

In the beginning...

Ohio had hardly reached statehood in 1803 when immigrating Irish-Catholics began arriving in what would eventually become Madison County. Old records show an Irish surveyor named Patrick McLene platted the town of London in 1811, just a year after the county's lines were drawn. For the next 30 years, names like Dounellon, Coleman, O'Hara, Moran, Connelly, Egan, Kennedy, Connor and Powers gradually began to appear in county property records. Between 1845 and 1850 more and more Irish immigrants began to arrive in the county, spurred by the Potato Famine in their homeland (1846-47) and the promise of construction jobs on Ohio's expanding network of railroads.

Those who were already established wrote to friends and family back home of opportunities to acquire both land and work in growing western and central Ohio communities. Between 1848 and 1849, an estimated 35 Irish-Catholic men settled in London while they helped build the Little Miami Railroad extension between Xenia and Columbus.

Although they spoke English that allowed them to assimilate easily into local life, to some they remained newcomers with foreign brogues and habits. As a result, the arriving Irish tended to cluster in neighborhoods. Some lived on Oak Street, others on London's east side in an area nicknamed "Vinegar Hill." Some settled in "Irishtown," south of London, where they could support each other's farming efforts.

Most newly arrived railroad workers lived in village boarding houses. It was in McGuire's boarding house (The Porch) at the northwest corner of Walnut and Second streets that London's first Roman Catholic Mass was celebrated in the spring of 1849. The celebrant was likely a missionary priest from Springfield, Xenia or Columbus, where parishes were already established. Fr. William Clark, who wrote a detailed 1937 history of St. Patrick Parish, believed Fr. Joseph J. O'Mealy from Brown County presided at London's first Catholic Mass. O'Mealy and his brother, Fr. Patrick O'Mealy, performed mission work throughout Ohio in the mid-1800s.

Between 1849 and 1851, itinerant priests from Springfield's St. Raphael Parish, and elsewhere, celebrated Mass at various homes in London. In those days, the town was considered a mission outpost. At first, services were held quarterly and then monthly as the Catholic population grew to include families from Germany and elsewhere in Europe. Fr. Thomas Blake of St. Brigid Parish in Xenia assumed oversight of London's Catholics in 1851. He performed London's first recorded Catholic marriages, joining several couples on one day, in June 1854.

A parish is born

By 1855, the number of Catholics living in London had increased to the point that individual residences and boarding houses could no longer accommodate all those seeking to attend services. At a meeting of London-area Catholics in October, three men were chosen to buy a lot on West Center Street in order to erect a church. The cost of the property was \$150.

In the fall of 1856, a small frame church named for St. John the Evangelist was dedicated on the site. It served the growing parish for the next 10 years. The parish sold the lot for \$1,824 in 1867. St. Paul AME Church stands on the location today. Between 1855 and 1864, Fr. Blake from Xenia and Fr. Maurice Howard from Springfield traveled to London to conduct services. Other regional priests sometimes assisted. They journeyed via handcar on the newly constructed railroad or by horse and wagon.

By 1864, the number of Catholic families living in London had grown to 100 with 80 more in outlying rural areas. Frs. Blake and Howard asked Archbishop John Purcell of the Cincinnati Archdiocese to appoint a resident pastor. Purcell chose newly ordained Fr. John Mary Conway, born in Ireland and educated in

America, for the job. Fr. Conway celebrated his first-ever Mass in the little frame church on West Center Street on Christmas Day in 1864. The young priest and his mother, who served as housekeeper, took up residence in a house behind the church that was owned by a parishioner.

A new and better church

In his very first sermon, Fr. Conway urged members of the burgeoning congregation to consider building a new church in the center of town. But even before he voiced the need, James and Thomas Dwyer had purchased a lot on the corner of Union and Second streets, eventually transferring it to the diocese for \$636 on January 30, 1865.

Construction on the site began immediately with local men digging the foundation. Picket & Son of Cincinnati provided the plans that included a 110-foot bell tower. Wynne & Robison laid the stonework, and Gebhart Co. of Dayton roofed the 50 by 100-foot brick structure with slate.

Fr. Conway obtained the solid cararra marble altar, the work of sculptor Thomas O'Hara, who also created the statue of Abraham Lincoln in Cincinnati's Spring Grove Cemetery, for \$3,000. Fr. Conway's purchase came almost by accident after parishes in Chillicothe and Lancaster declined to buy the piece. The familiar stained glass windows were not a feature of the first church but were added in 1888.

Auxiliary Bishop Sylvester Rosecrans officiated when the cornerstone was laid on September 17, 1865. Bishop Purcell dedicated the building in the name of St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, on November 18, 1866. An estimated 3,000 people attended the dedication. Those inside stood for the ceremony since there were no pews in the church as yet. Others stood outside.

Total cost of the church and its furnishings came to \$24,332, with many items donated. Another \$6,000 was spent to build a four-room brick rectory adjacent to the new church. To London's Catholics, the structure, then the largest church in the county, was not only a testament to their faith, but also a symbol of their growing influence in the community.

A parochial school

Among Fr. Conway's ambitions for his new parish home was a parochial school. It began with a few students in the frame church on Center Street, taught by a man from the parish. In 1874, Fr. Conway asked the Ursuline Sisters of Brown County to build and staff a school in London. The sisters bought five lots on the corner of High and Walnut streets for \$7,000. The parish erected and dedicated a two-story brick schoolhouse on the property that same year. Initial enrollment of St. Joseph Academy (later re-named St. Patrick School) was 130 students. Four Ursuline nuns made up the staff and lived in a nearby house. Both elementary and high school courses made up the curriculum until about 1900, when the high school was discontinued.

In 1883, the parish bought the land from the Ursulines for \$7,500, and Sisters of Mercy from Cincinnati assumed teaching duties at the school.

Also, a cemetery

Before 1865, London-area Catholics seeking burial in consecrated ground were interred in two cemeteries in Springfield. Fr. Conway sought to change that by establishing a St. Patrick Parish Cemetery. In early 1865, he purchased four acres south of London on the "California Pike" (now State Route 56) for \$400. Another \$396 was spent on fencing, landscaping and plotting. Some local survivors then relocated the bodies of loved ones from Springfield cemeteries to the new site. Records show the first grave was dug in April 1865. In 1893, the

cemetery was replotted with the help of the county surveyor. Additional acreage was purchased in 1927 and 1960. A priests' circle was set apart for their burial in 1928.

Fr. Conway relocated to California in 1877. He died there in 1896 and his body was returned to London for burial in the cemetery he established.

Addressing the debt

Construction of the new church and school left St. Patrick Parish in debt. At the same time, the nation suffered a series of economic downturns. Pew rentals and individual contributions helped relieve financial stress. Parish social organizations like the Altar Society, Young Ladies' Sodality, Catholic Benevolent Society and short-lived Total Abstinence Society held fund-raisers. The parish was declared debt-free by Fr. William Hickey, then pastor, at a celebration on St. Patrick's Day in 1888.

Continued growth and improvements

Between 1877 and 1906, seven priests served as pastor of the growing St. Patrick congregation. With the exceptions of Fr. Hickey and Fr. Patrick Cusack, most suffered from ill health and were in London only briefly.

That changed on January 1, 1906, when Fr. Abraham McNamara was appointed pastor. Born and reared in Ireland, Fr. "Mac" emigrated to America and the Cincinnati Archdiocese in 1888. Once installed at St. Patrick, he undertook a major fund-raising campaign to improve the convent and cemetery and renovate the 1866 brick church and rectory.

Over the next eight years, the parish spent \$10,383 to build a new, 10-room rectory facing Union Street. Another \$46,863 went to expand and remodel the church. The church's brick façade was veneered with concrete to provide a stone-like exterior. New statues, confessionals, baptismal fonts, linens, chandeliers and other furnishings were added to the interior. Relief stations of the cross replaced similar paintings on the church walls. During renovations, church services were held in the Sons of Hibernia Hall on Main Street. Cincinnati Archbishop Henry Moeller consecrated the remodeled St. Patrick Church in April 1911.

Fr. Mac was a popular figure both in the parish and town. The congregation picked up the cost of his return visit to Ireland in 1921. In 1924, he celebrated 50 years as a priest with a high Mass attended by 40 other clergy. A year later, Fr. Mac retired to a house at the southwest corner of First and Union streets as "Pastor Emeritus" of St. Patrick. He died there in 1926 and was buried in the priests' circle of the cemetery.

A prison ministry

The State of Ohio established the London Prison Farm in 1913, and it fell to the pastor of St. Patrick Parish to minister to the Catholic inmates. In 1926, Fr. William Clark, Fr. Mac's successor, obtained \$400 from the state and raised other funds to build a chapel on prison grounds. That chapel was completed in 1931. Pastors and parishoners of St. Patrick continue to serve the area's prisons as an important part of their ministry.

Other acquisitions

Fr. Clark also expanded the parish cemetery and installed a public address system in the church with the help of a private donor. His tenure also saw repairs to the aging convent and school building at High and Walnut streets, as well as the acquisition of a lot adjoining the church's west side. A local man purchased the lot for \$4,800 from Oak Run Grange and then donated it to the church for \$1.

The Great Depression

Fr. Clark's 1937 history recorded 224 families in the parish, with 158 of those families living in the City of London. Half the parish children were enrolled in St. Patrick School. The rest attended public schools throughout the county. Times were tough everywhere, and Fr. Clark referred to himself as the "Pastor of the Depression." He worked with township trustees to solicit donations and distribute food and clothing to the needy. "The history of these days will never be written except by Angelic hands in the Book of Life," he wrote. "Let us hope they may never return."

Looking to Columbus

Throughout its early years, St. Patrick Parish was part of the Cincinnati Archdiocese. In 1945, while Fr. David Powers was the pastor, it became part of the Columbus Diocese. In 1947, the parish purchased a house on East High Street, next to the school property, as a convent for nuns teaching in the school. Upgrades and repairs to the 80-year-old church were always in demand. The interior was again redecorated in the mid-1940s during Fr. Powers' tenure.

A deteriorating school

As demanding as the church building was to maintain, the aging parish school and playground were even more taxing. Building a new school seemed financially impossible in the early 1950s when Fr. Paul Bernier became pastor. No tuition was charged in those days, and money was tight. So the parish converted the former convent at the corner of Walnut and High streets into classrooms and continued to group some grades downstairs in the old St. Joseph's building next door. The second floor of that building was already condemned and labeled unsafe.

Heating the old buildings was a problem, and air-conditioning was non-existent. Without a cafeteria to provide their meals, students either packed lunches or walked to London restaurants at noon. Playground equipment was limited. Parents provided balls, bats, gloves and whatever they could muster. Generally, only parish children living in town attended the school since busing was unavailable.

A new St. Patrick School

Fr. Edward Reidy became pastor in 1955 and almost immediately began earning a reputation as a "builder." He was active in London's civic affairs and served on the city's first board of zoning appeals. He added land to the cemetery, built a new garage at the rectory and redecorated the church's interior. Most significantly, Fr. Reidy began major fund-raising for a new school. In June 1956, he started a program to raise \$70,000 of the estimated \$206,000 needed for the project.

After receiving approval from Bishop Michael Ready, the parish bought 12 acres on Elm Street from the Bridgman family for \$60,000. Sale of the Walnut and High property to London City Schools eventually covered that expense. The old St. Joseph's School and former convent were demolished in 1959 to make way for a new London Elementary School.

Work on the current St. Patrick School began with a July 1957 groundbreaking. General contractor was Wagenbrenner Construction Company of Columbus. Blueprints included a kitchen, cafeteria-gym and expanded playground. By February 1958, the structure was open and ready for use by 120 students in grades 1-8. Next door, a new convent for the Sisters of Mercy who staffed the school was dedicated in August 1958. That same year, St. Patrick School began busing students from rural areas. In 1964, Fr. Reidy was re-assigned, but he retired to London in 1970. He died in 1980.

Second Vatican Council brings more changes

The Second Vatican Council, held in Rome from 1962 to 1965, brought many changes as the church adapted to a modern world. Fr. Edward Healey, who was appointed pastor in 1964, began to implement changes demanded by the council.

He celebrated Mass facing the congregation at a table-like altar constructed by a parishioner. English replaced Latin as the language of all services. Spoken dialogue replaced portions of the Mass that were once reserved to the priest and altar servers. Older parishioners found many changes difficult to accept. And it fell to Fr. Healey to explain the reasons and soften the transition to a new rite.

He also worked to engage more parishioners in church activities, re-invigorating the Altar & Rosary Society, organizing a parish council, holding Bible studies for Catholics and non-Catholics and leading a local charismatic movement. The ecumenical spirit abounded at the time. Fr. Healey reached out to other London-area churches and was active in the local ministerial association.

Fr. Healey was re-assigned to Our Lady of Peace Parish in Columbus in 1969 but remained close with many in the area until his death in 2006.

Challenges in the parish

A tragic private airplane crash in November 1969 killed all six members of the Edward Kroeger family. Their estate was left to St. Patrick and their generous bequest resolved much of the debt incurred by construction of the school a decade earlier. The Kroegers and their four children were active in parish organizations. Mr. Kroeger was a successful contractor with business interests in several states.

St. Patrick School began to charge tuition in 1971 in order to maintain financial stability. Initial fee for the 150 students enrolled was \$100 per student.

In another twist of fate, the same tornado that leveled much of Xenia in April 1974 also caused extensive damage across London. It stripped roofs from downtown buildings and destroyed the clock faces and skylight in the Madison County Courthouse. An inspection after the tornado revealed damage to the 110-foot spire and bell tower of St. Patrick Church. The spire was removed and “capped” as we know it today. The tower was further reinforced in 2014 to ward off bats, birds and other unwelcomed inhabitants.

Accent on education

St. Patrick School began sharing programs with London City Schools in the early 1970s after Fr. Romano Ciotola became pastor in 1976. Fr. Romano (as he preferred to be called) was born in Italy. He had a lengthy background in education, having taught at major Catholic high schools in Columbus. He focused attention on the school and instituted a school board in 1978.

State-mandated classes for St. Patrick students with learning disabilities and other special needs, not previously available in parochial schools, were taught in a trailer parked on rented land next to the convent. The law did not allow those services on church-owned property. Fr. Romano also faced a staffing problem at the school since the number of teaching nuns had diminished, beginning in the late 1960s.

In 1980, the Sisters of Mercy announced they could no longer staff St. Patrick School. The Elm Street convent became a meeting hall with an upstairs apartment for school staff who needed temporary living quarters. Fr. Romano was eventually able to hire one nun, Sr. Mary Patricia Gallagher O.P., and four lay teachers to complete the faculty. He also reinvigorated a CCD program for parish children who attended public schools.

More construction at the church, rectory

Roof damage to the church from the 1974 tornado also resulted in extensive interior leakage. Walls peeled, carpet mildewed and pews remained sticky from age and moisture. In 1977, a new shingle roof for the church replaced the original slate version. A year later, the parish began an extensive remodeling project. Church walls were re-plastered and painted, pews refinished, and a new carpet and sound system were installed.

A 1983 fire at the rectory caused \$33,000 in damage and led to extensive renovations. The steeple bell, silent for many years, began ringing again in 1984 thanks to a new electronic control system. New furnishings, including a pulpit, baptismal font, and table altar arrived in the church in 1985. A year later, new front doors and exterior stone flower beds were installed.

Benefactors abundant

All the needed repairs and renovations did not leave the parish in debt, thanks to the generosity of many deceased parishioners. Bequests from their estates covered the work and allowed for future renovations.

St. Patrick Parish continues to benefit from the estates of Raymond and Frank Lahy and Lucy Gallagher. Ms. Gallagher died in 1985, leaving cash and 146 acres of farmland in Fairfield Township to the church. Likewise, brothers Frank and Raymond Lahy, at their deaths bequeathed both money and a 600-acre farm in Deercreek Township to the parish. The farm was transferred to the Diocese of Columbus in 1989, allowing the parish to benefit from its proceeds.

In late 2015, the parish contracted with the Madison County Commissioners to sell 41.5 acres of the former Lahy farm, located near the intersection of U.S. 42 and Interstate 70, for \$394,212. The commissioners bought the parcel to construct a well-field and water tower for future commercial development in the area. The sale promised long-term benefits to the county. Proceeds from the sale allowed the parish to purchase nine acres adjoining the 12-acre St. Patrick School campus on Elm Street and made future expansion possible.

In addition, donations to the Bishop's Annual Appeal beyond the parish goal were returned to St. Patrick under diocesan policy. Those funds underwrote repairs and operations and relieved years of financial strain.

Solvency and expansion

Solvency set the stage for unprecedented expansion of both facilities and services at St. Patrick throughout the 1990s and early 2000s. Bequests from several estates put restrooms and air conditioning in the church and added protective glass to the historic stained glass windows. One gift allowed major renovation of the cemetery with a new water well and landscaping. In 1999, the parish purchased a property at Union and First streets for \$30,000 and eventually constructed a parking lot on the site. Revenue from the two parish-owned farms, bingo proceeds and tuition continued to fund operations of St. Patrick School without incurring serious debt.

St. Patrick Parish Center

Fr. Donald Maroon became pastor in 1987 and focused on social activities to bring parishioners closer to each other and the church.

A former parishioner, Mark Dunkley, working for the Cincinnati architectural firm of McConnell & Ewing, designed a new parish center. Construction began in 1998 on the lot just west of the church that was purchased and donated nearly a century earlier. Dedicated in 1999, the center's first-floor parlor, dining hall

and kitchen became a hub of activity and home to classes, meetings and community charity events. A hallway connected the church and parish center for convenience.

The center's lower level was finished in 2001, doubling the original space. A generous donation covered the cost of an elevator, making the facility handicapped accessible. Lower-level classrooms became home to the Parish School of Religion for children in public school and those who were home schooled. Meeting rooms and offices that were previously housed in the rectory occupied the remaining space.

As St. Patrick Parish grew to serve 400 families of diverse backgrounds and needs, the days of one priest and a lone secretary handling all its affairs were gone for good. In 2016, Fr. Mark Ghiloni, Deacon Dan Hann, Secretary Julie Walker, Director of Religious Education Maria Berryhill and Business Manager Erin Morris worked from those lower-level offices, as did Director of Family Faith Formation Denise Zimmerman, Music Director Valerie Tanner and Youth Minister Tim Magree.

A new face on the church

Fr. Ted Sill, who was pastor from 1999 to 2010, moved religious services to the parish center in 2003 while the church was remodeled and updated in order to comply with modern liturgical practices. In preparation for interior work, the exterior was sealed and a new roof and copper gutters and downspouts were added in 1999.

The stage was then set to repair and repaint peeling interior walls. The sanctuary was enlarged with new steps to make it more easily accessible from the nave. The 1866 marble high altar was cleaned and a new marble altar purchased for the celebration of Mass. The "cry room" and rear bathroom were removed to create additional seating space and create an open feel at the church entrance.

A reconciliation chapel, fashioned of wood from the 100-year-old confessionals, went up on the west side. A new marble baptismal font was installed on the east side. Antique chairs, long stored in the church basement, were refinished and moved to the sanctuary. The sanctuary and choir loft railings were also constructed of repurposed materials.

Statues were repainted and wooden floors of the nave refinished. All pews were also disassembled, resized and refinished. Movable chairs added at the front and rear of the church made the facility more versatile and handicapped friendly.

The electrical service was upgraded throughout the church in 2001 with computerized lighting and an extended sound system at a cost of \$42,000. Heating and air-conditioning systems were also extended and improved. Parishioners again donated generously of their time and money to cover the renovation's \$575,000 cost.

School expansion

A rear porch of the school was enclosed in the late 1980s for a teacher workroom and computer lab to address the growing need for technology in education. A new roof was installed in 2000. Overcrowding led to the construction of six new classrooms at the school in 2004 at a cost of \$603,000. The playground was expanded and new landscaping planted around all structures. Dr. Jacob J. Froning, who became principal in 2000, designated three of the new rooms for middle-school grades. The remaining three became the library, art and music rooms.

A pre-school and daycare was established in 2002 for children ages 2.5 to 5. That program expanded rapidly and was moved to the former convent building in 2004. In 2016, 44 children – both Catholic and non-Catholic

- were enrolled in pre-school and Dr. Froning anticipated future growth. In the same year, a faculty of 12 full-time teachers and one part-timer served 174 students in grades K-8. Nearly half of the students were non-Catholic and paid a higher tuition.

A 13,000 square-foot Parish Activities & Recreation Center (PARC) was added to the main school building in 2012. Bingo proceeds, dinner/auctions and generous donations through the Bishop's Annual Appeal covered a portion of the \$1.7 million cost, with the remaining amount raised in subsequent years. The PARC served as both a gym and chapel, as well as a theater for student musicals and Christmas concerts. Like the parish center, the PARC is also available for rent by the public. Other improvements at the school included a new boiler and windows. The brick exterior was sealed.

Computers were a feature of each classroom at St. Patrick School by 2015. Students in grades 6-8 carried individual iPads. All students benefitted from twice-weekly classes on the computer lab's 30 Chromebooks. A long distance learning program with Bishop Ready High School in Columbus helped 8th grade students earn secondary credit in Spanish and algebra.

Tuition at St. Patrick remained slightly less than other schools in the diocese. In 2016, tuition for the first child of a St. Patrick family was \$3,250. Financial assistance was available to students from the parish.

Outreach and optimism

Along with physical improvements to St. Patrick facilities came extended services and a modern liturgy. During the pastorates of Fr. Maroon and Fr. Sill, distribution of communion to the sick and home-bound by lay ministers expanded to include Sundays as well as First Fridays. The number of lay ministers, including lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Mass increased. At the same time, girls, as well as boys, began to serve on the altar. Fr. Sill stationed greeters at the church door to welcome Mass attendees, beginning in 2008.

The role of music during Mass became more important in accordance with directives of the Vatican II council. A procession to present bread, wine and monetary offerings to the celebrant became a regular feature of Mass. The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) began in 1999. RCIA prepares interested adults to enter into the Catholic faith.

Fr. Mark Ghiloni, who became pastor in 2010, initiated weekly discussions of faith-related topics important to all Christians in 2016. These ALPHA programs were open to both Catholics and non-Catholics seeking religious renewal.

Although some organizations for parish women lapsed, the Altar & Rosary Society continued to be active. Members supplied candles and communion bread for services and refreshments for after Mass social activities. They also prepared bereavement meals for family and friends following funerals.

Council 1786 of the Knights of Columbus, founded in 1915 and re-named for Fr. Edward Reidy, held weekly fish fries during Lent. Proceeds funded a variety of activities and fellowship opportunities, including breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month between September and May. The council also lent financial support to seminarians in the diocese, as well as youth attending the biennial National Catholic Youth Conferences (NCYC).

A parish youth ministry that began in 2004 served two separate groups. Students in grades 6-8 participated in Edge and those in high school students attended Life Teen. Thirteen high school students and two chaperones from the parish attended the 2007 NCYC in Columbus. It was a first for St. Patrick, made possible because of London's proximity to Nationwide Arena. The NCYC draws more than 24,000 young people from

across the country to participate in a weekend of presentations, workshops, concerts, prayer and Masses. Parish teens also attended the 2009 NCYC in Kansas City, as well as subsequent conferences in Indianapolis in 2011, 2013 and 2015.

The St. Vincent DePaul Society continued to provide assistance with utility bills, rent, transportation and medicine to a growing number of needy local residents, regardless of their faith.

An annual Mass and breakfast honored parish youth graduating from both grade and high schools, as well as adults receiving college degrees.

Vocations grow

During the first century of St. Patrick, 23 women and 3 men entered religious life and in addition, there were four men ordained to Holy Orders. However from the 1940s until the early 1980s, there were no young women or men entering religious orders and neither were there men from St. Patrick ordained to Holy Orders.

That changed, beginning in 1983, when Fr. Kevin Kavanaugh was ordained for the Diocese of Columbus. Three additional parish men – Frs. Joe Yokum, Chris Coleman, and Cyrus Haddad -- were ordained as priests in subsequent years. During this time, Deacons Joe Knapke and Dan Hann were ordained to the permanent diaconate as advocated by Vatican II. Among other duties, deacons may preach homilies, baptize, witness marriages, and bury the dead.

Ongoing needs and expanding services

After 150 years, St. Patrick Church continues to stand proudly at the corner of Union and Second streets, a testament to the dedication, faith and generosity of its diverse congregation. While some London churches have moved to the outskirts, St. Patrick maintains its position as a downtown anchor.

Ongoing maintenance and repair to the historic concrete-over-brick church is a challenge, as is maintaining the 100-year-old rectory. Meeting the mission of Vatican II is another challenge that requires reaching out to Catholics and non-Catholics to address their physical and spiritual growth.

This history of St. Patrick Church began with the first words of St. John's gospel "In the beginning..." It seems fitting to conclude this history by using a paraphrase of the conclusion of that same gospel "There are also many other things that (St. Patrick Church) did but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world could contain the books that would be written." History and the firm faith, hope, and love of its members continues to move St. Patrick Church forward.- Jane Beathard