A GLIMPSE OF THE OHIO VALLEY
by Rev. John Martin Henni
Translated for the Society by the late Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Hakel
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Letter No. 7 - 
Indiana, Michigan, and Father Badin

Most Valued Patron:
On our way we must not pass over the noble Bishop of Vincennes, Most Reverend Simon Gabriel Bruté, partly because of his extraordinary learning and meritorious work on behalf of the Church in America, and partly because of his advanced age and his love for the poor to whom he often gave the coat from his back (Emmitsburg in Maryland is a witness to this). It is hardly a year since he first came to his flock from St. Louis and was installed by the Bishops of Bardstown and Cincinnati.

After they had departed, he remained alone in Vincennes with only one priest who shortly had to leave him. He celebrated the feast of Christmas there all by himself and he wrote to his friends in Cincinnati a few days later: "My dear friends might like to receive some news about the new Diocese of Vincennes and its bishop who sees all of Indiana and half of Illinois stretched out before him. With grave fear he sees his riper years approach, the 'night when no one can work'. The bishop (he is speaking of himself) left all by himself tried to preach to his congregation in English and in French at Mass and Vespers.... Large numbers of people attended all the Christmas Masses with great edification especially at the 8 o'clock Mass when nineteen persons, who had been instructed during Advent, received their First Holy Communion. Perhaps now you anticipate a pontifical ceremony in full splendor in a huge cathedral of sublime construction on massive pillars! On the contrary, I had no other priest, the church was bare and destitute, as if the feast day had interrupted the carpenter and bricklayer's work. The church has only a roof that was put up six or eight years
ago." Without daring to think of a seminary or even less of a college, the pious bishop has only three or four priests to help him. One is an American who is kept busy caring for the rural population all over the area. One is a German, Father Ferneding, from Westphalia whose labors among the German immigrants take him from the northern part of the diocese down to Kentucky, an area which no one was previously able to serve. Far in the northern part of the diocese, Father St. Cyr and Father Theodore Badin labor on both southern shores of Lake Michigan.

Father St. Cyr has his mission headquarters with a recently built chapel in Chicago on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan. Near this village which has grown from a few scattered huts to 3,000 inhabitants within three years, there are very many Indians. The missions established among them have made great progress especially among those who live on the opposite shore of the lake between Michigan and Indiana on the plains of the St. Joseph River. Many immigrants have come as far as this place and have settled down. They have facial features like the Pottawatami Indians.

The restorer of this mission is our oldest missionary, Father Badin', who was the first priest ordained by Bishop Carroll in North America. We call him the Protosacerdos. He wrote the following to the praiseworthy and benevolent Society of Lyon on Dec. 12, 1831: "At our arrival in this Mission, we found hardly 20 baptized Indians and now I can count more than 300 of them on my census list all of whom go to Confession. Moreover, more than 100 are baptized. Some are children and some are adults. There are over 400 Canadians who live here in Chicago (30 miles northwest) or in Fort Wayne in the former village of Pockegan (name of an Indian chief). I love this place dearly where the divine Mercy has given me the grace to labor so successfully. Next summer I look forward to more work, since my new converts and catechumens, who are very well instructed, will search out other converts during the winter. Their conversion took place in the following manner. They have such a childlike simplicity of heart and such good will that the truths and practices of our holy religion find acceptance among them without any need for proof. The Jesuits who instructed their fathers and forefathers are still held in the highest regard. They call them simply 'holy Fathers,' and the imperishable attraction of their holiness easily turns the Indians to the Makate Konias (black robe), by which they can tell the difference between them and the Protestant preachers, who have no Mass, no ceremonies, no sacrifice, no confession, no pictures for instruction, no rosaries for prayer, etc., but always talk exclusively about the Bible which (so say the Indians) was not made for them since the 'Great Spirit' had not taught them to read like the White men. This seems a natural instinct or their good sense in learning what the Holy Spirit revealed through St. Paul, that faith comes from hearing, fides ex auditu.

"The chapel and cabin of this missionary [Father Badin] with whom Father de Seiles presently lives, are under one roof so that there is an open space between them protected by the roof." He continues in the same letter, "You will like to know how my lodging and daily food are provided. First of all, you must know that the chimney in my cabin bothers me with choking smoke to such an extent that I must often put out my well-beloved fire. Moreover the floor and the door are so badly fitted together that there is always a draft. The roof, which has holes in several places, is now covered with a foot of snow that protects us from the cold but when it rains or thaws, we have to put up with heavy sprinkling or even with a real downpour. My resting place is a straw mat and a few covers. My table is a four foot long and ten inch wide bench. It is hardly big enough for two people and can hold only one bowl. We are often without meat
when the hunt is not successful. Then we have
recourse to rice boiled in milk or peas and bean
porridge. It happens sometimes that we have no
bread but we live one way or another, thank God!
I have never been so well and contented. I can
truly say, "O blessed solitude, O sole
blessedness!" beata solitudo, sola beatitude!

Only one sorrow seems to afflict this veteran of
the western missions in his happiness; namely,
that he cannot do more for the salvation of others
who tearfully ask for him and beseech him for
their "daily Bread". "I hope with the help of
Divine Providence to be able to erect an
orphanage. This is on my mind more than ever
before because I am witness to the sad havoc
wrought here by the Presbyterians, Anabaptists
and Methodists. They have snatched a great
number of poor children from us already and are
bringing them up in contempt and hatred toward
the religion of their parents. O how many souls
would walk the way of salvation if only it were
possible for us to found schools and places of
refuge for orphans! I commend this important
intention to your prayers at the altar!" Struggling
continually with such difficulties, this esteemed
missionary (who is also Vicar General under the
present Bishop of Vincennes) is trying to get
support from Congress itself for the aid of his
Indians. To this end he appeared unexpectedly in
Cincinnati on his way to Washington during the
severest days of winter.

After a few days rest with us he became ill and
suffered much from an ailment that he had
contracted from his many journeys on horseback.
He prepared himself for death but a successful
operation seems to have restored him to health,
as we all hoped it would. He had to cancel the
farewells that he had asked me to send to his
friends in France. When in after years he recalled
the bed of suffering he had endured in the West
and when he praised the progress of his Church
everywhere, even though so recently established,
he would often cry out, as the oldest witness of
these events, he would often, I repeat, cry out
amid the tears of the priests around him, "Now, O
Lord, dismiss your servant in peace!" And so I
leave this solicitous benefactor of mankind, this
faithful servant of God, in the very same room
and bed where another apostle, Bishop Fenwick,
had lived a long time, and where he [Badin] had
prepared himself for death though in vain as it
turned out.

And now, O best of patrons, we have come in a
round about way in our story to the tomb of my
departed father in God, Bishop Fenwick. It is
therefore time to say something about Ohio and
the other states in his former huge diocese.

NOTES

(1) Vincennes, December 30, 1833.
(2) These good savages point out even to this very day the
grate of their late tireless missionary, Father Sebastian
Rasle, who became a victim of English fury. Only a half
rotten cross mourns over his ashes in silent memory of the
service of a man who was faithful to his great Model,
Jesus, and gave his life for his sheep out of love for the
savages.
(3) Lord of the Living or Great
Spirit, usual expression of
these savages to denote the name of God.
(4) Since the government of the United States recognizes
no state religion, it neither prohibits nor promotes any
religious party except that a certain sum of money is given
annually from the public treasury to the missionaries for
the purpose of civilizing the Indians. Father Rivet,
Bishop Dubourg and Bishop Fenwick were the first
missionaries who received this small subsidy.
(5) The unforgettable Bishop Fenwick ordained me and
my friend Father M. Kündig on February 2, 1829, in
Cincinnati where his mortal remains rest. However, he
had died in Wooster over 200 English miles north of
Cincinnati on September 26, 1832. There he lay buried in
the Protestant or rather public cemetery until February
when Mr. White, a convert and friend of Bishop Fenwick,
brought his body to Cincinnati. It was an extremely
difficult undertaking. Bishop Fenwick was interred in the
Cathedral amid the mourning of the entire city.
St. John the Evangelist Church, Zanesville: Baptisms, 1828-1842
(Concluded, from Vol. XXVI, No. 4)

1842, continued
[June 29] Barbara, born May 10, daughter of Joseph Kesseler and Margaret Match; spons. Laurence Jager and Barbara Cous.

same day Ann, born March 12, daughter of Thomas Colopy and Margaret Bulman; spons. John Kelly and Ann Crowly.

same day Elizabeth Susan, born February 10, daughter of Adolf Host and Mary Rooff; spons. Barnhard Ruff and Heldical Colip.

same day Catherine, born March 1, daughter of Michael Waghener and Mariann Lush; spons. George Shaw and Agatha Lush.

Fr. Joseph Alemany

July 3 Ann, born June 28, daughter of William Cassey and wife Catherine; spons. John Wallas and Ann Narkin. Fr. Francis Cubero

same day Magdalena, born June 22, daughter of Sebastian Eisinhower and Maria Magd. Litchin(?); spons. Francis Eisinhower and Gre... C. P. Montgomery

July 11 Sarah, born Feb. 15, daughter of Michael Powther and Catherine Giank; spons. Richard Parker and Bridget Kinely. FC

July 18 Mary Ann, born July 11, daughter of Stephan Fangg and Ellen Draire; spons. Patrick Bellow eand Ellen Fallin. FC

July 30 John, born Feb. 22, 1840, son of John Hormon and Eleanor Logan; spons. Margaret Fullerton.

same day Margaret, born Aug. 9, 1839, daughter of John Hormon and Eleanor Logan; spons. Hannah McCormick. C. P. Montgomery

July 31 Peter, born July 24, son of Joseph Keck and Catherine Grownigbitter; spons. Charles Keck and Mary Gosthman. FC

same day Richard, born July 19, son of Anthony Gallon and Bridget Kellen; spons. Dominic Sweeney and Catherine Dollen. FC

August 29 Peter Murphy, born May 11, son of Nicholas Murphy and Mary O'Dill; spons. Peter Till and Louise Till. FC

Sept. 1 John, born August 15, son of William Wisman and Catherine Dugan; spons. Robert Hartkins and Catherine Dittoe. FC

Sept. 3 James Charles, born April 13, son of Bernard Mullen and Barbara Limmers; spons. Samuel Kist and Margaret Fullerton. CPM

Sept. 8 Michael, born Sept. 1, son of Michael Kilbride and Bridget Samenon(?); spons. Patrick Kennedy and Rosanna McGuire. CPM

Sept. 9 Thomas, born Aug. 11, son of John McCormick and Rose Timmony; spons. Michael Mattingly and Margaret McCormick. J. H. Clarkson, O.S.D.

Sept. 18 I supplied baptismal ceremonies for Sarah Jane, born Feb. 11, daughter of Benjamin F. Marker and Mary Ann Coulter; spons. Cecilia Hall. JHC

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October 2 Mary, born August 28, daughter of John Kenower and Elizabeth Murphy; spons. Catherine Cappel. CPM

October 7 Elizabeth, born October 3, daughter of Peter McGuire and Ann Riley; spons. Martin McGuire and Ellen McGuire. FC
October 9 Paul Wright, convert; spons. James and B. C. Taylor.

same day Mary T. McElroy, convert, 65 years old; spons. William Colrick and Mary Colrick.

same day Imelda, convert, 23 years old, daughter of Patrick McElroy and Mary J. Tonor; spons. Mary Colerick.

same day Mary Ann, born Sept. 26, daughter of Valentine Swinel and Elizabeth Letterly; spons. Joseph Letterly and Mary Ann Greather.


October 30 Lawrence, born Sept. 8, son of Anthony Winner and Magdalen Showey; spons. Fleatius(? Fegther and Elizabeth Leach.

same day Mary, born Oct. 3, daughter of Jacob Greather and Madgalen Leach; spons. Jacob Leach and Mary Kuff [?Ruff].

November 6 ceremonies for Catherine, born Oct. 21, daughter of George Power and Catherine Snider.

November 6 Charles, born Nov. 4, son of John Brady and Judity Quillan; spons. James Brady and Cath. McCanolly.

November 8 Charles, born Oct. 31, son of George Ratleff and wife Susan; spons. Peter Rogers and Carol Hasket.

November 10 Ellen Catherine, born June 27, daughter of Francis Anthony Korle and Helen Schermer; spons. Theobald Kubel and Catherine Schermer.

November 14 James, born March 11, son of James Koeinrick and Catherine Singelback; spons. John Bollinger and Magdalen Fitcher.


Nov. 18 Hannah, born Sept. 9, daughter of John McQuade and Margaret McQuade; spons. James Curren and Margaret Fullerton.

November 20 Thomas, born Nov. 7, son of Patrick Doren and Bridget O'Conner; spons. William Day and Catherine Coner.

November 27 Joseph, born Nov. 8, son of Conrad Emner and Mar... Young; spons. John Keller and Catherine Keller.

November 27 John, born Nov. 21, son of John Lally and Bridget Malony; spons. Roger [Rory?] and Bridget O'Hara.

December 2 Elizabeth, born Oct. 26, daughter of Joseph Sawll [interlineal and marginal Soller] and Frances Haepr; spons. George Power and Elizabeth Proaker.

December 11 Carol [interlineal Caroline], born Sept. 13, daughter of William Sullivan and wife Mary; spons. James Kreamerbort and Margaret Brins.

same day Mathias, born Dec. 9, son of Felix Kessler and wife Anastasia; spons. Mathias Harm and Ann A. Butler.


December 26 Daniel Albert, born Dec. 19, son of John Cassilly and Ann B. Harkins; spons. Peter Rogers and Margaret Barret.

[135]
Episcopal Lineages of the Bishops of Columbus
Part 4: Bishops Watterson, Moeller, Hartley, Hettinger, and Carberry

F-16 Benedict Joseph Flaget

G-17 Francis Patrick Kenrick (1796 Dublin, Ireland - 1863 Baltimore) was consecrated on June 6, 1830 in Bardstown by Bishop Flaget as Titular Bishop of Arata and was appointed coadjutor of Philadelphia. He became Bishop of Philadelphia in 1842 and Archbishop of Baltimore in 1851.

G-18 William Henry Elder (1819 Baltimore - 1904 Cincinnati) was consecrated on May 3, 1857 in Baltimore by Archbishop Kenrick as Bishop of Natchez. He was transferred to the Titular see of Avara in 1878 and appointed Auxiliary Bishop of San Francisco. In 1880 he became coadjutor of Cincinnati and in 1883 Archbishop of Cincinnati.

G-19 JOHN AMBROSE WATTERSON (1844 Blairsville, Pa. - 1899 Columbus) was consecrated by Archbishop Elder on August 8, 1880 as second Bishop of Columbus

H-19 HENRY MOELLER (1849 Cincinnati - 1925 Cincinnati) was consecrated by Archbishop Elder on August 25, 1900 in Cincinnati as third Bishop of Columbus. In 1903 he was appointed Titular Archbishop of Areopolis and coadjutor of Cincinnati. He became Archbishop of Cincinnati in 1904.

H-20 EDWARD GERHARD HETTINGER (1902 Lancaster, O. - 1996 Columbus) was consecrated by Bishop Hartley Feb. 24, 1942 at St. Joseph Cathedral as Titular Bishop of Teos and Auxiliary Bishop of Columbus. He resigned in 1977.

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F-15 John Carroll

I-16 Jean Louis Anne Madelein Lefebvre Cardinal Cheverus (1768 Mayenne, France - 1836 Bordeaux, France) was consecrated on November 1, 1810 in Baltimore by Archbishop Carroll as the first Bishop of Boston. He was translated to Montauban in 1823 and became Archbishop of Bordeaux in 1826. He was named a cardinal in 1836.

I-17 Ambrose Marechal, S.S. (1764 Ingres, France - 1828 Baltimore) was consecrated on Dec. 14, 1817 by Bishop Cheverus as Archbishop of Baltimore.

I-18 John DuBois, S.S. (1764 Paris - 1842 New York) was consecrated on October 29, 1826 in Baltimore by Archbishop Marechal as Bishop of New York.

I-19 JOHN JOSEPH HUGHES (1797 Annaloghan, Co. Tyrone, Ireland - 1864 New York) was consecrated on January 7, 1838 in Philadelphia by Bishop DuBois as Titular Bishop of Basilinopolis and was appointed coadjutor of New York. He became Bishop of New York in 1842 and Archbishop in 1850. As such he provided strong leadership for the Church during the anti-Catholic riots of the 1840s.
## Episcopal Lineages of the Bishops of Columbus

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John Cardinal McCloskey (1810 Brooklyn - 1885 New York) was consecrated on March 10, 1844 in New York by Bishop Hughes as Titular Bishop of Axiere and was appointed coadjutor of New York. He became the first Bishop of Albany in 1847 and Archbishop of New York in 1864. He was named the United States' first cardinal in 1875.

Michael Augustine Corrigan (1839 Newark, N.J.- 1902 New York) was consecrated in Newark on May 4, 1873 by Archbishop McCloskey as Bishop of Newark. He was translated to the titular see of Petra and appointed coadjutor of New York in 1880. He became Archbishop of New York in 1885.

Charles Edward McDonnell (1854 New York - 1921 Brooklyn) was consecrated on April 15, 1892 in New York as Bishop of Brooklyn.

Thomas Edmund Molloy (1885 Nashua, N.H. - 1956 Brooklyn) was consecrated on October 3, 1920 by Bishop McDonnell as Titular Bishop of Lorea and was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn. He became Bishop of Brooklyn in 1921 and was given the personal title of Archbishop in 1951.

Raymond Augustine Kearney (1902 Jersey City, N.J. - 1956 Brooklyn) was consecrated by Bishop Molloy on Feb. 25, 1935 in Brooklyn as Titular Bishop of Lysinia and was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn.

John Joseph Cardinal Carberry (1904 Brooklyn, N.Y. - 1998 St. Louis) was consecrated by Bishop Kearney at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Brooklyn on July 25, 1956 as Titular Bishop of Elis and was appointed coadjutor of Lafayette. He became Bishop of Lafayette in 1957. He was appointed seventh Bishop of Columbus in 1965 and Archbishop of St. Louis in 1968. He was named a cardinal in 1969.

DEATH OF GRAND OLD PIONEER, WILLIAM CORBETT, LAST OF SIX BROTHERS

Fortified with the last sacraments of the Church and surrounded by his family, William Corbett died at his home on Neil avenue on Wednesday evening. He had reached the fine old age of eighty-nine years and was in good health until a year ago.

The deceased was the survivor of the six Corbett brothers, well known in Franklin county. He came to America in 1849 and settled in Groveport, moving to Columbus thirty years ago. The deceased was one of three brothers who married three sisters. The children from these unions are all well known and occupy prominent positions in the business and social life of the community. The Corbett brothers were all born in County Limerick and brought with them the sturdy faith of Irish pioneers.

Mr. and Mrs. Corbett happily celebrated the golden anniversary of their wedding ten years ago and the event was a notable one as it brought together children, grandchildren and many relatives of the fine old couple. Besides his widow he is survived by three sons, John T., Michael A., and William S., and two daughters, Sister Mary Angelica of the Dominican order, one of the teachers at St. Francis school, and Miss Ella Corbett at the Neil avenue home....

-Catholic Columbian, October 24, 1913