On the Name of the See City

What one might call the christening day of the City of Columbus, the see city of the Diocese, is February 21. On that day in 1812 a resolution giving the name "Columbus" to the new state capital being formed on the east bank of the Scioto River was passed by the state legislature, meeting in Chillicothe. On the previous day, the name "Ohio City" had been defeated by a three-vote margin. That name had been opposed by Joseph Foos, the first state senator from Franklinton, and overnight he had lobbied enough of his fellow senators so that the name of the great mariner was adopted by a vote of 24 to 10.

The Godfather of the City of Columbus

Joseph Foos was born twelve miles from Valley Forge, Pa. about 1774, of a German father and a Welsh mother who were members of the Lutheran Church. The family moved to Tennessee and later to Kentucky. He moved to Franklinton as a young married man in 1798 and by his enterprise rose quickly in the frontier settlement, becoming a joint owner of the lucrative ferry over the Scioto River and proprietor of the Eagle Tavern, the first hotel in Franklinton. His early education was deficient, but an Irish schoolmaster who came to his house in poor circumstances provided the training needed to mold his natural talent. He was an associate judge of Franklin County from 1804 to 1807. He soon was carrying on a voluminous correspondence with the political lights of his day: Henry Clay, Thomas Ewing, William H. Harrison, Thomas Corwin, and others. He was elected to the first Ohio legislature and served a total of twenty-five years. He became an eloquent and moving speaker and it was mainly through his persistent efforts that the state capitol was moved from Chillicothe to Columbus. In appreciation, he was given a block of land in the new city by its proprietors. During the War of 1812 he was a Captain and later Brigadier General of Ohio troops. He later farmed in Madison County and was General in Chief of the Ohio Militia from 1825 until his death in 1832.

Popularity of Columbus in the new Republic

The fact that Christopher Columbus was a devout Catholic of course had nothing to do with Foos’s choice of his name for the city. Many people did not even realize what religion Columbus professed. (John O’Kane Murray in his 1882 book The Catholic Pioneers of America makes this plain. He mentions an American lady who had just finished her education in Paris to whom, when he related this fact, it seemed stranger than to say that Columbus had been a Mormon, a Muslim, "or even the great-grandson of Jack the Giant-killer.") The honor given Columbus as the namesake of the new city was a reflection of the honor he was receiving throughout the nation at that time, but the man honored was little more than a myth invented for the new United States.
Columbus remained relatively unknown immediately after his death. The biography written by his son was not completed for several decades. In addition, for those who did know his story, his reputation was low because of both his failures as a colonial administrator and the protracted lawsuit in which doubts were cast on the singularity of his plan for sailing west to the Indies. This changed by the end of the sixteenth century, when English explorers and writers acknowledged the primacy and inspiration of Columbus and he came to be celebrated in poetry and plays.

In 1697 Samuel Sewall, a chief justice in Boston, in his book *Phaenomena Quadem Apocalyptica ad Adspectum Novi Orbis Configurata* made it clear that Americans, by virtue of their isolation and common experience in the new land, were becoming a distinct people who looked to define themselves on their own terms and through their own symbols. He was one of the first to suggest that the land should be named for Columbus, not for Amerigo Vespucci. This view of Columbus was not taken up by the general populace until the Revolutionary War, when Americans won their independence from England. Columbus was transformed into a symbol of unity, national pride, progress, and liberty. Timothy Dwight in 1785 wrote an epic poem, *Conquest of Canaan*, in which he identified Columbus as "a new Moses" who explored through trackless seas and found a new Canaan's promised shores. Others followed in this vein.

Elaborate celebrations of Columbus were held on October 12, 1792, the tercentenary of his landing, in both New York and Boston. As expressed at that time, the citizens of the new American republic saw in Columbus a man who had found escape from the tyranny of the Old World. He was the solitary individual who had challenged the unknown sea, as Americans challenged the wilderness of the new continent. He had been opposed by kings and (as portrayed by his son) ultimately had been betrayed by them. But, as a consequence of his vision and audacity, there was now a land free of kings. In Columbus the new nation, previously having no history or mythology apart from England's, had found its own hero from the past. This was the Columbus admired by Joseph Foos, for whom the city was named.

**Motives of the Real Columbus**

In 1487, eighty thousand men were sacrificed to a satanic god at the dedication of a new temple in Mexico City, their hearts cut out at the rate of sixteen per minute. But the answer of the living God to this human and spiritual tragedy was already in preparation. Already by 1481 the tall, white-haired, red-complexioned, Ligurian mariner, Christopher Columbus, had conceived the idea of sailing west from Europe to find the fabled Orient. Rejected by the King of Portugal, in 1484 he had approached Ferdinand and Isabel, "The Catholic Kings" of Aragon and Castile. In 1487 the commission they had appointed to examine his project recommended its rejection, and rightly so, for they knew that the oceanic voyage to Asia was too long for the crew of a sailing ship to survive. Columbus, however, believed he was called by God to this task, he persisted, and the result is well known to the entire world.

Columbus's agreement with King Ferdinand and Queen Isabel in 1492 listed several things that he expected to obtain via the voyage, namely title, administrative office over any lands discovered, treasure, and trading profits. However, examination of other writings shows that his chief purpose was religious. He saw, and signed, himself as *Christoferens*, the Christ-bearer, his name-day being July 25, that of both St. Christopher and St. Iago or St. James the Apostle, patron of Spain. For his royal sponsors his primary objective was to carry the Gospel to the furthest ends of the earth, as prophesied by
Isaiah and commanded by Christ of the Apostles. In his journal Columbus expressed this purpose as seeing how to undertake the conversion of any non-Christians he might find, away from false and harmful religions, to the Holy Faith. Even the wealth he expected to obtain was to be turned to a new crusade for the recovery of the Holy Land. In spreading the Gospel and in the reconquest of the Holy Land Columbus expected to participate in the last decisive works of God in history. He believed that it was God's will that he find the way to the Orient.²

Columbus had more than his share of human failings: he was a poor administrator; he took indigenous people as slaves; he never seems to have admitted that he had not reached the Orient. He had misinterpreted the task he had been given, and yet it seems apparent that God in his divine providence had intended for the voyage to be made.

Divine Providence

Columbus's voyage led directly to the conquest of Mexico by Cortes and the end of the satanic and cruel rites in its temples in 1521. Historian Warren Carroll remarks that in the five years after the appearance of our Lady to Juan Diego outside of Mexico City in December of 1531, five million Indians were baptized in Mexico. During these same years, King Henry VIII led England out of the Catholic Church, because She would not declare null his valid marriage to Catherine, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabel. "The parallel is breathtakingly precise, diamond-clear. As the people of England went out of the Church Christ founded, the people of Mexico came into it. The consequences to the Church of the loss of England reverberate down the centuries; she has suffered few greater losses in the whole of the Christian era. The consequences to the Church of the conversion of the majority of the population of the New World who lives south of the United States still lie mostly in the future. But no part of the world is more Catholic, and few equally so -- and that is, above all, the gift of the Virgin of Guadalupe."³ This result could not have come about but for the abilities and beliefs of Christopher Columbus.

Bostonian Samuel Sewall in 1697 called Columbus "the magnanimouse heroe...who was manifestly appointed by God to be the Finder out of these lands." It is time that we agreed with him. Columbus, for all his failings, is for us a symbol of Divine Providence, of how God works good through His poor, fallen creatures.

NOTES

1) Sources for Joseph Foos: Biographical Encyclopaedia of Ohio of the Nineteenth Century; Cincinnati and Philadelphia: Galaxy Publishing Co., 1876; p 95. Also in the Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly, XIV, 87 ff, which adds interesting details. Martin, William T., History of Franklin County, pp 25, 27, 61, 155. Hooper, Osmon Castle, History of the City of Columbus, Ohio: from the founding of Franklinton...; Columbus: Memorial Publishing Co., 1920(?), p. 20

2) Sources for the motives and thinking of Columbus, along with his historical treatment through five centuries, can be found in John Noble Wilford, TheMysterious History of Columbus, an Exploration of the Man, the Myth, the Legacy; New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991.

3) There is probably no more Catholic perspective on the conquest of Mexico current than that of Warren H. Carroll in Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Conquest of Darkness; Front Royal [Va.]: Christendom Publications, 1983
Chronicle of Events in the Diocese of Columbus
for 2000
Compiled by the Editor

Universal Church

March 12  Pope John Paul II during Mass of the First Sunday of Lent publicly asked the Lord's forgiveness for various sins committed by Christians throughout the centuries, including sins of intolerance, against Christian unity, against the Jewish people, against the dignity of women and the unity of the human race, and against human rights.

July 28 The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments issued a revised General Instruction of the Roman Missal, to take effect with the promulgation of the third edition of the Roman Missal later in 2000.

Diocese of Columbus

January 23  A Blessing Not Lost: A Pastoral Letter on Marriage as the Foundation of Social Life, by Bishop James A. Griffin, was released.

August 27  Guidelines Regarding Expectations of Priests and Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest were issued.

Parishes

April 1  A special Mass, offered by Bishop Griffin, celebrated the establishment of perpetual adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Seton Parish, Pickerington.

June 6  The Lavelle Social Hall and the Schlegel Education Wing at St. Joan of Arc Parish, Powell, were dedicated.

June 15  Effective date of the decree of erection of Pope John XXIII Parish in the Lithopolis - Canal Winchester area. Msgr. A. Anthony Frecker was appointed founding pastor effective July 11.

July  St. Peter Church in north Columbus was razed to make way for a larger church.

August 13  An outdoor Way of the Cross, built by the men's club of Sunbury St. John Neumann Parish, using stations from St. Vincent's Children's Center, was blessed by the pastor, Rev. James Walter.

November 22  A shrine to St. Cecilia that also memorializes the parish's three church buildings was dedicated at St. Cecilia Parish, Columbus.

December 3  Glenmont Sts. Peter & Paul Church, 143 years old, was rededicated after renovation.

Institutions

May 12  The Sisters of the Good Shepherd transferred ownership and governance of Rosemont Center to a board of trustees, ending their involvement in the work that had started at the original Good Shepherd Convent in 1865.

May 26  St. Mary of the Springs Montessori School closed, after 38 years of operation.

May 29  Ground was broken for a bell tower at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center.

June 3  Bishop Griffin blessed and dedicated the independent living section of the Villas at St. Therese.

August 6  Ground was broken at St. Mary of the Springs for a new motherhouse (to replace the 1970 high-rise), including chapel, library, green-
house, an activity area, a dining room, and 85 residential rooms.

Nov. 3 A new outdoor sculpture at St. Charles High School, "With Education the Whole World is in Your Hands" by Alfred Tabor, was dedicated to all the priests who had been educated at the school and former seminary.

Nov. 4 A section of Resurrection Cemetery was dedicated for use of the Vietnamese Catholics and a monument there was blessed by Rev. Joseph Bay.

Vocations and Personnel
April 8 Eric Hirst, diocesan seminarian, was ordained Deacon at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, by Most Rev. Daniel Buechlein, Archbishop of Indianapolis.

May 20 Rev. Eric Flood, a native of Canal Winchester and a member of Groveport St. Mary Parish, was ordained to the priesthood in St. Peter Cathedral, Scranton, by Bishop James Timlin, for the Fraternity of St. Peter.

June 3 Rev. Jeffrey Edward Tigyer and Rev. Shawn David Corcoran were ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph Cathedral by Bishop Griffin.


Necrology
January 30 at Mt. Notre Dame Convent, Cincinnati, Sr. Gertrude O'Harra, S.N.D. de N., age 91, a native of Columbus.

February 26 Rev. Msgr. Richard F. Dodd, at Junction City St. Patrick, age 79, retired pastor of that parish.

March 22 Rev. Msgr. Bennett Applegate, aged 84, in Columbus, chaplain of Mt. Carmel Hospital; diocesan Superintendent of Schools from 1952 to 1971.

April 4 Sister Adrian (Mary Martha) Kilcoyne, O.S.F., in Rochester, Minn., age 101 years; she had entered the convent from Holy Redeemer Parish, Portsmouth.

April 23 in Dayton, Rev. Daniel H. Winters, Society of Mary, age 76; he had attended Columbus Holy Family High School.

May 14 in Notre Dame, Ind., Rev. Ferdinand Brown, C.S.C., age 83, a graduate of Columbus St. Mary School.

May 24 in Clarkston, Mich., Rev. Arthur F. McGovern, S.J., age 70, a native of Columbus, professor at the University of Detroit Mercy.

July 10 Sister Mary Louise Lab of the Sisters of Divine Providence, a native of Dover, age 84, in Kingston, Mass.

July 18 Sr. Helen Klein (Sr. Mary Eymard), of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, age 87, in Nazareth House, Louisville, Ky. She was a native of Mt. Vernon.

July 26 Sr. Hildegarde Litzinger, O.P., a native of Somerset, at Mohun Hall at the age of 86.

Nov. 10 Sr. Herman Joseph Bachman, O.P. at St. Mary of the Springs, a native of Coshocton.

Nov. 19 Sr. Suzanne Uhrane, O.P., at St. Mary of the Springs, age 89, a native of Marietta.
1841, continued

same day [May 28] Ellen, born in February, daughter of John Halecy[?] and Catherine Crowley; spons. Patrick Crowley and Mary Crowley.

same day George, born April 23, son of Adam Matternert and Catherine Creating; spons. Vendale Buttoncarrier and Margaret Srech (spouses).

same day Michael, born April 10, son of Belthasar Smith and Mary Petisha; spons. Michael Heser and Regina Schearrer


May 30 Mary Josepha, born Feb. 4, daughter of Michael Millagan and Elizabeth Mullen; spons. Samuel Rust and Susan Mullen.

same day Martha Elizabeth, born May 26, daughter of Samuel Kest [Rust?] and Mary Mullen; spons. William Brown and Eliza Millagan. AJW

April 20 William Henry, born April 12, son of Peter Musselman and Ann Fitz[s]imons; spons. Peter Rogers and Mary Montgomery. Fr. Joseph Alemany

May 30 Gregory Frederick, son of George Frederick Ketterer and Catherine Crauvier; spons. Remigius Kusinger and Ann his wife.

same day John, born April 9, son of James Mager and Magdalene Scrisler; spons. John Albert and Mary Ann Sower. JSA

June 6 John Paul, born June 2, son of Gaspar Paul and Catherine Pitta; spons. Jacob Paul and Margaret Pitta. JSA

June 12 Alfred, born Feb. 12, son of Alfred Merrick and Miranda Theresa Hasket; spons. Peter Rogers and Margaret Fulerton. AJW

June 14 John William, born May 30, son of William Ballinger and Catherine Raussingzihi; spons. Keenz and his wife. AJW

June 10 Susan, born June 5, daughter of Peter Smith and Margaret Miller; spons. John Miller and Susan Debbet.

same day Louise, born June 3, daughter of Anton Eberst and Catherine Greather; spons. Godliver Eberst and Maria Didtalbeck. JSA

June 20 Patrick, born June 7, son of John Brady and Judith Quillan; spons. Michael Killbride and Catherine Tool. JSA

June 21 Margaret Ann, daughter of Martin Steck and Barbara Ann Shaffer; spons. John and Ann Cassilly (born "18786"). AJW

June 21 "Alfert Alfiest", born April 30, son of John Rinard and Jane McO'Neil; spons. Anton Meger and Catherine Oshe. JSA

July 4 Elizabeth, born May 31, daughter of Joseph Soller and Frances Happer; spons. James Hagle and Elizabeth Murphy.

same day Joseph, born July 3, son of Patrick Donoghoe and Margaret McCarty; spons. John Masterson and Ann Kinsley. JSA

July 11 conditionally, Margaret, age 5 years, daughter of James McKee and Elizabeth
Wilson; spons. John Cassilly and Ellen Coakley. AJW

same day Elizabeth, age 33 years, daughter of N. [nominis] McRoy; spons. William M. Crowly and Mary Colerik.

same day John Francis, born June 3, son of Archibald Carr and Elizabeth McElroy; spons. John A. Colerik and Catherine Greather. JSA

July 16 Patrick, born July 14, son of Nicholas Brady and Ann Butler; spons. Nicholas O'Connor and Bridget O'Hara.

same day Constantine, born Sept. 27, 1831, son of Patrick McMoren and Esther Kohler; spons. Nicholas Brady and Ann Keltz.

same day Mary Alice, born May 31, 1837, daughter of Patrick McMoren and Esther Kohler; spons. James Cullihan and Ann Keeltz. JSA

July 19 Bridget, born July 2, daughter of John McIntire and Bridget Foy; sons. Michael Hughes and Margaret Fullerton. AJW

July 23 Clare, born yesterday, daughter of Thomas Hughes and Ellen Kernan; spons. ...R... and Catherine Ormond [page torn]. AJW

August 1 Caroline Agatha, 15 years old, daughter of Shelton Hasket and Sophronia Weaver; spons. Peter Rogers and Cymantha Hasket. AJW

August 10 Eve Margaret, born July 18, daughter of John Emart [Emmert] and Margaret Gass; spons. Miles Green and Eve Margaret Coon. JSA

August 11 Joseph, born May 14, son of Anton Wimmer and Magdalen Shuck; spons. Michael Waggener and Margaret Watter. AJW


August 22 Mary, born Aug. 2, daughter of John Divine and Mary McCaron; spons. Peter McLohling and Mary Farley. JSA

same day James Lawrence, about a year old, son of John Sanders; spons. Mary T. Sanders. JSA

August 29 Jane Honora, born Aug. 27, daughter of Patrick Kennec [Kennedy] and Rose Ward; spons. John Cahill and Ann Ward. JSA

September 12 Charles, born Aug. 19, son of John Masterson and Rosann Rogan; spons. Anthony Dowghorty and Eleanor Green. JSA


same day John Dominic, born Sept. 10, 1835, son of Alexander Wilson and Margaret Boice; spons. Peter Rogers and Margaret Fullerton. JSA

October 5 William, born March 15, 1839, son of Samuel Farrell and Rebecca Fox; spons. Edward Farrell and Mary Farell.

same day Joseph, born Feb. 13, son of Samuel Farrell and Rebecca Fox; spons. Anthony and Mary McNulty. JSA
October 6  Ann, born Nov. 1, 1840, daughter of George B. Good and Tabitha A. Todd; spons. Christian Sower and Jane McCominick. JSA

October 8 Mary, born Sept. 27, daughter of Joseph Whener and Emily Renner; spons. Joseph Ginther and Agatha Lech. JSA

October 10 Mary Catherine, born May 21, daughter of William Conklin and Bridget McKernan; spons. Cornlius Coackly and Mary McKernan. JSA

same day Elizabeth, age 19 years, daughter of Stemler and his wife Elizabeth; spons. John McCartney and Rebecca Culbertson. AJW

October 12 Mary Magdalen [daughter] of Mathew Sesiler, wife of Jacob Machez, former Lutheran; spons. Magdalen Wilhelm and others; about 29 years old, and came from Germany. Rev. J. M. Henni

Oct. 16 "Henricam" [Henrietta?] Agnes born Sept. 12, daughter of William Sturgeon and Mary Host; spons. Mary Ann Greenwell. JSA

October 17 Julia, born Sept. 9, daughter of Charles Water and Theresa Murphy; spons. Timothy Rorck and Susan Ratloff. JSA

October 28 John, born March 20, son of Conrad Kelmel and Veronica; spons. John Bollinger and Regina Freeman. AJW

same day Margaret, born Oct. 7, daughter of John Upwright and Sophia Snider; spons. Francis Mattingly and Honora Mattingly. JSA

Nov. 2 Barbara Teresa, born yesterday, daughter of Malachy Stehle and Barbara Keck; spons. Fansone Stehle and Catherine Kurmel. JSA

Nov. 7 James, born December, 1840, son of James Tierney and Mary Cauley; spons. Martin Berry and Honora O'Hara. AJW

Nov. 10 Catherine, daughter of Edward and Ann Kemp; spons. Aegidius Olivetti and Catherine McGraw. Rev. Aegidius Olivetti

Nov. 13 Barbara, born Oct. 6, daughter of Felix Long and Barbara Schrum[?]; spons. Joseph Keaner and Catherine Schrum. AJW

[page torn] John, born Nov. 9, son of James Cashman and Cecilia Syna... [page torn]

page 30

Dec. 1 Roseann, born Nov. 16, daughter of Joseph Durbin and Elizabeth Lyberg; spons. Basil Durbin and Mary his wife. AJW

Dec. 10 Catherine Ann, born Nov. 10, daughter of Michael Kelly and Bridget Norton; spons. Michael Gnam [sic] and Margaret Fullerton. AJW

(To be continued)

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Missing Name

It has been pointed out that one name was missing from the caption of the photograph of St. Patrick's boys on page 98 in the December Bulletin. C. Curran was the second boy from the left in the top row. Thank you, Mrs. Thurn.