OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE, PINE HILL
HOCKING COUNTY, OHIO 1852-1892

The abandoned church of Our Lady of Good Hope, Pine Hill, Hocking county, as it appeared before it was razed about 1954. It was built in 1853. A monument made from the church's foundation stones, marks the spot today.

Pine Hill is just that, a hill with pines. It is situated in the northern part of Hocking county, very near the border of Fairfield county, and a little more than three miles from Sugar Grove. On Pine Hill two roads come together to form one. On the point between them there was built in 1853 (1) a small church dedicated to God under the patronage of Our Lady of Good Hope. It was located in Good Hope township, the name of which may have been a factor in the naming of the church.

The history of the little mission parish at Pine Hill parallels that of St. Joseph's, Rush Creek (2), Fairfield county. Catholic settlers came into the area before 1850. They were mostly of German and French origin, as were those of Logan and Rush Creek.

Property for a church was donated to Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati in
1852 (3). On September 4 of that year Peter Marx and his wife, Elisabeth, "in consideration of one dollar," sold to the archbishop "fifty hundredths of an acre" in the northwest quarter of section 18, township 13 and range 8 of Rocking county, Ohio.

A particular condition of the Deed gives the names of the early members of the parish. "...Peter Marx, Nicholas Thoemmes, John Sunk, Nicholas Miller, John Shonebarger, Junior, Nicholas Shonebarger, Mathias Banner, Nicholas Schneider, John Sung, Franz Wolshire, Wendelin Schuh, Adam Schneider, Joseph Huber, Anton Smidt, Xavier Sailer, Mathias Kost, Leopold Kost, Wenebold Kost and John Shoeneberger shall forever have the free right of burial on said land for use only of themselves and families as shall die in the peace of the Roman Catholic Church which shall solely and alone be determinable by the Priest having pastoral jurisdiction over the premises, appointed by the Ordinary of the Diocese in which such land is situated, being in full communion with the See of Rome...."

Tradition reveals that the pioneers of Pine Hill built their own church. Crude tools fashioned the area limestone for a solid foundation. Using the axe they formed white oak logs into the structure of the church and placed it on the stone foundation. When this was enclosed Our Lady of Good Hope was a reality.

Records of the early years seem to be non-existent. What do exist are found with those of St. Joseph's, Rush Creek. And these begin only in 1864. Records before that time are probably included among those of St. Mary's, Lancaster, since priests from there had charge of both missions in their early years. Pine Hill never grew to the status of a resident pastor, and no rectory was ever built.

Father Josue M. Young (1853) and Father Henry Lange (1855), both pastors at Lancaster, took care of the Rush Creek and Pine Hill missions. Father J. W. Brummer, who took over the administration of the Lancaster parish on the death of Father Lange in 1864, started the first book of sacramental records for his three mission parishes, Pine Hill, Rush Creek and Sacred Heart, Geneva.

It appears that Father J. C. Goldschmidt became the first resident pastor at St. Joseph's in 1871. He also had charge of the other two missions. In reporting the status of his charges to Bishop Rosecrans of Columbus in 1872 (4), he wrote that he visited "St. Mary's, Our Lady of Good Hope" at least once a month. Of the cemeteries at the three missions only the one at St. Mary's was blessed.

In 1873 Father Goldschmidt reported that he had made improvements costing $50 at Good Hope, and that there was no debt. He gave the following inventory of furnishings: Three chasubles, one veil, one alb, one surplice, a few amices, one mission chalice, one monstrance, 12 candlesticks, one cassock, one press for vestments, a missal with stand, a kneeling bench, a holy water pot with sprinkler, two small caskets and surplices for boys, one Epistle and Gospel book, five chairs, two stoves with utensils, censer and boat, side table, three music books, a few altar cloths, corporals and purificators.

Father N. Gallweiler made the report in 1874. He was now visiting each mission every third Sunday. Father Louis Grimm and Father Gabriel Volkert were pastors for short terms before Father H.H. Mayrose took over late in 1876. He remained for more than ten years.

In 1881 Father Mayrose reported that there were 17 families at Good Hope; receipts totalled $60.11, expenses $60.10. The following year there were 16 families

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and receipts, $65.47, expenses, $65.45. There was no debt. There was a marked
decrease by 1885 when receipts were $27.87 and expenses $27.85. Yet in 1887
Father Mayrose could state that there were 17 families at Good Hope, which he
visited every three weeks on Sundays. But there were only nine children in the
catechism class.

Father Thomas J. Cody of Logan looked after the two missions for two years
after Father Mayrose left in 1887. Father John Ritter came in 1889 and was there
for the building and opening of the new church in Sugar Grove itself. Apparently
by this time both the Rush Creek and the Good Hope missions were quite weak. In
1892 Father Ritter reported 12 families at Good Hope. The following year his
report made no mention of the Pine Hill parish.

It seems that the old church at Rush Creek and the one at Good Hope were
abandoned as places of worship at about the same time. This was in 1891 or 1892.
A record of 1921 states that "it has been thirty-five years or more since Mass
was celebrated in the old church. The benches and altar fixtures have been removed.
The altar railing of black walnut remains in place and the little balcony that once
beasted of a choir is almost as sturdy as the seasoned log walls that look as if
they might have been built with the intention of serving the purpose of a block-
house in the event of an attack by the Indians. The old bell is gone and the
apertures that once contained windows now freely admit both sunlight and fresh
air" (6).

By 1934 the neglected church had fallen into poor condition. The walls were
down and it became necessary to clear the debris away. It was decided to place a
memorial on the spot. Using the stones of the little church's foundation, an altar
was built in memory of the pioneers who had built the church. On the altar was
fastened a cross and six candlesticks. Embedded in the front of the altar was a
large slab of marble on which was inscribed the following: "This altar is erected
to the memory of the Catholic Pioneers who one this spot more than a century ago
built a church of hewn oak to the honor of God and the glory of His Blessed Mother
under the title of Our Lady of Good Hope. May their souls and the souls of all the
faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace."

The memorial was built during the pastorate of Father Francis Hickey at St.
Joseph's, Sugar Grove. And so passed Our Lady of Good Hope church. But its memory
was to be perpetuated when a Catholic chapel was provided at the Boys Industrial
school, just a few miles away. It was dedicated to Our Lady of Good Hope. The
chapel was built in 1959 and given its title in 1962 by Bishop Issenmann.

(1) Letter of Father Josua M. Young to Archbishop Purcell, Aug. 29, 1853, University
of Notre Dame Archives (UNDA).
(2) See history of old St. Joseph's, Rush Creek, "Bulletin," Catholic Record Society,
(3) Hocking County Deed Books, Vol. M, p. 6
(4) Columbus Diocesan Archives, Annual Census Reports.
(5) Dedication booklet for the chapel of Our Lady of Good Hope, Boys' Industrial
School, 1962.
(6) Ibid.

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Tombstone Inscriptions
BEITER, Frank, father of J. & A., b. Nov. 21, 1824; d. Dec. 27, 1896. aged 72Y 1M
6D.
BEITER, Lucy, d. Aug. 7, 1890; aged 21Y 5M 25D.

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Tombstone Inscriptions (Cont.)

DAUTMIRE, John George, 1911-1915.

EATON, Joseph W., 1897-1898; son of L. & S. Eaton.

EDLEMAN, Francis, d. April 17, 1891; aged 81 Y 1M 17D.

EDLEMAN, Joseph, d. March 9, 1891; aged 84Y 10M.

FISHER, Gretchen L., 1967; aged 47Y.

FLOWERS, John, d. Nov. 5, 1885; aged 64Y 9M 26D.

GORDON, Olive, 1898-1942.

HUBER, Joseph, d. Nov. 26, 1877; aged 63Y 8M —D.

HUBER, Maxemiliana, wife of Joseph, d. Nov. 9, 1864; aged 47Y.

KOST, Margaret E., dau. of M. & S., d. Dec. 26, 1879; aged 12Y 9M —D.

KOST, Mathias, b. Sept. 21, 1817; d. Dec. 3, 1898; aged 81Y 2M 11D.

KOST, Moneybaultus (o.k.), d. April 20, 1859; aged 75Y.

KOST, Waulburger, d. March 19, 1864; aged 82Y.

KUNKLER, Mrs. C. (M.A.?),

McBRIDE, Mary E., 1857-1944.

McBRIDE, Michael, 1849-1916.

MATHENY, Jacob, 1862-1947.

MATHENY, Joseph C., Sept. 17, 1889; March 10, 1962.

MATHENY, Theresa, 1864—1944.

MATHENY, Willia H., Nov. 24, 1881 — April 24, 1892.

MURPHY, Mary, dau. of B.S. & P., d. Sept. 27, 1878; aged 3Y 4M 16D.

RUNSER, Theresa, wife of Sebastian, d. July 12, 1868; aged 32Y.

SAILEY, Francis, b. Dec. 3, 1811; d. Nov. 5, 1886; aged 75Y 11M 3D.

SAILEY, Regina, wife of P.H., d. Oct. 20, 1890; aged 82Y.

SCHUH, Catharine, b. Dec. 20, 1855; d. Dec. 9, 1862.

SCHUH, Peter, b. July 8, 1862; d. Feb. 26, 1863.

SHIBNABERGER, Sophia, dau. of J. & F., d. Nov. 18, 1866; aged 12Y 9M 24D.

SHOE, Anthony, son of W. & S., d. April 21, 1868; aged 4Y 1M.

SHOE, Daniel, son of W. & S., d. Feb. 24, 1857; aged 1Y 3M —D.

SHOE, John, son of W. & S., d. Sept. 15, 1854; aged 4Y.

SHONEBERGER, Joseph, Feb. 18, 1847 — Sept. 30, 1912.

SHONEBERGER, Frank E., 1878-1922.

SHONEBERGER, Lany, wife of Joseph, d. July 17, 1883; aged 35Y 3M 18D.

SHONEBERGER, Susanna, 1873—1941.

SHONK, Barbara, wife of Johann, d. Aug. 12, 1853; aged 66Y.

SHONK, Catharine, d. Nov. 23, 1922; aged 91Y.

SHONK, Ellen C., dau. of W.J. & ——; d. Feb. 2, 1879; aged 5Y 3M 27D.

SHONK, John, d. March 11, 1886; aged 81Y.

SHONK, John, d. Dec. 26, 1901; aged 72Y.

SPIELES, John, son of P. & M., d. Dec. 13, 1867; aged 15Y 9M 6D.

SPIELES, Philip, d. May 15, 1880; aged 68Y 8M 2D.

SPHON, Elisabeth, b. April 7, 1777; d. Dec. 11, 1883; aged 106Y 8M 4D.

THOIMMES, Francis, son of ——; d. Aug. 21, 1858; aged —— months.

THOIMMES, Susan, dau. of — & ——; d. Aug. 26, 1857; aged 1Y —— ——.

THOIMMES, M., d. Aug. 11 1858; aged 77Y.

THOIMMES, Catharine, wife of M., d. Aug. 9, 1854; aged 54Y.

WOLSHIRE, Daniel, d. July 18, 1890; aged 21Y 5M 25D.

WOLSHIRE, Emily, dau. of M. & S., d. Aug. 12, 1868; aged 9M 7D.

WOLSHIRE, Francis, d. Oct. 8, 1856; aged 58Y 10M 11D.

WOLSHIRE, Catharine, wife of Francis, d. Dec. 1, 1868; aged 60Y 5M 14D.

WOLSHIRE, John, d. Sept. 5, 1872; aged 70Y.

WOLSHIRE, Mathias, 1835-1879.

WOLSHIRE, Susan, 1840-1917.

WOLSHIRE, Walter, J., son of John and E., June 5, 1910 — May 4, 1912.
THE PHILIPS CHURCH
OLD ST. JOSEPH'S, NEAR SUGAR GROVE
1853 - 1890

(Note: Although Father Hone wrote "St. Joseph's" at the top of the first page of the register of baptisms, the names that follow show that the register included baptisms from Good Hope and from Sacred Heart, Geneva.)

Register of Baptisms, St. Joseph's, Rush Creek, Fairfield County.

1863
--- 27: George, b. 1 Sept. P: George Schoer and Mary A. Cooney.
------: Joseph, b. 18 of N___ P: Joseph Kellenbacker and Barbara Shore.

1864
May 11: Joseph George, b. 6 May. P: ______ Schmelzer and Margaret Keller.
May 12: Sarah Ellen, b. 7 May. P: Frederick Kinkz(?) and Agnes Elder.
June 4: Susanna, b. 1 May. P: Winibald(?) Schmelzer and ______ Washington(?).
Sept. 6: Jacob, b. 9 August. P: Bartholomew Leahy and Helen Velhartler(?).
------: Matthew, b. 27 of this month. P: Jacob Roning—— and Frances Kost.
------: Susanna, b. 27 Aug. P: Nicholas ______ and Susanna Jager.
Oct. 9: Mary Elisabeth, b. 9 July. P: Jacob D. Meyer and Mary Ellen Hausman.
Nov. 27: Theresa, b. 24 Nov. P: John Schonk and Catharine Uhl.
Nov. 27: Charles, b. 27 Oct. P: Matthew Rodt and Rosina Spoon(?)

1865
Jan. 22: Helen, b. 20 Dec. P: Peter Thimmes and Mary Wolscheit(?).
Feb. 19: John Stephan, b. 16 Jan. P: Jacob McNaspy and Allice ______.
Feb. ----: John Wilhelm,______. P: Anthony Schmelzer and Catharine ______.
March ----: Jacob, ---- P: Adam Boch and Frances Robel.
________: John, b. 20 Jan. P: Mary Hols______.
June 18: Sarah Catharine, b. 21 May. P: Loney Mulligan and Ellen McClade(?).
June 18: John Wendelin, b. 25 May. P: Joseph Rosenkranz and Mary Messb______.
July 2: Anna, b. 24 June. P: Fredrick Rientz and Agnes ______.
July 30: Margaret, b. 21 July. P: ______ Gerard and Magdalene Rune.

1866
Feb. 18: John Nicholas, b. 10 Feb. P: Joseph Kellenberger and Barbara Schorr.
April ----: Mary, b. 22 June [!] P: Leopold Schmelzer and Susanna Spier.
Aug. 5: Benjamin Louis, b. 22 June. P: Anselm Schmelzer and Margaret Keller.
Sept. 15: Eleanor Joanne, b. 4 March 1865. P: Hugh Hardwich and Mary Lucy Hill.
Sept. 30: Frederick, b. 25 Sept. P: George Schorr and Mary Runey.
Nov. 16: Anna, ______ P: William Owens and Elisabeth Keller.

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1866
Dec. 26: Catharine Cecilia, b. 6 Dec. P: Diepold[!] Sahm and Mary Dunne.

1867
April —: John Wilhelm, b. 4 April. P: Winnibald Schmelzer and Rosalia ——.
________: Henry Julius ex Judaism. ca. 40 years.
May 19: Helen, b. 30 April. P: Michael McVade and Helen Cogan.
July 14: John Henry, b. 15 June. P: Andrew Isman and Lucinda Brill.
July 14: Amalia, b. 3 July. P: Matthew Wolscheid and Susanna Schonk.
Aug. 12: Charles Cornelius, ——. P: Jacob Heitz and Mary Weibe——.
Sept. 2: Gertrude, b. 1 Sept. P: Jacob —— and Julianna Schmelzer.
Oct. 6: Anna Genevieve, b. 2 Sept. P: Joseph Rosenkranz and Mary Messberger.
Nov. 24: David, b. 30 May 1855. P: John and Anna Flowers.
Nov. 24: John, b. 30 Feb. 1857. P: John and Anna Flowers.
Nov. 24: Mary, b. 30 July 1853. P: John and Anna Flowers.

1868
March 1: Anna Miller received into the Church.
March 1: Sarah Blaser received into the Church.
March 8: Lucy, b. 2 Feb. P: Joseph Gerard and Magdalene Kuney.
April 12: Frederick Blaser received into the Church.
May 3: Anthony, b. 21 April. P: Peter Thoemann(?) and Mary Wolscheid.
June 7: Margaret Elisabeth, b. 26 April. P: Matthew Kost and Rosanna Spoon.
Aug. 9: Jacob William, b. 16 July. P: William Meyer and Joanne Hill.
Aug. 16: Elisabeth Theresa, b. 21 July. P: John Braun and Mary Stehel.
Aug. 23: Thomas, b. 9 Aug. P: Bartholomew Lehey and Helen Schark.
Sept. 6: Augustina, b. 18 Aug. P: Joseph Kellenberger and Barbara Schorr.
Nov. 8: Joseph, ———. P: Mary Helstein.

1869
April 19: Regina, b. 28 Feb. P: William(?) Roben and Margaret Richterman.
April 21: Elisabeth Anna, ———. P: Jacob Schorr and Julia Schmelzer.
June 13: Elisabeth Stewart, ca. 20 years, received into the Church.
June 13: Barbara, b. 24 May. P: Winnibald Schmelzer and Rosalia Weneiser (?)..
Nov. 21: Henry, b. 12 Nov. P: Peter Thimmes and Mary Wolscheid.

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Baptisms (Cont.)

1870
March 25: Clara Anna, b. 26 June, 1864. P: Michael Meyer and Elisabeth Gerick.
April 24: William Joseph, b. 5 April. P: Joseph Rosenkranz and Anna Messberger.
May 1: Margaret, b. 18 April. P: Aloysius Noll and Elisabeth Kunkler.
June 16: William, b. 21 May. P: Aaron Mash and Magdalene, his wife.
Aug. 7: George, b. 21 July. P: John Braun and Mary Stehle.
Nov. 6: Christina, b. 23 Oct. P: Thomas and Susanna Riel.

1871
Feb. 15: Clara Cecilia, b. 4 Feb. P: Jacob Messberger and Elisabeth Philips.
April 3: Mary Joanne, b. 5 March. P: Frank Miller and Anne Blaser.
April 8: —— Witz, ca. 20 years, wife of John Bash.
April 23: Susanna, b. 26 March. P: Matthew Kost and Rosanna Spoon.
April 23: Magdalene, b. 2 April. P: Christian Kunkler and Catharine Noll.
June 5: Theresa Anna, b. 26 May. P: Daniel Spire and Regina ——.
July 13: John William, b. 4 July. P: Jacob Schorr and Juliana Schmelzer.
Aug. 20: Christina Jenifer, b. 20 July. P: Joseph Messberger and Anna Hammond.
Sept. 3: Susanna, b. 30 June. P: Leopold Schmelzer and Susanna Speier.
Sept. 24: Mary Elisabeth, b. 2 Aug. P: Peter Timis and Mary Wolshire.
Nov. 26: Rosa Helen, b. about 12 June. P: David Kinser and Mary Flowers.

1872
Feb. 4: Mary Cecilia, b. 24 Jan. P: Nicholas Kessler and Catharine ——.
March 17: Catharine Welte, wife of Adam Boch, Jr.
March 25: John William, b. 24 Feb. P: Nicholas Kunkler and Mary Margaret Kost.
April 4: Anastasia, b. 30 March. P: Francis X. Beiter and Lucy Evers.
April 22: Charles Albert, b. 26 March. P: George Schorr and Mary Kuhny[!].
April 28: Emma Loretto Catharine, b. 29 March. P: Nicholas Kessler and Rosa Anna Bolen.
May 5: John, b. 10 April. P: Joseph Shoeneberger and Helen Wolscheid.
May 9: George Hills, aged 74.
June 16: Caspar Francis, b. 28 May. P: Anselm Schmelzer and Margaret Keller.
June 23: Anna Elisabeth, b. 3 June. P: John Schneider and Helen Beiter.
Oct. 6: Adam, b. 1 Sept. P: Daniel Speyer and Regina Boch.
Baptisms (Cont.)

1872 (cont.)
Dec. 15: Jacob, b. 5 Dec. P: Nicholas Thimmis and Susanna Rihle.

1873
April 10: Aloysia Genevieve, b. 4 March. P: Jacob Messberger and Elisabeth Philips.
April 19: Mary Helen, b. 22 March. P: Joseph Rosenkranz and Mary Messberger.
April 20: Sarah, b. 22 Feb. P: John Bash and Mary Welte.
April 30: Patrick, b. 31 May, 1867; Thomas, b. 19 April, 1869; William, b. 23 June
1872, all children of Michael Floyd and Anna Blake.
May 4: Julia Veronica, b. 28 April. P: Jacob Schorr and Julia Schmelzer.
June 14: Christina Krist, wife of Peter Emerich.
July 20: Margaret Gratia, b. 29 April. P: John McDonnell and Elisabeth Floyd.
Aug. 15: John, b. 12 July. P: John Fleming and Nancissa Benedin.
Aug. 31: Mary Magdalen, b. 30 July. P: John Keller and Susanna Spiesels.
Sept. 7: William, b. 28 August. P: Adam Boch and Catharine Welte.
Nov. 9: Rosa Anna, b. 22 Oct. P: Cornelius Sullivan and Mary Kelly.
Nov. 2: Catharine Christina, b. 31 Oct. P: Matthew Wollscheid and Susanna Schank.

1874
Aug. 9: Francis Ray----, b. 1 July. P: Nicholas and Rosa Kessler.
Aug. 15: Mary Helen, b. 31 July. P: John and Helen Messberger.
Sept. 6: Anna Elisabeth, b. 7 Aug. P: Joseph and Mary Schonk.
Sept. 6: Frances Katharine, b. 9 August. P: Leonard and Theresa Bosch.
Sept. 20: Joseph, b. ----. P: ---- and Christina Emrich.
[Sept.] 20: Edward, b. 20 Aug. P: Aaron Schank and his wife, Katharine.
Nov. 18: Mary Elisabeth, b. 1 Aug. P: John and Hannora Mack.
Nov. 22: Mary Magdalen, b. 11 Nov. P: Anthony and Margaret Schmelzer.

1875
Jan. 11: Rosa Mary, b. 16 Nov. 1874. P: Charles and Mary Schroeder.
Feb. 27: Laura Aemilia, b. 24 Feb. P: William Meyers and Joanne Hill.
-----: Mary Anna Bohrer, aged 22 years.
May 6: Mary Anna, b. 2 May. P: Peter and Mary Schmelzer.
May 9: Mary Joanne Potts, convert.

(To be continued)