Belmont County continued...

Bridgeport

St. Anthony's Rectory
Bridgeport, Ohio

Bridgeport, Ohio, December 12, 1907

Dear Father Mulhane:-

Enclosed you will find the answers to the questions proposed for the History of the Diocese. I also enclose two sheets from our Parish Calendar, which may give you some more data. In case the answers should be in Latin please send me back the blank, which I filled out and I shall undertake the unaccustomed task.

With best wishes for your welfare I am

Yours fraternally
Jos. Wittman

Enclosure from the Parish Calendar:

REMINISCENCES OF OTHER DAYS

The departure of Father Weigand, which however reluctantly we now must nevertheless accept as an accomplished fact, forces our mind to turn back and dwell upon the many years of his labors in this parish and upon our early history.

Before the year 1885 there was never any attempt made to gather the few Catholics of Bridgeport into any form of an organized congregation. Many Catholics were thereby lost to the faith, whilst others in whom the love of God and religion were strong and capable of some sacrifice, walked to Wheeling to assist at the divine sacrifice. In 1885, however, the Rev. Joseph Tuohy, pastor of St. Mary's Church in Martin's Ferry, gathered the dozen Catholic families and induced them to build a little frame Church on Whirly street in Kirkwood, where he said Mass for them once a month. But after about two years the membership had grown sufficiently large to have more frequent service, and consequently an arrangement was agreed upon by Bishop Watterson, of Columbus, and Bishop Kain, of Wheeling, by which the Cappucian Fathers of St. Alphonsus Church in Wheeling promised to send a priest every Sunday to Bridgeport to say Mass for the people. For two years Father Martin O. M. Cap. filled this office. This, however, left Bridgeport a mere mission with all the disadvantages consequent to the absence of a resident priest. On January 21, 1890, Bishop Watterson, with the intention of providing properly for the spiritual needs of the Catholics of Bridgeport, assigned Father Joseph A. Weigand, who was then assistant priest at the Cathedral in Columbus to organize a new parish
in Bridgeport. Just like Father Weigand's present call to Steubenville to take charge of Bishop Hartley's former parish, is the highest mark of confidence that the Bishop could possibly show him, so also was Bishop Watterson induced by the sterling qualities of the pious and zealous young priest, who had been for some time doing efficient work under his very eyes, to send him to Bridgeport to form and properly organize the new parish.

The outlook for the young priest was not reassuring, and many a time when he walked from Gottlieb Heil's residence in Brookside, where he was staying, to the opposite hill in Kirkwood it must have taxed all the zeal and courage of his nature to continue in his work. The early Catholic pioneers will remember the disadvantages under which he labored, but undoubtedly the severest struggles and misgivings were witnessed and recorded by his Divine Master alone. The energetic character of the new pastor at once became evident when in the same year of his appointment a new and larger frame building was erected on the new Church property on Main street, which had already been acquired by Father Martin. Great, however, were the misgivings and astonishment of everybody when two years later, in September, 1892, he began to build the large and beautiful brick Church that now so proudly raises its tower to the sky. During the same month and year the former Church was converted into a school, and the Sisters of Charity, of Kentucky, were called to teach the children attending the parochial school. As everybody will remember, it was at this time that the great financial crisis made money a very rare possession. Who can count the sleepless nights and the personal sacrifices of the priest during that year of the panic?

This, however, only served to call all his energy and ability into play, and what to many seemed an impossibility soon became an accomplished fact. From that time on the parish soon began to prosper. New Catholic families settled in Bridgeport, the debt was diminished every year, societies were formed and the divine services were carried out more and more with the pomp and magnificence of the Catholic ceremonial. The school also, which to every priest is as the apple of his eye, increased from year to year, and now has an average attendance of 100 children.

It seems almost impossible that with these cares and labors weighing so heavily upon him, Father Weigand could direct his attention to other places. And yet from the first year of his arrival in Belmont county not one Catholic family of his
extensive parish which extended for over thirty miles on the north, was ever neglected. Barton and Maynard, where several Catholic families resided, were visited monthly and the Divine Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in the humble dwellings of the miners. When these two places acquired a greater Catholic population, Father Weigand asked and obtained, since August, 1901, from the Bishop an assistant priest in the Rev. R. A. McEachan, who in July, 1902, was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Wittman. From this time on the mission districts were organized and Mass was said both in Maynard and Barton on every Sunday. In Barton the Church of “Our Lady Queen of Angels” was built and dedicated on the 15th of June, 1902, by the Rt. Rev. Henry Moeller, Bishop of Columbus. In Maynard a Church was begun in September, 1903, and is now nearly completed. The grandest evidence of Father Weigand’s true Apostolic zeal is undoubtedly the fact that already since September, 1898, he began under almost inconceivable difficulties to found a parochial school in Maynard by securing two Sisters of Charity, who go from Bridgeport daily to Maynard to teach. For this, he well knew, was the only efficient means of giving those little ones a religious and moral education and of saving their souls.

Thus Father Weigand can look back with pride upon the labors of his past years, and Belmont county possesses many lasting evidences of his zeal and Christian charity. [Father Weigand was called to serve in Steubenville in March, 1904.]

Form filled out by Father Wittman:

1. [Foundation date] In the year 1885. A small frame Church was built in 1885 on Whitey St. Kirkwood, on the hill opposite present Church property. Mass said once a month by Father Joseph Tuohy of Martin’s Ferry. In 1887 Father Martin O.M.Cap. of Wheeling bought present property on Main Street for Bishop Watterson.  
2. [Property purchase dates] Covered by the above.  
3. [Schools and teachers] The present school is the former Church. The school first opened in September 1892 by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Ky., who are still teaching it. There are three class rooms with the eight grades.  
4. [Date of rectory] The present rectory was built with the ground. It was a small cottage, which in the course of time was enlarged as necessity required and means allowed. It now has nine rooms.  
5. [History of church and other buildings] Mostly covered by question 1. The present large brick Church was built in 1892. The frame Church was converted into a school, as also the first little Church was torn down and moved to the new property, where it is still used as a school. Consequently there are two separate school buildings, which were the former two churches.  
6. [Cemetery, dates, consecration, administration] There is none.  
7. [Title] The title of all Church property is in Bishop Watterson’s and his successors’ name.  
Rev. Father Martin O.M.Cap. of Wheeling 1887-1890  
Rev. Joseph Weigand, Jan. 21, 1890-March, 1904  
Rev. Joseph Wittman, March 1904-  
Rev. Joseph Wittman July, 1902-March 1904  
After this time the Missions Barton and Maynard had their resident priest and there was no longer any necessity for an assistant priest.  
10. [Dates of each pastor etc.] Covered by above. All priests were removed “venia Episcopi.”  
11. [Method of funding] By subscriptions and by holding Fairs, festivals etc.  
12. [Dates of funding and expenditures] Can get no reliable data.  
13. [Laity worthy of mention] [blank]  
14. [Anything else of importance] As early as 1890 Father Weigand began missions in Barton, Maynard, Flushing and Holloway. Churches were built in Barton in 1901; in Maynard in 1903; in Flushing in 1906.
Barton

Father Rod McEachen filled out the form, in Latin.
1. [Foundation date] The congregation was founded as a mission pertaining to Bridgeport, Ohio in 1900, but was made a parish on March 13, 1904.
2. [Property purchase dates] The property was purchased in 1901. Another property was purchased in 1905 on which a house for the sisters was built.
3. [Schools and teachers] There is a school since 1904. The sisters are from the congregation of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth.
4. [Date of rectory] Erected in 1904.
5. [History of church and other buildings] The first church was built in 1901 and was enlarged in 1904. We have school under the church.
6. [Cemetery, dates, consecration, administration] There is none. Funerals are in the cemetery at Bridgeport.
7. [Title] All title is in the name of the Bishop.
8. [Pastors] Rev. Joseph A. Weigand was pastor while it was held as a mission; but R. A. McEachen was and to this time the only pastor of the place.
9. [Assistants] R. A. McEachen for one year was assistant pastor with J. A. Weigand, Bridgeport, then Rev. Jos. Wittman for 18 months with him, then Rev. J. G. Mehler was with R. A. McEachen from August 1905 to Sept. 1907, the Rev. S. S. Berry is here from July 1906 until the present.
10. [Dates of each pastor etc.] Above.
11. [Method of funding] Through collections from the faithful (and non-Catholics) through bazaars etc.
12. [Dates of funding and expenditures] “X”
13. [Laity worthy of mention] [blank]
14. [Anything else of importance] We have six other missions, Maynard where there is a church and school, Flushing where there is a church, Black Oak, Fairpoint, Provident, East Richland.

COSHOCTON COUNTY

Coshocton

Dear Fr. Mulhane

I am sending you that blank filled out as far as I can fill it.

There are no records here before Fr. Jacquet's time and can only get information from some of the older members of the congregation. Of course I might have added that the mud on the roads is just as bad as ever and the distances that these missions are away have not decreased to any appreciable extent.

Wishing you all the fun you can get out of your job I remain

Fraternally yours in Xto

O. J. Synan
1858 to 1861 Fr. Serge [DeStchoulepinoff] Mass at Ft. Sumter and St. George which he built. Removed by Archbishop. Purcell at his own request. 1861 DeStchaulpincoff remained but a short time. Non support. 1863 to 1864 Fr. Andres transferred to Canal Dover. 1864 to 1869 Nordmayer changed by Archbp. Purcell 1869 Fr. Jacquet took charge and remained in full charge until Sept. 1895 when Fr. Ross took charge as pastor and Fr. Jacquet was given title "Rector Emeritus" Left in 1896 for Texas and died there. Fr. Ross in charge until Sept. 4th 1900 when the present pastor arrived.

11. [Method of funding] By subscriptions, fairs, socials etc.

12. [Dates of funding and expenditures] The present church some money was collected in 1896 & 97 most of it paid in 1898. Since then most of money has been raised by subscription and paid out in June and Dec. 1902.

13. [Laity worthy of mention] [blank]

14. [Anything else of importance] With this congregation there are 2 missions Will's Creek and Spring Mountain. At Will's Creek there was formerly 2 churches St. Nicholas (German) and St. Mary's French. About 1891 the two were consolidated and the present Church "Our Lady of Lourdes" erected at a more central point. At the other mission the old church which was known as the Killbuck church was abandoned and "St. Rose of Lima built in the little hamlet of Spring Mountain. These changes at the missions both took place during Fr. Jacquet's pastorship.

DELAWARE COUNTY

Delaware

Form sent in by Father Philip Steyle, in Latin:

1. [Foundation date] 1854
2. [Property purchase dates] The old church property was purchased in 1854; new church in 1881.
3. [Schools and teachers] There are schools, erected in 1885.
4. [Date of rectory] Erected in 1890.
5. [History of church and other buildings] The present church building is erected cut off from the first and not in the same place. All the old buildings were sold or razed in 1887. The present school was built in 1885. The present church in 1887-88. The present rectory in 1890. The house of the Sisters of Mercy was purchased in 1889.
6. [Cemetery, dates, consecration, administration] The cemetery property was purchased in 1890. It is consecrated. It is administered by the rector of the church.
7. [Title] In the name of the Bishop of Columbus.
9. [Assistants] [blank]
11. [Method of funding] by free donations from the Catholic families of the city of Delaware.
12. [Dates of funding and expenditures] from 1885 until 1898.
14. [Anything else of importance] [blank]

(to be continued...)
In brackets following the date has been placed the most likely location of the baptisms, based on the residences of the persons involved. Sunday Creek or Chapel Hill St. Francis is indicated by [SC], Monday Creek St., Peter by [MC], Deavertown St. Michael by [D], Chauncey Seven Dolors by [C], and Athens County St. John the Baptist by [A].

1845 continued...

May 4, Teresa, daughter of Daniel O'Neil and Mary Mulligan; spons. Michael Mitchel and Alley Walpole TOF

May 14, James, son of John Hopkins and Mary Fitzpatrick; spons. John Doyle and Mary Kenedy TOF

Oct. 2, 1844, Ann Mary, daughter of Timothy and Catharine McGregor; spons. Daniel Bruslin and Mary Haffy AO

same day [C], John, son of John and Elizabeth Swifth; spons. John and Catherine Duffy AO

same day, Mary, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Cluster; spons. Michael Olivetti. AO

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same day [C], Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Ann Wislik; spons. Mr. Edwards and Ann Fennely AO

same day, Lidia?, daughter of John and Ann Spencer; spons. Aegs Olivetti and Ann Fennely AO

[1845, continued]

May 31, Mary Cahihil, daughter of John [Cahil] and Mary Vest [West]; spons. John Scantlin and "Cecilius" Bourgh TOF

and Elizabeth Scanlin, daughter of John and Ann O Flun; spons. John Cahill and Priscilla Bourgh TOF

June 1 [MC], Mary [superscription: 14th -- her age?], daughter of James McLaughlin and Catharine Hoy and, of the same, Sara in the 8th year of age; their sponsor George Hoy TOF

same day, James, age 11, and William, age 9, both sons of James McLaughlin and Catharine Hoy; spons. Patrick Keenan TOF

June 11, James, son of Peter Ginder? and Mary -ive; spons. James Mintsling and Catharine Cline TOF

July 7 [MC], Rachael, daughter of of Nathaniel Deacon, protestant, and Judith Donwha [Donuho; Donulia?], C[atholic], spons. Thomas Grogan and Judith Beaux TOF

same day, William, son of Laurence Gillooly and Catharine Kelly; spons. Edward Grogan and Margaret Keenan TOF

July 20 [SC], Catharine, daughter of Hugh Donnelly and Eleoner Duffy; spons. Thomas Duffy and Sarah Ann Donelly TOF

July 23 [MC], Jane, daughter of John Cantebury and Sarah Anderson protestant; spons. Thomas Canlon TOF

same day, Jacob, son of Jacob Cantebury and Elizabeth McGahan; spons. Thomas Canlon TOF

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July 25 [SC], Mary, daughter of Philip Extine and Emily Ward; spons. George Thompson and Mary Dinen? TOF

July 3, Judy?, daughter of Sebastian Gably and Crescen Rathgeber; spons. Rose Maid and Patrick Mackin TOF


Nov. 23 [SC], Eleonore, daughter of John Skinen and Mary Ann Walpole; spons. George Thompson and Mary Skinen TOF

Dec. 7 [MC], Andrew, son of John Hoy and Rose Hoy; spons. Richard McGunigol and Ann Hoy TOF

Dec. 8 [MC], Peter, son of James Cook and Sarah Beavom; spons. Thomas Sullivan and Mary Sullivan TOF

Dec. 14 [MC], Mary, daughter of Laurence Duffy and Catharine McGrath; spons. Dominic Gallaher and Bridget Fery TOF
page 26 [1845 continued]

Mar. 28 [MC], Margaret Ann, daughter of Henry Griffin and Sarah Rush, protestant; spons. Edward Grogan and Julia Ann Keenan TOF

Mar. 30 [SC], Timothy, son of George Thompson and Catharine Skinen; spans. Timothy Farrell and Ann Murtagh TOF

same day, Ann, daughter of Michael Mallon and Bridget Walpole; spons. Thomas Patten and Catharine Mallon TOF

Dec. 7 [A], Anthony, son of Anthony Schuler and Mary Ji-- [or Ginn?]; spons. Joseph Conce and Elizabeth Wink? TOF

same day, Peter, son of Joseph Weaver and Mary Mi--; spons. Peter Shuler and Elizabeth Dice [Diel?] TOF

Dec. 8 [L?], Elizabeth Young, daughter of John and Jane Hull; spons. James and Elizabeth Ginn TOF

Dec. 10, Catharine, daughter of Denis McCarthy and Lucinda Galager protestant; spons. James Rheynolds TOF

Dec. 25 [MC], Rachael, daughter of William Gordon and Catharine Keenan; spons. Thomas Brinin and Margaret Keenan TOF

1846

Feb. 10 [SC], Ann, daughter of Michael Mallen and Alice Murtagh; spons. Bryan Murtagh and Bridget Fagan TOF

Feb. 15 [SC], Catharine Eddington, convert; spons. Peter Carroll and Julia Bean TOF

Feb. 25 [D?], Catharine, daughter of Eli Wise and Johanna Myser; spons. John Wise and Catharine Reehard TOF

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Mar. 9, John, son of Arnold and Rachael McKinzy; spons. Samuel and Margaret McKinzy TOF

Mar. 8 [D], Joseph Andrew, son of John Gosman and Susanna Perl; spons. Andrew Gosman and Ruth Perl TOF

Mar. 14 [D], Susanna Elizabeth, daughter of James Longstreth and Eleanor Perl; spons. Timothy O Farrell and Catharine Perl TOF

Mar. 22 [SC], James, son of Thomas Monahan and Margaret Hairy; spons. Edward Moony and Bridget Mitchel TOF

same day, Catharine, daughter of Patrick Hines and Sarah Pluck; spons. Patrick Toel and Mary Ann Pherry TOF

Mar. 25 [SC], Mary, daughter of John Paten and Mary; spons. Patrick Skinen and Mary Skinen TOF

Mar. 30, Elizabeth Mohker??, daughter of John and Mary Schmalberger; spons. Mary Johnson TOF

Apr. 1 [C], Sarah, daughter of Moses Gunbil and Ann Elliot protestant; spons. William Edwards and Phrona Findley TOF

Apr. 5 [D], Agatha, daughter of Cornelius Clager and Agatha Young; spons. Agatha Cake and Joseph Frederick TOF

same day, Joseph, son of Frederick Gosman and Sarah Somes; spons. Ann Gosman and Joseph Gosman TOF

Apr. 9 [SC], James, son of James Duffy and Bridget Flahhery; spons. Bartholomew McDonnell and Mary McCarthy TOF

Apr. 12 [MC], Elizabeth, daughter of Basil Hosy and Sarah Gorden; spons. James Gorden and Elizabeth Johnson TOF

same day, Margaret, daughter of Michael Maher and Mary Rafferty; spons. [page 28] John McDonnald and Elizabeth Gorden TOF

Apr. 19, John, son of Timothy Walsh and Margaret McNamara; spons. Peter and Mary Coil TOF

same day, Ann, daughter of Thomas Bloomer and Jane Dun?; spons. Margaret Walsh TOF

Apr. 22 [SC?], Edward, son of Francis Grimmel? and Mary Sponagle protestant; spons. John Mallin and Ellen Murtagh TOF

May 10 [SC], Francis, son of Patrick and Mary Feagan; spons. William Goulding and Ann Kurnean. Ml. Olivetti

Apr. 25, Joseph, son of John Kan and Susanna Savage; spons. John Kann and Alice Kann TOF

May 2, Ann, daughter of Daniel Coony and Johanna Shannon; spons. James Barry TOF

Apr. 3 [MC], John, son of John More and Elizabeth; spons. Patrick Keenan and Sophia Sprouse TOF

May 17, James, son of Thomas Sweeney and Bridget McCabe; spons. George Thompson and Ann Perl TOF
May 16 [SC], Jeremiah son of John Potts and Sophia Talbert, both protestants; spons. William Goulding and Elizabeth Winn TOF
same day, Mary, daughter of John Potts and Sophia Talbert; spons. William Goulding and Elizabeth Winn TOF
May 19 [SC], Mary Elizabeth, daughter of John Walpole and Jane Morris protestant; spons. Charles Masterson and Abigail Walpole TOF
May 17, John, son of Thomas Duffy and Mary Donely; spons. Thomas Fox and Eleoner Duffy TOF

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May 30 [D], Margaret Winer, daughter of John Winer and Abigail Longstreth; spons. Henry T. Devour and Elenor Perl TOF
May 23 [A], John, son of Jacob Conarski [Konoski on tombstone] and Catharine Timony; spons. Ann Timony TOF
June 24 [C?], George, son of William Donawho and Ann Curren; spons. James Rheynolds and Sarah Hassey TOF
June 14 [MC], James, son of James Minor and Bridget McKeever; spons. Michael Minor and Margaret Keenan TOF
June 14 [SC], James, son of Soph-- Riceaches [Hopher Reisacher, 1850, Monroe Twp.] and Mary Wisuli; spons. Michael Curren and Phoebe Rhy TOF
same day [MC], Elizabeth, daughter of Moses Green and Catharine Eddington; spons. Martin Dummolt and Ann Kouble TOF

July 12 [SC], Mary, daughter of Andrew Dew and Mary Ann Getti; spons. Joseph Campbell and Mary Mitchel TOF
July 23 [SC], Matthew, son of John McCabe and Catharine Walpole; spons. Thomas Walpole and Ann Murtagh TOF
same day, Mary, daughter of John Cunningham and Bridget Reily; spons. John Cunningham and Margaret Cunningham TOF
July 24 [SC], Edward, son of John Curren and Ann Mallen; spons. Michael Mallen and Bridget McCabe TOF
Aug. 2, Elizabeth, daughter of John and Jane Wiez; spons. Daniel Quin and Teresa? Sprouse TOF
Aug. 9 [MC], John, son of Edward Grogan and Julia Keenan; spons. Michael [page 30] Bean and Mary Keenan TOF
Aug. 15 [SC], John Michael, son of John Miitchel and Elenor Shannon; spons. Andrew Leddy and Mary McCarthy TOF
Sept. 21 [MC], Catharine, daughter of Edward Mulloy and Bridget McManus; spons. John McDonnell and Margaret F---ghy TOF
Nov. 8 [SC], Thomas, son of John Walpole and Johanna Monighan; spons. Patrick Hosey and Ann Haughey TOF
Nov. 10 [SC], Catharine, daughter of Charles Masterson and Abigail Walpole; spons. Bartholomew Mulligan and Mary Ann Walpole TOF

(to be continued...)

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