St. Joseph Mission, Glasgow, Tuscarawas County

by Rev. Msgr. George J. Schlegel


In The History of Fifty Years of the Diocese of Columbus, published in 1918, the story of Immaculate Conception church in Dennison includes this information, "...a church dedicated to St. Joseph was built in a place called Glasgow, some four miles north of Port Washington, Tuscarawas County, and about 14 miles from Dennison, which later was wholly discontinued on account of the iron industry located there having been removed for want of local supplies." (In actuality, the town of Glasgow is some 2 1/2 miles southwest of Port Washington.)

There is no apparent mention of this place in the sacramental records of Immaculate Conception church, nor is any record of land title found at the Tuscarawas County court house. Interestingly enough, the Baptism Record of St. Joseph church, Dover, under date of March 21, 1878, lists the baptism of Frances Scheloski, born February 22, 1874, daughter of John Scheloski and Martiana Shudrovitz, both natives of "Borussia." Sponsors were Valentine and Elizabeth Montag. The Baptism was at Glasgow; the record is signed by H. B. Dues.

Two years later, March 25, 1880, the record is found of the baptism of John Sheloske, born February 15, 1880, son of John Sheloske and Martiana Schutrowitch, both natives of Borussia. Sponsors once again were Valentine and Elizabeth Montag. The baptism took place at St. Joseph church, Dover, with notation that the family was from Glasgow. Again, the record is signed by Rev. H. B. Dues.

It seems quite likely that these two baptisms may well indicate the time of the opening and closing of the church.

The histories of Tuscarawas County report that the furnaces at Glasgow, a project of investors from Scotland, began operation in 1874, closing down in 1876.

As a final note, Father Robert Manning, now retired, recalls that while he was pastor of St. Francis de Sales parish, Newcomerstown (1978-1988), he was occasionally visited by a Mr. Caryl Shalosky, who would take him to the neighborhood of Glasgow, to visit the former surroundings of the Shalosky family and the site of the former church.

The Catholic Record Society would be interested to know whether anyone has any further information concerning this short-lived mission and its people.
LETTER 3
Impact of the French and English Conflict

My very good Patron:

According to Holmes Annals, hunters who came up from Virginia were wandering on the eastern heights of the Allegheny while on the Atlantic seacoast far in the east, William Penn came up the Delaware and came ashore, and in the west LaSalle and Father Hennepin scouted the rivers and valleys. However, the French, unbeknownst to the English hunters on the ridges of the hills, made serious efforts to bring Louisiana and Canada into a more accessible community so that they alone would rule over these widespread western valleys from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, a distance of more than 4,000 English miles. "Those beautiful Prairies," remarked the good Bishop of Vincennes, "which stretch from the shores of the Wabash in Indiana across Illinois to the Mississippi were possibly for hundreds of years the favorite place -- the meeting ground for councils of the natives and the rendezvous of their barbarous festivities. The area around Vincennes is thought to be one of the earliest and busiest market places for barter which the French developed from Quebec and Lake Superior to the Mississippi, as maps from 1660 and 1670 prove. By the year 1770 these first beginnings had already taken on a definite form and character. The Mission of St. Xavier sur l'Ouabasch, or in virtue of its usual military designation, "Post de Vincennes," appeared in the full dawn of its blossoming future.

But here, too, religion required its sacrifices. Father Gravier had come from Kaskaskia in 1695, sought out savage tribes, founded Missions among them, and finally died a martyr under the tomahawk of such marauders. This was also the lot of a pious missionary who headed the St. Xavier congregation and suffered the death of an apostle. For just as wars and wild butchery among the Indians themselves, not to mention that these heroic deeds were told in song and narrative even after the arrival of the Europeans and were even encouraged by the latter, so also the peaceful half-civilized tribes of more ancient ancestry were increasingly persecuted and menaced. "The Indiana tribes asked the French for help. A detachment of men set out from Kaskaskia to help them led by brave deVincennes. He and a Jesuit who accompanied him were captured by the cruel enemy, and were burned alive in 1735. The place is still pointed out on a plain together with the remnant of the fateful stake to which they were bound while suffering death in the flames."

Nevertheless, the French had great influence among most of the tribes. The mutual interest and ties with their older sister country of Canada, the quiet beneficent work of religion which won the hearts and friendship of neighboring Indians toward the colonists, all this seemed to contribute to changing the wilderness into orderly living and the solitude into civilized country. And in order to secure lines of communication with Canada, whence our Church in the West received all its most heroic clergy, fortifications were built along the Ohio River and Lake Erie, and the most famous of these was Fort DuQuesne (later called Pittsburgh by the English) at the confluence of the Allegheny and the Monongahela Rivers which at this point form the Ohio River.
However, imaginary [false] claims by the English soon brought back the old darkness and devastation to the area of this valley, but with this difference, that from now on for more than half a century, misery was seen and lamentation was heard that no sympathy, no religion could still or comfort. It was no longer war against savages but Europeans against Europeans, the French settlers against the English and the measure of savagery was filled up by the horrible tomahawk. All the French forts fell in 1759 in a long battle. Canada was assigned to England and Louisiana to Spain. Thus New France was checked and destroyed in her clever and promising aspirations to prosperity and full growth. The colonists in the valley, cut off forever from Canada, withdrew behind their weak fortifications, gradually surrendering to the hordes of strange Indians who invaded from all sides and who were even joined by the Christian tribes. Since their shepherds were slain, the light of religion was extinguished with its clergy.

The Jesuits were compelled to abandon their missions in the West. Only Kaskaskia, where the Indians loudly shouted threats if their beloved shepherd would be taken from them, enjoyed this blessing a bit longer than Vincennes or the congregation of St. Xavier sur l'Ouabasch, since a priest seldom ventured to visit them from Quebec, as we can conclude from late news reports. "From 1763-1770 no priest came to Vincennes. Church functions were recorded by a mere notary (Guardian as they called him). He baptized the children without the usual ceremonies, noted the marriages and buried the dead. In 1770 Very Reverend M. Gibault, a Vicar General of the Bishop of Quebec, arrived and was pastor until 1775. After that the church records devolved once more upon the care of the Guardian, etc."

What a picture of those days is given to us by the present Bishop, partly taken from the Records of this Chapel which finally had to be entrusted to God, and partly from the oral accounts of the oldest members of his Diocese? "In a territory within a radius of 24 leagues," he continues, "the colony was able to plant no more than 5,400 acres in a period of more than 50 years and that only around the fortification, exposed to the tomahawks and the arrows of the roaming savages, even up to later times. Our hours of conversation with elderly and middle aged people continually reflected fearful recollections of their youth, namely, how they sent ahead some workmen with flintlock rifles in their hands while the rest cultivated their fields within sight of the fort. Yet many fell into the cruel hands of the enemy before they were aware of their presence behind the thickets of the forest. In vain the family waited at home. A mutilated body found the next day would be brought to the widow and orphaned children and would be buried in the small cemetery near the chapel. The name would be recorded in the death records in which we still find on page after page the entry: Buried in the Cemetery of the Parish of St. Xavier on the Wabasch the body of ...... killed by savages..., or died of wounds on this date."

What must have been the condition of the weakened colonies? And what must have been the fate of the many smaller missions (many of which had begun to flourish) located at greater distances from each other all the way from the Mississippi to Lake Huron. Their small wooden chapels were devastated and the entire flock scattered. Hence come those traces of Catholic belief or rather corrupted traditions which missionaries find among some small tribes even today and hence come their reverence and special liking for the so-called Blackrobes. Even tree trunks here and there have crosses carved on their bark, dating from that time. This Catholic emblem of the true religion can, as its entire history proves, be overshadowed, suppressed and trodden under foot, but never exterminated. The voice of the old Church is heard again throughout the entire Mississippi Valley. May
God send teachers who will "preach the Gospel to the poor."

NOTES

1) Annals of America - from the Discovery by Columbus in the year 1494, by Abiel Holmes, minister at Cambridge, 2nd edition, 1829.
2) Prairies are isolated plains in the forests, of greater or lesser extent, green with an enormous abundance of vegetation. For the most part they were found in the lower regions near the Lakes, just as if they were marked by traces of dried out lakes and for this reason they harbor protracted fevers (Ague).
3) How unreliable these maps were I can gather from one such (undated) which His Excellency Marchese Benincasa obligingly showed me in Ancona. Still a thing like that is always a notable ornament of a library.
4) A stone instrument of death in the form of a hatchet or broad spear.
5) Bishop Bruté in the Catholic Telegraph.
6) Ondoyer- the French word for baptize.
7) The church records of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier are said to have remained in good condition -- with many notable statistics of civil, literary and ecclesiastical information. They take the reader back to the community life of the colonists of that time. The people were divided into two classes. The baptisms and marriages of the convert savages were especially noted. In general many examples of French laws come to light out of these records, especially regarding the etiquette of the nobility and the military class. For these colonies existed as independent republics until the time of the American Declaration of Independence.

Abstracts from The Catholic Telegraph

(Continued, from Vol. XXV, No. 4)

August 16, 1849
Subscriptions: John Moore and Uriah Eckenrode, Somerset

August 23, 1849
MOUNT VERNON, OHIO. -- The new Catholic Church of this place will be ready for dedication in October. We understand that several Catholic families have already settled in that healthy and pleasant neighborhood, and that the town is rapidly improving.

We are glad to learn that the new College building 36 by 114 feet, and three stories high, at St. Joseph's, near Somerset, Perry county, Ohio, is to be under roof this Fall. The beautiful church of St. Joseph is being completed.

August 30, 1849

September 7, 1849
Communicated

CHILlicothe - ORdINATION - CONFIRMATION
On Saturday, 1st Sept. Mr. Anthony Ganzloff [Gangloff]...of the Order of St. Dominic... received sub-deaconship from the Rt. Rev. Bishop Purcell, in St. Peter's Church, Chillicothe; next day... [he] was ordained deacon, and Rev. Albert S. Clarkson... of the same order...was ordained priest; and on Monday morning, Rev. Mr. Ganzloff was also raised to the priesthood.

At the High Mass, sung by Rev. Mr. Kalcher, S.J., the Rev. Mr. Whelan preached.... [After Mass, 140 were confirmed, several of them converts; also present were Rev. Messrs. Butler and Juncker.]
[This issue contains three columns for the Catholic Telegraph from "our Roman Correspondent; and another column on page 285. This again is seminarian Sylvester Rosecrans.]

September 13, 1849

EPISCOPAL VISITATION

A new Church small, but neat, was blessed by the Bishop, in Pleasant Valley, eight miles south of Chillicothe, on the McAdamized turnpike road to Portsmouth, on Monday 3d September. Rev. Mr. Butler preached in English and Rev. Mr. Juncker in German, eloquent and appropriate sermons, and the Chillicothe choir, unsurpassed for vocal and orchestral music, in the West, added much to the interest of the day. Cadwallader Wallace Esq., an aged and highly respected citizen of Chillicothe generously presented to the Bishop, to be used as his own judgement should direct, the forty acre lot on which this little church has been erected. It is called St. Francis Xavier's. On Sunday, twenty-two persons were confirmed in St. Joseph's, Circleville. ...Hillsboro...

Subscriptions: Portsmouth, Rev. Eml. Thienpont; Hanging Rock, O., John Sweeney; Barnesville, O., Jno. Slevin.

[This issue contains an obituary for Rev. James H. Clarkson, O.S.D., who died in Memphis on August 25.]

September 20, 1849

DIED at Wheeling, V.A., on his way home from Pittsburgh on Wednesday, 12th Sept., REV. JAMES McCAFFREY, for many years pastor of St. Mary's Church, Marietta. He was attacked with Diarrhoea, at Pittsburgh, and the severity of the shock which was thereby given to his constitution, at no time robust, led to his death, notwithstanding the skill of his physicians, and the efforts made by kind friends to restore him in Wheeling. He received the last Sacraments from Rev. David Whelan. His remains were conveyed to Pittsburgh for interment. May his soul rest in peace!

September 27, 1849

[Episcopal visitation schedule: new church at Mt. Vernon to be dedicated on Sunday, Oct. 14; confirmation at Danville on Monday; church of St. Francis, Newark, to be visited on Thursday.]

October 4, 1849


October 18, 1849

The Rev. Theophilus Kopf has been appointed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Purcell, pastor of Pomeroy, Meigs county. He is also charged with the care of the congregation of St. John's Church, and other stations in the adjoining counties.

October 25, 1849

[Corrects the name in the above-quoted piece to Rev. Theophilus Krapf. Also, Rev. Matthew Deselaers has been appointed "at least for some months" pastor of St. Nicholas Zanesville. Rev. Mr. Brunermann of Newark, will attend St. Fidelis, Carrol County, and Canal Dover, Tuscarawas County, until they can be provided with their proper pastor.]

November 1, 1849

EPISCOPAL VISITATION.

NEWARK, MOUNT VERNON, DANVILLE. --

The Church of St. Francis of Sales, Newark, was visited by the Bishop on Saturday, 6th Oct. Rev. Mr. Lamy sang the High Mass, and Rev. Mr. Schonat preached. There were eleven persons Confirmed, three of whom were Converts. Considerable improvement had taken place in the condition of the Church — though it, or rather the priest's house adjoining, is still some hundreds of dollars in debt. We learned with much regret the death of Mr. William Brown, a zealous Catholic and devoted friend of the
Church, which took place about two months ago. He devoutly received all the last Sacraments before his departure, from the hands of the Pastor, Rev. Mr. Brunermann.

The new Church of St. Vincent of Paul, Mount Vernon, was dedicated on Sunday, 14th Oct. Rev. Mr. Schonat sang the High Mass and the Bishop preached morning and evening. The Church is situated on a fine lot in a good position. It is of brick, 56 by 40 feet. The assemblage collected to witness the interesting ceremony, was so very large, that hundreds, we judge, were unable to find admission, but these remained patiently at the windows, to hear the discourse and see the Holy mysteries celebrated. Twenty four persons were confirmed, five, or six, of whom were converts. Two of the consoling incidents of the day may be noted here. One of the efficient marshalls, appointed to keep order was a most intelligent physician, Dr. Porter, nephew of the former Governor of Michigan, of that name. He was born in Baltimore, and baptized in the Catholic Church. But in consequence of the death of his parents, while he was yet a child, he was educated a Presbyterian, and after studying divinity at Princeton and taking orders, he was for nearly twenty years a regular minister and preacher of the German Reformed denomination. Three months ago, after due preparation, he was admitted to his first communion, by Rev. Mr. Boulger, and was confirmed, by the Bishop. We have entreated the good doctor to write some article for the Telegraph, descriptive of his feelings when he was moved by the Divine Grace to rejoin the Church, and of his views of the religious errors in which he was educated, and which for so many years, unconvinced of their being what he has since discovered, he zealously inculcated. The other incident was that of a father who waited on the altar in his youth, but who, subsequently, neglected his Church-duties, and who now, accompanied by his excellent wife, herself a Protestant, though one of her parents was Catholic, brought their children to the Bishop for baptism.

The Bishop and clergy were hospitably entertained at the residence of Mr. Warden, a merchant of Mount Vernon, whose lady has joined the Church: in which also, he has had three interesting children baptized. These edifying circumstances, taken in connection with the dedication of the Church, the solemnity with which the divine sacrifice was offered, the success of the new choir, and the reverential deportment of all present, besides the beauty of the weather, produced an effect on the minds of the few, but good old Catholics, of Vernon, Messrs. Morton, Brophy, Boyle, and the widow and children of Mr. Collopy, who had seen the former Church, the first of so many sacrifices, reduced to ashes, which it would be vain to attempt to describe.

On Tuesday, there were 62 persons confirmed at St. Luke's, Danville. Among these were also several Converts, in particular, we would instance, Mr. Bishop, a worthy citizen of the little town of Newville, with his wife and daughter, happily brought to the Church by their good neighbor, Mr. Hartvelly, who in their presence, confounded a preacher of some sect, who was leaving nothing undone to lead them astray. With heartfelt pleasure did we again see in the enjoyment of a happy and green old age the virtuous couple, Mr. and Mrs. Sapp, whose house was so long the Church and the home of the missionary, and who have now upwards of one hundred descendants, assisting at the Holy Mass, sung by their former Pastor, Rev. Mr. Lamy, whose presence reminded all of what God had accomplished for them during the eight years of his ministry. An acre of ground, adjoining the Mount Vernon Cemetery, was donated to the Bishop by Dr. Porter, as a burial ground for the St. Vincent's congregation.

November 15, 1849

[Died Nov. 5, Thomas Hume of London, O., age 29, a convert, formerly printer of the Telegraph.]  
(To be continued)

38
1837, continued

October 22 Mary Ph., daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Farrel; spons. William McCadden. N.D. Young, O.S.D.

same day Rachel, daughter of Conrad and Veronica Bolman; spons. John Bolinger and Regina Freeman. NDY

November 5 Philip Ferdinand, son of Ferdinand Baishartz and Catharina Huff; spons. John Huff and Elizabeth Baishartz.

same day Lucy, daughter of James Heenan and Charlotte Wilmot; spons. William and Elizabeth Hanmond [sic]. C. P. Montg.

November 22 Philip Ferdinand, son of David Victor and Ann Sweeney; spons. William McCadden.

same day Lucy, daughter of David Victor and Ann Sweeney; god-mother M. Durang.

same day Elanor Hughes, convert; spons. Mrs. E. Harkins.

same day Angela Florida, daughter of George Flood and Catherine Geary; spons. Susan McKibben. C. P. Montgomery

December 3 Francis, son of Patrick Kuhn and Margaret McEntire; spons. Patrick Kuhn and Margaret Connor. CPM

December 10 Mary Ann, daughter of S... Stele and Teresa Evrest; spons. Anthony Smith and Margaret Rink. CPM

December 11 Francis, son of Conrad Amer [marginal correction to Emmer] and Maria Jung; spons. Margaret Rink. CPM

December 19 I privately baptized Lydia, daughter of William Monohan and Luise Romine. CPM

1838

January 5 Elizabeth, daughter of William Silvers and Sarah Ann Hare; spons. Thomas Kelly and Ann McGlone. CPM

January 7 Charles N., son of Robert Lushley and Mary Anderson; spons. John and Ann B. Cassilly. CPM

page 17

January 10 Mag[dalen?] ... Reg... ; spons. Francis Louis Fix and Mary Catherine Will...

CPM [Brittle paper on top of the page has broken away, destroying most of the top line. The remains of a notation, entered along the margin on these pages as a finding aid, seem to indicate that the surname ended with "ing"].

January 14 Charles Sylvester, son of Enoch Greenwell and Catherine Hose; spons. Elizabeth Padgit.

same day Bernard, son of Francis Louis Fix and Mary Freeman; spons. Bernard Fix and Elizabeth Broker. CPM

same day Elizabeth, daughter of Patrick Fielding and Ann Crossen; spons. Hugh Herrington and Catherine Castellow. CPM

January 18 Margaret, daughter of Michael Shields and Ann Harpel; spons. Michael Ryan and Catherine Smith.

same day Joseph Collins, son of Timothy Collins and Margaret Norton; spons. George McKenna and Ann Coyle. CPM
January 25  William, son of Rudolph Rudy and Elizabeth Herholtzer; spons. John Hoff and Margaret Berky.

same day Veronica, daughter of Jacob Hoff and Mary Acheman; spons. Remigius Kessinger and Mary Huff.

same day Valentine, son of Henry Ornordff and Catherine Harkins; spons. Thomas Hughes and Ann Rogers.

same day Catherine Ch., daughter of Thomas Hughes and Elenor Kierm[page torn]; spons. Catherine Orndo[r]ff. CPM

January 27  William, son of Thomas Bloomer and Sarah(?) Dunn; spons. Thomas Kelly and Ann McGlone. CPM

March 4  Catherine Ann, daughter of Oliver Barrett and Margaret Harkins; spons. George and Ann Spurck. CPM

March 16  George, son of George McKenna and Jane Howard; spons. Rose Ann Ward [Ward?]. CPM

March 20  David Henry, son of Peter Musselman and Ann Fitsimmons; spons. Mary Harkins. CPM

March 25  Charles, son of Mary Morris; spons. Philip Rush and Elizabeth Bosheart. NDY

March 26  Sebastian, son of Gaspar Hinderland and Bal[page torn] Kent; spons. Gaspar Pant and Mary Coun. NDY


same day Catherine, daughter of Edmund Hennesy and Bridget Cochoran; spons. Patrick O'Conner and Hanna Lorret. CPM

March 26  Cornelius, son of Felix McGinnis and Catherine McDormot; spons. Thomas Connelly and Mary Horen.

same day James, son of Thomas Teague and Bridget Y[page torn]. Young? See Tierney record below.; spons. James Bolland and Helen Campbell.

same day John, son of Colohan McCarty and Ma[page torn] Mohone; spons. Thomas King and Bridget Flannery.

same day Thomas, son of Michael Kenny and Ann Riley; spons. John Hynes and Bridget King.

same day Bernard, son of Joseph Day and Mary Fall[page torn]; spons. Patrick Molone and Catherine Walsh.

same day Mary Ann, daughter of James Tierney and [page torn] Cawley; spons. Thomas Teague and Bridget Young.

same day Mary, daughter of John Lally and Bridget M[page torn]; spons. Thomas McCoy and Mary Cowly. [CPM]

(To be continued)