

No. 8. *September 1st, 1904.*

# ST. MARY'S RECORD

*St. Mary's Church,  
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## ST. MARY'S RECORD

1854 JUBILEE YEAR 1904

No. 8.

DUNKIRK, N. Y.

Sept. 1904.

### ST. MARY'S PARISH.

In 1865 Hiram J. Miner was received into the Church. He was one of the most prominent citizens of Dunkirk. For over thirty years he had been a strict member of the Presbyterian Church. The reading of the Syllabus of Pope Pius IX which was published in 1864 led him to study more carefully the claims of the Catholic Church. After a course of reading and instruction lasting over six months he was baptized by Father Gaudentius C. P., on the third Sunday of Advent, 1865. From that day till the day of his death he was a most devout member of St. Mary's Parish. Its interests were his interests and in those early days, when friends were few, he proved this by good advice and generous contributions. He was taken sick while attending a festival in Columbus Hall on St. Patrick's Day, 1872. On Palm Sunday he received the last Sacraments with sentiments of the liveliest faith and tenderest devotion. As he himself expressed it he never felt happier in his life. The scene at his bedside was most touching. After having received Holy Communion he exhorted most earnestly his non-Catholic relatives and friends, who surrounded him, to embrace the Catholic Religion which was a source of so much consolation to him in his dying hour. At ten o'clock Holy Saturday morning while the bells in St. Mary's Church were joyfully pealing the GLORIA of the first Easter Mass he peacefully passed away. The funeral services were held in St. Mary's Church on Easter Monday. The Church was crowded to pay a deserved tribute of respect to the remains of "a good man, a useful citizen, and a devoted Christian."

Owing in great measure to the generosity of Mr. Miner needed improvements were made in St. Mary's Church in 1873. In his will he left a legacy of \$5,000 to the parish.— It is almost impossible for us to-day to realize the changes that were made in the old building. It is sufficient to say

that St. Mary's Church was practically reconstructed. Nothing of the original structure remained except the walls and the tower. Even these had to be strengthened as they had been in some places partly undermined. A new roof was put on and the interior was arranged as we see it to-day. Arched ceilings heavily groined, new flooring, new pews, stained glass windows, etc. The heating apparatus was considered the best in Chautauqua Co. . . . The style of fresco was a plain representation of cut stone blocks, alternately colored. Above the windows of the main altar were placed four life size statues: 1, The Sacred Heart of Jesus; 2; The Mother of God; 3, St. Patrick; 4, St. Bridget. The statues on the side altars were presented by Mr. Miner some time before his death. The statues were, one of the Immaculate Conception, the other of St. Joseph. Beneath the Blessed Virgin's Altar was placed a representation of the Dead Christ which had been brought from Dublin. The windows cost \$40 each and were donated by—

1. St. Mary's Temperance Society.
2. In Memoriam H. J. Miner
3. In Memoriam P. N. Madigan.
4. Mrs. M. Quinlan.
5. Gift of Mary—
6. Flanigan.
7. Gift of Altar Society.
8. John Dwyer, Mary and Malinda Hayes.
9. Gift of a Friend.
10. Donation.

The entire outlay for these improvements amounted to about \$16,000.

On November the 30, 1873 St. Mary's Church was re-dedicated by Rt. Rev. Stephen Ryan, second Bishop of Buffalo. It was the occasion of a great religious demonstration by the Catholics of Dunkirk and the surrounding villages. At 10 A. M., a large procession was formed at Columbus Hall and marched to the Church. The procession was led by the Emmet Band, followed by the Temperance Society and the Children of Mary dressed in white. At 10:30 A. M., the Rt. Rev. Bishop celebrated Pontifical High Mass, assisted by Frs. Basil Keating, Joseph Flannigan, Anthony, John, Guido and Nilus, all

Passionists. The Choir was under the able direction of Professors Weiler and Seiner. At the Gospel the Bishop preached from the text: "And when the masons laid the foundations of the Temple of the Lord, the priests stood in their ornaments with trumpets . . . to praise the Lord. . . . 1 Esdras, III, 10." He paid a glowing tribute to Father Basil Keating for his untiring zeal, and to the congregation for their generous contributions which made it possible to erect such a beautiful Temple to the Lord. That same evening the Bishop spoke to a large audience on "The Stability of the Church."

In 1873 Father Basil passed to a better life. A biographical sketch of this beloved priest will to be found elsewhere in this issue of the RECORD. He was succeeded by Father Alphonsus who acted as Pastor of St. Mary's Church for three months. During his short stay in Dunkirk he took a decided stand against the sale of intoxicating liquors at church picnics and proved that a picnic could be made a financial success without selling intoxicants on such occasions.

Father John again took charge of the parish in 1879. Shortly after his arrival a most successful mission (Jubilee Mission) was preached. Over fifteen hundred persons approached the sacraments and six converts were received into the Church. This same year Father John expended \$2,198.00 in repairing and improving the steam apparatus, half of which amount was paid by the Monastery. At this time St. Mary's was so well equipped that no further improvements were made until 1886. That year Father Stephen enlarged the sanctuary by moving forward the communion railing four feet, and extending the railing from wall to wall. This became necessary on account of the increasing number of communicants and in order to afford better facilities for conducting the solemn services of the Church. In 1887 the Church was frescoed at a cost of \$1,700.00. The pulpit now in use was purchased and the sanctuary was thoroughly furnished. The furnishing included a new communion rail, carpets, sanctuary lamp and chandeliers. The pulpit, sanctuary railing and pews were made by the M. J. O'Donnell Co. In 1889 the present boiler house was erected and the second boiler installed. Other improvements in the church and property made

during the administration of Father Stephen (1884-1890), were, the exterior of the church painted and the flag walk on Washington Ave., and 4th Street laid. For the ensuing three years Father John devoted most of his time to the improvement of St. Mary's School and little was done in the church except occasional repairing and paying for the paving of Washington Ave., and of Fourth St., which was quite a heavy expense.

A very important movement was set on foot by the men of the parish in 1892. This was the building of St. Mary's Lyceum. The character and aim of this society will be explained in a later issue of the RECORD.

Father Felix took charge of St. Mary's in 1893. During his term as Pastor, the church was much improved by the addition of the top ventilators in the windows; the vestibules were lighted; the present vestibule entrance to the gallery was constructed; St. Paul's Chapel was frescoed and the valuable painting of St. Paul over the chapel altar was purchased. A most pronounced improvement in St. Mary's School was made by the addition of an academic department and placing of the same under the Regents of the University of the State of New York.

Rt. Rev. Stephen Vincent Ryan died in 1897. His loss was felt throughout the entire country, but no where more than in St. Mary's Parish. From the day of his elevation to the Bishopric of Buffalo he had been a true friend of this parish and his kind advice and encouragement did much to smooth away the difficulties that were encountered from time to time. On twelve different occasions he administered Confirmation in St. Mary's Church. The number of persons confirmed by him was 1978. Of this number 899 were boys and 1079 girls.

Father Stephen returned to Dunkirk in 1897. This was his third term as Rector of St. Mary's. During this year extensive repairs were made in the building. The following year he purchased the organ at a cost of \$2600. In 1898 he built and furnished the new church sacristy.

On the 4th of July, 1897, Rt. Rev. James Edward Quigley paid his first official visit to Dunkirk. He received a welcome that will be long remembered. Every Catholic organization in the city turned out to greet him. Mr. Henry Smith acted as grand marshal and directed the



INTERIOR OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

parade, assisted by John McNerney and Peter Brooks. The procession formed at the Union Depot and marched to St. Mary's Lyceum where a reception was given the Bishop. The following societies took part in this parade St. Hyacinth's Society, St. Joseph's Society, the Eureka Band, Branches 21 and 25 of the C. M. B. A., St. Mary's Lyceum, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Lake City Band, Knights of Kosciusko, St. George Cadets and Knights of St. George. Bishop (now Archbishop of Chicago) Quigley manifested more than ordinary attachment for St. Mary's. It was here that he made the spiritual exercises to prepare for the onerous duties of the episcopacy prior to his consecration as Bishop of Buffalo. During his stay in that city and since his departure for his new field of labor, he frequently visited here.—On three occasions he administered the sacrament of Confirmation in this church in all to 358 persons.

The last improvements in St. Mary's Church were made during the rectorship of Father Albert. The church was frescoed as we see it today and the Stations of the Cross purchased. The color decoration was done by the Ramburch Glass & Decorating Co., of New York City. The work is thoroughly artistic. The Stations which are truly works of genuine art, were made by Mr. Joseph Sibbel, also of New York City.—At this time, the sanctuary railing was placed one step lower than the level of the main sanctuary floor. The color decoration and other furnishings cost \$3,188.93. The amount paid for the Stations was \$875.00. The price of the Stations was donated by these persons:

1. In memory of Mary Meehan.
2. Gift of P. J. Mulholland and Family.
3. Gift of John Madigan and Family.
4. Gift of John Rogan and Family.
5. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Hogan.
6. Gift of Catherine Donovan.
7. Gift of Ann O'Brien.
8. In memory of Denis McNamara.
9. In memory of George Dotterweich.
10. In memory of Andrew Dotterweich.
11. Gift of Ella Laundry.
12. In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Murray.

13. Gift of M. J. O'Donnell.
14. Gift of Francis May, Sr.

## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

Many stories are told of the conditions that existed in the school during the early days of our history. The school desks were of the most primitive design and make,—mere ordinary benches capable of accommodating eight or ten pupils. These benches had reversable seats and at times were used as a platform on which the youngsters were accustomed to dance. At the same time a healthy rivalry existed between the boys who occupied one section of the building and the girls who occupied the other. A glass partition separated the two divisions. This partition was a source of much annoyance to the good teachers as it was used by the boys to disturb their more studious neighbors. It is said that the girls were no less to blame for the frequent interruptions in the work of the school. Good Sr. Benedict had charge of the boys department and be it said to her credit that the boys had no better friend nor more loyal defender.

The first improvements in the school buildings were made during the rectorship of Father John in the summer vacation of 1879. "The condition of the school was unsightly,—showing plainly the marks of age and decay." At this time the interior of the building was renovated. New flooring was laid, the woodwork re-painted and new and modern desks introduced. From the time of the opening of the school until this year the old fashioned school forms had been in use. These improvements were made at a cost of \$800.00 and gave general satisfaction to parents, children and teachers.

As the ground around Columbus Hall was so restricted Father Stephen purchased two lots adjoining the school property from John Rogan at a cost of \$1300.00. For many years efforts had been made to secure this property but means were lacking. This addition made a great improvement in the appearance of Columbus Hall as the adjoining buildings were removed. It also provided ample playground for the children which was badly needed. This

purchase was made in 1884 by the monastery. The property is now occupied by the girls playground. This year a remarkable decrease in the congregation was remarked, owing principally to the lack of labor in the Brooks Shops. Naturally attendance at the school was also lessened. It was a trying period in the history of St. Mary's Parish.

Father John was again elected to the rectorship of St. Mary's in 1890. True to his past record he made improvements in the school. In 1891 the class room space between the Temperance Hall and the main stairs in the west end of the building was gutted and the rooms were laid out on a plan, giving three class rooms on the Fourth St. side of the building and two on the side towards the girls' play-ground. A "T" hall-way connected all the rooms, thus doing away with the need of passing through class-rooms. It was at this time that steam heating conveniences were introduced. These improvements cost about \$1,800.00. In 1892 the room known to the older people as "Temperance Hall" was taken for school purposes, and the staff of teachers increased to six. This same year Fourth St. was paved and the wall running from Columbus Hall to the end of the property was erected. At the same time a small piece of property on Fawn and Fourth Sts. was secured. Formerly this was part of the creek that ran at the rear of Columbus Hall. At present it forms part of the boys' play-ground. The improvements in the school property in 1892 cost \$1110.00.

The next important improvements in the school were made by Father Felix in 1894. That year Father Felix succeeded in having the school placed under the control of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The advantages of this movement cannot be over estimated. It gave the school an independent standing which it had not hitherto possessed and secured for the children all the privileges of the State High Schools. There was a strong prejudice in the minds of some against the school up to this time. These maintained that the instruction imparted in the parochial school was inferior to that of the public schools. The desire manifested by Father Felix and his assistants to raise the school to the highest possible standard of excellence removed all prejudice of this kind. Extensive repairs and

improvements were made in the building in order to meet the new conditions of an academy. A room was added by utilizing the space formerly occupied by the north stairs leading to the hall and part of the vestibule, the halls were extended, the library enlarged and new desks purchased for the academic department. Everything was done to make the school as attractive and as well equipped as any in Dunkirk. The expenses this year were very heavy. The school improvements cost \$600.00. The levy for the paving of Washington Ave. was \$1382.50 half of which was paid by the Monastery. To meet these expenses a Fair was held in Columbus Hall. The good will of the people of the parish was never more sincerely manifested than on this occasion when all did their utmost to encourage Father Felix in the efforts he was making for the betterment of St. Mary's School. The following year there was a marked increase in the number of pupils attending the school.

During the Spring of 1902, Fr. Albert, then in charge of the parish, found it necessary to engage another teacher. Class-room space was found on the second floor of the building in Columbus Hall proper. In the Fall of the same year, two temporary class rooms were erected in the Hall itself. At this time nine Sisters were employed in the school.

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#### VERY REV. FR. STEPHEN, C. P.

Owing to the many and varied reports concerning the death of Fr. Stephen, and knowing how dear his memory is to the people of St. Mary's, we thought it best to insert in this number of the RECORD a short and correct account of his last mortal hours.

Sunday, July 17, 1904, this startling message reached the Monasteries of the Province of St. Paul of the Cross, "Provincial died 7:40 this morning." Words so few tell of a loss so great.

The story of Fr. Stephen's death can be told briefly. He said the six o'clock mass that morning. After the gospel he preached to the large congregation in attendance. These words were part of the gospel text for that

day: "Render an account of thy stewardship; for now thou canst be steward no longer." It was noticed that he spoke with more force and at greater length than usual. He then continued the mass until after his own Communion which happened to be his Viaticum. He was not able to administer Communion to the people and asked another priest to do this for him. When this other priest returned to the altar after the Communion of the people, Fr. Provincial said to him: "Take me away; I cannot finish the Mass; I am dying!" He was led to the sacristy where the sacred vestiments were removed. Having been carried to his cell, his secretary said to him: "Father Provincial you are very sick. Is there anything troubling you, or is there anything you wish to say?" The answer was characteristic of the man: "No! There is nothing on my conscience. I simply want to receive the sacraments and be prepared for death. I know that I am dying; but I hope for a merciful judgment from God! I hope in the merits of the Passion of my Redeemer!" He then received Extreme Unction. When the prayers for the dying had been said, the last audible prayer which passed his lips, was "Immaculate Mother, give me a pure heart! That's all I want, that's all I want!" Shortly after he appeared before his God to give an account of his stewardship.—In a small purse which he carried near his heart, were a relic of his patron, St. Stephen and a scroll with these words written thereon: "I love God most intensely, I hate sin most absolutely." During his life he was often noticed to rest his hand where the purse lay whilst his lips moved in prayer, a practice repeated during his agony. Was the gesture a repetition, in sign language, of the protest written on the scroll? Happy the man who can appear before the awful tribunal with that protestation of love of God and hatred of sin, fresh on his lips and fresher and stronger in his heart!

### CAPTAIN PATRICK BARRET.

Perhaps no man has left so stainless a name in the political, religious and the military annals of this town as Capt. Patrick Barret. He was first and before all a

stalwart Catholic of the old style, true to his God in conscience and therefore loyal even to the shedding of his blood in the country of his adoption. He was born at Ballyknock Co. Mayo, on March 17, 1832. Fifteen years later he came to this country with his mother, brother and sister and began a struggle for existence. He was poor, he was Irish, he was Catholic—three strong odds against him, yet his native talent soon brought him to the front. While a mere lad he held with credit several important posts under Mr. Minot, Supt. of the Erie R. R. His rise from this time was rapid. Pres. Buchanan made him Postmaster of the Village. While these honors were well earned and appreciated, they were entirely overshadowed by his record as a soldier. His public was shown by the organization of an independent military company called the Jackson Guards of which he was commander. Scarcely had Ft. Sumter fallen, when Barret was on his way to Ft. Scott with a company of volunteers enlisted by himself. His company took a prominent part in the battle of Williamsburg, Va. May 8, 1862, during which engagement, the gallant Captain was mortally wounded while leading his men. His body was brought to Dunkirk by Thomas Horan in spite of almost incredible difficulties. The Freemans Journal says that Horan was forced to carry the body of his beloved Captain in his arms for miles, as he could neither hire nor command help. Capt. Barret's funeral was the most magnificent tribute of respect ever offered any man of Western New York. Catholic and Protestant, the great and the lowly, vied with one another in showing honor to the dead hero. Every Catholic society in the town turned out in full force to honor him and old St. Mary's did her best. If ever mother was solaced for the loss of a son, that was the widowed mother of Capt. Barret, who depended solely on her noble boy for support in her waning years. The town lost a good citizen and felt it, the country mourned a brave and capable soldier, but the little woman in black seated by the side of his coffin lost more than either—she had lost her son and civic or military honor could not dry her tears. The only thought that could modify her grief was that he died as he had lived—a staunch and fervent Catholic. "It's easy enough" says a wise cynic, "for a

man to fight for his religion; it is even easy to die for it but give me the man who lives for his religion and I will reverence him." Such a man was Capt. Barret. He had all the temptations of a young man to barter his faith for the pottage of so called success. He might have found as others before and since have found it too hard to "Give to Ceasar what belongs to Ceasar and to God what belongs to God," but his faith was too clear sighted for that. He was not afraid nor ashamed to practice his religion under any circumstances and the thousands who gathered round his bier regardless of creed or nationality set the seal of man's approval on his life, God had already done so on the battle field, where cradled in the arms of his priest and strengthened by the Sacraments which had aided him so often in life, he passed into the great beyond with an act of love for God on his lips. Capt. Barret was a young man when he died, only thirty, yet his name is to this day a sacred memory in Dunkirk. Forty-two years have passed, yet the sound of his name still draws tears from the eyes of the men who marched by his side and who were proud to call him comrade. His life and his deeds still live. Would to God they were influential in giving to Dunkirk more young men like Capt. Patrick Barret.

#### RT. REV. STEPHEN VINCENT RYAN.

Bishop Ryan was not what the world calls a great man but luckily the world's estimate of a man is not always correct. The Diocese of Buffalo of which he was second Bishop owes him a debt of gratitude that will take many years to pay. His generosity, his fatherly kindness and his saint-like spirit of toleration have helped to engrave his name deep in every Catholic heart.

Bishop Ryan was a Canadian by birth though his boyhood days were spent in Pottsville, Pa. He was like his predecessor a Lazarist and was ordained priest in 1849 by the famous Archbishop Kenrick of St. Louis. Fr. Ryan became prominent in his Order by the masterly prudence he showed in filling the offices imposed on him and on several occasions was sent to Rome in the interest of his

Society. He was Professor of Theology for a while at the Barrens and gave a number of successful missions.

When Bishop Timon died, in 1868, Fr. Ryan was almost universally voted the most eligible candidate and he was accordingly nominated to the See of Buffalo and consecrated in 1868. He literally walked in the foot steps of his great predecessor Bishop Timon, Churches, Schools, Orphanages and Asylums continued to multiply under his fostering care. This applies not only to the City of Buffalo but to almost all the small towns under his care.

He made many official visits to Dunkirk. He also administered Confirmation here on several occasions and was always interested in the growth of Dunkirk and his words of encouragement helped both priests and people over many difficulties. The most striking trait in Bishop Ryan's character outside of his singular love for children was the extraordinary sympathy and affection he showed for his priests. No one went to him with a cross or a trial who was not comforted and uplifted by his fatherly kindness. Mistakes never angered him though his zeal for God's kingdom never



BISHOP RYAN.

permitted them to be repeated. His priests loved him and what is more confided in him and they more than any other class in his diocese mourned his loss. He died April 10th, 1896, and is buried by the side of Bishop Timon beneath the high altar of Buffalo's Cathedral.

## REV. FR. GUIDO, C. P.

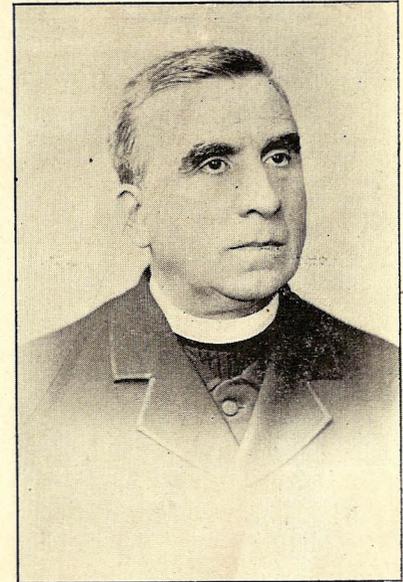
The subject of this sketch was born of distinguished parents in the city of Rome, Aug. 22, 1835. He entered the Passionist order as a cleric at the age of 22, having had a good classic course under the direction of his father, he made rapid progress in his studies and was ordained priest in 1863. Two years later, he bade farewell to the home he was never again to see and began his career as a missionary in California. He worked with characteristic zeal among the Irish miners on the coast until he was transferred to the eastern states. He had many touching stories of his life on the Pacific slope—of the faith and courage of his scattered flock who rewarded his long journeys and privations in a way that he never forgot. Fr. Guido's work in the east practically began in Dunkirk. In 1866 he was made Rector of the monastery and ex-officio pastor of St. Mary's church. During his first term of office he made himself revered by the people of the town—Protestant and Catholic—and many to this day tell of his sterling qualities of head and heart.

His was a noble character—brave, true, kindly,—to him is due in great measure the popularity of his Order in many parts of the country. He was frequently called into the councils of the Bishops, who had a high regard for his ability and prudence. Gifted with an administrative talent of a high order and zeal which laughed at difficulties, he set to work, shortly after his arrival in Dunkirk,—the result of his efforts is that building around which so many memories are twined—Columbus Hall. through his dauntless energy, backed by a few progressive spirits the Hall was finished in 1869. Since then many events of political, social and religious importance have hallowed its staunch old walls. Though Columbus Hall as such, ceased to exist in 1903, its classic exterior still remains under the name of St. Mary's School a lasting memorial of Fr. Guido's zeal and courage in Dunkirk's older day.

He was also the moving spirit in the progress, which finally placed the famous old town clock in the steeple of St. Mary's in 1867. Through his efforts in the same year a new bell of 1244 lbs. was installed, as the old one was

too small for the clock. Fr. Guido spent nearly nine years of his life here—six of these as Rector of St. Mary's. His last term embraced the years of 81, 82, 83. He was also parish priest for a short time. Fr. Guido was the man who baffled the prayer of J. Q. Adams that the sign of the cross, the sign of fanaticism should never surmount the Mitchel observatory in Cincinnati in 1872.

In spite of bigotry Fr. Guido outwitted the enemies of religion and bought the Longworth property on which the observatory was built. He added another story to the building—placed a cupola on top and a Cross above the cupola. This cross was for a long time the highest point in Cincinnati. Fr. Guido's name is sacred in the Queen City where his kindness helped many a poor man out of difficulties in those hard times. He built the first Holy Cross Church in Cincinnati of which he was Pastor for many years.

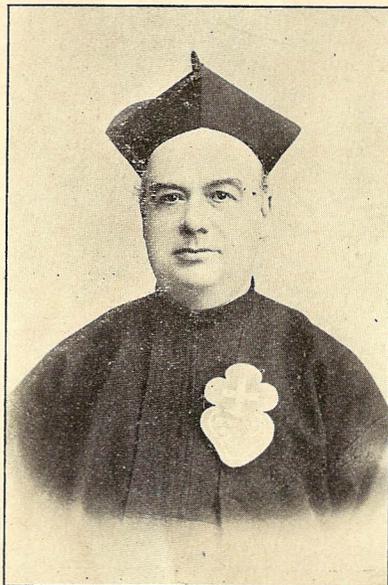


FATHER GUIDO.

Fr. Guido died in Baltimore June 1st 1903, of an ailment which had practically wrecked his once magnificent constitution. He laid down his burdens and went before that Judge who looks to motives and efforts rather than results. It is now many years since Fr. Guido left Dunkirk. Perhaps most of the younger generation do not remember him but there are many who, lovingly and gratefully, will whisper with the writer—"May he rest in peace."

## VERY REV. FR. JOHN.

Fr. John now living in Rome as Consultor to the General Superior of the Passionists succeeded Fr. Albino as Pastor of St. Mary's. Seventeen years of his life in America were spent among the people of St. Mary's working for them and by his hearty ways endearing himself to them. A record of the chief events of his career will probably interest his many friends in Dunkirk.



FATHER JOHN.

was begun. His brother Fr. John Philip succeeded him there and completed the magnificent structure. Fr. John was chosen Provincial Consultor in 1872. Three years later he was placed in charge of St. Joseph's, Baltimore. In 1878 he came back to St. Mary's as Rector. From 1881 to 1884 he was stationed in Baltimore, part of the time as Vice-Rector, then as Rector. During this period he visited the Passionist houses in Mexico as proxy of the

He was born at Larzana, Italy, in 1835 and was admitted to professed membership among the Passionists in 1851. After finishing his studies in 1858, he was chosen for missionary work, was and sent to America. Came to Dunkirk in 1860 and for some time helped Fr. Albino in the parish work and succeeded the latter as pastor and Rector of the Monastery in 1863. On the expiration of his term of office in 1866 he was elected to the same position in St. Michael's, W. Hoboken. During his administration the building of the great church of St. Michael's

Superior General. In 1884 he returned to Dunkirk in capacity of assistant to Fr. Stephen, he held that position for six years after which he was made Rector of St. Mary's for the third time. In 1893 he was made Provincial of America, in 1896 was re-elected to the same office. Before his term expired he was chosen for the honor of General Consultor in Rome, May 1899. Since that time Fr. John has lived in the Eternal City, far away from the land of his love. In Dunkirk he busied himself chiefly with the progress of St. Mary's School.

## FR. BASIL KEATING.

No history of our parish would be complete without a notice of Fr. Basil, whose gentle manners and untimely death made a lasting impression on the people of Dunkirk.

Born in London in 1839, he was brought to this country while still an infant by his parents. He became a Passionist in 1859 and was a member of the first class of students located at St. Mary's. He was ordained by Bishop Timon in the Buffalo Cathedral May 28, 1863, and from that time till his appointment as Rector here his time was exclusively devoted to mission work. He took charge of St. Mary's in 1872, and though he frequently conducted missions after that, his life work and ambition seemed centered in Dunkirk, whose Catholic destinies he guided for nearly six years. Under his management the Church was entirely renovated, and though the expense incurred was great, Fr. Basil's popularity and zeal soon enabled him to control the debt. The proceeds of one Fair alone—\$2400—was sufficient proof of this, not to mention a generous legacy left for the purpose of repairing the church.

Material improvements however, were only a small part of Fr. Basil's plan and were always subservient to his master passion—the salvation of souls. If the moral status of St. Mary's is not as high as it should be it was not Fr. Basil's fault.

Shortly after the completion of the church it was dedicated anew by Bishop Timon. Then Father Basil with

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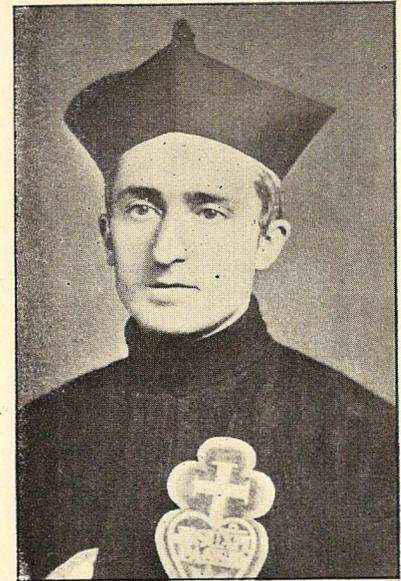
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his old classmate, Father Charles Lang, opened a mission which was perhaps the most fruitful mission ever given in Dunkirk. It lasted from October 11 to 22, and 1550 people approached the sacraments. The good work done during this sacred time was ably followed up by Father Basil, whose great love for his people was proof even against personal insult. His zeal was equalled only by his forbearance and many an obstinate case was softened by his gentleness.

In 1878 his health began to fail, but he would not give up. While on a mission in St. Joseph's Church, New York, he sustained a slight injury to his knee, which eventually developed into erysipelas, which no one considered serious, especially as the patient made light of his trouble.

It was serious, however, and in a few days Father Basil's cheerfulness was stilled in death. Everyone who knew him mourned his death, but none more sincerely than his Brethren in Dunkirk, whose hearts he had gained by his kindness and considerate prudence. He passed

away on the 10th day of April, 1878, in West Hoboken and was buried in the Monastic vault beneath St. Michael's Church in that town. He was the first priest to die in the United States.



FATHER BASIL.

FR. FELIX WARD, C. P.

One of Dunkirk's welfare advocates was Fr. Felix. Being

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both progressive and aggressive when right is in question, Fr. Felix strained every nerve during his stay here not only for the moral upbuilding of the town, but also for its material and commercial advancement. Allied to several kindred spirits he worked untiringly for the improvement of Dunkirk's harbor and finally through the intervention of Congressman Moran, Congress voted a generous sum for the work. For some unexplainable reason however, the money might just as well have been thrown in bulk into the lake. Few practical results, however, have rewarded the labor of Fr. Felix and Dunkirk's other friends.

During Fr. Felix's rule in Dunkirk St. Mary's School was placed under the regents of New York. Since that time the School has not only kept place with the High School of the town but is gradually breaking down the walls of prejudice raised against it in past years. The splendid and daily increasing reputation of St. Mary's School for efficiency and firm discipline is due to Frs.

Felix and Mark principally. The church also feels the effects of Fr. Felix's energy. He had the high altar enameled and St. Paul's Chapel entirely renovated and donated the beautiful picture of St. Paul. He has many staunch friends in Dunkirk who do not forget his efforts for the benefit of their town generally.

Fr. Felix was born April 4th, 1854 in Limerick. He came to this country while very young. Becoming a Passionist in 1871, he quickly passed through his studies



FATHER FELIX.

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and was ordained in 1878. He was the real builder of our splendid house in St. Louis and through his efforts the whole city was actively interested in a great bazaar for the benefit of the new monastery, 89-90. Before it was ready for occupancy he was made Rector of Louisville, Ky., 1890, which office he held for three years. In 1893 he came to Dunkirk and for three years worked strenuously for the good of the town. From here he went to Baltimore where he remained until he was again made Rector of our Retreat in Louisville in 1899. In 1902 he became first Consultor to Fr. Stephen whom he succeeded as Provincial after Fr. Stephen's tragic death in July 1904. Fr. Felix is a man of broad and generous soul a true friend, a cultured gentleman.

### FR. ALBERT, C. P.

Fr. Albert was one of the youngest Rectors ever installed in St. Mary's and his popularity was on a par with his youth. He was born in Ballyrarge June 22, 1861 and became a Passionist in 1882. In 1888 he was ordained priest by Bishop Wigger and since that time his rise has been rapid. Shortly after his ordination he was engaged heart and soul in missionary work, wherein his honest eloquence instantly stamped him a success. He was made rector of Holy Cross Retreat, Cinn., in 1896 where he soon paid off the debt of the school and in other ways proved himself a



FATHER ALBERT.

first-class financier. He came to Dunkirk as Rector of St. Mary's in 1899 and with the able assistance of Fr. Lewis Bellew raised sufficient means to fresco the church. He also placed the new stations and accomplished other improvements of minor importance. When he left Dunkirk he was appointed superior in Louisville and last year was transferred to the new house in Chicago.

Fr. Albert has many engaging qualities of mind and heart, but his unconquerable good humor seems to overshadow them all.

### RECORD OF LOT-HOLDERS.

The names of the remaining lot-holders will appear in the October issue of the RECORD.

Record No.	Map of 1899			Map of 1902		
	Lot No.	Bed	Section	Lot No.	Division	Section
165 Margaret E. Hayes.....	10	XVI	Centre	123	E	II
166 Thos. Kinney of Forestville and John Calhoun.....	10	I	Centre	10	D	II
167 Mrs. Jas. Higgins.....	½ of 5	XVI	South	58	H	III
168 Michael McNamara, Char- lotte.....	7	II	Centre	19	D	II
169 Martin Higgins.....	12	III	Centre	34	D	II
170 Michael McParland.....	7	V	North	43	A	I
171 John Fennell.....	2	II	Centre	14	D	II
172 Michael Hogan, Westfield...	5	VII	North	61	A	I
173 Martin Clossey.....	3	XXV	North	136	B	I
174 Mrs. Jno. Tuohy.....	½ of 6	XVII	South	72	H	III
175 William J. Fennell.....	7	XIX	North	65	B	I
176 Mrs. J. Fizzell, Bradford....	2	II	South	10	G	III
177 John Lyons.....	3	III	South	18	G	III
178 Terence Connors.....	6	VIII	North	73	A	I
179 George Weimer.....	2	V	South	29	G	III
180 Mrs. Catherine Baker.....	8	VII	North	64	A	I
181 Mrs. Frances Murphy.....	1	III	South	16	G	III
182 Anthony Loftus, Hornellsville		VII	Centre	75	D	II
183 Timothy Rogan, Sr.....	15 & ½ of 16	XXII	Centre	18	F	II
184 Cornelius Donahue.....	½ of 11 & 12	XXI	Centre	189	E	II

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