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Mattingly Settlement Sesquicentennial

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Six Fathers Mattingly by Don Schlegel

William and Sara Mattingly came west from Maryland to the new state of Ohio in 1812 and soon settled in Muskingum Township, Muskingum County. It was said that William's ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Maryland, "true and exemplary Catholics of sturdy faith," who presumably had come from England. The couple were the first Catholics in that vicinity of Muskingum County and they and others who joined them over the years attended Mass and received the Sacraments at St. John the Evangelist Church and its successor, St. Thomas Aquinas, in Zanesville, some ten miles away. Other Mattinglys joined them and the area became known as Mattingly Settlement. By the 1850s the Dominican Fathers were visiting the Settlement once a month. It was in 1856 that land was donated and the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was erected and roofed. It was dedicated on November 14, 1861, but the mission is celebrating this year



St. Marys Church Mattingly Settlement

the 150th anniversary of its formation, represented by the start of construction of the church.

One of the great contributions of the Mattingly family to the Church has been its sons as priests. For every year for 105 years there was at least one "Father Mattingly" serving in the Diocese of Columbus. These were Fathers S. S., Jerome B., and Herman E. Mattingly. In addition, there were cousins Theodore A., Julius F., and Romanus, who were natives of this diocese. Father Julius was a grandson of William and Sara, the first Mattinglys of Muskingum County. The other five all stand among the numerous progeny of William's brother John Mattingly (1773-1845) and his wife Honora Arnold, who were married by the famous and saintly Rev. Demetrius A. Gallitzin in 1796 and lived in Allegany County, Maryland. The lives of these six will be briefly outlined here. There have been several other Fathers Mattingly who have had no connection with this diocese.

Three Served This Diocese

Rev. S. S. Mattingly



Samuel Stephen Mattingly was born Aug. 10, 1837 in Cumberland, Maryland, one of nine children of Baptist and Ann Nancy (Timmons) Mattingly. He received his early education in schools near his home and then worked for a number of years as a machinist in a locomotive works. His true vocation coming to the fore, however, he attended Glen Riddle Seminary near his home, followed by studies at Overbrook Seminary in Philadelphia. He was ordained at the latter place on January 20, 1865 and served in the Diocese of Scranton, where his brother Charles also was a diocesan priest. He later came to the Diocese of Columbus. He became well known throughout Ohio, partly through a column that he wrote for the *Catholic Columbian* beginning about 1883. In this diocese he first served at McConnellsville and missions, from 1879 until 1886, when he resigned because of health problems. About 1887 he was chaplain at Good Shepherd Convent and Mt. Carmel Hospital in Columbus. From 1888 until 1898 he had a long and successful pastorate at St. Mary Parish in Martin's Ferry, where he oversaw the construction of a combination church and school as well as a rectory. He died there, after many years of declining health, on Oct. 16, 1898, and was buried at Bridgeport.

Only a few of Father Mattingly's close friends, it was said, appreciated his deep piety, great humility, and other virtues of mind and heart, though his zeal and self-sacrifice were conspicuous. He was devoted to the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacred Heart and combined with this compassion and prayers for poor souls in purgatory.

Rev. Jerome B. Mattingly



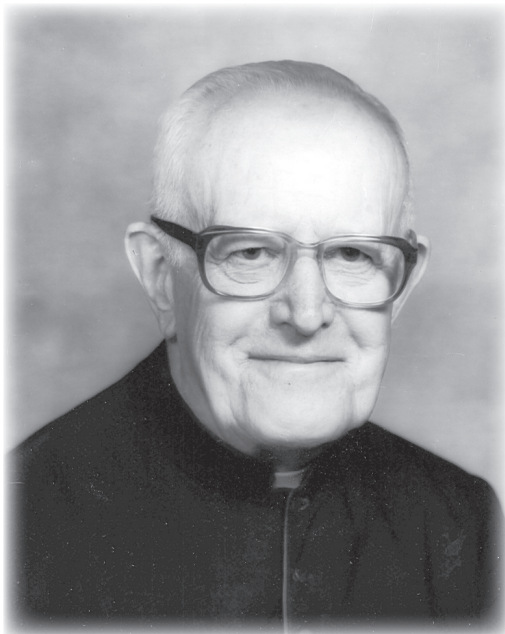
Jerome was born on February 16, 1860, son of Christopher and Teresa (Durbin) Mattingly, who lived northwest of Zanesville. He received his early education in public schools and then was a school teacher before beginning his study of philosophy at St. Vincent College, Latrobe. He completed his studies for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and was ordained on August 15, 1890 by Bishop Watterson at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Zanesville.

His first months as a priest were divided among Dennison, Junction City, and St. Nicholas Parish in Zanesville. He served at Zaleski and its missions from October of 1891 to 1893. He labored in Athens and its many and distant missions from November, 1893 to 1904, seeing

to the construction of the new St. Paul Church and a rectory in that county seat. He next was sent to St. John Parish in Logan for 18 months.

In 1906 Bishop Hartley appointed him pastor at St. Mary Parish in Lancaster, where he made a lasting impression. One often reads in parish histories that father so-and-so “built” this or that church or structure and wonders, well, what exactly did he do? Usually, one supposes, at least after the pioneer period, that he was responsible for its financing and oversight of the contracts. But in Lancaster it was remembered that Father Mattingly put in hard physical labor with the men of the parish to build the new school, clearing the site, razing old houses, and unloading bricks. Also under his guidance a convent was built, an assembly hall was created in the church basement, a rectory was built, and the church was improved. He retired in 1923 and then lived in a house on Pearl Avenue near the church and school, where he could offer Mass each morning at St. Mary’s, as long as he was able. He died on Oct. 31, 1933 and was buried at Mattingly Settlement. Throughout his priestly life he had striven to combat sin and to foster the grace of God.

Rev. Herman E. Mattingly



Herman was born at Mattingly Settlement on June 2, 1902, a twin, the third child of Emmett D. and Mary E. (Finan) Mattingly. He was a nephew of Rev. Theodore J. Mattingly (below). He was educated at public schools near Mattingly Settlement and at the elementary and high schools of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Newark. He studied for the priesthood at St. Vincent College, Latrobe and was ordained on May 9, 1929 at St. Joseph Cathedral by Most Rev. James J. Hartley. He served on the faculty of St. Charles Seminary for nineteen years and was editor of the *Columbus Register* and the *Catholic Times* from 1940 to 1952. He served at Holy Family Church in Columbus, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel at Buckeye Lake, St. Edward Parish in Granville, Holy Rosary in Columbus, St. Francis de Sales in Newark, and St. Mary Magdalene in Columbus. According to a resolution passed by the Ohio General Assembly, throughout his priestly life he extended his ministry far beyond the walls of any church, for he contributed immeasurably to community life through selfless involvement in religious, social, and civic activities. He was named Papal Chamberlain in 1946, Domestic Prelate in 1949, and Prothonotary Apostolic in 1983. He performed many important tasks for the diocese, steadily and quietly, over the years. After his retirement in 1974, he devoted much of his time to the Diocesan Archives and the Catholic Record Society, which he founded.

Herman Mattingly was a man of prayer and was truly filled with holiness. Everyone in this diocese has seen the great results of his tireless efforts. Without his work, much of the history of the diocese would have been lost. He also encouraged many vocations to the priesthood.

Monsignor Mattingly spent his retirement at St. Joseph Academy in downtown Columbus, in apartments in Newark, in the Vianney Residence for Retired Priests in Worthington, and finally at the Cathedral Rectory. He died on August 1, 1984 from complications of heart surgery. He was buried in St. Mary’s Cemetery at Mattingly Settlement.

Three Natives of This Diocese

Rev. Theodore J. Mattingly

Rev. Julius F. Mattingly

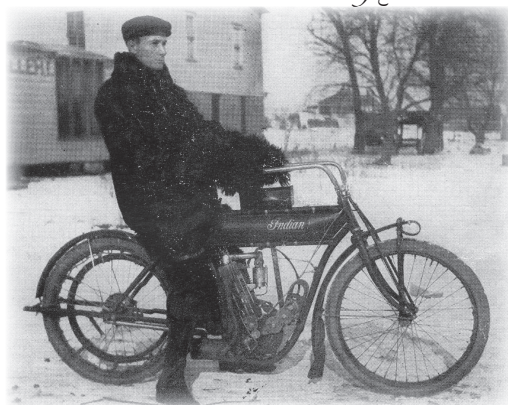


Julius was the youngest son, the seventh of eight children of Francis and Mary (Heenan) Mattingly, born at Mattingly Settlement on July 28, 1863. He was a grandson of William and Sara Mattingly. Julius studied at St. Vincent College, Latrobe, Pa., and at Mt. St. Mary's of the West Seminary. He was ordained on June 13, 1890 by Archbishop Elder of Cincinnati. In 1884 his widowed father had moved to Tipton, Indiana to live near Julius's sisters, and Julius became a priest of the Diocese of Vincennes. He served at Shoales, Washington, Vincennes, Richmond, New Castle, and Leopold, Indiana. In 1901 he was appointed irremovable rector at St. Mary's Church in Richmond, where he built a convent, rectory, and "one of the most eminently classic churches of purely Roman architecture, in the entire state." Forced to resign in 1912 because of ill health, he became chaplain at West Baden Springs; served as a chaplain during the World War; and lastly was transferred to St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove. He died on June 29, 1935 and was buried in Richmond.



Theodore was born at Mattingly Settlement on Dec. 24, 1868, the youngest son of Nathan and Mary (Durbin) Mattingly. He attended Notre Dame University, Mt. St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and Mt. St. Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati. He was ordained on June 19, 1895 by Most Rev. William Henry Elder, Archbishop of Cincinnati. He was a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and served many parishes in southern Indiana. Fr. Theodore told many stories about his boyhood days at the settlement. He love St. Marys and said one day it would be "a place of miracles, and pilgrimage." In retirement he lived at St. Anthony Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla. He died there on October 23, 1953 and is buried at Mattingly Settlement.

Rev. Romanus Mattingly



Romanus, called Roy, was the second son in the family of eight children of Sylvester Paul and Elizabeth (Clark) Mattingly. His uncle was Rev. Romanus Mattingly (1850-1922) of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Roy's father Paul was a native of Allegany County, Maryland, (son of Sylvester, son of John, brother of William) who came to Ohio as a young, single man, and married Elizabeth in Zanesville. The couple lived in Ohio for only about three years, but during that time, on August 29, 1881, Roy was born near Johnstown in this diocese. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Arcola, Illinois and they eventually settled in Vining, Kansas. Romanus was educated at the public schools of Clifton, Kansas, and at St. Mary's, Kansas. He studied for the priesthood at the Grand Seminaire in Montreal and in St. Louis. He was ordained in St. Louis by Archbishop Glennon on June 11, 1909. He served in Aurora, Concordia, Zuirich, Damar, and Chapman, Kansas. He died in the latter city on March 12, 1952. He was noted as having abundant and genuine charity and an utter disdain for the things of this world. A great many vocations to the priesthood were influenced by him.

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Photographs courtesy of the Archives, Diocese of Columbus, the Mattingly Family Archives, and Pat Smeltzer

A Seventh Son

The Mattingly Settlement Church produced one more son of the parish that went on to receive orders. Although not Mattingly in name he was a descendent of John Mattingly who donated the land for the church building.

Rev. Charles Joseph Finan



Charles Joseph Finan was the eldest child on Patrick Thomas Finan and Rose Helena Colopy. He was baptized on April 25, 1897 at Mattingly Settlement. He attended public school about two miles from his family farm at the Lane School. He was a priest in the Diocese of Steubenville. In the 1950s he was pastor at St. Joseph's Church, at Burkhart, Ohio.

Father Finan heart never truly left the Settlement. He would visit St. Marys often, in his enthusiasm, to tell stories and encourage vocations. He celebrated his anniversaries to the priesthood at the settlement. Fr. Finan died June 24, 1972 and is buried at Mattingly Settlement cemetery. Father Finan's chalice is still in use at the parish today.

Seven Sisters Mattingly

by Pat Smeltzer and Ben Factor

This special year for the little brick church named “The Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary” in Mattingly Settlement commemorates the church building, the pioneers that built it, and its sons that became priests. It also celebrates a part of the parish family that sometimes is forgotten: its daughters that have answered the call to the religious life.

The Mattingly family has been well known as devout Catholics and supporters of the clergy and religious over many generations. Over the years, priests, bishops, and archbishops have found royal welcomes at the homes of Henry, & John Mattingly, Sr. in Mt. Savage, Maryland & at the homes of William Mattingly, John Mattingly, Jr. & his son Nathan at Mattingly Settlement. This tradition still holds true today at the homes of their descendants. The presence of this devotion and respect over the generations has shown to the sons and daughters the importance of God and His church.

There have been seven Mattingly family women from Mattingly Settlement that have left their families and gone on to the convent. The first was Catherine Amelia Mattingly (Sister Madeline).

Sister Madeline Mattingly



Catherine was born in 1838 in Mount Savage, Maryland and came to the settlement at an early

age with her parents, Charles and Rachel Moore Mattingly.

Tradition says that Mount Savage was a favorite stopping spot for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in her travels. Catherine would have never met her, but Mother Seton’s visits impressed and influenced her family. Several members of her family, including her aunt and two cousins joined Mother Seton’s Daughters of Charity. At the age of 19, Catherine left her family at the settlement and joined the sisters at Emmitsburg, Maryland. She became a nun a year later, and served on the battlefields of Gettysburg in the Civil War as a nurse. After the Civil War, she moved to their convent in Chicago. She was well known as one of Chicago’s finest nurses, while working at St. Joseph’s Hospital. She died there on December 24, 1916 and is buried at Calvary Cemetery in Chicago.

Sister Mary Ulrica Mattingly



Ursula Ann Mattingly was born at Mattingly Settlement on February 27, 1859. Her parents were Nathan and Mary Durbin Mattingly. She was a sister of Father Theodore Mattingly.

She joined the Sisters of Holy Cross at St. Mary’s, Notre Dame in 1880. She first received the habit in 1885.

Sister Ulrica spent nearly 67 years as a Holy Cross nun, spending her active years teaching music in Catholic schools. She died on February 4, 1952 and is buried at the Community Cemetery at the Notre Dame Motherhouse in Notre Dame, Indiana.

Sister Mary Agnes Mattingly

Teresa Jane Mattingly was born March 14, 1859, the daughter of Samuel and Mary M. Burkey Mattingly at the settlement. She entered the Convent of the Dominican Sisters at St. Mary's of the Springs in Columbus, Ohio and was professed on August 15, 1880. She was a teacher in Catholic schools in Lancaster, Steubenville, and Columbus, Ohio, as well as New York City. She died in Columbus on February 6, 1936, after almost 56 years as a nun and is buried at St. Mary's of the Springs Cemetery in Columbus.

Sister Odelia Mattingly

Mary Gertrude Mattingly was born and baptized in the settlement in 1889. Her parents were Peter and Margaret McLoughlin Mattingly.

She joined the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. She spent her active years as a teacher in Catholic schools. She died and is buried at the convent at Manitowoc on July 27, 1951.

Mary Teresa Finan

Although not Mattingly in name, she was part of the family from her mother's side. She was the daughter of John and Mary Helen Mattingly Finan. Mary was born on April 2, 1889 and baptized at Mattingly Settlement. She was the niece of Sister Mary Agnes Mattingly. Her religious order and date of death are unknown. She died before 1918.

Sister Mary Ramona Mattingly



Helen Ruth Mattingly was born on May 28, 1893, the eldest daughter of Henry Thomas and Mary Burkey Mattingly at the settlement. She attended public school at the Lane School two miles from her family farm. She entered the convent at the Daughters of Charity in Nazareth, Kentucky. During her many years as a nun, she taught school and followed her interest as a genealogist and historian. She is well remembered by her family and friends as a happy person, with a great sense of humor. A farm girl to the end, she was always more comfortable in farm boots, than the black patent leather shoes of her habit. In June, 1936, she authored *The Catholic Church on the Kentucky Frontier 1785-1812*.

After a long, happy life, she died at the age of 101 on July 7, 1994, in Louisville Kentucky.

Sister Rose Veronica Mattingly



Lillian Veronica Mattingly was born and baptized in the settlement in 1910 to parents

Walter and Mary Sigrist Mattingly. The family moved from the settlement soon after.

She entered the convent of the Sisters of the Holy Cross at St. Mary's, Notre Dame, Indiana on June 20, 1928. She received her habit in 1931. During her active years, she worked as a math teacher in Catholic schools. She retired to the motherhouse at St. Mary's, Notre Dame, where she resides today. This year, 2006, she celebrates her 75th anniversary as a nun.

Other Sisters Mattingly

Although not technically daughters of the parish, we would be negligent not to mention others that have a parish connection: The first is Sister Regina Dolores Mattingly. Dolores was born to Walter and Mary Sigrist Mattingly, the sister of Sister Rose Veronica Mattingly. The family moved from the settlement shortly before her birth. She entered the convent of the Sisters of The Holy Cross the same day as her sister Veronica. She spent her days teaching elementary school. She died in 1971, and is buried at the motherhouse.

Another Sister Mattingly with a parish connection is Rita Kathleen Mattingly. Sister Pieta Mattingly was born to Maurice and Marie Fitzpatrick Mattingly in Zanesville, Ohio. Four generations of her family are buried at the settlement. She entered the convent of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary's of the Springs in Columbus, Ohio. She has worked as a nurse,

and currently works with medical records at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus.

Numerous others with close ties to the parish have chosen to follow their religious vocation. Among them were many whose parents or grandparents had been members of this congregation. The large number of vocations for such a small community shows its dedication and great love for the Lord.

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Photos courtesy of:

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