

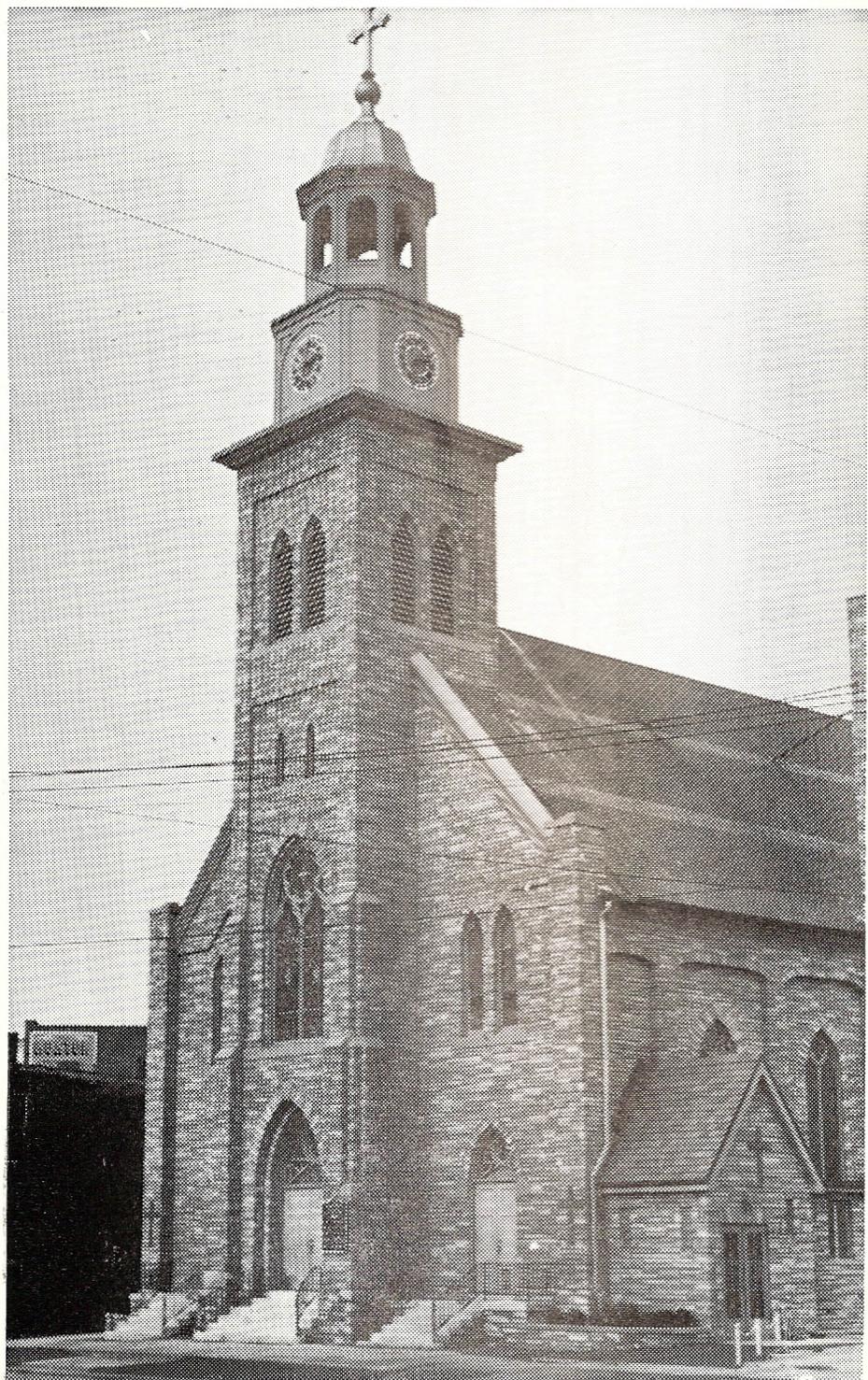
# 100th Anniversary

1858-1958



## Sacred Heart Church

Dunkirk, New York



SACRED HEART CHURCH

1958

Commemorating  
The 100th Anniversary

OF

Sacred Heart Parish

DUNKIRK, NEW YORK

1858-1958



REV. JULIUS O. NOE, *Pastor*

*Trustees*

HAROLD STUMPF

HENRY STROEHLEIN



1918  
1919  
1920

**Most Reverend  
Celestine J. Damiano, D. D.**

APOSTOLIC DELEGATE TO SOUTH AFRICA



*Native of Dunkirk, N. Y.*

*Celebrant of the Pontifical Centennial Mass*



THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH ALOYSIUS BURKE, D.D.  
*Bishop of Buffalo*

**The Chancery**  
**Diocese of Buffalo**  
**35 Lincoln Parkway**  
**Buffalo 22, N. Y.**

November 17, 1958

Dear Father Noe:

I am pleased to extend to you and to the good people of Sacred Heart Parish my sincere congratulations upon the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the parish. For one hundred years the welfare and happiness of the people of Dunkirk have been enhanced by the spiritual and temporal contributions made by the priests and people of your parish.

Through the work of the priests and sisters who have served with unselfish devotion, the children have been instructed and trained in Catholic doctrine, the Gospel has been preached, souls have been helped, the dying have been prepared for eternity.

Through the zealous work and deep spiritual devotion of your people, the lives of countless souls have been influenced for good, both within and outside of the Faith. The generosity and the fervent love of your people for God and His Holy Church have been an inspiration to the Diocese.

Truly, the work of the Divine Master has been carried on at Sacred Heart Parish. May I ask the people of the parish on the occasion of their Centenary to reconsecrate themselves to Holy Mother Church and to renew and expand their devotion to their parish.

It is my sincere prayer that Sacred Heart Parish will have a glorious future as it continues to serve the people of Dunkirk. May God bless you all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

JOSEPH A. BURKE  
Bishop of Buffalo



THE MOST REVEREND LEO RICHARD SMITH, D.D.  
*Auxiliary Bishop of Buffalo*

## Former Pastors

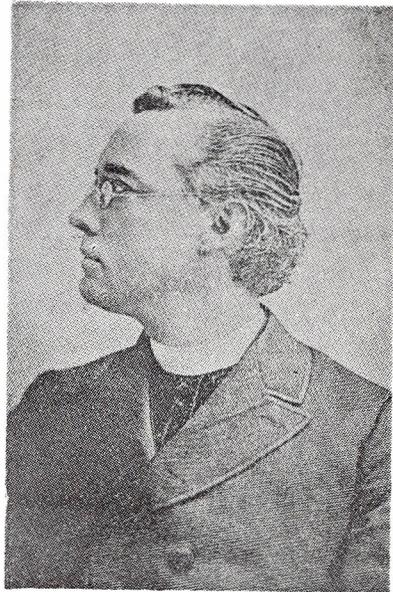


REV. FERDINAND KOLB

1874 - 1884

REV. ANDREW FREY

1884 - 1891





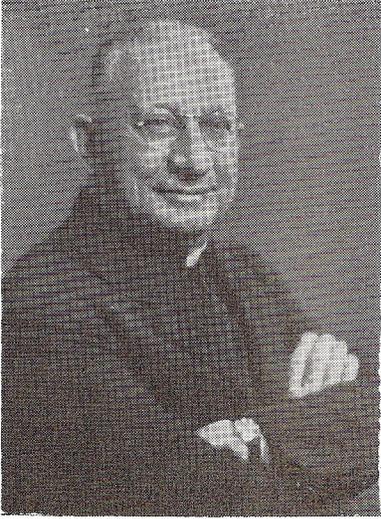
REV. F. N. SESTER

1891 - 1896



REV. JOSEPH M. THIES

1896 - 1914



REV. HENRY LAUDENBACH

1914 - 1917



REV. JOSEPH C. LINSMEIER

1917 - 1945

## Former Assistant Pastors

Rev. Vincent Scheffels

Rev. Patrick Rodgers

Rev. James Callery

Very Rev. Alfred Hagemeyer

Rev. Frank X. Kreutz

Rev. Maurus Diekamp

Rev. Leo Doetterl

Rev. Leonard Kuch

Rev. John B. Schwert

Rev. Philip W. Schwieler

Rev. Howard Adolf

Rev. Howard Schwartz

Rev. John Horne

Rev. Julius O. Noe

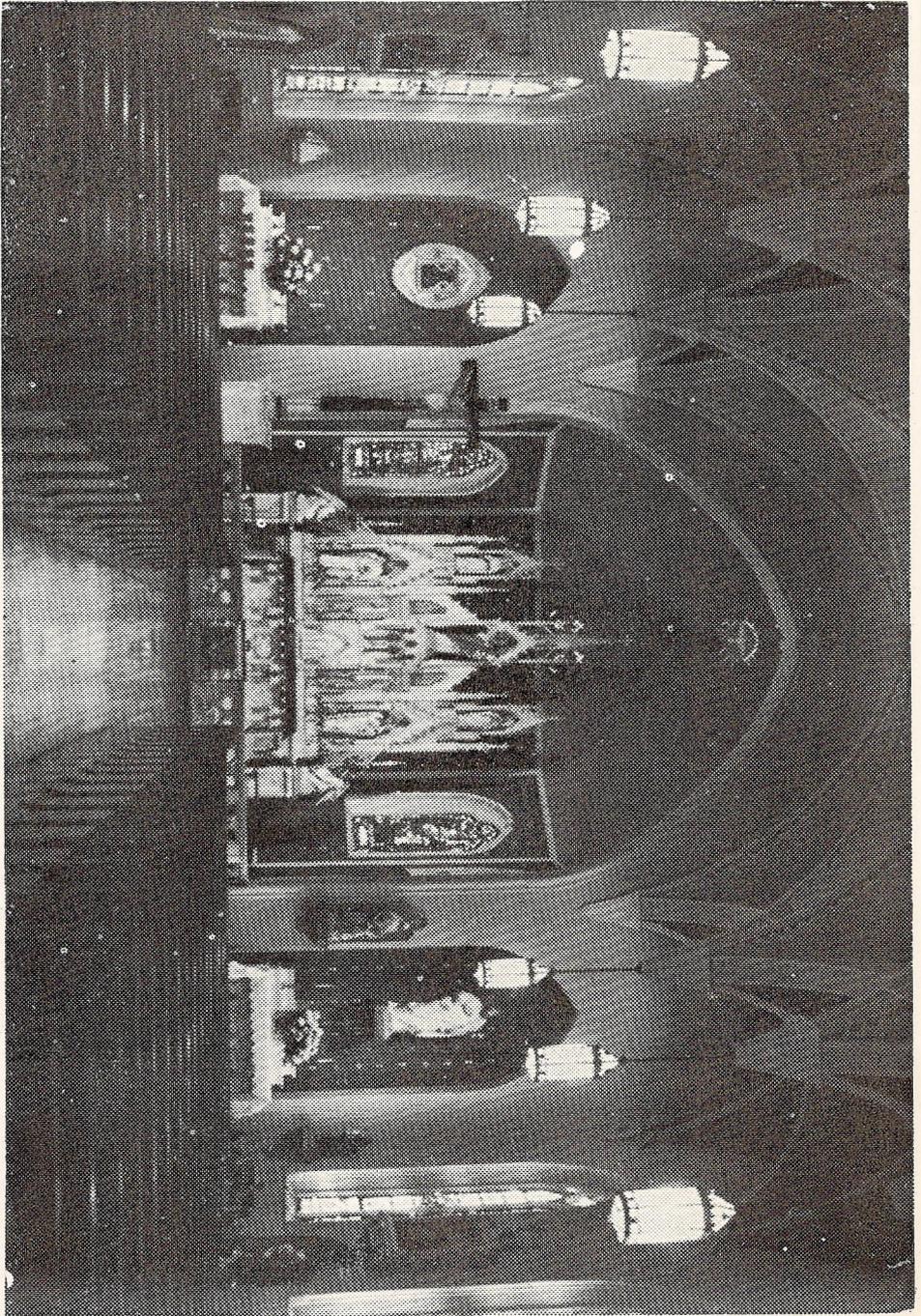
## A Tribute to the Sisters of St. Joseph

We hereby dedicate this portion of our Centennial Program to the self-sacrificing and dedicated work of the Sisters of St. Joseph who have served our diocese so faithfully for the past century.

We are cognizant of the good work that they have done since they assumed the teaching responsibilities at our parish school in 1873. Four generations have passed through their guiding hands during their tenure here. By their instructing hundreds of our boys and girls in the doctrines of our faith, our parish has been singularly blessed with outstanding and loyal Catholics. We are particularly proud of the fact that 26 of their pupils answered their religious vocations; surely a great tribute to their method of instilling deep religious fervor into the hearts of their charges.

Ever since the coming of Sister M. Aloysius and Sister M. Genevieve in 1873, down through the years to our present faculty of Sister M. Tarcisius, Principal of our school, Sister M. Aquila, Sister M. St. Luke and Sister M. Ann Christine, we have been very fortunate to have these dedicated nuns teaching our children.

We thoughtfully remember in our prayers the deceased nuns who labored in our classrooms, and ask God to Bless the every endeavor of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the years to come.



INTERIOR OF SACRED HEART CHURCH

## **In the Service of Our Lord**

### *YOUNG MEN OF THE PARISH WHO HAVE ENTERED RELIGIOUS LIFE . . .*

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Herman Zimmerman  
Rev. Augustine Ruffing, S.J.  
Rev. Bartholomew Dean, C.P.  
Rev. Leo Kinn, S.J.  
Rev. Rupert Langenstein, C.P.  
Rev. Herman Kollig, C.P.  
Rev. Karl Benn  
Brother Gabriel Cloos, S.V.D.

### *YOUNG LADIES OF THE PARISH WHO HAVE ENTERED RELIGIOUS LIFE . . .*

Sister M. Alacoque Meyer, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Bernadine Schweda, C.P.  
Sister M. Grace Vincentia Ortlieb, S.C.  
Sister M. Paula Lennertz, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Claudia Hoefler, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Rosalia Kirchner, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Augusta Ruffing, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Lidwina Kinn, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Evangelista Kinn, N.D.  
Sister M. Elizabeth Pierre Schwinden, S.C.  
Sister M. Joseph Agnes Schwinden, S.C.  
Sister M. Flavian Schwinden  
Sister M. of the Good Shepherd Hoefler  
Sister M. Pauline Freischel, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Euprosinea Schwartz, O.S.F.  
Sister M. Avellino Rusch, S.M.  
Sister M. Walburga Frey, O.S.F.  
Sister M. Pauline Leroy, S.S.J.  
Sister M. Joel White (Novitiate)



REVEREND JULIUS O. NOE

Beloved Parishioners and Friends of Sacred Heart Parish:

Anniversaries stimulate the heart and mind with emotions of gratitude for spiritual and material blessings so abundantly bestowed during the years.

This year, 1958, is the Hundredth Anniversary of the founding of Sacred Heart Parish, marking the end of a century wherein thousands of dedicated Catholics served loyally in the Vineyard of the Lord. They labored strenuously to build the strong spiritual foundation upon which our parish now stands. It is also the beginning of a new era, beckoning us here present to listen to the encouraging words of the Divine Teacher—"Behold I am with you always, even unto the consummation of the World."

Our church, recently renovated, will stand as a monument to the present generation, dedicated to the honor and glory of God. Within its sacred walls the three-fold purpose of the Divine Founder of the Catholic Church will be continued for years to come—to rule, to teach and to sanctify all men.

The best way to obtain future blessings and graces is to be gracious for gifts of the past. In gratitude on this occasion we pledge anew our unswerving loyalty to His Holiness Pope John XXIII, elected to the Papacy in the year of our anniversary and to the Bishops of the Diocese.

Our sincere gratefulness to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is expressed for all the graces and spiritual benefits of the past century, not only of our day, the days of our forebearers, but the entire Hundred Years.

REV. JULIUS O. NOE

## A Brief History of Sacred Heart Parish

Previous to 1857, the few German Catholic families in Dunkirk worshipped at St. Mary's Church. On August 16, 1857, they met with Rev. James Nagel C.S.S.R. of Buffalo, who encouraged them to build a church of their own. A lot was purchased on Ruggles Street for \$300. and the erection of a frame church was begun at once. It was completed the following year and dedicated in honor of St. George on February 15, 1858, by Rev. W. Deiter of St. Louis Church, Buffalo. The size of the edifice was 70 feet long by 35 feet wide, and cost \$1,693.00.

The first trustees were George Dotterweich, F. A. Peter, Leonard Frey, John Buscher and George Uschold, and the membership consisted of about 37 families. Some of the other charter members of the parish were Andrew Dotterweich, Jacob Stahler, Joseph Scheyer, Vincent Bohn, Jacob Mehs, Frank Braun, Peter Hansen, etc.

The little parish was first attended from the Franciscan Monastery at Allegany, N. Y. by Rev. Dominic Geymer, who came here every two weeks. According to the records, the first baptism took place on February 20, 1858 and the child baptised was Barbara Guenther; the first marriage was that of Vincent Bohn and Dorothy Stahler on May 7, 1858; the first death recorded is that of Vitus Rau, February 28, 1858.

The next 16 years were rather unsettled. Father Geymer remained until 1859 and was relieved by Rev. J. N. Arent, who resided in Hamburg, N. Y. and he also came here every two weeks until November 1860, when he was replaced by Rev. Andrew Pfeifer, O.F.M. from Allegany, who continued until June 1862. In March, 1863, Rev. Luke Bandinelli, C.P. gave the first mission in the church and then the Passionist Fathers, who had charge of St. Mary's since 1860, also took charge of our parish with Rev. Frederick Lang, C.P. in attendance from February 1863 to December 1866.

In 1865, a schoolhouse was built at a cost of \$1200. The first teacher was Mr. Kerker. In 1873, the Sisters of St. Joseph were installed as teachers and the first were Srs. Aloysius and Genevieve. In the beginning there were 90 to 100 children in the winter and 70 to 80 in the summer.

Rev. Philip Birk, C.P. was the next pastor and officiated from 1866 until 1867. He introduced the payment of pew rent. Then came Rev. Henry Esler, C.P. from March 1867 until June 1869. On March 2, 1869, the congregation was legally incorporated, and as the matter was not properly understood, some difficulty arose, and in consequence, the church was closed from December 26, 1869 until the following May 8, 1870, when it was re-opened with a mission conducted by Rev. F. Stanislaus, C.P. He remained until September 1870, being succeeded by Rev. Daniel Rimmels, C.P. who was in charge until April 1874. He started a subscription for a new church in 1873, when he was replaced by Rev. Ignatius Sauer, C.P. After a few months, Father Rimmels, C.P. came back to take charge until July 1874, when the Passionist Fathers withdrew entirely from our parish affairs.

Jesuit Fathers from Buffalo came every Sunday until November 18, 1874 when Rev. Ferdinand Kolb was appointed the first resident pastor. Soon after his arrival, the question of building a new church was again strongly agitated. George Dotterweich bought a large house and lot on Railroad Avenue where the present school stands and deeded it to the congregation for a parochial residence. Up to that time, Father Kolb boarded at a private residence.

After a controversy as to whether to erect a frame or a brick church, it was finally decided to build of brick. Excavations were begun on April 23, 1876, the cornerstone blessed on June 11, 1876, and the church was completed and dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on November 18, 1877 by Rt. Rev. S. V. Ryan, Bishop of Buffalo.

The church is Gothic in style, 100 feet long and 52 feet wide and the tower was 130 feet high. The architect was Mr. Beebe of Buffalo, the mason work was done by Jacob Stahler,

the carpenter work by Frank Buscher and John Kunzler, the pews, pulpit and confessionals were built by Julius Mayer, the frescoing was done by G. Rosa of Pittsburgh. The 3 bells, weighing 2500, 1412 and 850 pounds respectively, were donated by the Dotterweich family at a cost of \$1750. The marble altar, costing \$5,000., communion railing, the organ and tower clock were all donated by George Dotterweich. As nearly all work on the church was done by day labor and every parishioner donating something, it is difficult to figure the cost, but \$20,000 is not putting it too high. The debt amounted to only \$5,000, certainly a good showing for the congregation.

The old church, school and parochial residence were sold and moved to East Second Street where the former is now a hotel and the latter, a dwelling. Excavations for a new brick school was underway when Father Kolb was appointed pastor of St. Boniface Church in Buffalo in May, 1884. He was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Frey, who completed the present school and rectory at a cost of about \$18,000. When the buildings were completed, there was a debt of \$12,000.

Rev. F. N. Sester, succeeded Father Frey in 1891. He took great pride in reducing the debt to \$7,500. and contributed at least \$2,000. to accomplish this result. He remained until September 1896, when he was succeeded by Rev. Joseph M. Thies. During his administration, the debt was liquidated in 1903, school money abolished in 1902, and improvements made, including new stained glass windows at a cost of \$15,000. The Groesch property on Ruggles Street was purchased in 1907, giving us a frontage of 120 feet.

At the time of our Golden Anniversary in 1908, there were 300 families in the parish and over 200 children in school, with five sisters in charge. The records show that in these 50 years, there were 2,300 baptisms, 412 marriages and 754 burials. A Pontifical High Mass with His Excellency, Rt. Rev. Charles Colton, as celebrant, was offered on Sunday, April 26.

Father Thies died on August 9, 1914 and he was succeeded by Rev. Henry Laudenbach, who served for two and one-half years before he was transferred to St. Louis Church in Buffalo.

During his tenure, the church was redecorated and the interior of the school remodeled.

Father Joseph C. Linsmeier came here in January 1917.

In 1920 a beautiful shrine of "The Miraculous Picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help" was erected and dedicated by the Most Rev. William Turner, Bishop of Buffalo. Many favors have been granted through her intercession.

In 1927, the steeple of the church became unsafe and had to be replaced by a new tower at a cost of \$10,000. The church was also beautifully re-decorated by John Schober, a member of our parish. A new maple floor and linoleum were laid, new pews, new confessionals installed and the lighting system modernized.

In 1933, our 75th Anniversary was celebrated. A Solemn High Mass of Thanksgiving was offered on Sunday, Nov. 12th, with His Excellency, the Most Rev. William Turner in attendance.

After serving our parish for 25 years, Father Linsmeier was honored at a testimonial banquet attended by 400 of his parishoners at Holy Trinity Hall.

Our present pastor, Rev. Julius O. Noe was appointed administrator of our parish on March 1, 1941. Father Linsmeier continued as pastor until November 1945, when he retired after 28 years of service, taking up private residence in Buffalo where he died on August 29, 1946.

On June 2, 1946, Father Noe was appointed as our new pastor. Within 3 years, successful lawn festivals liquidated our debt, a new furnace was installed in the school and our church clock was modernized with new dials and electric mechanism. The interior of the church was redecorated in 1947, new side altars erected and major repairs made to the roof. The residence next to the school was purchased for \$5,500 also in 1947.

A building fund was started from the receipts of our lawn festivals and in 1949 the church basement was renovated into

a church hall for parish activities. A new gas furnace was installed and toilet and kitchen facilities provided.

Following this project, the remodeling of our school got underway, with a large new addition being erected and the playground blacktopped.

In 1950, our parishioners financed a "Holy Year" pilgrimage to Rome for Father Noe, and Rev. Rupert Langenstein C.P. took charge of the parish in his absence.

In 1956, the Rueckert property on Ruggles Street was purchased for \$6,000. Also in 1956, Father Noe celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his ordination. A Solemn High Mass of Thanksgiving was offered on Sunday, May 20th, with the new uniformed rank of the Knights of St. John making their first appearance. A testimonial banquet was held in his honor on the same day with 500 parishioners and friends in attendance. An auto was presented to Father Noe as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of our parish.

Our school was closed in June, 1957. St. Mary's School was made into a central grade school and re-named "Our Lady of the Lake School." Pupils from St. Mary's, Sacred Heart and Holy Trinity were in attendance. The experiment did not turn out satisfactorily, and our school was re-opened in September 1958 with 4 nuns and 3 lay teachers in charge. The registration was 184. The cost of maintaining our own school in addition to paying the yearly Mindszenty High School assessment and shortages, amounts to over \$1,000 per month. Since coming to Dunkirk, Father Noe's summer festivals realized about \$100,000., most of which was used for school purposes.

Late in 1957, preparations were made for our Centennial which is to be celebrated this year. A drive for funds was started and the original goal of \$65,000 was over-subscribed by about \$15,000. Major repairs and renovations are now about completed. The church was re-decorated and additions built to provide new confessionals, a baptistry, toilet facilities and a new side entrance from the parking lot. The rectory was entirely remodeled with new bathrooms, a completely new heating

system, etc. Both structures were then coated with Perma-Stone. The cost of the entire project was about \$82,000.

Our records show that there are now 475 families in our parish. There were 3,946 baptisms, 1,074 marriages, and 1,533 funerals during the past 100 years.

Such is some of the work accomplished in Sacred Heart Parish during the past century. It was made possible only through the blessing of God, the self-sacrifice of our good pastors, nuns and parishioners. May Sacred Heart Parish continue to grow and flourish in the knowledge and love of Christ our Lord in the years to come.

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### *THANKFUL APPRECIATION . . .*

Ever since the founding of our Parish a Century ago, we have been very fortunate to have so many self-sacrificing Parishioners and Benefactors who made very generous contributions to our Church.

Every generation down through the years, accepted their responsibilities of maintaining and improving our Parish facilities.

To all of them, we owe our deep appreciation. We also feel that the responsibilities handed down to the present generation were accepted and fulfilled when our Centennial Fund Appeal was over-subscribed.

To all of those who helped make the Appeal a success, thus maintaining the tradition of generosity handed down to us by our forefathers, we extend our sincere gratitude.

# Centennial Program

*Thursday, December 4th*

8:15 A. M.

Solemn High Requiem Mass for the Deceased Members  
of Our Parish and its Benefactors.

7:30 P. M.

Opening of the Triduum in Honor of the  
Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Services conducted by Rev. Xavier Gonter, C.P.

*Friday, December 5th*

8:15 A. M.

Solemn High Mass Dedicated to the  
Children of Our Parish.

7:30 P. M.

Triduum Services.

Blessing of Confessionals, Baptistry and  
Statue of St. Ann.

*Saturday, December 6th*

8:15 A. M.

Solemn High Requiem Mass Offered for the Deceased  
Priests and Nuns Who Have Served Our Parish.

7:30 P. M.

Closing of the Triduum.

*Sunday, December 7th*

9:15 A. M.

**Solemn Pontifical High Mass  
of Thanksgiving**

CELEBRANT

MOST REV. CELESTINE J. DAMIANO, D.D.

*Apostolic Delegate to South Africa*

ARCH PRIEST

REV. JULIUS O. NOE

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

REV. PASCHAL DREW, C.P.

DEACON

VERY REV. RUPERT LANGENSTEIN, C. P.

SUB DEACON

REV. HERMAN KOLLIG, C.P.

HONORARY DEACON

REV. FRANCIS E. MORIARITY

HONORARY SUB DEACON

REV. FRANCIS X. KREUTZ

SERMON BY

VERY REV. RUPERT LANGENSTEIN, C. P.

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*Singing of the Mass by the Sacred Heart Church Choir  
under the direction of Mrs. Colleta Fox, Organist.*

# Centennial Banquet

*Sunday, December 7th, 1958*

FLORAL HALL

Dinner at 4 p. m.

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TOASTMASTER

ARTHUR L. KAISER, D. Ed.

INVOCATION

RT. REV. MSGR. EDMUND J. O'CONNOR, S.T.B., V.F.

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

RT. REV. MSGR. ROMAN J. NUWER

BENEDICTION

REV. JULIUS O. NOE

Music by the Woodcliffe Orchestra

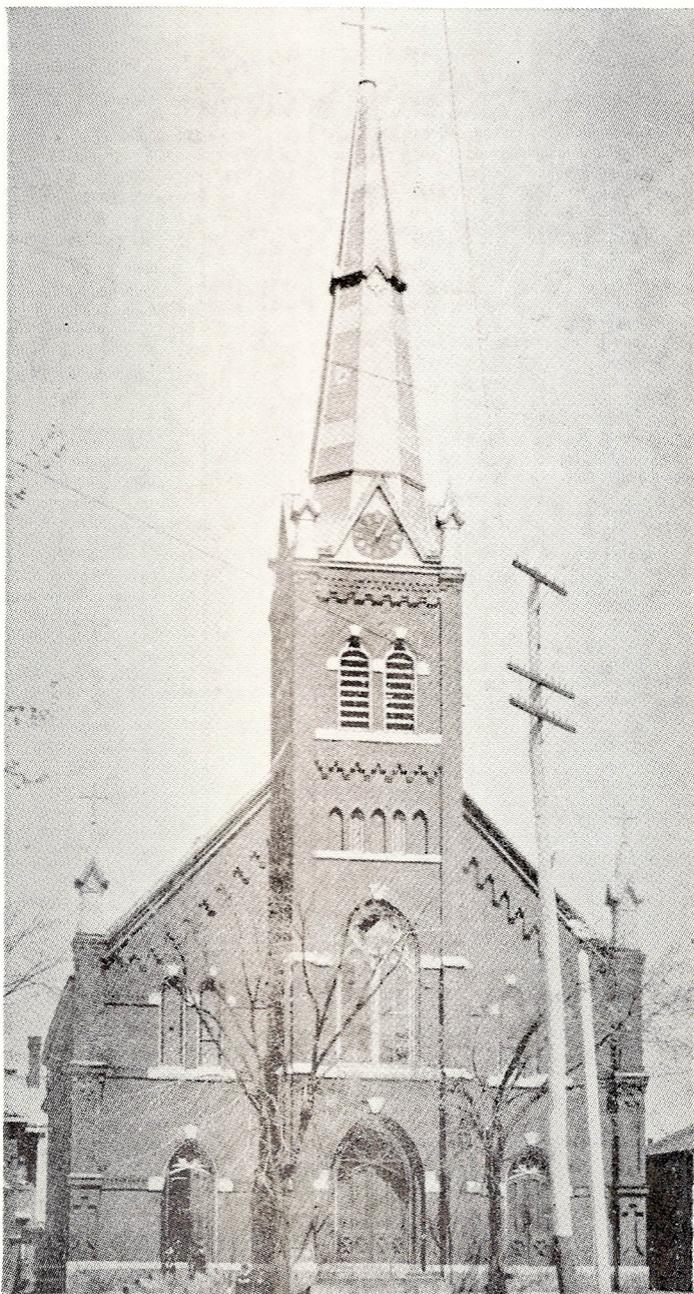
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CENTENNIAL CHAIRMAN

HENRY ALTWIES

Assisted by Representatives from

St. Ann's Society	-	Mrs. Barbara Braun, President
Mothers Club	- -	Mrs. Gertrude Stumpf, President
Bishops Committee	- -	Mrs. Angela Kemp, Chairman
Ladies Auxiliary of		
Knights of St. John	-	Mrs. Mable Groesch, President
Knights of St. John	- -	John Tynan, President
Holy Name Society	- -	John Mancuso, President
St. Joseph Society	- -	Henry Schweyen, President
St. Vincent de Paul Society	-	Henry Stroehlein, President



SACRED HEART CHURCH

1908