – These faces (with the exception of Father Jerome) have seen the “happenings” of more than four decades in this Christian Community. We salute them in a special way on this 50th Anniversary. BOTTOM ROW SEATED: Mary Janus, Bridget & Thomas Condra, William & Rose Malloy, Pastor, Father Jerome, Julia Wozniak, Marguerite Downes, Floyd & Margaret Sperkoski, MIDDLE ROW: (Left to right): Verna Buhl, Agnes Lacny, Martha Latocki, Sophie Opiela, Alex and Anna Cyers, Hedwig Postler, Henry & Isabelle Gross, Walter & Jennie Marsh, Josephine Zientek, Adeline Dornoff, George Reckinger, TOP ROW: (Left to right): Julius & Cassie Mager, Anthony and Helen Ryktarsyk, Lucille Wilemon, Michael Kushner, Stanley & Josephine Drabkowski, Louis & Justine Liptack, Wanda Spencer, Harriet Jacobs, Anna Jenick, Joseph & Marie Henn.

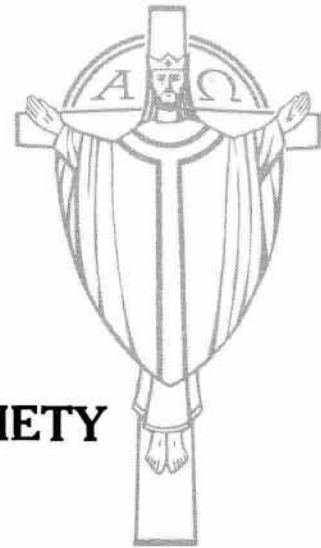


ALTAR SOCIETY: (Group 1, Pic, 16) Develops a sense of belonging together in God's Family, especially through spiritual and social gatherings, and responding to the care for the Sanctuary and Altar and supplying vestments, flowers and altar boy apparel. Purchased Altar of Sacrifice for renovated Sanctuary, 1966. BOTTOM ROW (L. to R.) Marie Henn, Barbara Henn, Ann Golden, Doris Henn, Fr. Jerome A. Szelc, Bernice Cichon, Jean Baker, Cassie Mager, Catherine Reckinger. CENTER ROW: Margaret Sperkowski, Mary Janus, Josephine Zawaski, Phyllis Szydłowski, Ann Grybb, Pauline J. Rajnish, Joann Rakoczy, Sr. Clare, O.P., Hedwig Cyers, Eugenia Ruczko, Lenore Krol, Connie Villano, Annette Mroczka, Adeline Dornoff. TOP ROW: Nellie Joswick, Cora Skuban, Lillian Lange, Lottie Zagornik, Martha Adams, Helen Ryktarczyk, Stella Miller, Louise Henk, Isabelle Gross, Pat Sousa, Helen Haase, Mildred Kaleniecki.



ALTAR SOCIETY: Offers the women in the parish a focal point in expressing their desire to enrich their spiritual lives, to increase their knowledge of the Church and to serve the parish in many ways. (Group 2 - Picture 12) BOTTOM ROW, L. to R: Julia Wozniak, Josephine Zientek, Jean Baker, Bernice Cichon, Fr. Jerome A. Szelc, Doris Henn, Ann Golden, Barbara Henn, Margaret Downes. CENTER ROW: Rose Malloy, Anna Cyers, Pauline A. Rajnish, Justine Lip-tack, Bridget Condra, Lucille Wilemon, Sr. Mary Roch, O.P., Anna Dohring, Hedwig Postler, Anne Kowalewski, Cecilia Rash, Sr. Mary Michaelen, O.P., Anna Jenick. TOP ROW: Ruth Mandy, Sophie Opteia, Harriet Jacobs, Marcella Cypress, Patricia Ralko, Stella Dziak, Ruth Rash, Anna Regula, Eleanor Stencel, Genevieve Spunar, Anna Fuchs, Wanda Spencer, Gertrude Pawlusiak.

BEST WISHES FROM



ST. LAWRENCE ALTAR SOCIETY

OFFICERS:

Miss Doris Henn President
Mrs. Bernice Cichon 1st Vice-President
Mrs. Ann Golden 2nd Vice-President
Mrs. Jean Baker Secretary
Mrs. Barbara Henn Treasurer

COMMITTEES:

Mrs. Anna Regula Altar Committee
Mrs. Cecilia Rash
Mrs. Claude Downes Cancer Pad Chairlady
Sewing Group
Mrs. Marie Henn Contact Committee
Mrs. Barbara Henn
Mrs. Gertrude Pawlusiak Publicity Committee
Mrs. Stella Miller
Mrs. Connie Villano Christian Service Chairlady
Mrs. Lucille Wilemon Spiritual Directress
Mrs. Annette Mroczka Hospitality Chairladies
Mrs. Connie Vilano

SMILE — GOD IS WITH YOU!



ALTAR BOYS & MEN & HELPERS: The theme of this group should be "Right on with God" for they are ever willing to help in the celebration of the Masses and in all other Liturgical activities: funerals, weddings, devotions, etc. **BOTTOM ROW (Seated):** Edward Namyslowski, Mark Saul, Father John Schneider, CSSR., Father Jerome A. Szelc, Pastor, Sr. Mary Roch, O.P., David Ruczko, Gregory Ruczko, **SECOND ROW:** Phillip Stencel, Mr. Gerald Shields, Mrs. Stella Dziak, Mr. Joseph Kubera, Mrs. Manuel Cruz, Mr. Joseph Henn, Sr., David Stencel, Robert Rakoczy, **THIRD ROW:** Michael Delgado, Eric Stencel, Mark Stencel, Tom Rakoczy, Paul Stencel, Albert Namyslowski, **TOP ROW:** David Delgado, Gerard Rakoczy, Michael Saul, Nicholas Wieczorek, **ABSENT:** William Delgado, Mark Rachwal, Robert Andrews, Mr. Julius Mager.



ST. LAWRENCE PARISH CANCER PAD SEWING GROUP - Of so much service to those suffering from cancer and of spiritual service to the members of this circle . . . in the Name of Christ they stand ready to serve and provide some necessary materials for the sick. **SEATED:** (L. to R.) Martha Adams, Rose Malloy, Bridget Condra, Margaret Downes, Father Jerome A. Szelc, Pauline Rajnish, Harriet Jacobs, Josephine Zientek, **STANDING FIRST ROW:** Sophie Lang, Anna Grybb, Phyllis Szydowski, Catherine Nowak, Cassie Mager, Margaret Sperkoski, Julia Wozniak, **STANDING TOP ROW:** Isabelle Gross, Sophie Opiela, Cecilia Rash, Wanda Spencer, Louise Henk, Justine Liptack.

COMPLIMENTS OF



ST. LAWRENCE USHERS CLUB 1972

Joe Fryz President
Walter Sokol Vice-President
Paul Mandy Secretary
Chet Hojnicky Treasurer

DIRECTORS:

Joe Fryz Joe Dziak Joe Kubera Vince Rajnish Chet Hojnicky

Ray Bartkowiak
Harry Berendt
Timothy Beurer
Al Cowart
Al Cyers
Edward Cyers
Bruno Cypress
John Grybb
Joe Henn Sr.
Joe Henn Jr.
Robert Henn
Leonard Jaskulka
William Karnafel
Walter Klisz
Eugene Kowalski

Julian Krol
Edward Kubicek
Dave Kubicek
Mike Kushner
Louis Liptack
Edward Lukomski
Edward Mojak
Adrian Morin
Edward Pilaske
Edward Rachwal
Joe Rajnish
Stanley Rakowski
Frank Ralko
Floyd Sperkowski
Norbert Stencel



ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH CHOIR - 1955



"Sing to the Lord with Gladness" . . . These parishioners coordinate in the preparation of the Table of the Lord, the sanctuary and vestments, as well as the music and the singing of hymns for the Celebrations of the Liturgy, not only on Sundays, but for daily Mass too. They serve God's People here at St. Lawrence. JUNIOR CHOIR MEMBERS: (Left to right) George Walzak, Miss Christine Zakalata (Adult Choir), Christine Pawlukiewicz, Mary Ann Tomasak, Donna Kowalski, JoAnn Rajnish, Grace Ann Mandy, Frank Ormaniec, SACRISTANS: Mrs. Ann Regula, Mrs. Cecilia Rash, ORGANISTS: Miss Ruth Rash, Mr. Ralph Ivey, CENTER: The Pastor.



THE MEN'S CLUB OF ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

ORGANIZED THIS JUBILEE YEAR OF 1972

EVERY MAN IN THE PARISH IS CORDIALLY INVITED
TO JOIN AND BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER
OF THIS NEWLY FORMED ORGANIZATION



P.R.E.P. - Grades 2,4,5,6: Preparing for a full Christian life, so that Christ's Life will shine into all homes in all the community. BOTTOM ROW: Deborah Manser, Coleen Gutowski, Dawn Dziak, Christine Zakalata-Instructor, Sister M. Michaeleen, O.P.-Instructor, Julie Krol-Instructor, Thomas Wilson, David Britt, John Hayes, John Sangle, MIDDLE ROW: Sherrie Manser, Geralyn Ryba, Denise Taylor, Patricia Hayes, Daria Dziak, Judy Conrad, Josephine Kachonik, Racquel Rodriguez, Edward Namyslowski, Robert Rakoczy, Kenneth Wilson, TOP ROW: Denise Ryba, Deborah Britt, Diane Zdun, Susan Kaleniecki, Donna Kaleniecki, Gerard Rakoczy, Mario Lucia, Tony Martinez, Albert Namyslowski, Daniel Masek, John Thornton,



For some 40 years this was the sanctuary before which so many adored and praised God before the renovation in December, 1966.

In Loving Memory of

JAMES AND LUCY SZELC



FATHER JEROME A. SZELC

Families of

EDWARD AND RITA SZELC

JOHN AND LUCILLE BUKOWICZ

RICHARD AND HELEN SZELC



P.R.E.P. Grades 1,2,3: Catholic Religious Education of all our youth is the keynote of the life of the parish, BOTTOM ROW: Ann Marie Ryan, Sandy Wilson, Marisa Rodriguez, Mrs. Delphine Jaskulka, Sister Mary Roch, O.P., Sister Clare Genevieve, O.P., Cynthia Densmore, Kyle Jaskulka, Andrew Kachonik, Joseph Harper, MIDDLE ROW: Julie Malski, Tracy Bujarski, Michele Jaskulka, Denise Nowak, Suzanne Gutowski, Patrick Ryan, Richard Martinez, Michael Masek, Danny Ryan, Gregory Helgal, Mark Ryba, Anthony Thornton, David Taylor, E. Martinez, TOP ROW: Delshon Britt, Zigmund Gutowski, Maria Lucia, Margaret Zakoor, Martha Zdun, Laura Masek, Kathy Koziol, Angela Manser, Cheryl Golick, Susan Kliza.



P.R.E.P. Junior High Grades 7,8,9: Seeking total religious education and formation for youth and adults on a full parish level, BOTTOM ROW: Ruth Wilson, Denise Manser, Lawrence Satkowiak, Instructor; Mrs. Eleanor Stencel, C.C.D. Co-Ordinator, Father Jerome A. Szec, Pastor, Mr. Leonard Jaskulka, Instructor, Miss Margaret Sokol, Instructor, Patricia Kaminski, Rosemary Kachonik, John Jeakle (gr. 2) MIDDLE ROW: Kristina Jeakle (gr. 5), Barbara Valdez (gr. 5), Michelle Gorny, Debbie Conrad, JoAnne Sargent, Patricia Keller, Mary Ann Jozefiak, Donda Kaminski, Richard Novak, Thomas Rakoczy, Timothy Wojciechowski, Timothy Fauls, TOP ROW: Roseann Rakoczy, Laurie Jeakle, Mary Ivey, Sarah Flores, Marianne Sargest, Valerie Ivey, Sherri Jeakle, Michael Lucia, Kevin Ryba, John Nowak, Danny Fauls.

In Memory

of

Father Vincent J. Balcer



JERRY BIELFIELD – FORD

*In Memory of
Paul Mandy*



"MAY HEAVEN BE OPEN TO THIS SOUL, O LORD."

ST. LAWRENCE PARISHIONERS

May You Rest in Peace



STELLA M. GOUIN

LEO AND LEONARD GOUIN

ROBERT GOUIN

BERNARD GOUIN

GUS KRAUSE

GARY KRAUSE

FLORENCE GOUIN

JEANMARIE RALKO

MR. PATRICK GOUIN
MARGE (GOUIN) HAMLIN
GENEVIEVE GOUIN
HAZEL GOUIN

NEIL GOUIN
PAT (GOUIN) RALKO



Some of the members of the teams that form the Bowling League under the name of St. Lawrence Parish (1972-73 Season).



THE 50 UP CLUB – The best acquainted and very cordial members of the Family of God at St. Lawrence Parish. They are always appreciated for their loyalty, friendliness and parish support all through the years. They add much sunshine to the twilight years of every "senior" citizen in the gathering. SEATED: (left to right) Isabelle Gross, Josephine Zientek, Justine Liptack, William Rash, Andrew Olenick, Catherine Reckinger, George Reckinger, Martha Latocki, Margaret Downes, Margaret Sperkoski, SECOND ROW: Mr. & Mrs. William (Rose) Malloy; Julia Wozniak, Sophie Opiela, Frances Dabala, Agnes Lacny, Bridget Condra, Father Jerome A. Szelc, Anna Kowalewski, Harriet Jacobs, Catherine Nowak, Adeline Dornoff, Cecilia Rash, Cassie Mager, Michael Kushner. THIRD ROW TOP: Henry Gross, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony (Helen) Ryktarsyk, Mr. & Mrs. Clemens (Louise) Henk, Louis Liptak, Mr. & Mrs. Paul (Ruth) Mandy, Ann Regula, Ann Jed, Kate Apple, Martha Adams, Wanda Spencer, Julius Mager, Floyd Sperkoski.



In Memoriam

Walter Klebba
Bernard Fuchs
John Turner
Louis Malski
Arthur P. Postler
Paul Postler
Clara Postler
August Schulz
Anna Schulz
Trevor Jaskulka
Ervin Wietrick
Ray A. Snider
Katherine Ozimek
Helen Ozimek
John Ozimek
Joseph Latocki
Mary Dumanski
Marie Kushner
Peter E. Joswick
Gordon E. Sterling
Ira LaFramboise
Bobbie McBride
Cynthia Ann Cyers
Harold Knight
Adam Orzel
Agnes Orzel

Cecilia Orzel
Vet. Walter F. Kield
John S. Kield
John Pawlusiak, Jr.
Frank Malinowski
Albert Szwarc
Elizabeth LaPointe
Patricia Ann Golden
Mike Pilaske
Lottie Pilaske
Frank Pilaske
John Gruber
Geraldine Gruber
Rosella (Gruber) Shea
Elizabeth Shea
Spike Stec
Mary Stec
Leo Karczewski
Nettie Pawlak
Verda Pinney
Marcel Thorn
Chester Matuszak
Gertrude Grant
Cassie Rogowski
Mary K. Esper
Margaret Burda



In Memoriam

Harry Sternekoch
John Hakalow
Michael Krawczyk
Anna Krawczyk
Steve Olenick, Sr.
Steve Olenick, Jr.
Barbara Olenick
John Olenick
Joseph Demyan
Jerome Jed
Michael Cyrol
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Moore
Louise Krasnodemski
Leo Kaminski
Joseph Tubek
Matilda LeCroix
Dinny LaCroix
Charles Sikorski
Minnie Sikorski
Peter Gawecki
Antoni Siemaszka
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Kubera
Adalbert G. Kubera

Mary Elizabeth Lynch
Michael J. Harper
Joseph Bush
John Osocki
Edward Dzikowski
Julia Blake
Walter S. Shaffer
Andrew Konieczny
Mary Ann Murawski
Mary Osocki
Maurice Blake
John Paluchniak
Francis Paluchniak
Antoinette Reckinger
Joseph Adamus
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Pietraszek
Mr. & Mrs. Casper Czarnota
Mr. Casmer Fronkiewicz
Mrs. Genevieve Olszewski
Thomas Olszewski
Walter Leszczewicz
Zigmund Wisniewski
Anthony Cichon



"In life and death we belong to the Lord."

IN MEMORY OF



FRANCES BERENDT

HUSBAND HARRY

SONS: FATHER PETER and HARRY, Jr.
DAUGHTERS: THERESA and BERNADINE

REMEMBER, O LORD, YOUR SERVANTS

FATHER VINCENT A. BALCER
FATHER GEORGE MAJEWSKI
FATHER JOHN KROL
FATHER JOHN BOUCHAI, CSSR
FATHER ISADORE SWIERKOWSKI,
OFM. CONV.
FATHER BARNEY, OFM. CONV.
CARDINAL RICHARD CUSHING
JOHN AND LOTTIE KOWALSKI
FRANCIS SWIERKOWSKI
WALTER KOWALSKI
CLEMENTINE (KOWALSKI) DOWIE
FRANCES BERENDT
JOSEPH GULAREK
STEPHAN KORECKI
ANNA KOZE
ANTHONY KROLIKOWSKI
LUCY SZELC
ERWIN WIETRICK



FROM:

*Eugene and Jane Kowalski
Eugene Jr., Kenneth
Donna and Debbie
& Stanley Swierkowski*



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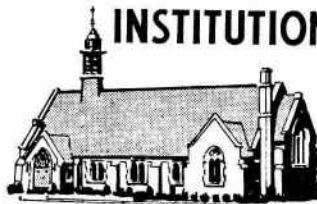
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Mr. & Mrs. I. Klonowski
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. Edward S. Mrocza
Margie Mrocza
Edward Mrocza
Sally Ann Mrocza

Golden Jubilee Dinner Program

Introduction Joseph Kubera
President, Parish Council

— GOD BLESS AMERICA —

Invocation Reverend James Bates
Councillor, Grosse Pointe High School

Introduction, Master of Ceremonies Joseph Kubera
Jubilee Chairman

Master of Ceremonies Reverend Joseph Kernosek
Pastor, St. Aloysius, Romulus

Toast Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas Jobs
Pastor, Church of the Resurrection, Detroit

— DINNER —

Greetings, Reverend William Roosen
In the name of Vicariate Vicar, Southwest Detroit

Address, Honorable John D. Dingell
In the name of the community 16th Congressional District

Greetings, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Arthur Korey
In the name of former assistants Pastor, Christ the King, Detroit

Introduction of Former Assistants Reverend Joseph Kernosek

Address, Reverend Stanley Borucki
In the name of Neighboring Parishes Pastor, St. Cunegunda Parish, Detroit

Appreciation Reverend Jerome Szalc
Pastor, St. Sabina, Dearborn Heights

Remarks Reverend Stanley A. Kasprzyk
Pastor, St. Lawrence Parish, Detroit

Benediction Reverend Peter Berendt, C.P.
Christ the King Retreat Center, California

Happy Anniversary To Us Sung in Gremio

— DANCING — REFRESHMENTS —

Life has its beautiful experiences

... AND BEING A PART OF THE ST. LAWRENCE PARISH FAMILY
... IS ONE OF THE MORE MEMORABLE ONES.



Our sincerest thanks to everyone who was helpful in promoting and making the occasion of our parish Golden Jubilee one which will be long remembered.

Our thanks to the Jubilee Committees for their many efforts connected with preparations for this eventful day, to all participants in the Liturgical Celebration in the Church, to the many parishioners and friends who contributed to the publication of this souvenir book, to the St. Bernard Seminary League, to Lucille Wilemon for compiling and writing of the parish history, to Father Peter Berendt, C.P., for delivering the homily, to the clergy and religious and laity whose congratulatory words will ever linger in our memories, and to you . . . who have just enjoyed and will treasure this day . . . Our "Thank you and may the Lord reward you."

Jubilee Committee

Fr. Jerome Szalc Executive Chairman
Joseph Kubera Chairman
Bruno Cypress Co-Chairman

LITURGY

Fr. Jerome Szalc
Frank Bitonti
Ruth Rash
Pat Ralko
Joe Dziak
Cecilia Rash
Ann Regula
Sister M. Roch, O.P.

CHURCH DECORATIONS

Paul Mandy
Ralph Ivey
Joe Gauci
Cecilia Rash
Ann Regula

BANQUET TICKETS & INVITATIONS

Eugene Kowalski
Sister Marie Michaleen, O.P.

BANQUET DECORATIONS

Jane Kowalski
Adele Szostek
Sister Clare Genevieve, O.P.
Doris Henn
Barbara Henn

HALL ARRANGEMENTS

Carmine Oliverio
William Karnafel
Joseph Henn
Joseph Henn, Jr.

FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

Ann Fuchs
Chester Hojnicky

PUBLICITY

Eugenia Ruczko
Frank Ruczko
Ed Kukomski
Helen Lukomski

HOSPITALITY

Andy Olenik

RAFFLE TICKETS

Frank Ruczko
Eleanore Stencel

MUSIC

Eugenia Ruczko

— JUBILEE BOOK —

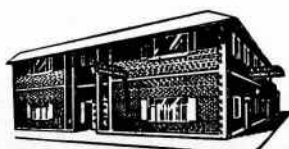
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Lucille Wilemon
Fr. Jerome Szalc

Pat Ralko
Marcella Cypress
Barbara Henn
Genevieve Pilaske
Lucille Wilemon

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