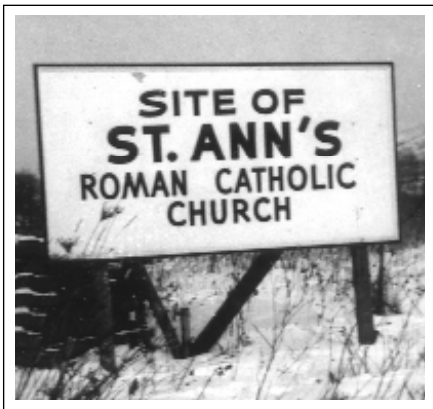


*The History of
St. Ann's Parish*



1955 - 2005



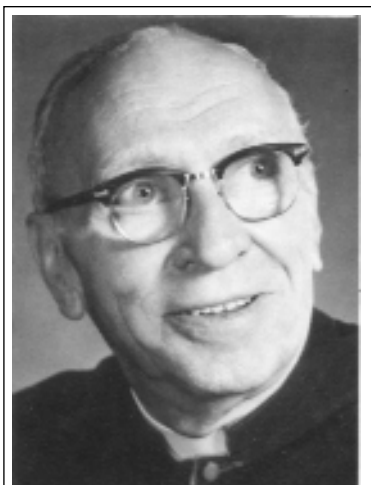
Two major factors came together in the early 1950's resulting in the need for a new parish in the immediate western suburbs of Syracuse.

One was the crowded conditions existing at the area churches; Most Holy Rosary, St Charles, Holy Family and St Michael's.

The

second was the quick growth of the corridor leading out West Onondaga Street, Bellevue Avenue and Grand Avenue to the Fairmount area in Camillus. The homes being built were for the most part starter types for lower to middle income young mar-

ried couples just beginning their families and riding the wave of an expanding post-war economy.



Rev Francis J Sheedy,
St Ann's First Pastor.

Bishop Walter Foery and Diocesan Chancellor Robert Dillon decided to purchase 17 acres of rolling meadowland west of the old House Of Providence farm (opposite the present Onondaga Boulevard Senior Apartments). The price, \$10,000.

The property fronted on the extension of West Onondaga Street, the former bed of the old Syracuse and Auburn Trolley Line, where it made a sweeping turn as it headed through Taunton to the Split Rock Quarry and beyond.

To spearhead this ambitious effort to build a church, rectory, school,

convent and parish center, the Bishop chose a native westender and son of St Lucy's, Rev Francis J Sheedy, 20 years a priest, former Army

Chaplain and assistant pastor in Syracuse and Utica.

The date-February 18, 1955. The choice was brilliant because Father Sheedy's simple, deep faith, warm personality and ever-present Irish wit perfectly complemented the backgrounds of many of his first

parishioners.

While starting to meet with the men and women who would form

On Sunday, March 6, 1955, Father Sheedy celebrated St Ann's first mass at 8:00 am in the House of Providence Chapel. This mass and another at 11:00 am attracted a total of 339 people.¹ One of the House of Providence's own, Robert Meehan, served as altar boy.

In his opening remarks, Sheedy noted,

"We are the privileged ones, the rare fortunate few in all the world who have been blessed with the opportunity of creating a new church for the greater honor and glory of God. With this divine purpose and, because it is God's will, we cannot fail."



The House of Providence at 1654 West Onondaga Street served as a temporary home for St Ann's Parish and its pastor, Father Sheedy, in early 1955.

¹ See Notes attached

the

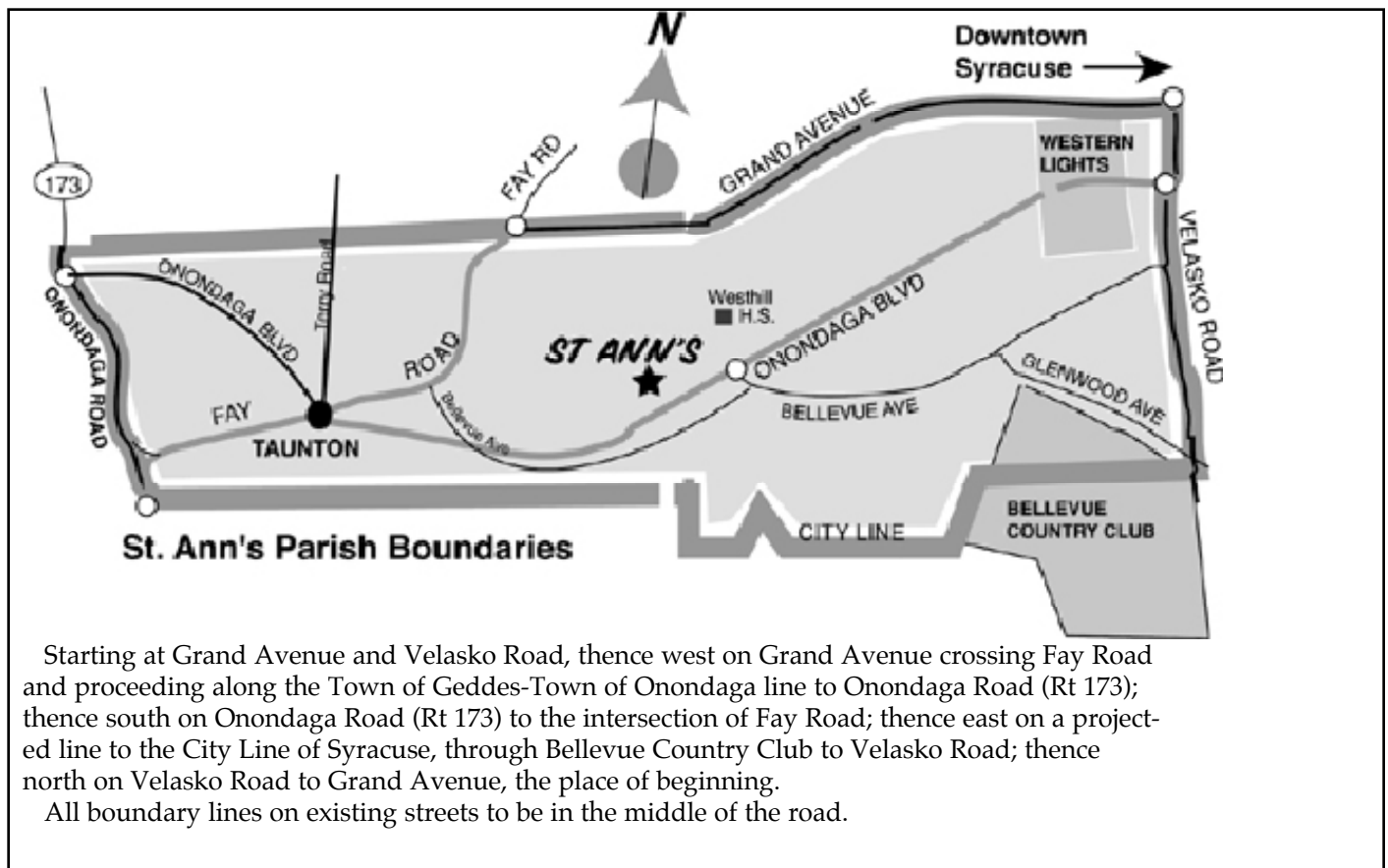
short time at the

core of the new parish, Father Sheedy resided a

A sign of the enthusiasm and spirit of the fledgling parish is the fact that the first formal meeting of the men of St Ann's took place only four days later on March 10, 1955 in the House of Providence Auditorium. Prior to this small groups had met with the pastor in private homes to get a sense of the potential and ultimate viability of the planned parish. The men's meeting selected Dr Harry Sweeney and Robert Ross as Activities Chairmen--and activities there were, all designed to raise funds for the ambitious undertaking. A smoker, dance and Autumn Bazaar were discussed.

On March 15 the women of St Ann's took over the House of Providence auditorium and got their own activities off the ground by naming Mrs Edward Schalk and Mrs John McAuliffe as coordinators. First event--a Silver Tea in the home of Mrs Paul Monsour raised \$282 for the building fund. St Ann's was off and running!

Boundaries for St Ann's were established March 3, 1955



Starting at Grand Avenue and Velasko Road, thence west on Grand Avenue crossing Fay Road and proceeding along the Town of Geddes-Town of Onondaga line to Onondaga Road (Rt 173); thence south on Onondaga Road (Rt 173) to the intersection of Fay Road; thence east on a projected line to the City Line of Syracuse, through Bellevue Country Club to Velasko Road; thence north on Velasko Road to Grand Avenue, the place of beginning.

All boundary lines on existing streets to be in the middle of the road.

Later in March Dr Robert Collins and Anthony Borgognoni were named the parish's first trustees with CPA Jack Burke as auditor. (For a list of other significant firsts see NOTES TO St Ann's History).

With Joseph Fadden as President and Frank Mott, Treasurer, the Holy Name Society was organized and held its first event on April 19, 1955. The "Smoker", as all these events seemed to be called, was held at the popular James Rock Spring Restaurant at Grand Avenue and Avery with World Champion boxer Carmen Basilio as guest of honor. A surprising \$870 was realized for St Ann's building fund. Gerry Kilgallen was chairman.

In May the successful series of first year events continued with a Spring Dance at

Bellevue Country Club. Co- chairmen were Dr William Waters and Robert Preston. Waltz Champions were Dorothy and Bill Hyatt. For the building fund; another \$950.

But 1955's major parish event occurred on September 17 with an afternoon and evening affair called the "Autumn Festival" at the House of Providence grounds. Coordinators were Dr Harry Sweeney, Joseph Fadden, Robert Ross, Henry DeJoseph Mrs Gerald Bigsby, Mrs Donald Roth and Mrs Marty Kendrick.

This old-fashioned church festival, with games, prepared foods and crafts raised an incredible \$6544 and evolved years later into what many of today's parishioners recall as "Holiday Open House" when it was blended into the women's Holiday Homes Tour.

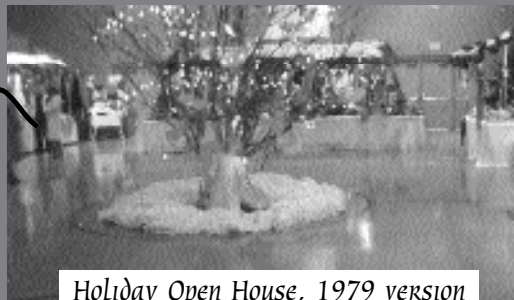
In late October, the much-admired Monsignor A Robert Casey spoke at the Installation Dinner of the Altar and Rosary Society at Henry Moran's Restaurant. Mrs Gerald Bigsby was named president and Mrs Mark Conan, vice-president.

Meanwhile the masses at the Chapel in the House of Providence were becoming more and more crowded and a third Sunday Mass was added at 9:30 on September 4, 1955. Daily mass began at 7:00 am September 12. The first High Mass was celebrated by Monsignor James E Callaghan on November 13 in the Auditorium and the parish's first Midnight Mass took place there also.

Near the end of this first year the women organized a "HOLIDAY HOMES TOUR". Four beautifully decorated parish homes including "The Sparkle House", the home of Mrs. Frank Mott; "The Gift House", Mrs. Frank Clark's house; "The Gingerbread House", Mrs. Harry Sweeney's; and Mrs Donald Dygert's "The Tea House" formed an Open House Tour for parishioners and was repeated as an outside fund raising event until the school gym was available at which time it was consolidated, as stated above, into what many current parishioners remember as "HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE".

Holiday Homes Tour

Founded December 1955



Holiday Open House, 1979 version

Every effort undertaken in that first year was a success, so that barely nine months after its beginning St Ann's was coalescing into a vibrant, traditional Catholic parish typical of the 1950's in the northeastern United States.

Contracts for the new church and rectory, designed by Pederson & Hueber Architects, were signed January 10, 1956. The church cost \$108,000 and the general contractor was R.A. Culotti Construction Company. The rectory, at \$62,000, was constructed by Joseph Bonzek.

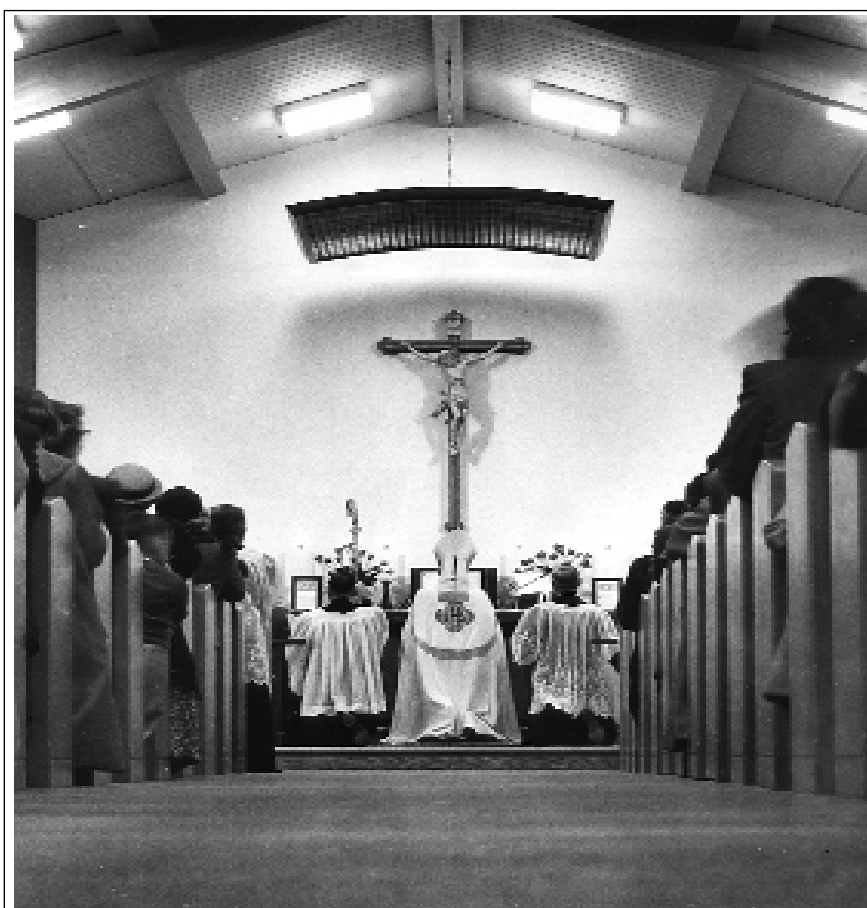


Ground breaking for Syracuse's newest parish took place at 11:00 am, January 21, 1956.

The gathering in mid-winter in Syracuse featured Bishop Walter Foery, Diocesan Chancellor Robert Dillon and Father Sheedy along with many parishioners and their children.



(Inset) Cars typical of the mid-1950's line both sides of Onondaga Boulevard.



On Monday evening, October 22, 1956 a High Mass of Dedication was concelebrated by Bishops Walter Foery, David Cunningham and Father Sheedy. St Ann's was formally launched after 18 months of hard, spiritually stimulating work on the part of the pastor and men and women of the diocese's newest parish.

Nine months after the ground breaking, the church was completed. Parish population; 200 families. Seating capacity; 400 with a downstairs social hall. The altar was made of walnut, the pews of white oak. Above the altar a hand-carved crucifix from Oberammergau, Germany focused attention from all corners of the interior.

Graceful wood laminated arches rising from the foundation of the side walls formed the main roof supports and the ceiling, thereby eliminating the need for supporting columns.

(For a listing of 'firsts' at St Ann's Parish, see NOTES)

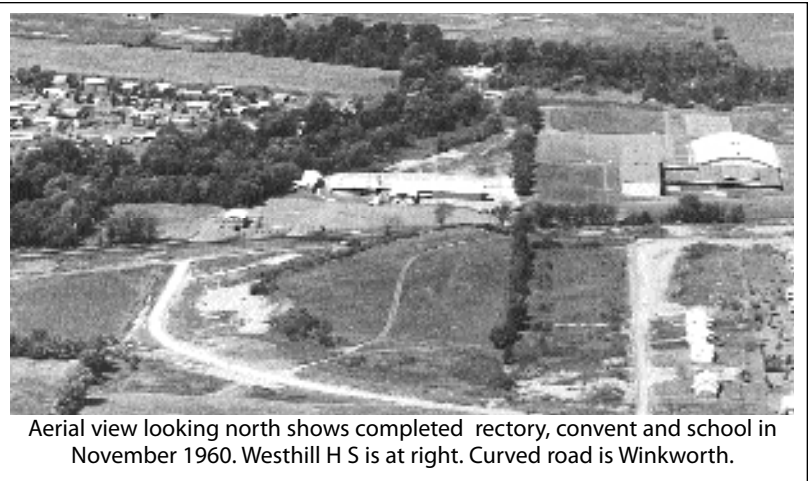
Almost as soon as the paint dried on the downstairs social hall, weekly bingo games were started, characteristic of many parishes at that time. Men organized and ran the games with the women preparing and selling refreshments. Bingo was profitable but waning interest in the late 1980's led to its discontinuance.

The late 50's to the mid 60's were years of rapid growth for St Ann's, for these were the 'baby boomer' years when the post World War II generation came of age and were producing many children in good economic times.

In the autumn of 1957 the first catechetical classes were organized for the children and taught in the catechetical center. *(See Notes to St Ann's History).*

St Ann's first assistant pastor was assigned in February 1958. Father Richard Tucker, a native of Syracuse who had grown up in Most Holy Rosary parish, had the advantage of already knowing many area families. Now with a pastor, an assistant and continuing member growth, it was time to consider the building of a school and convent.

A fund drive, "Building for the Future" was launched in May 1959, with the request that each wage earner contribute a "day's pay per month" for 36 months to meet the costs of \$175,000 for the two buildings. Joseph R Fadden and John E McAuliffe were General Co-chairmen. Dr Mark Conan and Dr Harry Sweeney were Gifts Chairmen. Other committee members; Lawrence Vieau, C Donald Williams, Vincent O'Brien and Joseph Cannerton.



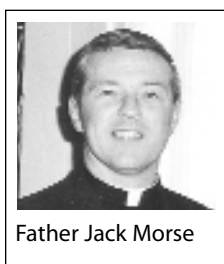
The two story school, connected to the church on the north, would have administrative offices, nine 700 square feet classrooms and a large common room of 2400 square feet for parish activities. The convent would have facilities for nine nuns as well as a chapel. Both school and convent were designed to blend with the exterior appearance of the church. Ground was broken on October 15, 1959. The parish had grown to 400 families .

Bishop Walter A Foery blessed and dedicated the structures on August 19, 1960 and on September 12, the new St Ann's Grammar School opened with 174 children in first through fourth grades. The first principal was Father Sheedy assisted by vice-principal Sister Mary Kathleen of the St Joseph of Carondelet Order, whose Sisters served beautifully at St Ann's for many years. Others, whom many parishioners will remember; Sister Agnes Teresa, Sister Inez Marie and Sister Catherine Edward. During the next few years as the fourth graders moved up a year and a new first grade was added, student registration increased from 174 in 1960 to 415 in grades 1 through 8 in 1964!

Within five years the empty fields, once part of the House of Providence farm, had blossomed into a healthy, self-sustaining parish in the mold of the pre-Vatican II Church, thanks to the strong leadership of Bishop Foery and Father Sheedy. *(And some consistently dedicated work on the part of pioneer parishioners)*

While St Ann's Parish on the west side of Syracuse was establishing itself as a viable, self-sustaining religious community of the Roman Catholic Church in the early 1960's, 3000 miles away in Rome the church itself was about to undergo dramatic and long lasting change.

Pope John XXIII, who had been elevated to the papacy in 1958 after the death of Pius XII, decided to "open the windows" of the universal church by calling for a General Council known as Vatican II. John XXIII, a skilled diplomat and perceptive leader, would call the bishops of the church from throughout the world, together with theologians and representatives of other faiths to consider the status, teaching and liturgy of a church which had changed little since the Council of Trent (1545 - 1563). The conclusions of Vatican II, which ended in 1963, would have a direct effect on the new St Ann's in Syracuse.



Father Jack Morse

Just prior to the Council, a new assistant was assigned to St Ann's to replace Father Tucker who had been reassigned to Oswego. In 1959, Father John Morse, a young, enthusiastic priest who related well to the youth of the parish assumed his duties. It was a fortuitous appointment because Father Morse's gentle tactfulness helped ease the parish, traditional in every sense of the word, into acceptance of the many changes introduced by Vatican II. Among these were the celebration of mass with the priest facing the people, the language of the mass in

English rather than Latin, receiving the host in the hands and other innovations designed to make the liturgy more meaningful and to increase the participation of the laity.

The art of gentle persuasion was not the only talent of Father Morse. It was he who brought the nationally renowned youth choral group, "Up With People" to St Ann's, and he, along with long time parishioner, Gloria Irving, brought the bright lights of Broadway to the parish stage when they combined to produce a series of Broadway hits performed by men, women and children of the parish in the early '60's. (For more details see Page 12)

On Sunday, June 19, 1960, a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated Father Francis Sheedy's Silver Jubilee as a priest. In the afternoon a reception in his honor was held in the church hall. (See Notes 4).

By 1964 St Ann's had grown to 630 families and the school numbered almost 500 students. The need for expansion was evident and a new building campaign was started to provide more classrooms, a new gymnasium and kitchen areas. The funding goal of \$300,500 was accomplished within a year with a theme of "A Sacrificial Pledge from Every Family." A day's pay per month from every working member was asked. This last major building project was formally dedicated on October 2, 1965, by Bishop Walter Foery.

Just four months prior, the first St Ann's graduating class consisting of 21 boys and 18 girls received their eighth grade diplomas. The well-known Monsignor Martin J Watley gave the commencement address.



Sister Agnes Teresa's first grade taken about 1963. Two we can identify are Billy Irving, seventh from right and Terry McAuliffe second from right.

Following the recommendations of Vatican II and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops the first Parish Council was formed in 1969 with Dr Robert Collins as Chairman. (See Notes 5)

On Sunday, May 21, 1972 a Recognition Dinner honoring St Ann's long time pastor, Father Francis Sheedy, was held in the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Syracuse. Dr Mark Conan and Gloria Irving were chairmen and master of ceremonies was Jack McAuliffe.

Father Sheedy became Monsignor Sheedy on September 30, 1973 and three months later he was able to announce that the parish he founded with so much love and anxiety 18 years before was completely debt-free. Church, rectory, school, convent and parish center--debt free! Testimony to a good priest and good people.



Father Richard Tucker

Father Richard Tucker Assumes Pastorate

Failing health forced Monsignor Sheedy's retirement in August 1976 and Father Richard Tucker returned from Oswego to become St Ann's second pastor. In the fall of 1976 St Ann's school had two classes for each grade level and a total enrollment of just over 500 students. By popular demand a kindergarten was started at this time. The Home/School Association (6) was established at this time and the CCD Religious Instruction program was in full swing with a faculty of one priest, six sisters and four lay teachers.

Monsignor Sheedy Dies

It was a sad day at St Ann's on July 28, 1977 when the people heard of Monsignor Sheedy's death, 22 years after his founding a hugely successful parish. The Bell Tower at the church entrance is erected in his memory. Their tolling expresses joy, sorrow, hope and welcome; characteristics that shape every human life and were especially strong in Monsignor Francis C Sheedy.

In the early part of his pastorate Father Tucker initiated a number of physical changes to St Ann's church. The sanctuary was remodeled and the floor raised so that the altar was more visible; the side altars and communion railing were removed; pews were refinished and new kneelers were purchased. In place of the confessionals in the back of the church, a reconciliation room in front of the church opposite the sacristy was made available for private confession. Choir space and a new organ were installed. At this time it was decided that the present church would be the permanent church rather than build a new edifice. According to one parish founding member, the original idea was to have the church building serve as the cafeteria for the first school building.

New stained glass windows using stylized geometric designs were installed in the church proper. Beginning at the northeast corner and continuing clockwise to the northwest corner they depict the basic story of the Apostles Creed. Air conditioning was also added at this time.

In 1978 the first diocesan-wide Hope Appeal was launched. Harry Headd was Chairman, assisted by Phil Britt, John Ehlinger, Edward Kearney, Millie McAuliffe, Charles O'Connor and Rosemary Speth. By exceeding its parish campaign goal a percentage of funds was returned to St Ann's enabling the development of a new ministry by former teacher Sister Noreen Keenan. Sister was able to visit the sick and elderly, bringing communion to those confined at home or in the hospital.

Another way the people of St Ann's put the gospel teachings to practical use is through the help provided the homeless and less fortunate in such places as Unity Kitchen, the Oxford Inn and Vera House.



After much discussion the Syracuse Common Council and Board of Education approved bussing of students from within city limits to St Ann's School in 1976.

By 1980 the Diocese of Syracuse had developed an assistance program for the many refugees from Vietnam and Laos known as the **"Boat People"** for their heroic escape from communism. St Ann's Parish formed a Boat People Committee chaired by Robert Warne and co-chaired by Paul Duda to re-settle one of these families, providing housing and employment. Dave and Betty Allen took a major role, and Betty's father *donated* a small home he owned on Fenton Street!

Also in 1980, Sean Brown, son of long time parishioners Carl and Marqueen Brown, introduced the Folk Group and Folk Music at the 7:30 Vigil Mass on Saturday evenings.

25!

Undoubtedly the major event of 1980 was the recognition of St Ann's 25 years as a parish. An attractive Silver Anniversary booklet was produced and a weeklong celebration began with Mass on Sunday May 4, an Evening of Memories, May 7 attended by over 600 and a gala dinner dance which attracted 450, Saturday May 10 in the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Syracuse. Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Costello was main speaker.

"Renew" was a refreshingly innovative program begun in 1984 which encouraged active, informal discussion of particular scriptural readings during Lent among small groups of parishioners. Usually meeting in individual homes the Renew Program fostered a sense of "family" that resulted in increased involvement in parish life on the part of many formerly 'Sunday only' parishioners.

Mass for the New Mayor

On New Year's Day, January 1, 1986 there was a special Mass of Thanksgiving at St Ann's honoring Thomas G. Young, a parishioner, just before he was sworn in at City Hall as Mayor of Syracuse. His wife, Gloria, a 4th grade teacher at St Ann's, his four children, relatives and friends, all made this a really happy New Year's Day.

The parish had grown to 730 families by 1986, in sound financial health. Unfortunately, the school had seen its student population drop to 200, primarily due to substantial but necessary tuition increases and because the make-up of the parish was aging.

Father Tucker surprised everyone in the fall of that year by disclosing that a heart condition would cause him to give up the stress and strain of parish administration. His doctor had recommended a warmer climate and he would soon leave for Marco Island, Florida to become Associate Pastor at the Church of San Marco. A large turnout of parishioners bid him best wishes at a reception in the school hall.

Father Thomas McGrath named third St Ann's Pastor

Near the Christmas season of 1986, Bishop Frank J Harrison appointed the Reverend Thomas J McGrath, a Syracuse native and priest-son of St Brigid's Parish as St Ann's third pastor.

Ordained in 1959, Father McGrath had served throughout the diocese, notably as Principal of St Mary's School in Cortland, Oswego Catholic High School and Rome Catholic Academy and as Assistant Superintendent for Catholic Schools in Binghamton.



Fr Thomas McGrath

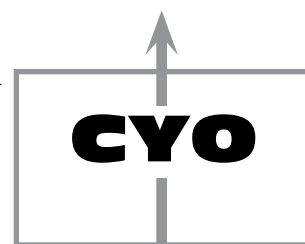
The Diocese of Syracuse was formed out of the western portion of the Diocese of Albany in 1886.

On December 4, 1986, Father McGrath's first day at St Ann's, a special centennial mass was celebrated at the Cathedral downtown, observing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Syracuse. Two new beginnings were observed that day; the start of the Syracuse Diocese's second 100 years and the pastorate of Father Thomas McGrath in St Ann's 33rd year.

It was January 25, 1987, at the noon day mass that Father McGrath was officially installed as pastor of St Ann's. Father Robert Yeazel performed the ceremony and spoke.

We should mention here Father Patrick Casalanuovo, a young priest who served at St Ann's as associate pastor for only a short time; September 1986 to July 1987.

His easy, gregarious manner helped the people and the new pastor get acquainted. But Father Casalanuovo's major contributions were his happy involvement in parish activities, especially with the teenagers. CYO membership increased with his activation of St Ann's varsity basketball team and the joint attendance with other CYO groups at Syracuse University games at the Carrier Dome.



Father Pat's other promotions included donuts and coffee after Sunday masses, a spaghetti supper in the church hall, a trip to Washington, DC, pizza parties and attendance at Chiefs games at MacArthur Stadium. All this attracted the involvement and appreciation of the parish youth. They were sorry to see him go, when, in the summer of 1987 he was reassigned to St John the Evangelist in Binghamton. St Ann's, like so many other Syracuse parishes, would be served by one priest.

Initial Plans for Expansion

On Tuesday, May 27, 1987, Father McGrath invited parishioners to the church hall to discuss church expansion and renovation. Architect J. Murray Hueber explained the plans and drawings which included a new front entrance and more seating in the church proper. Shortly thereafter it was decided to put these plans "on hold" and to replace the roofs of the church, convent and rectory which were over 30 years old.

With only one priest at this time, in the fall of 1987, Mrs Mary Stanley, a parishioner with a wealth of teaching experience became the full time Religious Education Director for Grades K - 12, with responsibility for the sacramental program and the development of an adult education program. For weekend help Father McGrath arranged to have two LeMoyne College priests, the Rev James Smith SJ and the Rev Jack Boland alternate masses. The people appreciated the Jesuit insight and depth of their weekend homilies.

Bye, Bye Bingo

The Home/School Association fund raising program, "Fantastic Journey" was introduced in late 1987 and proved sufficiently successful to allow the discontinuance of weekly Bingo, which was becoming a drain on many volunteers.

The Return of HOH

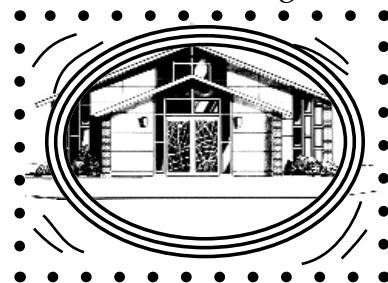
St Ann's famous Christmas fund raiser, "Holiday Open House" was successfully reborn after a few years absence in November of 1987 under the leadership of Lorraine McGarry and her co-chairs Sue O'Neill and Laurie Leone. The theme "Festival of Lights" proved popular and the proceeds were used for a new sanctuary ceiling and new church lighting.

Parish Member Involvement

One of the primary strengths of St Ann's Parish is parishioner involvement. When the various activities are recalled; ushers, lectors, choir, eucharistic ministers, CCD teachers, HOPE Appeal, Parish Council, Parish Trustees, Home/School Association, Renew groups, even participation in Dinner Theatre entertainment, the willingness of parish members to share time is remarkable.

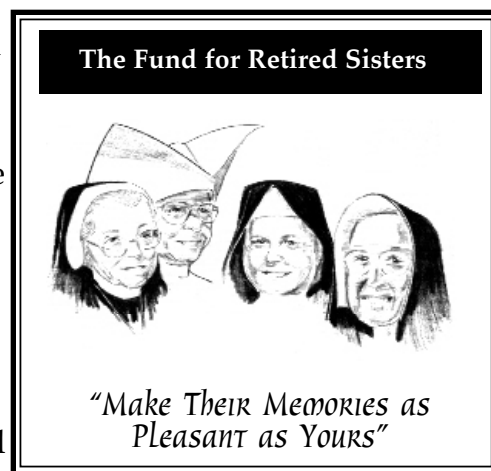
Special mention should be made of six who took the extraordinary steps to become Parish Ministers. In the late '80's Bishop Joseph O'Keefe formally commissioned Ellen Flynn, Jim Spencer, David Allen, Charles O'Connor, Bud Ungerer and Joseph Medicis. Their duties include working with shut-ins, senior citizens, families, liturgy and religious education.

Signs of a healthy, committed parish can be seen in a glance at just some of the activities during the year 1987: The school instituted a pre-kindergarten program, a full time kindergarten, a hot lunch program, art and computer programs and also tuition assistance help. Adult education was promoted with the extension of some Renew groups during Lent 1987; The Altar & Rosary Society installed new officers; a Valentine Dance by the Home/School Association; a pot luck supper in March along with a 'soup supper' to benefit the Oxford Inn; Women's Retreat at Stella Maris in Skaneateles; Palm Sunday Bake Sale; Hope Appeal; Dinner Theatre--"Parish on Parade" in May; party for ushers, Bingo workers and money counters; Mother and Daughter Breakfast; Weekly Bingo (*among other things!*)



Special Ministries

St Ann's has always been noted for enthusiastic support of organizations and programs that extend the spirit of Catholicity to the community; Catholic Charities, Vera House, Oxford Inn, Unity Kitchen, the Assumption Food Center. This same generosity was evident when in November 1987 the Syracuse Diocese issued an appeal to come to the financial aid of the increasing number of retired sisters. The appeal, known as the "Fund for Retired Sisters" with the theme, "Make Their Memories as Pleasant as Yours" touched a chord particularly among the thousands of parochial school alumni in the diocese. The response from St Ann's was excellent. A total of \$143,767 was pledged in helping the diocese raise over \$3,000,000 toward a five year goal of \$8,400,000.



"Holiday Open House", always a popular and effective fund raiser for St Ann's, but one requiring many volunteer hours and coordination was again to take a one year hiatus in 1988, with plans to resume the following year.

Two Major Honors in 1988

Two deeply involved parish members received signal honors in 1988. Patricia Ann Merante, the Kindergarten Teacher at St Ann's for 12 years received the Miriam Joseph Farrell Award for 1988. The award, for distinguished educational service was presented by the National Catholic Education Association at their annual convention in New York City on April 4th.

And on April 24th in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Syracuse, Dr Mark Conan received the fourth annual St Thomas More Medal, presented to an outstanding Catholic alumni of Syracuse University for contributions to church and community. Dr Conan, a prominent gynecologist and obstetrician is a former president of St Joseph's Hospital Medical Staff.

Ushers Club Anniversary

On May 10, 1988 the Ushers club celebrated its 25th anniversary. It was in 1963 that Father Sheedy met with a committee headed by Bob Jones, to elect officers (See Notes 7).

Ordination of Father Kevin Corcoran

One of the happiest highlights of 1988 was the ordination on June 4th at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of Kevin Corcoran, son of parish pioneers Thomas and Marge Corcoran. A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated at St Ann's on Sunday, June 5th at 2:30 pm. Father Tucker was the Homilist and a beautiful reception followed in the church hall.

Previously ordained were: John Hyatt, SJ; Robert Chryst, May 1968; James Fritzen, May 1969.

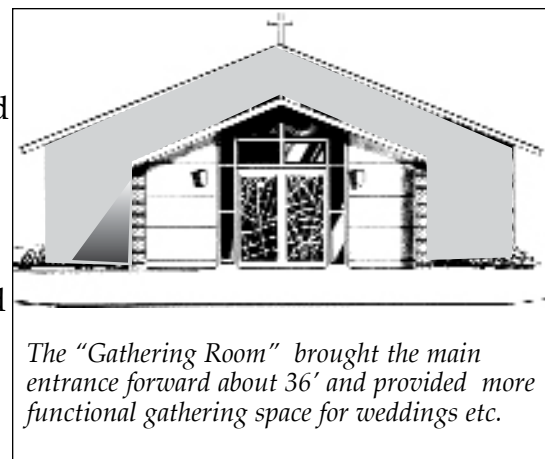
New Ministry

A new ministry was added in 1988 when Sister Maureen D'Onofrio was appointed Pastoral Minister after having served in the Parish Life and Ministry Vicariate for the Diocese. Besides weekly adult discussion groups Sister Maureen conducted the new program for converts to Catholicism, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the RCIA process. After months of preparation, three catechumens, Karen Sullivan, Steve Farrington and Christine Kearney were received into the church at the Easter Vigil Mass April 25, 1989.

Expansion Revisited

The plan to enlarge the church entrance way, put on hold year earlier, was reintroduced by Father McGrath in July 1988. The modified plan would add a room 36' wide by 23' in depth to the main entrance keeping the lines and general feeling of the church design.

Art Beaudette, retired from the construction business, offered his time and expertise in organizing the project. Other parishioner/business people who contributed their experience included Dick Viau, Ed Schalk, Larry Deskin, Dick Burns, and Murray Hueber. The "Gathering Room", as it became known, was finished in the fall of 1988. Total cost: \$113,000, financed entirely by volunteer contributions.



The "Gathering Room" brought the main entrance forward about 36' and provided more functional gathering space for weddings etc.

Parish Newsletters

Autumn 1988 also saw the introduction of two parish newsletters. The Home-School Association published "St Ann's School Newsletter" every other month to keep parents and interested parishioners informed of various school related activities. The President of the Association, Brenda Bigelow, oversaw its publication.

A general parish newsletter began in September 1988, with the unique title: St ANNouncements. Published quarterly, St ANNouncements was professionally designed and printed by Robert Warne and Sister Maureen D'Onofrio with Jack Donnelly gathering and coordinating publication.

First Girls as Altar Servers

On Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1988, St Ann's, for the first time, had boys **and** girls as altar servers. Alison Young served as crossbearer and Rachel Chapburn and Jennifer Woythal were acolytes. Interestingly enough, Father McGrath remarked how Sister Noreen Keenan, long time teacher and minister to shut-ins at the parish had paved the way for the change because she had served during the summer at the 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass.

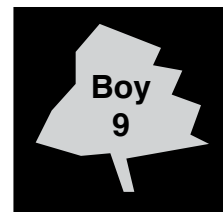
Altar servers, both boys and girls, followed schedules during the school year.

During the summer vacation they volunteered and one young man, Kevin Murphy, deserves special recognition.

Kevin, son of parish secretary, Ellen Murphy, delighted in serving at the 8:15 am Mass all summer.

His consistency and demeanor were admirable examples for all.

In the late 1980's a tradition was started at St Ann's involving a Christmas season "Giving Tree". This involves a Christmas tree set up in the Gathering Room laden with tags indicating disadvantaged, anonymous girls or boys and their ages. Parishioners select one or more tags, provide an appropriate gift and place it under the tree a week or so before Christmas. The popularity of this tradition has kept it going to the present day.



A typical "Giving Tree" tag.

Broadway Meets Onondaga Boulevard

Another successful means of promoting parish unity was the series of theatrical programs produced throughout the years, primarily by Gloria Irving. Gloria started working with Father Jack Morse and CYO Members in the late 1960's directing and producing entertainment 'a cut above' the usual local efforts. So well accepted were these productions, showcasing the talents of young people and fellow parishioners, that they became annual affairs evolving eventually into Dinner Theatre, the first of which "Broadway Revisited" occurred in the spring of 1986. With a cast of 200, Gloria coordinated a smooth, talented show followed in 1987 "Parish on Parade" and "Rainbows and Memories" in May 1989. Over 400 guests were served on Friday and Saturday evenings, with ' theater only' performances at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Sunday.



Some idea of the polish and professionalism brought to St Ann's by Gloria Irving and committee.

Imaginative decorations turned the gym into a nightclub (well, almost).

(For a fur-

Father McGrath's 30th Anniversary

On Sunday May 21, 1989, Father James Smith of LeMoyne and Father Kevin Corcoran concelebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:00 am with the pastor marking his 30th year as a priest. Of special note on this occasion was the instrumental music featuring guitar, harp and autoharp. At a reception following the mass, Thomas Coman, President of the Parish Council, presented a beautiful blue chasuble to Father McGrath.

In the fall, Father McGrath announced that after discussion with the Parish Council, it was decided that 5% of the weekly parish income would be given to local charities or needy local parishes. This Sacrificial Giving Program continues today.

The Second Return of Holiday Open House

After another year's absence St Ann's famous bazaar, Holiday Open House, returned to rave reviews on November 11, 1989. Margaret Corcoran, Betty Bigsby, Gloria Irving and Lorraine McGarry chaired the event, part of whose proceeds allowed the purchase of a large Christmas Creche, displayed in the Gathering Room.

1990

At the beginning of the last decade of the 20th Century, a number of St Ann's parishioners received special honors. Mrs Bonnie Traylor, second grade teacher at St Ann's since 1972, received the St John Baptiste de Salle Award given by the New York State Federation of Catholic School Parents for excellence in teaching. In February at the Federation's annual dinner, Thomas Tenerovicz, a member of the Catholic School Board of Onondaga County, received the Elizabeth Ann Seton Award for his support of Catholic education.

In March at the Syracuse Friends for Life luncheon, Dr Mark Conan was presented a special Pro-Life Award. A month later, A. Patrick Bright, received the Syracuse University St Thomas More Foundation Medal, given to outstanding Catholic alumni for their contributions to the community at large.

**Parish
Town
Meeting
for Youth**

Following the Vatican's recommendations for more emphasis on involvement of young people, Bishop Joseph O'Keefe asked each parish to schedule an open meeting where teenagers, parents, and parish staff could discuss ways in which more interaction and mutual benefits could be realized by greater participation of parish youth.

About 125 attended an enthusiastic meeting March 25 in the church hall.

.....

St Ann's 35th Anniversary:

On Sunday February 18, 1990 Father McGrath called attention to the fact that it was exactly 35 years ago to the day that St Ann's was founded.* He paid great tribute to Father Francis Sheedy, the first pastor, for turning several acres of meadow into a thriving model of a Catholic Parish. "Father Sheedy's common touch and his talent for getting people to work together were the catalyst for St Ann's early and continuing success," said Father McGrath.

Then Parish Historian, Mary Agnes Farley, gave a glowing account of the anniversary's formal observance held Sunday May 6, 1990. (See Notes 8)



Part of a montage put together for St Ann's 35th Anniversary Celebration May 1990

"That Sunday's 11:00 am Mass was concelebrated by Bishop Joseph O'Keefe, Father McGrath and Father Smith. It was at this time that the new Gathering Room and the newly installed stained glass windows were formally dedicated. In the evening, Dr Conan welcomed a large crowd of clergy, religious, parishioners and friends at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Syracuse. Gloria Irving arranged the entertainment consisting of a slide presentation and musical numbers recalling fond memories of parishioners working together, also remembering many loved ones no longer with us, for their untiring efforts in laying the foundations, both spiritually and materially, of St Ann's.

The entire parish rejoiced and rightfully so."

* This was the date that Father Sheedy was named pastor. On March 3, 1955, Bishop Foery officially designated the parish and described its boundaries.

St Ann's--A Syracuse Parish in a Universal Church

The Church Bulletin for Sunday, February 4, 1990 contained this notice: "Archbishop Oscar Romero who had been installed as Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977 vigorously defended his people against the repressive government for three years particularly condemning the massacre of 300 peaceful demonstrators six days after his installation. Finally, on March 23, 1980, addressing the armed forces of that repressive nation: "Brothers, you are a part of these people...no soldier is obliged to obey an order against the law of God. In the name of God, I ask you, I beg you, I order you, stop the killing, stop the repression!"

The following evening while celebrating Mass, Archbishop Romero was assassinated.

On March 24, 1990, people around the world will join with the people of El Salvador to mark the 10th anniversary of his death. We in Syracuse will paint a 32'x92' mural on the outside of the Catholic Shop showing to Interstate 81. We ask your contribution of talent or money to make the mural a reality."

The mural was completed the following summer.

The Old and The New with a Unique Twist

Tradition met the future in April 1990. On Palm Sunday evening the 40-member Women's Chorus from Bishop Ludden High School presented Gabriel Faure's "Requiem" at St Ann's in observance of Holy Week. This is considered one of the most respected works in the choral music repertoire.

Later in the month St Ann's entered the computer age with the purchase of a Macintosh Computer System, made possible through parishioners' saving of P&C register tapes. Ed Schmidt, father of second grade teacher Bonnie Traylor brought in \$15,517.00 in tapes!



The Great Harvest Auction of 1990 (Auctions also held in 1991, 1993 and 1996)

The parish bulletin of September 23, 1990 contained the first announcement of what promised to be "one of the most exciting functions we have ever undertaken (both socially and financially)...if we each make a small effort." Well, there must have been a lot of small and large efforts made because the auction on Friday November 9, in the Parish Center was a smashing success! Lorraine McGarry, Mary Alyce Farrell and Toni McNamara (the "official Receiver of Merchandise") organized the event superbly. Some of the unique items and services which the full house bid on were: *A Birch Tree, Maid Service for a Day, An Oriental Rug, Golf Lessons from Jim Roy, A Water Color of Your Home by Pat Centore, A Gourmet Dinner for Six Prepared by former Assistant Pastor Father Leo Wimmatt and a Complete Physical by Dr Paul Stobnicke.* (not the average auction items).

The capacity crowd enjoyed a cocktail or two, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and steamship round. Professional Auctioneer Dick Allen presided.

It took a month, but on Sunday, December 9, 1990 the parish bulletin reported: HARVEST AUCTION RESULTS- Total profit-\$16,922.82! Together, we did make a difference.

The Oxford Inn Program...

For a number of years St Ann's has been a strong supporter of the Oxford Inn for homeless men on Syracuse's south side. Parishioners Howard O'Brien and Harold Epoch, among others, regularly collected and donated furniture items to the Inn and Karen Sparkes, the 'Sandwich Queen' has coordinated many parish members in providing thousands and thousands of sandwiches throughout the 1990's.

Former Associate Pastor Found Far, Far Away from Onondaga Boulevard

Father Pat Casalanuovo, a priest who was a big hit with the parish's young people, served only 10 months at St Ann's as Associate Pastor in the late 80's before re-assignment to Binghamton.

After many inquiries by parishioners who wished to correspond with him, just before Christmas 1990 his new address was reported as **St Kevin's Parish, 50 Oak Avenue, Dee Why, New South Wales, Australia !**

Operation

Desert



During late 1990 and early 1991 the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the threat of chemical war unleashed by Saddam Hussein resulted in UN operation Desert Shield led by US General Norman Schwarzkopf. Thousands of US troops were sent to the Persian Gulf, many from the Syracuse area, among them Matt O'Connor, son of St Ann's Deacon Charles O'Connor and his wife Pat, Bill Welker, nephew of parishioner Ann Miller and John Martineau, nephew of Erma Piraino

The confirmation class at the time took on the mission of sending cookies and gifts to Matt and his unit in the 24th Division. In a letter written during the holiday season (a copy was included with the parish bulletin), he gratefully acknowledged the gifts and gave a graphic description of desert life for the armed forces stationed there.

(Matt returned home safely in April 1991. He lives with his family in Georgia

Readin', writin' and 'rithmetic...Everything's up-to-date in Kansas City and St Ann's!

DID YOU KNOW--- St Ann's School offers a regular curriculum of math, reading, science, social studies, English, as well as music, art, gym, library, after school Spanish, piano lessons and computer classes weekly? (*Bulletin, Sunday Jan. 27, 1991*)



Another in the successful series (see Page 12) of Broadway-inspired Dinner Theatre productions took place on May 3, 4 and 5, 1991 in the school gym. After three months of rehearsals and with a cast of hundreds, "Manhattan Melodies" opened to rave reviews in St Ann's Parish Bulletin.

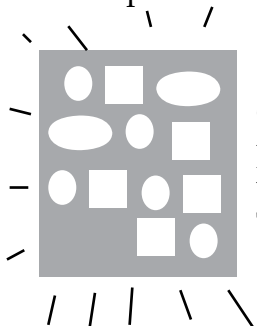
Preceded by an Open Bar and Dinner for \$25.00 per person, the performance received standing ovations each evening. A special note of thanks went to Tony Binsack and his crew who spent many hours transforming the big gym into a Broadway style theatre. Proceeds were used to support parish youth activities.

Some indication of the professionalism evident in the effort was the Videotape of the performance available for purchase.



*Three "major leaguers" from St Ann's stepped up to the plate in 1991 to help in the
CATHEDRAL BREAKFAST PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS MEN.*

Harold Epoch, Harry Headd and Howard O'Brien placed this notice in the July 14th Bulletin: "The program's purpose is to serve a well balanced, nutritious hot meal and to act as friend and counselor to men. When possible we've also been furnishing these homeless men with individual living quarters. We must furnish these with just about everything starting with a can opener. Presently we need complete bed sets, pots and pans. We have a continuing need for chairs, sofas, sheets and pillow cases, towels and kitchen utensils." Harold and Howard and Harry, after successful business careers, became connoisseurs of the second hand trade, and great examples of the Corporal Works of Mercy.



At this time (July 1991) it was announced that St Ann's would publish a full color pictorial directory, containing photos of all parish members and a complete roster of church membership, as a treasured keepsake. Each family would receive a free 8x10 color portrait when photographed at the church. The book was successfully completed later in the year.

*REPAIRING AND REPAVING THE
128,500 SQ. FT PARKING AREA.*

*REPAIRING A SUDDENLY
DISCOVERED ROOF PROBLEM*

GO

A major "home maintenance" project was planned in August of 1991 when St Ann's full parking area was to be redone under the supervision of parishioner Art Beaudette. Just as the bid of \$34,000 for repaving was accepted, a serious problem on the school roof was found. Priority was given to the roof and the paving delayed since funding was unavailable for both projects.

Also in August 1991, parishioner John Kirsch designed and built a shrine to Mary on the large lawn behind the rectory. Landscaping included a watering system at the site to grow and maintain a beautiful assortment of flowers. John and his sons dug a trench from the rectory to the shrine and ran electric wiring as well as water so that the area could be illuminated after dark.

Father McGrath expressed the gratitude of the entire parish to the Kirsches and to Dan Doherty and his nephew Tim Davis who put the final touches on the electrical system for their donation of time and talent.



Judging by the number of consecutive announcements in the weekly Sunday Bulletin beginning in mid-summer and the highly organized planning by an experienced staff, the St Ann's Harvest Auction set for Friday November 8, 1991 promised to be the biggest thing since....who knows what?

And do you know what? It was! With a highly talented group including, among many others,--Gloria Irving (as usual) Lorraine and Leo McGarry, Toni McNamara, Tom Coman, Mary Alyce Farrell, Michele Donahoe, Gary Gasparini, Jack Michaels, Jane Kendrick and Ann Stiner, (plus a committee of over 70) the event was not only a "Fund Raiser" but a "Fun Raiser" as well, according to Father McGrath's notes in the following Sunday's Bulletin. With the donation of gifts like these for the auction, how could they miss? ✓ Two tickets to "TOSCA" ✓ The drawing up of two wills, ✓ A weekend at the Phoenix Park Hotel in Washington, DC. ✓ A Hamilton solid brass quartz table clock. ✓ A week's stay at a cottage on DeRuyter Lake and ✓ A party boat outing on Skaneateles lake.

More than 250 people attended this hugely successful event which raised \$15,000 for parish and school support!



St Ann's---a vibrant Catholic Parish, inside and outside its boundaries.

A glance at just one issue of the Sunday bulletin--November 24, 1991--reveals a parish healthily involved in carrying out the teachings of Christ, both within and outside its home base.

- ✦ A call for winter clothing for the homeless men of Oxford Inn.
- ✦ Reminder of final contributions to the Fund for Retired sisters.
- ✦ Announcement of planning for Christmas Concert.
- ✦ School kids asked parishioners to bring in 2500 Campbell Bonus labels (Vlasic Pickles, Mrs Paul's and Marie's Salad Dressing) to qualify for national contest. (Accomplished)

- ✦ Announcement of two new candidates for study into the Catholic Faith (RCIA).
- ✦ Announcement of lunch gatherings at the Spiritual Renewal Center, downtown.
- ✦ Campaign for Human Development by U.S. Catholic Bishops scheduled for Dec 1, 1991.
- ✦ Advent Evening of Recollection given by Father Lang, Dec 3, 1991.
- ✦ A reception and holiday performance of Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" Dec 1, at Syracuse Stage to benefit Pregnancy Counseling Services.
- ✦ Christmas Coffee and Bazaar at the House of Providence to help fund Catholic Charities' Vincent House on Gifford Street.

How St Ann's has been sharing with others:

Each week throughout the year St Ann's sets aside 5% of its income for distribution to church based charities. About 19 different groups are helped which include Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Fund, Unity Acres, Rescue Mission, Covenant House, 420 Gifford Street, Support, St Anthony's Church, Cathedral Breakfast Program, Oxford Inn and several others.

Some excerpts from letters of appreciation:

Catholic Charities: ("Your) gift arrived at a most opportune time when our pantry and funds were almost depleted...you and your parishioners may rest assured that this most generous gift will be put to very good use.

Francis House: "Thank you for your generous gift for Francis House, the home for the dying who could have gone home had they a primary caregiver."

Covenant House: "Your donation...will go a long way towards making Christmas happier for our young people."

Note from Father McGrath-- All recipients are so appreciative! I am convinced that our parish has been greatly blessed because of your weekly gifts. Jesus said, "As often as you did it for one, the least, you did it for me."

(Over \$9,600 was dispersed by St Ann's in 1991.)

St Ann's School---Always Something cooking!

How's this for a full plate of activity in the month of March 1992?

✱ A Spaghetti Supper on Saturday evening, March 21 sponsored by the Confirmation Class. Proceeds benefited the 420 Gifford Street Boys shelter.

✱ A Thank You from the school children to all parishioners who helped with the collections of P&C Tapes (shopping receipts in the thousands!). The school received a computer printer and software as a result.

✱ The school was in the midst of collecting Campbell Soup labels with a goal to purchase a TV with VCR attached to be used in conjunction with Cable in the Classroom. Accomplished.



The same month, Bishop Joseph O'Keefe, in a letter to.....

all

The Fund for Retired Sisters



"Make Their Memories as Pleasant as Yours"

Above is shown the theme and artwork for the Fund for Retired Sisters. The Diocese of Syracuse followed only the Archdioceses of Chicago and New York in the total of funds raised. The plan's structure and theme became a nationwide model.

diocesan parishes including St Ann's, sent congratulations on the magnificent effort evidenced by the success of the Fund for Retired Sisters.

The five-year plan, developed by St Ann's / St John the Evangelist parishioner, Roger Shaver, diocesan financial director, had reached 98% of its goal with nine months remaining.

Quoting the Bishop, "The Fund for Retired Sisters in the Diocese of Syracuse is a model for dioceses across the nation. In 1990 Syracuse was **third** in the United States out of 188 dioceses in the amount of money set aside for the retired sisters. Only the Archdioceses of Chicago and New York contributed more. (Chicago has a Catholic population of 2,350,000, New York a population of 2,234,000 while the Diocese of Syracuse has a population of 372,000 making Syracuse's per capita grant the highest in the nation.)

The original plan, inaugurated in 1987, called for \$9.4 million to be raised over five years. The drive's theme, "Make Their Memories as Pleasant as Yours" struck a chord with the thousands of Parochial School alumni in the diocese.

St Ann's
Sunday
Bulletin,
April 19,
1992



FROM THE OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION:

Every family experiences its Good Fridays; an illness, death, loss of a job. During these times of utter darkness there seems no way out. We need to remember, with every Good Friday, there is an Easter. Be confident in this hope.

Long time parishioner, **Jim Spencer**, was among more than 50 people commissioned in the lay ministry to the church at the Cathedral on Sunday, September 13, 1992 by Bishop James O'Keefe .

Formerly, Assistant Administrator at St Camillus, his ministry is the area of parish business administration. In the last 10 years more than 500 lay people throughout the diocese have been commissioned in areas including Religious Education, Pastoral Care of the Sick, Evangelization, Parish Outreach, Life and Worship.

Jim joins the list of other commissioned ministers from St Ann's shown at the right.

Lay Ministers from St Ann's

David Allen
Ellen Flynn
Joe Medicis
Chuck O'Connor*
Jim Spencer
Bud Ungerer

** Chuck O'Connor became a Deacon of the Church in April 1993.*

WILLS??

From the Parish Bulletin, Sunday, October 4, 1992:

"Do you have a used mini-van sized tire that the school can use for a project?

Please call the school at 468-6441."



Now, what could you do with a used mini-van tire?

A rather unusual parish event took place Tuesday evening, January 19, 1993, when the Parish Council hosted a free Wills Awareness Seminar.

Local attorneys answered all sorts of questions relating to Wills, Trusts estate planning etc. A month later brochures handed out at the seminar were still being requested.

Monsignor A. Robert Casey

Known throughout the northeastern United States as one of the finest speakers in the Catholic Church, Monsignor A. Robert Casey

delivered a Lenten talk Tuesday March 23, 1993 in St Ann's church hall.



Speaking on "Life's Faith Journey" he claimed that his 'age' gave him the right to speak on one's life

understanding of the human condition, his character and example made him a confidante and champion of priests throughout the Diocese of Syracuse. At his funeral in January 2001, the Cathedral was packed with clergy and lay people in a final and laugh/tear filled tribute.

Bob Casey grew up across from the House of Providence on Onondaga Street. He graduated from Rosary High School in the early '30's with classmate Ted Hesburgh who became the famous President of Notre Dame.



In the winter of 1993 the following appeared in the parish bulletin:

"I didn't think txx much abxut cxmmunity invx-
lvement until the night xur facilitatxr shxwed us
hxw the parish cxmputer perfxrms when just xne
single key is xut xf xrder. All the keys wxrk
except xne, but that xne destrxys the effective-
ness xf the cxmputer. Nxw I knxw that even thx-
ugh I am xnlly xne persxn, I am needed if our
cxmmunity is tx be successful."



...sxmexne at St Ann's had a real sense xf humxr!

In
the Dark
Ages one of the
main responsibilities
of
ushers was to be on
the lookout and
defend

On Monday May 10, 1993 the St Ann's Ushers Club celebrated its 30th anniversary. Three of the original officers and one usher were still active at that time: President Joseph Piraino, one of St Ann's all time volunteer-organizers; Frank Mott, Vice President; Al Madlin, Treasurer and Bob Cherry rounded out the group.

**This information supplied by latter-day usher James Mulder*

MARY STANLEY, St Ann's DIRECTOR of Religious Education

At the end of May, 1993, Father McGrath announced that Mary Stanley had been appointed Western Region Director of Religious Education.

"But we do so with mixed emotions," he said, "Mary has been our DRE for six years. Her contributions have been above and beyond the call of duty and we are so grateful."

The Western Region includes 65 parishes in Onondaga, Cortland and Oswego Counties.

In a thank you to the parish, Mary listed more than 60 individuals who contributed their time and learning in helping her with CCD instruction, First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation classes.



Father Thomas McGrath Re-appointed to Another Six-year Term as Pastor of St Ann's

In keeping with diocesan policy, Bishop Joseph O'Keefe, in consultation with a committee of St Ann's parishioners and the Priests' Personnel Committee, completed a six year review of Father McGrath's pastorate. The Bishop was pleased to reappoint him to another six-year term.

Father responded, "I thank him, of course, for his

very personal affirmation. Needless to say, I am pleased to be your pastor once again and it is my hope that you feel the same. For each of your contributions I am grateful. I am most grateful to the wonderful staff with whom I have worked over these years. They have been my mainstay both pastorally and personally."

June 6, 1993

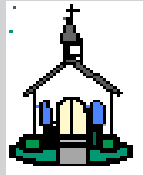
One Major Parish Fundraiser Replaces "Holiday Open House" and Bingo

In early June 1993, the first announcement and appeal for volunteers was made for the third "Harvest Happening", the major parish fundraiser for that year to be held November 5, five months in the future. (*These folks planned ahead!*) The evening included hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, a mini-auction with Auctioneer Bob Mangin and a drawing for a **\$10,000 grand prize**.

Sister Maureen D'Onofrio,

St Ann's Pastoral Minister was thanked for all her work over the past several years at a reception on June 13, 1993 in the Church Hall. Expecting coffee and donuts," there was so much more the flood of tears began", she explained.

Her new assignment will be at St Mary's of the Lake in Skaneateles.



Sunday, June 27, 1993

A Mass of Thanksgiving was offered at 10:30 AM for Dr Mark Conan, who retired from his medical practice. Dr Conan touched the lives of many of St Ann's families, both as a physician and a leading volunteer in many parish activities. Many parishioners, patients and their families attended.

In the August 8, 1993 Bulletin: "Unannounced Landscapers!"

"Once again Gary Gasparini had his men (unannounced) doing landscaping in front and to the side of the church. This has been such a generous and meaningful gift to us over the past six years!"

Thank you Gary, and God bless you. Father Tom McGrath

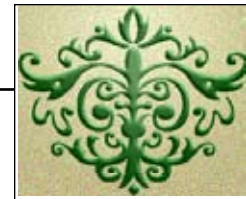
World Youth Congress in Denver

Hundreds of thousands of young people from around the world celebrated World Youth Day with Pope John Paul II in

Denver, Colorado on Sunday, August 15, 1993.

Among them were the following from St Ann's: Matt Bazydlo, Kristen Binsack, Dan Doherty, Sue Michael, Brian Nicholas, James Nicholas and Christopher O'Connor.

Kathy Binsack, Mary Doherty and Mary Stanley chaperoned the group which left Syracuse for Denver on Tuesday, August 10th.



Funeral Guild

During the summer of 1993 a St Ann's Parish Funeral Guild was formed. Its purpose is to provide help and guidance to families experiencing the death of a loved one, offering the services of parish volunteers at a time of unusual stress. Lorraine McGarry, Janny Rosenberger and Carol Fox were the organizers. Services include meal preparation on the day of the wake or funeral, transportation, staying with elderly, ill or children and house sitting during the wake or funeral.

Parish Provides Podium for Picnic Poet

The following appeared in the September 12, 1993 Parish Bulletin:

If you'll bring a dessert to share,
We'll provide the basic picnic fare
We'll give you the best family deal in town--
A great afternoon for just ten dollars down.



Parish
Picnic
Sun. Sept 26, 1993

***Despite this**, the picnic was declared a big success. On Sunday following the picnic, the pastor thanked "Jim and Marybeth Mulder, John and Trish Abert, Chuck and Pat O'Connor, Steve and Barb Farrington, Mary Vollmer, Maria Giannino and Pat Hunt and all who worked games or did something to make the day special." No mention was made of the poet.

R A F F L E

As mentioned previously, the "HARVEST AUCTION/HAPPENING" of 1991 was so successful that it was decided to repeat the same type event with its big hit, a "Big Bucks" raffle in November 1993. The announcements began in June, continued for 20 consecutive weeks with emphasis on the \$10,000 First Raffle Prize, reaching a crescendo in late October.
Results? On a special red flyer inserted in the November 7, 1993 Bulletin the following appeared:

"It's Official! The profits from our Harvest Auction/Happening amounted to more than \$22,000! Our congratulations to the winners of the most successful raffle: First Prize, \$10,000--Joanne Capparelli; Second Prize, \$1000--Dennis and Gary Lougee; Third Prize, \$500--Marbeth Sweeney and Cheryl Roy; Fourth Prize, \$500--Katie and Michael Irving and Marissa and

Special thanks to our parishioners, friends and relatives who purchased raffle tickets, local merchants who donated items for the auction and the more than 200 persons who came, enjoyed and bid. And, of course to the committee, whose names are listed below:

• • • • •
• *99 names were listed!* •
• • • • •

?

Notice in February 20,
1994 Parish Bulletin:

?

?

"Due to the 'shrinking' parking lot, coffee and donuts will be cancelled until some of the snow melts."

?

GRACE PTAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In May 1994, John Ptak established a scholarship fund to St Ann's School in memory of his wife Grace. The scholarship will be used to help families who have a difficult time with tuition. This is a very appropriate way to remember a loved one, especially one who thought so highly of Catholic Schools as Grace did.

Father McGrath

Get Out of Town...But First—Turn in Those Soup Labels!

May 1994 at St Ann's:

The kids at St Ann's School thanked those who brought in Campbell Soup labels. The school received a Panasonic TV-VCR thanks to everyone's efforts.

(Then, throughout May, the Bulletin carried these various travel options.)

First Travel Plan:

"Saratoga is the August Place to be!" You can be there this August. We are planning a trip to the Saratoga Racetrack. Contact Sister Sharon for information at 487-6201.

Second Travel Plan:

Summer in the Appalachian Foothills. Time for prayer, relaxation and community living. An opportunity for single, Catholic adult women to

serve the underprivileged.

Contact Sister James Peter at 425-7413.

Third Travel Plan:

One day trip to Ottawa Tulip Festival, including a visit to Notre Dame Basilica and Parliament. Call Marge Phillips at 426-0490.

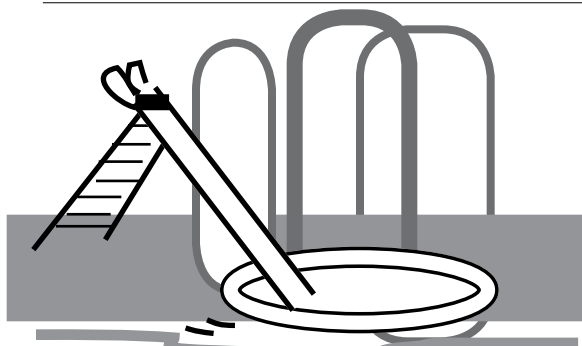
Fourth Travel Plan:

Our Lady of Lourdes Church is the departure spot for a bus tour to Mystic, Connecticut, leaving May 18 and returning May 20.

Call Eloise at 475-3289

Fifth Travel Plan:

Tour Scotland/ Northern Ireland August 16-September 1, escorted by Father Quinn, St James.



A new school play yard and picnic area was dedicated in the summer of 1994 as a result of a lot of hard work and pennies and bottles collected by the school kids and parents. **All in all, the project raised about \$5000.**

An unusual appeal on behalf of the Dominican Missions in Haiti and Puerto Rico by Dominican Missionary Father Malachy Clune, O.P. resulted in an outstanding summer response.

According to Father McGrath, people were still bringing gifts to the rectory door as late as Wednesday, June 22.

With a collection of more than \$5000, he stated, "I can't remember seeing such a generous response in all my years and they are adding up!"

Parish Bulletin August 21, 1994: "Second Thoughts"

In today's gospel we read that the disciples had 'second thoughts' about following Jesus. It is common to have 'second thoughts' in any relationship. It's our commitment to one another that overcomes any disillusionment. "Lord, to whom should we go?"

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGED

Following a survey of parishioners in October 1994, it was determined that an 8:30 am Mass on Sunday would be preferable to an 8:00 am Mass. Accordingly, after years of 5:00 Saturday, 8:00 Sunday and 10:30 Sunday, the new schedule took effect on the first weekend in November 1994.

Saturday: 5:00 pm Sunday: 8:30 and 10:30 am

A monstrously good Halloween time was enjoyed by a lot of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders on Sunday October 30, thanks to the hard work of many parish teenagers. All had lots of laughs, especially the adults!



ST ANN'S Food Pantry



Jim and Joan Gorman,
Food Pantry pioneers.

Under Joan Gorman's leadership the Food Pantry has certainly been confirmed as a goal-specific undertaking.

St Ann's Food Pantry started in August 1990. St Lucy's Parish asked St Ann's to deliver a bag of groceries once a month to persons in their parish who were unable to get to their pantry because of age or illness. Since then, St Ann's Food Pantry, under the direction of Joan Gorman, has been delivering to approximately 20 persons per month. All the food is donated by the parishioners of St Ann's.

An individual man or woman from St Lucy's is 'adopted' by a St Ann's Parishioner whose responsibility is to pack the bag and deliver at a time that is mutually convenient. Five recipients are still in their own homes, the others, ranging in age from 50 to 95, live in apartments or James/Geddes Housing.

The program, which began its fourth year in 1994, has about 30 volunteers and is extremely popular with the recipients who appreciate the friendly visit as well as the food.

A newspaper article the week of November 6, 1994 noted that St Lucy's Parish on Syracuse's near west side was the center of the 12th poorest predominantly white neighborhood in the country.

This is the location of most of the recipients of St Ann's Weekly Food Pantry. The goal that month

was to provide a turkey dinner with all the fixings to all recipients. *And they did!*

**But this classic bulletin announcement appeared the following week: "If anyone has an idea where the big wicker basket that belongs in the Gathering Room for the Food Pantry is, please call Joan Gorman."*

Letter from Joan Gorman, January 8, 1995:

"God must be truly pleased with the people of St Ann's who supported our food pantry so generously in 1994. I will try to thank you but it is God who will give you your reward through his many blessings. Thanks to everyone who contributed food especially the students at St Ann's School.

--*The faithful people who deliver food to our seniors every month*-- Al and Rosina Ballestra, Tom and Delia Reidy, Ginny Meikleham, Tom and Sally Coman, Tom Hennessy, Eileen Hodgins, Jane and Walter Sweeney, Joan Kearney, John and Judy Darweesh, Marcella Lonergan, Rita and P J Cunningham, Ann Winderl, Sue O'Neil, Tom and Gloria Young, Betty Collins, Lynn Baum, Jim Cokus, Brenda Bigelow, Neil Kinney, Betty Bigsby, Sister Matilda, Bob Ruder.

--*The people who donated money or turkeys*-- John Rokahr, Joan King, Lou and Melissa Fournier, Gloria Irving, Mim Adams, Sookey and Bud Kelley, Mary Beth and Jim Mulder, Sue and Tom O'Neill, Bob Ruder, Gerry and Ann Stiner, Ginny Walsh, Lorraine McGarry, Mary Gentile, Joe and Irma Piraino, John and Marcia Kirsch, Chris and Sue Gorman, Kay and Bill Kohlbrenner, John Ptak, Ronnie Ash, Bill and Helen O'Brist, Kay Moore and the Elks.

--*The people who worked on the food baskets for Catholic Charities*-- Tom Foster, Linda Tindall, Tom Hennessy, Ann Winderl, Pamela and Todd Sinko, Karyl and Michael Pizzari, George Farrell, Agnes and Jim Greeley, Jim Gorman, Mrs Nelson's sixth grade Religious Ed Class. -- Nancy Dinero and Marion Black who provide our bread every month. -- Beth Montague for straightening and cleaning the pantry and taking our excess to Cathedral or St. Lucy's. Todd Sinko for putting food on the shelves following the 8:30 Mass.

Please forgive me if I have failed to mention anyone.

Joan Gorman



In 1994 Onondaga County celebrated its 200th birthday. Two hundred years of a rich and diverse history, of people working together doing great things, and the end of the year was celebrated in a unique way.

On Sunday, January 1, 1995 at 12 noon every bell in Onondaga County rang 201 times--200 for the past and one more for the future. All churches, community buildings, carillons and even individuals, young and old, with bells were encouraged to join in.

St Ann's Bell Tower dedicated to first pastor, Father Sheedy, proudly played its part.

Father McGrath Announces His Appointment as Pastor in Skaneateles

On Palm Sunday, April 9, 1995, Father Thomas McGrath announced that he had made application to fill the pastorate at St Mary's of the Lake in Skaneateles.

In a note to St Ann's parishioners on the following Easter Sunday he stated, "The assignment will take place on July 1, 1995. It was after prayerful and careful consideration that I made application and left the outcome in the hands of God and His Holy Spirit. These 8 1/2 years will

remain as some of the best years of my life as my time here has been most enjoyable. You are a beautiful people! After considerable discernment, this is a clear call for me and I hope you will pray with me that God will continue to bless me and show me the way!...The process for appointing a new pastor begins on Monday and we should know who that person is to be the first Sunday of May. May our prayer continue to the Holy Spirit as the selection begins to unfold."

Father John Roark Named New Pastor of St Ann's



Father John Roark

May 14, 1995 Parish Bulletin: "I welcome our new pastor, Father John Roark. He comes to us with a rich background of priestly work and with a real enthusiasm to serve at St Ann's. He is presently pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Liverpool and is a native of Binghamton.

I know you will give him the warm welcome and support that I have received and felt in these past nine years.

Father McGrath

May 21, 1995 Parish Bulletin: Today is Father David Sambor's last Sunday at St Ann's. He will be leaving for his summer assignment at St John's, North Bay. Father has been with us four years and has been an important part of our liturgical and spiritual growth. Because Father Joseph Phillips will be living here and helping, Father Sambor will not be back in the fall. I would like to thank him and wish him every good blessing in the future.

Father McGrath

On Monday, May 29, 1995 James M Moynihan was installed as the ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse, succeeding in order Bishops Patrick A Ludden, John Grimes, Daniel J Curley, John A Duffy, Walter A Foery, David F Cunningham, Frank J Harrison and Joseph B O'Keefe. The installation was televised live from the Cathedral in downtown Syracuse.

TO THE PEOPLE OF ST ANN'S.....

My thanks for the wonderful reception and party June 4th. So many of you took the time to be there and share. I have thanked the committee individually and will always be grateful for their efforts. The crystal chalice which I received from St Ann's will be a constant reminder of our sharing in the eucharist.

Thank you. Father Tom McGrath

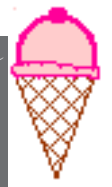
Keeping a song ever in the heart, I use the lyrics from Sound of Music in bidding you farewell for four wonderful years of my priesthood spent at St Ann's Parish. Come and visit out Verona Beach way when time permits. I will never forget the grand faith-filled people of St Ann's.

Father David Sambor

July 1995: St Ann's parishioners invited
for some Ecumenical Ice Cream



to



St Paul's Methodist Church

Tuesday, July 11, 6-8 pm on the front lawn of St Paul's Methodist Church, 2200 Valley Drive, Syracuse.
Ice Cream, Chocolate Sauce, Cake \$.50 each.

Have your ice cream and enjoy the **FREE** Concert at Webster's Pond next door at 7:00 pm

(This event must have been really successful--it was repeated and the invitation appeared again two weeks later in the Parish Bulletin.)

So many changes took place in mid-year 1995; A new Bishop, a new Pastor, the arrival of Father Phillips, and in one of the more sentimental farewells, the retirement of **Sister Noreen Keenan**, after 24 years at St Ann's.

Sister Noreen moved to the Motherhouse in Latham, NY in late July. Many present day St Ann's parents recall Sister fondly from her teaching days.

And as a *math* teacher, that is surely an outstanding legacy!



Sister Noreen



The Code of the Christmas Carol

Because of anti-Catholic conditions in England in the 16th through 19th centuries, references to fundamental Catholic beliefs were sometimes concealed in strange ways. One of the most unusual was the coding of the Christmas Carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas".

Written as a catechism song to help children remember lessons of faith, the "true love" mentioned in the carol refers to God. The "me" who receives the presents is symbolic of every baptized person.

Other hidden symbols are:

TWO TURTLE DOVES - The Old & New Testaments

THREE FRENCH HENS - Faith, Hope and Charity

FOUR CALLING BIRDS - The four Gospels

FIVE GOLDEN RINGS - The first five books of the Old

Testament which outline humanity's fall from grace.

EIGHT MAIDS A-MILKING - The eight beatitudes.

TEN LORDS A-LEAPING - The Ten Commandments

ETC., ETC

*The Handbook of Catholic Sacraments
by Ann Ball (Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington, Ind)
Reprinted in Parish Bulletin Dec 24, 1995*

UPDATE ON ST ANN'S SACRIFICIAL GIVING PROGRAM

Since 1993 St Ann's has contributed 5% of its ordinary income to worthy causes as determined by a committee of parishioners.

The following report was given for the year 1995 on December 31, 1995:

\$3000 was given to Unity Acres, a shelter for homeless men. (This gift was made at the time of Father McVey's death in his memory).

\$6000 given to Downtown Emergency Assistance, a joint venture of Catholic Charities and Cathedral Parish. Hundreds of needy families received food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas because of this gift.

\$2000 to the Brady Faith Center for South Side missionary work.

\$2000 to Francis House, a Hospice for people who are dying, operated by the Franciscan Sisters.

\$1000 to Dorothy Day House, shelter for abused women and their children.

\$300 to HELP, a group working with ex-offenders.

\$200 to Lullaby League helping needy pregnant women.

Thank you for your contributions to St Ann's Parish which made it possible to reach out in your name in a significant way to assist many who are less fortunate.

After 28 years as St Ann's Parish Secretary, Helen Tobin Retires

In February 1996, Father Roark stated, "As Secretary, and in more recent years, as Administrative Assistant, Helen Tobin has retired. Each of our pastors has benefited from her professional skills, her confidentiality and trustworthiness, her wise counsel and her sense of humor. I'm grateful to Helen for staying on for my first months as pastor to help me "learn the ropes".

When they learned about Helen's retirement, many, many parishioners offered to help with a party in her honor. However, at Helen's insistence, there will not be one. The whole parish joins me in the prayer that God will bless her with good health and happiness in her retirement.

I'm happy to announce that Ellen Flynn, who has been serving the parish as Computer data Coordinator, has accepted the position of Parish Secretary."

IN A ZONE OF THEIR OWN !

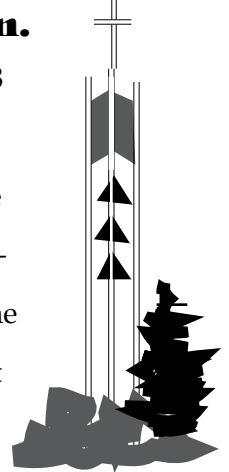


On Wednesday April 3, 1996 the St Ann's "Purple Eagles" (comprised of staff and parents) played the WSTM-TV 3 "Three-Pointers" in a scintillating basketball game, the quality of which was unmatched (or words to that effect). But hey!, as local sportswriter Bud Poliquin would say, it was a fun, pardon me, fund-raiser and everyone did.

When the final score is determined, it will be reported.

...and a new voice for Father Sheedy's Carillon.

The Carillon installed in 1978 in memory of Father Sheedy stopped functioning in 1996 and replacement parts were not available. But thanks to the generosity and skill of David Rice, director of the contemporary choir on Saturdays, its voice returned at no cost to the parish. David designed and built a new programming unit and even donated his out-of-pocket expenses for the parts he purchased.



AND....IN 1996...THE RETURN OF HARVEST AUCTION HAPPENING!

HARVEST
AUCTION

Harvest

After a three-year hiatus, the big happening of 1993, the Happening and Auction, made a stunning comeback in 1996. The popular event which featured a \$10,000 Big Bucks Grand Prize and a professional style auction received its first mention on June 2, 1996 in the parish bulletin, promising to replace Thanksgiving as the major happening of November.

On November 17, 1996 the "Harvest Happening and Auction" was reported as a huge success, both socially and financially. And Bill and Helen Obrist seconded the motion since they were the winners of the 'Big Bucks' raffle of \$10,000!

Gloria Irving stated, "Profit amounted to \$20,227.00.

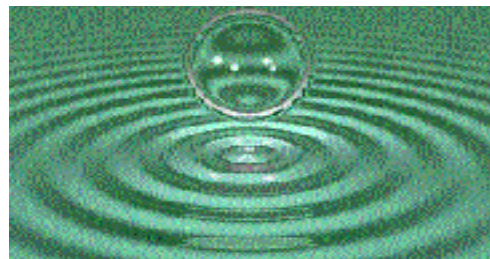
It takes a parish...St Ann's Parish to accomplish such a feat...thanks to the 'dream' committee."

Providing schools with wiring needed to gain access to the Internet for all their computers, the state program called for *all schools* to be wired on the same day, September 21, 1996.

With a lot of help from parishioners, St Ann's got connected and continued to move forward to the next century.



An especially enjoyable parish picnic was held Sunday, September 29, 1996. Much of the success, as noted in the following week's bulletin, was due to the volunteer "dunkees", Father Roark, Sister Delores, Deacon Chuck (Dunk) O'Connor and Bill (Bubbles) Burgess. Swimming temperatures? Almost!



St Ann's teenagers, long known for their imagination, really went all out in hosting another happy Halloween Party for kids aged 10 and under on Sunday, October 27, 1996, in the parish hall. Check these imaginative offerings which were listed in that Sunday's bulletin:



("Horror-thative" sources say that Kevin McLaughlin, Trevor Hunt and Charlie Vollmer were largely responsible.)

"Spider Cider"
"Devil's Donuts"
"See if you have a ghost
of a chance at our games"



Unexpected Statistic of the Year: The St Thomas More Dinner Dance, set for November 22 in Hotel Syracuse Grand Ballroom, is the major fund raiser for this Catholic Ministry at Syracuse University, which provides a place for worship, study and recreation for the 7500 Catholic Students at SU.

Christmas 1996

at St Ann's had a special sound to it. Thanks to Don and Bobbie Murphy's son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Heidi Grant Murphy, who brought their Metropolitan Opera talent to the 5:30 Mass on Christmas Eve.



FROM FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION:

Question What do you call a family that started with an unexpected pregnancy; where a 12-year old ran away from home and was eventually executed as a criminal by the state?

Answer Holy!

The lesson of today's gospel is -no matter what is happening in your family, "The Lord is with you." Stop controlling behavior; let go and let God direct your family. Imitate Mary and "do not be afraid", for "nothing is impossible with God."



From early childhood through old age Catholics have heard the familiar phrase, "The Altar-Rosary Society". In fact it seems to be one of those things whose familiarity has contributed to its anonymity and then gradually becomes taken for granted.

To put more of a focus on the Altar-Rosary Society and to explain specifically what it does, a series of articles was published in the February 1997 Parish Bulletin. The first, "WHAT IS THE ALTAR-ROSARY SOCIETY?" stated that it is a group of parish women responsible with cleaning and preparing the altar for Mass and other services, arranging decorations and providing funds for the purchase of vestments and altar linens. The second was entitled "WHO BELONGS TO ALTAR-ROSARY?" explained that all women of the parish regardless of formal involvement are considered members. At St Ann's a core of five persons are the functioning committee who recruit other parishioners for social events. Altar care is overseen by a chair and many helpers. The last article, "HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED IN ALTAR-ROSARY?" invited anyone interested in helping "behind the scenes or with others. Any help is appreciated and promotes unity as a parish group." It concluded with two contact persons: Joan

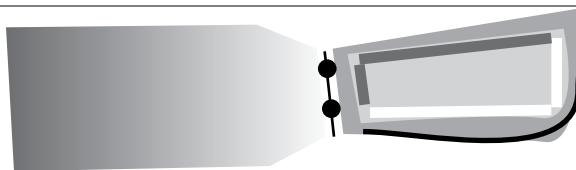
HELP! We need you and your putty knife...

The church floor is dirty because of years of wax build-up. We are asking your help to remove it by scraping it off with a putty knife. If we had 30-40 people on Saturday, May 17th between 9-11 am we could get the job done.*

Remember "Many hands make light work"

We have scheduled another floor scraping for Thursday, June 26 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Parents, come as a family to demonstrate your support for our parish. At the first session 18 people completed a third of the church. With 36 people maybe we could finish.

Parish Bulletin, June 15, 1997



We're getting there! The wax needs to be removed from under only 12 pews. If we could get a good turnout on Saturday, August 23, we can finish. We have razor blade scrapers that work well.

Parish Bulletin August 3, 1997

LAST CHANCE. Final opportunity to participate in a wax scraping session Sept 3 at 6:30pm. Scrapers provided.

Parish Bulletin August 31, 1997

No further announcements were seen but new kneelers were installed in mid-November 1997.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

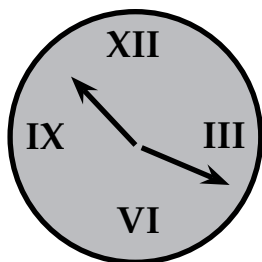
Each Sunday's collection at St Ann's sets aside 5% for "Sacrificial Giving". The St Ann's Tithing Committee accumulates these funds and periodically distributes them to various recipients.

This is the report for June 8, 1997:

The committee met and dispersed \$22,700.00. The recipients were: Catholic Charities; Down-

town Emergency Fund; The Group Home on Onondaga Street; Refugee Resettlement Group; Chadwick Residence; Francis House; Hospice; Unity Acres; St Francis House and Heart to Heart.

Our parish has been blessed and we thank all of you for helping the above named groups.



In September 1997 St Ann's School began offering an All Day Day Care program called COLOR ME HAPPY for three and four year-olds, running in conjunction with the existing Nursery and Pre-K Programs.

After-School childcare for Kindergarten through 6th grade was still available. An announcement seeking part-time employees ended with the statement, "We love grandmothers!"

North Country

Ice Storm January 1998

In the name of the parishioners of St Ann's, the sacrificial Giving Committee recently sent \$1000.00 to Catholic Charities in the Ogdensburg Diocese to assist victims of the ice storm.



In early 1998, the Diocese of Syracuse officially began preparing for the celebration of Jubilee 2000. Each parish was asked to form a Parish Jubilee Committee which will design, develop and oversee a spiritual renewal process for the laity.

Members of St Ann's Committee were: Sister Sharon, John Rokahr, Maria Giannino, Pat and Chuck O'Connor, Jim Spencer and Ellen Flynn.

How's this
for the
title of a
homily?

"I'm not OK - You're not OK - But that's OK -
according to the Gospel"

This was the title given by Father Michael Carmola, the Director of Christ the King Retreat House, on the occasion of his concluding talk at the Parish Lenten Retreat Wednesday March 4, 1998.

St Ann's First Annual Golf Tournament

Golf AND parish history WERE made on May 16, 1998 when the first annual St Ann's Golf Tournament opened at Foxfire Country Club.

With 140 golfers and over 30 dinner guests, Ed Phelan, Jr and his committee (See Notes 11) turned in a huge success.

Results:

First (Men's)

John Marcinkowski-
Craig Marcinkowski

First (Women's)

Ann McNeil - Helen Yule

First (Mixed)

Julie Peck - Barry Peck

...And Jane Kendrick
won the \$500.00
raffle!

...a fun time was had by all!



**It was!
It was!**



What was all that laughter and music coming from St Ann's Friday evening, April 24? It was our Ice Cream Social. With the face and nail painting, the crafts, the games, the music and of course, the yummy ice cream,
(fill in the blanks)

It was! It was!

Thanks to everyone who made the evening possible especially to the Co-chairpersons Pat Driscoll, Debbie DeLattre and Donna Purcell...and to our illustrious Disc Jockey Mike Maloney.



A New Principal for St Ann's School

After 15 years as a teacher and 13 years as Principal at St Ann's, Mrs Nancy Toscano submitted her resignation effective in June 1998. She is planning to return to classroom teaching at the junior or senior high school level. She left behind many good friends and a debt of gratitude for the dedication to Catholic School education she has demonstrated during her 28 years.

After consultation with the diocesan Superintendent of Schools and a selection committee (See Notes 10) appointed by Father Roark, Mrs Nancy Tario was invited to be the new

of St Ann's School, upon unanimous recommendation.

Mrs Tario has 25 years teaching experience, a Masters Degree in elementary education from SUNY Buffalo, a Certificate in Advanced Studies in Administration from SUNY Cortland and has NY State certification as School Administrator and Supervisor.

Father Roark said, "Besides a love of children, she has a clear sense of mission of Catholic Schools and will bring dynamic leadership to St Ann's School."

On Sunday, June 14, the parish held a well attended reception for outgoing Principal Nancy Toscano. Many friends and parishioners stopped to thank her for 28 dedicated years.

The Building & Grounds Committee (you didn't know we had one?)* recommended and the Parish Council approved a major refurbishing of the gym; painting, repairs, floor finishing etc. during the summer of 1998. The scoreboard was the original, installed when the school was built. Obsolete and difficult to keep in working order, the scoreboard was not in the amount budgeted for the refurbishing, so Father Roark advertised for a "Scoreboard Angel" in the June 14 bulletin.

WE	THEY
14	13

*Building & Grounds Committee ?

Formed in 1998 (See Notes 12) to monitor maintenance and general upkeep of the church, rectory and school structures and their landscaping, this committee makes recommendations to the Parish Council which determines spending priorities.



"We are happy to report that an "angel" came forward and donated the \$3000.00 needed to have the new scoreboard installed and, of course, we're very grateful to this generous angel who wishes to remain anonymous."

Father Roark, Bulletin July 19, 1998

On Sunday, September 13, 1998 three of St Ann's parishioners were among 57 candidates from throughout the Diocese commissioned by Bishop Moynihan in the Formation in Ministry Program at the Cathedral.

St Ann's congratulations went to:

Ellen Flynn-Parish Business Administrator
Dr Michael Roth-Liturgical Ministry
Howard Woodard-Youth Ministry

ELLEN FLYNN takes on dual roles

St Ann's Parish Secretary, Ellen Flynn, has completed the two-year Diocese of Syracuse course for Parish Business Administrators. During her period of training she has gradually been taking on more administrative responsibilities.

Effective January 1, 1999, she became St Ann's Business Administrator as well as Parish Secretary. *Congratulations, Ellen!*



St Ann's Pre-Holiday Gala,

November 28, 1998, featured an Open Bar, a delicious buffet prepared and served by Sal Sansone, ACF, and "guest" chefs, music by Maria and Mario DeSantis and a Mini-mini auction. This reservation-only affair was spearheaded by Mary Doherty and Gloria Irving and continued the successful legacy of holiday fun(d) raisers at the parish.



St Ann's Grammar School Graduate Aiming High

This month -December 1998- St Ann's alumnus, Robert Wood, graduated with high honors from Syracuse University's College of Engineering and Computer Science. Rob has been chosen as a Rhodes Scholar candidate for a possible Masters Program at Oxford University in England. Good luck, Rob! We're all proud of you.

Food Baskets for Xmas

Catholic Charities had asked St Ann's to provide at least 40 families with food for Christmas 1998. Parishioners responded to Deacon O'Connor's plea for typical Christmas goodies-stuffing, cranberry sauce, turkey hams and cash. And 40 overflowing food boxes were delivered! *PLUS an extra 10 boxes to Catholic Charities for delivery to families that were not 'adopted'.*

How do you pronounce "CEILI"?

If you said "KAY-lee" you're not just smart, you're probably Irish!

A Ceili is a traditional Irish community gathering where you'd expect some blarney, music and fun.

That's what happened on Sunday, March 7, 1999 at 4:30 pm in the Parish Center.

What made this Ceili unique was the request that attendees bring a food item based on their last initial. E.G. Last name: A-L Bring potatoes or vegetables. M-Q bring a salad. R-T Bring desserts. U-Z Bread & butter.



The 1999 Lenten Retreat

presented by Father Neal Quartier, Director of the Personal Resource Center for the Diocese of Syracuse, was an intellectually challenging call to clear thinking about our Catholic Faith.

Here is a list of books referred to by Father Quartier during the retreat. They make up a substantive list for the well-read Catholic:

Man and His Symbols by Carl Jung
Conversations with God

by Neal Donald Welsch

The Divine Milieu

by Teilhard de Chardin

The Cloister Walk by Kathleen Morris

Kitchen Table Wisdom

by Rachel Naomi Remen

Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt

The Color of Water by James McBride

Faith, God, Afterlife

New York Times Magazine Dec 1997

Why I am Still a Catholic

by Kevin & Marilyn Ryan

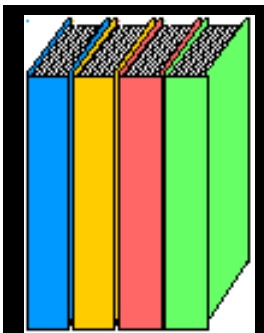
Lost in the Cosmos by Walker Percy

Tuesday's With Morrie by Mitch Albom

The Heritage Campaign

Bishop Moynihan, to prepare the Diocese for the beginning of the new century, launched the HERITAGE Campaign in May 1999. St Ann's was among a group of parishes chosen to spearhead the drive. Total goal was \$33 million with St Ann's target set at \$390,000. Recognizing the enormity of the figures, Father Roark addressed the topic in the Sunday Bulletin, announcing that the advance phase of the campaign in the parish under the chairmanship of Dr Mark Potenza had already raised \$122,150.

Similar to the Hope Appeal, when the target is reached, 20% is returned to the parish. Mr John Kirsch, General Chairman for the campaign at St Ann's, and Father Roark are planning a complete report. (See Page 33)



The Heritage Campaign and St Ann's Parish

A special insert in St Ann's Bulletin July 11, 1999 contained this message:

St Ann's Parish has done it again!

We had the huge challenge of raising \$390,000.00 for the Heritage Campaign. Not only did we make our goal, but we exceeded that goal.

To date we have raised \$469,960.00 in pledges. This wonderful success is due to the generosity of those parishioners who supported the campaign with their pledges and contributions and to the wonderful group of volunteers who worked so hard for the success of the Heritage Campaign in St Ann's Parish. Their names are:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Rev John Roark, Edward Kearney, Chris DalPan, James Spencer

GENERAL CHAIRPERSON:

John Kirsch

ADVANCED PHASE CHAIRPERSON

Dr Mark Potenza

COMMITTEE:

Tom Coman, Larry Deskin,
Jack Halpin, Judy Halpin, Harry
Headd, Art Kanerviko, Carol
McGuigan, Chuck O'Connor,
Mary Osada, Greg Thornton.
Tom Young

SPECIAL PHASE CHAIRPERSON

Joan Gorman

COMMITTEE:

Tom Ashmore, Jean Cokus, Jim
Cokus, Margaret Corcoran, Kathy
DeSanctis, Mary Doherty, Maria
Giannino, Jim Greeley, Roland
Hepworth, John Honold, Joan
Kearney, Julia O'Keefe, Tom
O'Neill, Ed Pfohl, Jane Sweeney

GENERAL PHASE CHAIRPERSON

John Rokahr

COMMITTEE:

Ginny Brennan, Margaret
Corcoran, Ellen Flynn, Agnes
Greeley, Marcia Kirsch, Loraine
McGarry, Dorothy O'Malley

RECRUITMENT CHAIRPERSON

Gloria Irving

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Ann Andrianos

Congratulations and Thank You! Outstanding job!

Teacher of the Year

Miss Megan Winderl, First Grade Teacher at St Ann's was honored as *Teacher of the Year* by the National Teacher Training Institute and WCNY. This award includes a \$1000.00 grant to be used to implement Math, Science and Technology strategies in our school.

FREE, FREE, FREE!



School desks were available free to any family who would like them by just calling the school.

Sister Sharon Whellahan, CSJ,

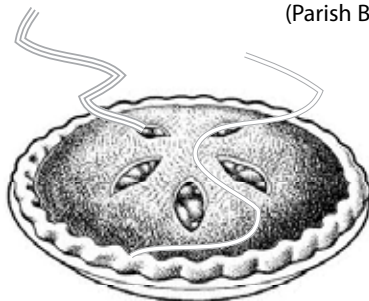
Pastoral Associate at St Ann's for the past six years, volunteered to help with the migrant farm workers ministry in Oswego County. Parishioners held a well-attended reception for Sister on Sunday July 25, 1999 in the Parish Center.

Mentioning just a few of her responsibilities, Father Roark said, "She's given outstanding leadership to the RCIA, has ministered to the sick, elderly, shut-ins and hospitalized parishioners; coordinated twice-yearly faith sharing / bible study / education sessions; coordinated Lector and Eucharistic Minister training; coordinated Commitment to Ministry weekends; served as staff liaison with volunteer committees and assisted with a monthly Mass at Bellevue Manor."

How're these for pie-baking credentials?*

**"Hand Made by our very own
Confirmation Candidates."**

(Parish Bulletin, October 3, 2000)



**APPLE
PIE
SALE
\$6.00**

** They must have been pretty good credentials because the next week this appeared:*

"We had a great time on every step of the process. We picked the apples, made and rolled the dough, peeled and sliced bushels of apples and enjoyed the wonderful aroma of baking. Our (successful) work will go towards a Valentine Party for senior parishioners."

St Ann's Athletic Program

Evidence of St Ann's continued healthy growth as a parish came in the fall of 1999 when the search for an Athletic Director took place. There were two boys' basketball teams and a girls' team. The CYO supported a Varsity, a JV and modified teams.



To organize and coordinate all this activity, an Athletic Director was sought to recruit and assign coaches, develop a committee of volunteers to host home games and coordinate the use of the gym.

And the results were:

Athletic Director-- Tim

Winderl

Varsity --Coach Sterbank

Junior Varsity-- Coach Lancaster

Modified Boys and Girls-- Coach Winderl

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**ST ANN'S WELCOMED THE NEW
MILLENNIUM IN JUBILEE FASHION**

With the world's attention riveted on the Y2K fear that computers would mistake 2000 for 1900, St Ann's focused on J2K. That meant Jubilee Year 2000 proclaimed by Pope John Paul II to concentrate on renewal of



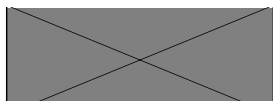
**January
1,
2000**

peace, justice and forgiveness to begin the Third Millennium. The parish Jubilee Committee provided special Jubilee brochures with a pledge to encourage our commitment to live the message of Jesus more fully in the new millennium.

(In addition, each school classroom door was decorated with the Jubilee theme).

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St Ann's 1994 Graduate Named AP Scholar



Amy Marcinkowski was named to an elite group of students who took Advanced Placement examinations last May. The recognition as an AP Scholar went to only 13% of the more than 700,000 students nationwide taking the exams.

Amy is the daughter of John and Lise Marcinkowski. Congratulations Amy from your school and parish.

St Ann's Parish Retreat for School and Parish Members, January 15, 2000

A new idea in 'mini-retreats' was held on Saturday January 15, 2000 in the parish center. The school's "Excellence in Education" Committee¹³ sponsored a Family Retreat from 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm followed by Mass and a casual supper. Kids were given a choice of various supervised activities and smaller kids (4 and under) had childcare.

The always appropriate Father Joseph Phillips presented "Doing the Impossible; Raising Children with Catholic Values." The retreat was a huge success.

SUMMER SIZZLER ????



On February 11, 2000, St Ann's School presented a "Summer Sizzler" Family Dance from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Pizza, soda and other refreshments were served. All adults and children were invited to wear their favorite summer clothes (*Please, no sandals, swimsuits or halter tops*).

BUT...they did have beach balls, palm trees, hula hoops, a colorful fountain, the Limbo and a great time thanks to Patty Driscoll, chairperson.



E-Mail....Word Processing....Internet

St Ann's School reached out to the computer-challenged senior citizens in February 2000. All seniors in the parish were invited to an instructional computer class to learn the basics of computer use and get a glimpse of cyberspace.

And, speaking of the Internet.....the gems below from actual church bulletins were taken from the internet:

- ☐ The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
- ☐ At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- ☐ The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment and gracious hospitality.
- ☐ Ladies don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things around the house not worth keeping. Don't forget your husbands.
- ☐ Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say hell to someone who doesn't care much about you.

*St Ann's Parish Bulletin
February 20, 2000*



Mrs Nancy Tario, Principal of St Ann's School, was selected to address the Catholic School Principals of the Eastern Region of the Diocese on the topic of teacher evaluation. The invitation to address the group is a mark of the respect she has earned among educators.

And...St Ann's teachers, Mrs Eassa, Mrs Sparkes, Miss Winderl, Mrs Traylor and Miss Anderson received grants from the West Genesee School District to aid in buying science equipment for the study of life cycles and habitats.

NO EXCUSE SUNDAY ???

The author of the following was not identified but it appeared in St Ann's Parish Bulletin July 2, 2000:

"To make it possible for everyone to attend church next Sunday we are going to have special arrangements.

- Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say, "Sunday is my day to sleep in."
- We will have steel helmets for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church."

- Scorecards will be available for those who wish to list the hypocrites present.
- One section will be devoted to trees and grass for those who like to seek God in nature
- The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church with out them.
- Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday."

Editor's note : Attendance was about the same as usual.

From Skaneateles to the Sudan; Many Miles and Many Differences



Father Peter Major, a member of the well-known Major family of Skaneateles, has been a Mill Hill Missionary for many years.

After 10 years in Sarawak (Borneo) Malaysia he moved to the Sudan in 1981 where he's been in charge of the Prison Ministry in Khartoum. There are seven prisons under "Sharia" Islamic Law, so a lot of things go on there we

wouldn't find in Syracuse.

For example, amputation is a common form of punishment and medicine is almost non-existent in the prisons.

On August 20, 2000 Father Major delivered the annual Mission Appeal at St Ann's and parishioners responded with contributions of \$3494.00



At the Bishop O'Keefe Memorial Dinner Dance October 27, 2000 the most senior teacher in each school of the Diocese of Syracuse was honored.

St Ann's honoree was

Mary Ann Anderson,

our 3rd grade teacher, who faithfully served the St Ann's community for 36 years! Congratulations Mary Ann and many happy returns.

St Ann's Sacrificial Giving

\$21,000 was dispersed in December 2000 from the Sacrificial Giving Fund to:

Catholic Charities Downtown Emergency Assistance; Lullaby League; Chadwick Residence; Unity Acres; Vera house; Sarah House; Sister Sharon's ministry to Hispanic farm workers of Oswego County; Northside Ministry; L'Arche and Brady Faith Center.

AND, donations of food and money to the Food Pantry meant 40 boxes for Catholic Charities plus 22 for our St Lucy's recipients.



Again on Christmas Eve 2000 the Metropolitan Opera talent of Heidi Grant Murphy graced the music at the 5:30 pm Mass at St Ann's. Heidi is married to Kevin, son of parishioners Don and Bobbie Murphy.



A new St Ann's float for the St Patrick's Day Parade for 2001



Two months of planning and work went into preparing St Ann's School float for the 2001 St Patrick's day Parade--a replica of a Catholic School noting 200 years of Catholic education in New York State. Chairs Bob Traylor and Nancy Tario thanked Kathy and George Cole, Carrie and Doug Foster, Patti and Jack Payette, Monica and Pete Stratton, Marie McDonough and "Chances" the Wonder Dog. Gasparini Landscaping loaned their truck and trailer. Merle Builders donated material and Art Teacher Lynn Clark lent her art talent.

St Ann's Receives First Benefits From Recently Completed Heritage Campaign



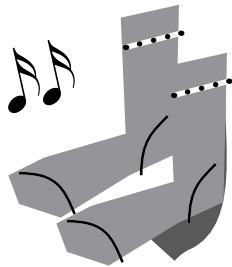
St Ann's School received a check within the past few weeks for \$42,000 from the Heritage Campaign for exceeding the parish goal.

The funds are to be used for teacher salary increases. Bishop Moynihan approved these funds from the contributions above the \$33 million diocesan goal. The Heritage Campaign replaced the Hope Appeal in the year 2000 and resulted in \$51 million in pledges and contributions throughout the diocese.

...And The Men at the Oxford Inn Received the Benefit of Socks from the Sock Hop

On Friday, February 2, 2001 St Ann's PTO sponsored an old-fashioned Rock-n-Roll "Sock Hop". It was a resounding success thanks to Chairwoman Carole Ficarra and some old-fashioned rock-n-rollers.

The unique admission--a new pair



of socks-- resulted in the donation to the men of the Oxford Inn of dozens of pairs of new socks.

A highlight was Kindergarten student, Stephen Payette, waddling off as the winner of the "Limbo Contest".



St Ann's Chess Club, "The Regal Eagles" is a big success. Children from grades K-6 meet every Friday to learn about and play chess. Many thanks go to Tim Winderl-who started this year's club, and to Club leaders, Monica Stratton and Lori Winderl.

Parish Bulletin
February 25, 2001

CHECKMATE!

Several months ago when Father Roark and Father Phillips planned their winter vacations, they scheduled them so that Father Roark would be away during February and Father Phillips in March. Father Roark's plans were to take a cruise on a brand new ship. Unfortunately the ship was not completed on time and the cruise line re-scheduled it four weeks later. This has resulted in an overlap between the times they will be away. Father William Regan will be here for the weekend and weekday Masses during that period.

Parish Bulletin March 11, 2001

!!! First St Ann's School Alumni Get Together a Big Success

Many former St Ann's students attended an informal get-together on Saturday May 12, 2001 from 6 to 8 pm in the school.

Laughter and good memories were in abundance and plans were made for a repeat in 2002.

Parishioners Turn Out En Masse for Reception Honoring Father Roark on His Retirement

Gracefully handing the reins of St Ann's Pastorate to long time associate Father Joseph Phillips, Father John Roark was the center of attention on June 24, 2001 at a reception in the school gymnasium.

Having served as pastor for six years and having reached a 'certain level of maturity' at age 70, he decided to step back from the heavy demands of leading our 700- family parish and in effect switch roles with Father Phillips.

A tongue-in-cheek but eloquent invitation to all parishioners read, "Come wish Father well in the transition from

"Pastor" to "Pasture" along with "An elegant sufficiency, content retirement, rural quiet, friendship, books, ease and alternate labor, useful life, progressive virtue and approving Heaven" (in the words of James Thompson)

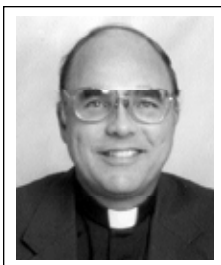
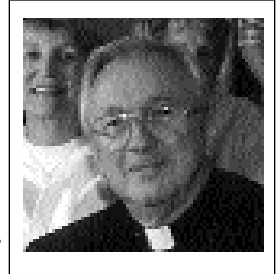
Parishioners Mike Roth and Ann and David Rice collaborated on a song honoring Father Roark which was presented at the 10:30 Mass.

The following Sunday this note appeared in the parish bulletin:

"Dear Friends,

June 24th is a day I'll long remember for the wonderful celebration of my retirement. Thank you to everyone who planned and participated in the magnificent liturgy at 10:30 and the delightful party in the gym. I received enough kind and affirming messages to last me for the rest of my life."

Father John Roark



Father Joseph Phillips, a native of nearby Wesvale, became the fifth pastor of St Ann's in the summer of 2001.

SUMMER 2001 MINI-COURSES OFFERED BY ST ANN'S SCHOOL

To learn something new or brush up on what's been learned, St Ann's Students were offered a unique opportunity in the summer of 2001:

The Writer's Club for students entering grades 3 & 4, to strengthen Language arts skills, August 13 - August 24 from 9:00-10:30;

Math Refresher Grades 5 & 6 everyday Monday-Friday 9:00 - 10:30;

Introduction to Spanish for grades K-6 August 20-25 9:00-10:30;

Magic Lessons grades K-6 August 20-23 10:30-11:30;

Sign Language grades K-2 August 13-17 9:00-10:30.



Michael Amante, Former St Ann's and Bishop Ludden Student on National TV



National calibre talent has blessed the ears of St Ann's parishioners in recent years.

Metropolitan star Heidi Grant Murphy, daughter-in-law of parishioners, Don and Bobbie Murphy, has sung a number of times at our Christmas Masses and on Thursday August 9, 2001 at 8:00 pm Michael Amante, son of parishioners Dr Paul and Sybil Stobnicke, was featured on PBS nationally singing operatic arias and show tunes with the Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra.

St Ann's School and Parish Respond to the Catastrophe of September 11, 2001

The terrorists attack of September 11, 2001 on the World Trade Center Towers in lower Manhattan galvanized world attention to the appalling loss of life and profound grief brought to the families of the victims. St Ann's Church quickly organized a special collection which resulted in a check for \$5,543.00 which was sent to the disaster fund via Catholic Charities.

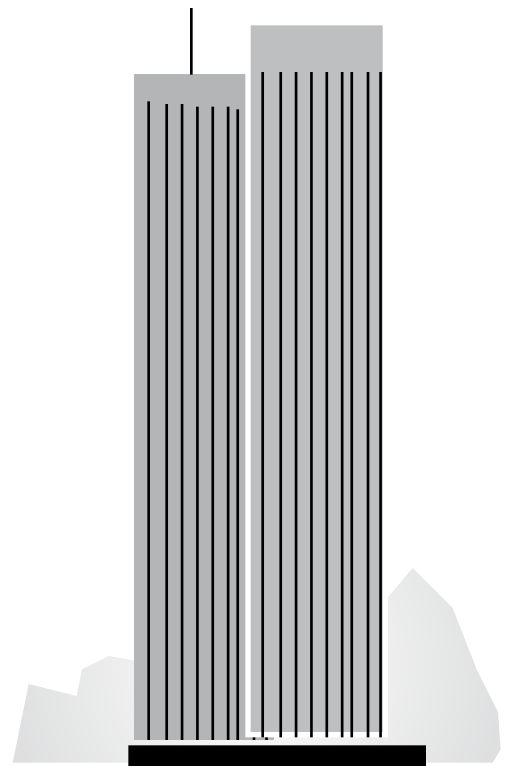
In the school, teachers noted that the children felt better by keeping to their regular routines and offering prayers at the Opening School Mass. On Thursday, September 20, the school's unity was displayed during the Red, White and Blue Dress Down Day and love and gratitude towards the rescue workers in NYC were shown by:

Collecting socks, bottles of saline solution and safety glasses.

Collecting money--the 6th graders collected money throughout September that was donated to the Red Cross Relief Fund.

Making cards which were taken to the rescue workers by volunteer firefighters Kelly and Doug Neish.

Wearing red, white and blue ribbons in remembrance of those who



The Perennially Popular Pancake Breakfast

of the Taunton Fire Department has taken on added meaning this year. The bulletin of October 14, 2001 stated, "We're grateful to those who gathered for fellowship and a delicious breakfast last Sunday at the Taunton Fire Department. We're especially grateful to our Taunton Volunteers who've earmarked 50% of the proceeds to improving (our school's) technology program. In light of the events of September 11, St Ann's and the Taunton Fire Department have both agreed to donate 50% of what each organization would otherwise have received to New York City Disaster Relief.



St Ann's Parish Bulletin

November 18, 2001

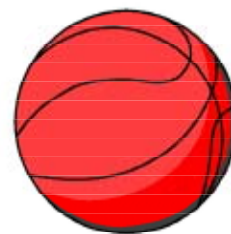
Dear Parishioners,

I am very pleased to tell you that St Ann's has received its first check as a result of the Heritage Campaign in the amount of \$19, 544.

This wonderful benefit to St Ann's is the result of your more than gracious response to this campaign. Well done!

Peace,
Fr Joe Phillips

St Ann's Boys 'A' basketball team won the Most Holy Rosary 2001 Christmas Tournament and the trophy is in the Trophy



QuickTime™ and a
PNG decompressor
are needed to see this pic

Four of our 6th graders, Chelsea Fremont, Adrienne Law, Erika Riker and Natalie Sobolevsky placed 1st in the Radio Public Service Category of the anti-frug campaign, CLEAR MINDS, CLEAR

MESSAGES . They've recorded their own

In January 2002 St Ann's became part of a Pastoral Care Area (also called a Cluster).

The cluster includes St Michael's/St Peter's, St Charles, Holy Family and St Joseph's in Camillus. This has come about in response to Bishop Moynihan's Pastoral Letter recommending collaborative efforts among geographically related parishes to assure that all pastoral needs are met in light of the shortage of priests. representatives from each parish met January 15, 2002 to explore common missions while maintaining the individuality and traditions of each parish.

St Ann's Parish Bulletin

February 24, 2002

Father Phillips announced that Diana Stull has become the new Director of Religious Education at St Ann's where she will serve three days per week. On the other two, she will serve as Chaplain at Hillbrook.

"And again, I'm so deeply grateful for the countless ways you contribute to the vitality of our parish. Because of your more than generous contributions to the Heritage Campaign, St Ann's has received a second check from the diocese in the amount of \$18,559. Thank you."

Peace,
Fr Joe Phillips

...and how about these numbers?

From the April 7, 2002 Bulletin:

Did you know that 100% of last year's 4th graders at St Ann's met or exceeded the New York State standards on the state Math Test?!

100% !!

From the same Bulletin:

There will be a children's story hour for children ages 0 - 4 on Friday April 26 from 10:30 to 11:30 in the library...

How many children age 0 attended?

Close Connection to 9/11

St Ann's parishioner and director of our contemporary choir, Ann Rice, lost her aunt and uncle, Lynn and Dave Angell, in the crash of American Airlines Flight 11 into the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Lynn, a librarian and Dave, a gifted writer on the "Frasier" TV Show, volunteered much of their time and energy to help a residential school for abused and neglected children and Lynn founded and directed the library there. In their honor St Ann's parishioners are asked to bring in new books on May 17, 2002 so they may be donated to area schools who need to expand their libraries.

June 9, 2002

St Ann's Third grader, Chris "Tiffer" Davis will live the dream of playing in a major league ball-park. By winning the second level of the Pitch, Hit and Run competition at P&C Stadium, Chris is eligible to compete at the next level in the home of the New York Mets, Shea Stadium, at the end of June.

Way to go, Tiffer!



June 30, 2002

Chris "Tiffer" Davis recently competed in the 3rd level of the Pepsi hit, Pitch and Run contest at Shea Stadium in NYC against children from the tri-states area (New York, Connecticut and New Jersey) and he came in 4th. what an honor. Congratulation, Tiffer. You made us proud!

St Ann's and Burger King



For the past several years St Ann's Parish has enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship with the Burger King restaurant at 4734 Onondaga Blvd in Western Lights Shopping Center. The youth of the parish have sponsored a Burger King Night for folks of the parish. On Tuesdays from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, anyone who mentions "ST. ANN'S" to the cashier has 20% of their food purchase automatically donated to the school. That's a 'whopper' of a deal!

Contributing to the Sound of Music

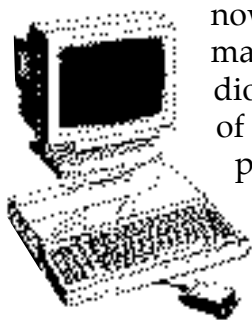
Responding to the requests of some parishioners who found the time of the collection at the 8:30 Mass long and without focus, and the back and forth movement distracting, it was decided that 'meditative music' would be played during this time beginning Sunday, June 23 2002.



Mid -July 2002 marked the first anniversary of Father Joe Phillips' appointment as St Ann's Pastor. Students offered their appreciation in the July 14th bulletin for "the special way in which he has celebrated Mass for us and for his continued support of our school and its mission."



Mass Times



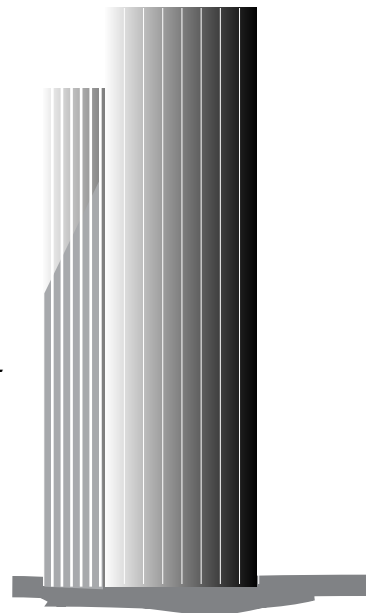
No matter where or when....you now have instant access to information on every parish in every diocese across the US. The times of daily and Sunday Mass, the pastor, even the name of the choir director...through the wonder of the Internet at www.masstimes.org.

Sponsored by Pauline Books and Media this website serves more than 60 million Catholics who live and travel in the United States.

St Ann's Parish Bulletin, August 4, 2002

The first anniversary of the 9/11 attack was marked at St Ann's with a Mass of Remembrance on Wednesday September 11, 2002.

Present at the Mass were parishioners Ann Rice and the Brennan family who lost family members in the tragedy and firefighters Charles and Robert Sanborn and Police Officer McCarron.



September 29, 2002 Bulletin:

Thank you to Sue Britt for the donation of the American and Papal flags on the altar in memory of her husband, Phil Britt.

Reception of Communion under both species began at St Ann's on the first weekend of Advent, November 30-December 1, 2002

A tradition in the early church which faded in the Middle Ages was the reception at Mass of both the consecrated bread and consecrated wine.

In 1978 the US Bishops again opened the option of receiving from the cup and this practice was introduced on a trial basis at St Ann's in Advent 2002.

For those concerned about the risk of disease in drinking from the common cup..the US Center for Disease Control stated that it is a safe practice and posed little risk of passing illness. Nevertheless, if you have a cold or the flu you should not receive from the cup. Obviously, alcoholics and those with allergies to wine should abstain.

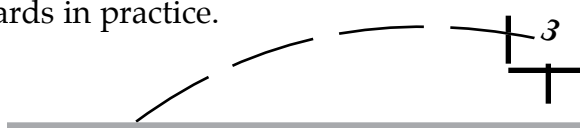
NEWS FROM OUR YOUTH



Former St Ann's student, **Michael Amante**, the son of Paul and Sybil Stobnicke, is quickly becoming a top tenor; he has been called "the Fourth Tenor" and has performed for presidents Bush and Clinton, Luciano Pavarotti and Pope John Paul II. At the age of 6 while attending St Ann's, he was chosen to play the lead role in "Oliver"...and he is quick to credit his lifelong love for singing and performing to his Catholic School education. His PBS Special "Michael Amante: American Tenor" was nominated for an Emmy Award last season. He is scheduled to perform this evening (September 29, 2002) at the Civic Center.

...and on another note!

St Ann's graduate, **Mary Montague**, is believed to be the first female in Section 3 High School history to score a point in a varsity football game. She plays for the Corcoran Cougars and according to her coach, Tim Schmidt, she not only kicks extra points, she's been hitting field goals from as far out as 35 yards in practice.



Surely we meant "SURELY"

St Ann's Parish Bulletin, October 27, 2002:

"Please continue to pray for God's blessing on missionaries. We are surly in their prayers."

An outward sign of the times?



ST ANN'S BULLETIN, MARCH 9, 2003:

The Franciscan Place at Carousel Center now has confessions Monday through Friday 10am - 12pm and 2pm-4pm. Also Monday and Wednesday evenings 6:30pm-8pm. Saturdays 11am - 2pm.



A NEW TRADITION IS BORN!

Father Sheedy's Bell Tower, located adjacent to the church's front entrance will become a beacon of many hopes and memories this Christmas.

The Future of St Ann's School

was addressed in a letter to all parishioners in late June 2003 asking for input and reaction to a series of goals developed by the diocesan Catholic School Management Committee (CSMC).

All aspects of St Ann's School were looked at by the committee including the makeup of the student body, the curricula and future needs.

After a year's review a two page "Statement of Goals" was developed, inserted into the June 29th Bulletin and each parishioner was asked to comment upon them in writing.

St Ann's First Grader Jack Morgan takes First!

In an Awards ceremony held on March 27, 2003. first grader Jack Morgan received First Place for his poster in the

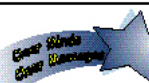
Onondaga County Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Commission's CLEAR MINDS,
CLEAR MESSAGES

Campaign. Jack's poster which has been made into a T-shirt has also appeared in outdoor advertising throughout the county.

Sixth grader Jonathan Grimes' poster was a runner-up in the 5th-8th grade category.

Smoking Makes You Look Bad!



WINNER • Jack Morgan
Grade 1 • St. Ann's School

An Initiative of the Syracuse/Onondaga
Drug & Alcohol Abuse Commission



Jack Billboard
12'x12'
4 color

The Road to Carnegie Hall Begins in St Ann's Gym



Music was in the air on Thursday, June 5 when Music Teacher Mrs Dorgan's students presented a piano recital in the school gym. Participating students were: Emily Coleman, Jon Frink, Christina Guindy, Angelina Huck, Laura LaBarge, Molly McGuane, Clare Sheen, Regina Stracqualursi, Alex, Anna and Jacob Szelewski, Nolan, Rosalee and Toni Marie Winderl.



Attention was called in the August 3, 2003 Bulletin to the excellent **pamphlet rack** in St Ann's Gathering Room, featuring material for both adults and young adults.

Exploring the Word- A monthly publication that explains scripture readings and how they relate to daily life.

Catholic Update- Thoroughly explains a different topic of faith each month.

Youth Update- Helps the younger Catholic get a perspective on his/her role in serving the Lord.

Everyday Catholic- Stories of canonized saints and everyday Catholics and how they applied the principles of Jesus in their daily lives.

A St Francis Contest

for St Ann's students was held in late September, 2003.

A jar filled with animal crackers was displayed in the Gathering Room.

The closest guess as to the number of crackers in the jar won a statue of St Francis, the patron saint of animals. And the winner was...

Mark Murray, age 6, with a guess of 206.

The correct number: 205. Congratulations Mark!



AUTUMN

St Ann's Favorite Fund Raising Season

An Autumn Auction to benefit St Ann's School has been in the planning stages since early summer. Co-chairmen Ron LeClair and Rick Miller and their respective committees picked Saturday, November 15, 2003 which promised fun, food, entertainment and auction action

St Ann's Parish Bulletin

September 7, 2003

This summer our Director of Religious Education, Ms Diana Stull, decided to move closer to her family in the Philadelphia area. I'm grateful for Diane's work here especially her leadership as we changed our program from Monday evening to Sunday morning.

Mary Stanley will be our new Director of Religious Education bringing with her a wealth of experience as an administrator and pastoral minister at St Mary's in Skaneateles

Bottles and Cans and Walkie-Talkies



Continuing a nice association with the Western Lights Bottle Return at 4639 Onondaga Blvd., St Ann's received a check in mid-September 2003 for \$347.00 which was used to purchase additional walkie-talkies to improve school security.

Parishioners bring the returnables to the school or to the Western Lights Bottle Return and indicate to the counter person that the deposit money should go to St Ann's School.

Read, write and listen...to this!

In the fall of 2003 an imaginative technique was implemented by Mrs Tario, the principal of St Ann's and the faculty to improve students' ability to read, write and listen. Called **DEAR, DEAW and DEAL**, it worked this way: Using the school-wide public address system, students are told to "Drop Everything And Write" about a specific topic.

Under their teachers' guidance, they rewrite and edit their work. Then the best selections are read during **DEAL**--"Drop Everything And Listen".

Note: (SLAGI-- Sounds Like A Good Idea!)

It began to look a lot like Christmas....



...December 5th at St Ann's at "The Christmas Shop". The atmosphere was festive, the children were all doing their Christmas shopping and everyone enjoyed themselves, especially the parents who worked to make the occasion special.

Cheryl Roy and Mary Beth Sweeney as co-chairs and photographers Shellie Poullott and Dan Poullott did a fine job.

St Nicholas made his annual "secret appearance" silently coursing our halls and depositing treats in the children's shoes (an Old World Tradition-minus the wooden shoes).

AUTUMN AUCTION

Saturday, November 15, 2003

FIRST PRIZE - Transportation and a weekend stay at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City won by Bob Cussen

SECOND PRIZE: - \$250.00 cash won by Phil DeFazio

THIRD PRIZE - Basket of Cheer valued at over \$200.00 won by Theresa Petrus

More than 230 enthusiastic auction-goers turned out on a crisp autumn evening to enjoy food, refreshments and a snappy auctioneer in St Ann's gym. Parish Business Administrator Ellen Flynn described the event as HUGE!

Lent 2004

at St Ann's School

offered many chances for introspection and meditation. Despite variations in their school arrival times, many of the children were able to take advantage of the opportunity for morning Mass. All students participated in the Stations of the Cross and the and 6th graders took part in the Lenten Reconciliation Service.

On a Cold, Snowy Evening February 5, 2004....

St Ann's Pastor Father Joe Phillips presented a talk for parishioners entitled:

"The Hardest Kind of Forgiveness: Forgiving Yourself."

The talk had originally been prepared for diocesan catechists some months before and Father felt that St Ann's might be interested.

As a result almost 200 attended the 45-minute presentation and participated in a wide ranging discussion on the various points raised....*"practical, user friendly, immediately applicable helps to forgive oneself."*

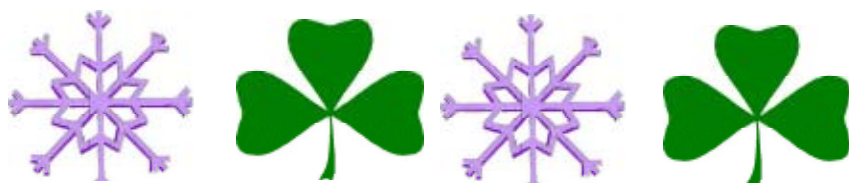


A Leap of Faith and Pancakes

On Leap Year day, Sunday February 29, 2004, St Ann's Confirmation Candidates hosted a Pancake Breakfast against which future pancake breakfasts will be measured!

Through ticket sales and donations \$2,023.36 was raised for the Franciscan Northside Ministries, directed by Sister Dolly Bush, former religious education director here at St Ann's.

More than 415 breakfasts were served!



ST PATRICK'S DAY 2004 WAS FRIGID, WINDY AND SNOWY...JUST RIGHT FOR A PARADE!

And St Ann's School participated as usual with a colorful float built by Bob Traylor and Darren Houde. Gasparini Landscaping donated the truck and Nancy Tario, Bonnie Traylor, Brenda Houde, and her sons Dalton and Wyatt all pitched in with other hearty souls to continue what has become another happy St Ann's tradition.

Eagles Basketball Program Takes Flight

Our Girls team (11-2) took home first place in the annual St Charles Tournament!

And the Boys team captured third place in a "barn burner" of a game.

March 2004



(Trophies on display in school)
Congratulations to all players

St Ann's Night at

Abbott's



On Tuesday, May 18, 2004, Doug Dixon one of our St Ann's parents and new proprietor of Abbott's Ice Cream at the corner of Onondaga Blvd and Fay Road hosted a fantastic fundraiser. Eating in or taking out, all that was necessary was to say, "We're from St Ann's" and presto, the school benefited from the purchase.

Results? So successful said Principal Nancy Tario, that another was held on June 16 ---another success despite the major re-construction project at the intersection. Nancy also noted that the Abbott's waitresses donated their tips for

Sunday's Bulletin, September 25, 2004:

"After 39 years of teaching at St Ann's, our beloved **Mary Ann Anderson** has retired. On Friday, September 17th, co-workers, students, parents, alumni, parishioners, family and friends came together along with Father Phillips and Deacon O'Connor for a special Mass and reception to thank her and to wish her well. As a community of faith we are grateful to Mary Ann for the wisdom and love she has given us, and to God for giving us such a wonderful teacher".

The first mention of St Ann's 50th Anniversary

appeared in the bulletin for May 9, 2004 emphasizing two important dates:

Sunday, March 6, 2005:

Special 10:30 Mass to commemorate the first Parish Mass (which was actually celebrated in the House of Providence!) Brunch at Bellevue to follow.

Saturday, October 22, 2005: Celebratory Mass followed by gala dinner and entertainment in the Parish Center.

Volunteers were asked to contact Gloria Irving.



*On Saturday, May 15, 2004
was your car saying...*

**Wash me!
Wash me!**



Well...our 6th graders were happy to!

From 9 am to 1 pm they washed cars to help pay for their class trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

St Ann's Favorite Fund Raiser
was held Saturday,
November 13, 2004.
Another success!



Another winner! This year's Autumn Auction spearheaded by Nancy Tario and an enthusiastic supporting cast attracted more than 250 and resulted in raising almost \$12,000 for St Ann's. Lots of work by lots of people meant lots of fun for lots of people especially the following winners:

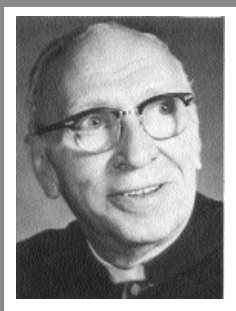
1st PRIZE--Season tickets for SU Basketball won by Alexis Argeiro

2nd PRIZE--Basket of Cheer won by Sue Kelly

3rd PRIZE-- \$250.00 won by Mike Messina

HOPE CHEST won by Marilyn LeClair

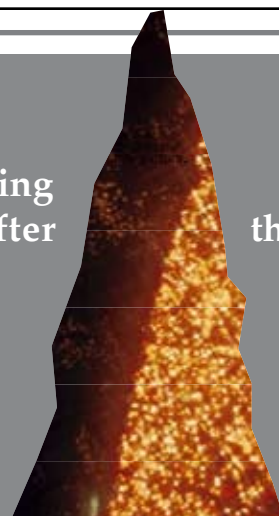
A HOLIDAY TRADITION CONTINUES..



St Ann's Annual "Light a Memory" tree lighting was held Saturday, December 11th after the vigil mass.

The tradition which involves remembering a loved one, special event or answered prayer with a donated light on the huge evergreen next to the Father Sheedy Carillon Tower

marked its third consecutive year in 2004.



At its founding in 1955, St Ann's was part of an aggressive expansion of the Catholic Church in the United States. Young families were moving in record numbers to the suburbs, vocations to the priesthood were abundant and various orders of Sisters were available to teach in the newly built parish schools. Now, half a century later, the changes are many, deep and diverse and certainly apparent to the "traditional" Catholic of which there are many at St Ann's 2005.

The changes, to which this parish has healthily adapted, were set in motion in the early 1960's with the convening by Pope John XXIII of the Second Vatican Council. The Church opened its windows to the modern world, spoke more clearly regarding its doctrines, invited

(continued)

separated belief systems to examine ways toward ecumenism, emphasized more effort toward social justice, made its liturgy simpler with less triumphalism and more understandable by the use of the vernacular.

Implementation of all these changes required time and patience. Meanwhile the world around us was also undergoing major changes. Families became smaller and more scattered as the economy came to determine more and more lifestyle adaptation. In general, income increased dramatically matched by corresponding increases in cost of living. Vocations to the religious life became rarer.

So, what would a visitor in a time machine from 1955 NOTICE FIRST if he/she visited St Ann's next Sunday?

Why is the priest facing the people and saying the Mass in English? Altar Girls? Where are all the nuns? The church is as crowded as ever but there only two Masses on Sunday? And there's a Mass on Saturday night at 5:00 pm? Sign of peace? What's a sign of peace? Singing by the congregation during Mass... in English? No altar rail? Receiving communion in the hand? Nice stained glass windows...where's the confessional? Lector? What's a lector?

No doubt the changes are many, deep and diverse, all brought about by the Second Vatican Council in the early 1960's. But, has the essence of St Ann's and its parishioners changed? Not if all the familiar faces seen week after week at the weekend Masses are an indication. There seems to be an intellectual and quietly humble dedication to 'the faith' at St Ann's.

In October 2004, a visiting priest^(See Notes 14) commented that he found St Ann's, "a vibrant, enthusiastic, involved parish. When attendance at daily weekday Mass is consistently 40 to 60 people,...that is impressive," he stated.

Now, wouldn't Father Sheedy and Bishop Foery be pleased to hear that?

