



Barquilla de la Santa Maria

BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society -
Diocese of Columbus

Vol. XXII, No. 1

Jan. 24: St. Francis de Sales

January, 1997

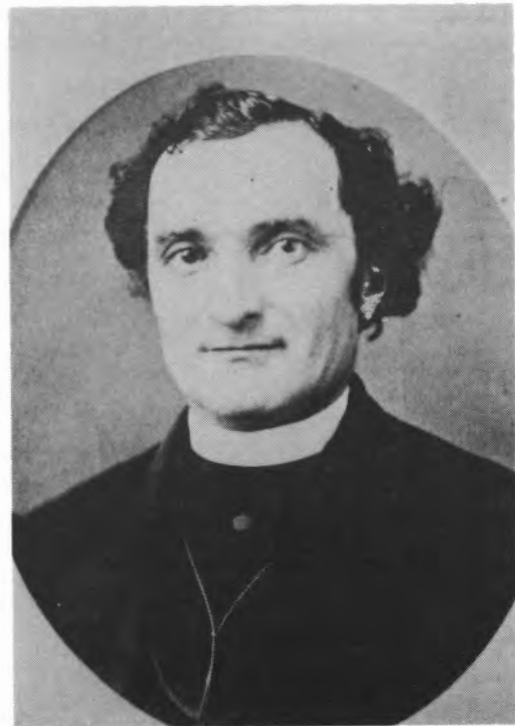
The Bishops of Columbus: Right Rev. Sylvester Horton Rosecrans, D.D.

Sylvester Rosecrans was born with a father "of religious feeling who affiliated with no particular church" and a grandmother who was a Methodist of intense convictions. He grew up in northern Licking County, Ohio, a region then noted for its anti-Catholic sentiments. The path traced by the finger of God, by which the lad born and reared in such surroundings became the first, saintly Bishop of Columbus, can be followed back to an old Irish book peddler.

Sylvester was born on February 5, 1827 in the small village of Homer, Licking County, in a building still standing today. He was a younger son of Crandall and Johanna (Hopkins) Rosecrans, who had come to frontier Ohio from Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania in 1808. He was sent for secondary education to Kenyon College near Gambier in Knox County, an Episcopalian institution.

Meanwhile his eldest brother, William S. Rosecrans, had won a congressional appointment to West Point, where he was admitted in 1838. He was graduated in 1842 and remained at the military academy as Assistant Professor of Engineering. While still a cadet he had "obtained a few books treating of the Catholic Church from an old Irishman, who was in the habit of paying periodical visits to the institution to sell books and papers" and the peddler "in his own original way told him what

the Church was." He became interested in the claims of the Church and it was not long until his logical mind was convinced. In 1844 he was received into the Church with conditional baptism (for there was a vague tradition that, in accord with his grandmother's wishes, he had been baptized in infancy by a Methodist minister). He wrote a letter to Sylvester, announcing his conversion and giving his reasons



This unusual photo of Bishop Rosecrans appeared in the St. Joseph's Academy centennial yearbook in 1975.

for this grave step. Sylvester, too, examined and prayed.

When he went to visit William in 1845, the story goes, they happened to pass a Catholic church while walking, and William said, "It is high time, Sylvester, for you to put an end to this procrastination of yours; come in here and get baptized." The upshot was that Sylvester was baptized on May 10, 1845 at Cold Spring, on the North River opposite West Point, by Rev. Dr. Villani, pastor of the church there, who was in charge of the Catholic station at the military post.¹

Returning home, Sylvester threw himself wholeheartedly into the practice of his new faith, often walking the eight miles to Mass at Mt. Vernon, fasting all the way so as to be able to receive Holy Communion. Crandall and Johanna showed considerable opposition to the new faith of their sons, so Sylvester, on William's advice, left Kenyon College and enrolled at the Jesuits' St. John's College at Fordham, N.Y., from which he was graduated with high honors in 1846. Subsequently, he expressed to Bishop Purcell a desire to become a priest and the latter, seeing in him "every sign of a true vocation to the priesthood -- piety, talents, prudence and generosity," sent him to the College of the Propaganda in Rome. There, though meek and humble, he carried the honors in his classes and received the Doctorate in Theology. He was ordained there on June 5, 1852 by Constantino Cardinal Patrizi, Bishop of Albano and Vicar to the Pope.²

After his ordination, Father Rosecrans toured Italy, France, England, and Ireland before returning to Cincinnati. He was assigned as pastor to St. Thomas Church in the see city and then to the Cathedral, at the same time teaching Theology at the seminary. Among his students at the seminary were his future diocesan priests: Fathers Nicholas A. Gallagher, Francis J.

Campbell, D. B. Cull, Edward Fladung, H. B. Dues, Michael M. Meara, and Richard J. Fitzgerald. In 1856 Archbishop Purcell opened a college for Catholic youth in connection with the seminary and appointed Rosecrans its first President, where he served until the college was closed at the outbreak of the Civil War. During these same years, Father Rosecrans assisted in editing the archdiocesan newspaper, *The Catholic Telegraph*.

In 1861 Archbishop Purcell petitioned the Holy See for a coadjutor and first on the list of nominees for the position was Rosecrans. On December 23, 1861 Rosecrans was appointed not coadjutor but auxiliary bishop, the first such in the United States, and Titular Bishop of Pompeiopolis. He was consecrated on March 25, 1862 in St. Peter's Cathedral by Archbishop Purcell, assisted by bishops Martin J. Spalding of Louisville and John H. Luers of Fort Wayne. He continued teaching at the seminary until 1864.

He continued to reside at the seminary while assisting Archbishop Purcell in his duties and in 1866 completed *The Divinity of Christ: together with Thoughts on the Passion of Jesus Christ*. First published in Cincinnati by J. P. Walsh in 1866, this 142-page book was republished in 1878 in New York by Benziger and as late as 1924 the Paulist Press excerpted and printed the *Thoughts on the Passion of Jesus Christ*. The library of the Pontifical College Josephinum owns a copy of this little work, as do Notre Dame University, the University of Dayton, and others.

In 1867 Rosecrans was honored by being named Assistant to the Pontifical Throne but in the same year showed his humility by accepting an assignment to Columbus as pastor of St. Patrick Parish. The movement to erect the Diocese of Columbus was under way and this assignment was an obvious preliminary step. Pope Pius IX formally erected the diocese and appointed Rosecrans its first bishop on March 3, 1868.

He soon moved his residence to a house on the south side of East Broad Street, near the Cathedral, and about 1874 moved into rooms in the Sacred Heart Convent, at Broad and Sixth streets.

His struggles to establish the institutions required in his new diocese, in the face of very limited resources, were phenomenal. His first concern was for the priesthood of the diocese and in 1871 he established St. Aloysius Seminary on the west side of Columbus, where every week found him teaching the future clergy of the diocese. It struggled for five years before financial problems caused it to close, bringing bitter disappointment to Rosecrans. In 1873 he allowed two Dominican Sisters who left St. Mary's of the Springs to found Sacred Heart Convent in Columbus, to which a girl's academy was attached, and which also provided short-term care for orphaned and abandoned children. St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum was established in Columbus by the Franciscan Sisters in 1874 and St. Joseph's Academy for girls by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1875. The latter year also saw establishment of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum in Pomeroy, which in time became the Pontifical College Josephinum. In 1876 St. Aloysius Academy near New Lexington was founded by the Franciscan Sisters.

In 1875 the Bishop, former editorial assistant of the *Catholic Telegraph* in Cincinnati, founded the first newspaper of the new diocese, the *Catholic Columbian*. During his time it was "a journal ... vigorous and world-famed through the ability the Bishop brought to it in his editorial contributions." St. Francis de Sales, patron of journalists and patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, was chosen also to be patron of the new Diocese of Columbus.

On the local level, Bishop Rosecrans established two new parishes in Columbus (three if St. Joseph Cathedral parish is counted, for

Archbishop Purcell had not appointed a pastor) and three parishes and two missions outside of Columbus. The honor of being the first of his foundations goes to the mission, now parish, of the Immaculate Conception at Dennison, which was begun in 1870.

After ten years of labor, disappointment, and worry, he died of hemorrhages, which he tended to suffer whenever excited, on the day after the consecration of his Cathedral, October 21, 1878. He is entombed in the Cathedral undercroft.

As bishop, Rosecrans's life was one of hard labor, ceaseless devotion to his spiritual subjects, and humble charity to all. He acted more the part of a brother than a superior in directing his priests. Perhaps his best known characteristics were earnestness and love for children; he found his greatest enjoyment in the company of little ones. His deep understanding of human nature made him gentle and wise in his directing of souls in the confessional, for the sisters at the convents of the Sacred Heart and Good Shepherd, and in his cathedral church. He was a man of prayer, and in this he was an example to his brother priests, and a moral to his people. To this he owed his greatness as a prelate.

NOTES

The Society recently was requested to verify the dates of appointment, consecration, etc. of the Bishops of Columbus that appear in the Diocesan Directory published by *The Catholic Times*. It occurred to us then that there is no one publication, generally available, where data on the Bishops of Columbus can be found. Although it is not expected that new research will be undertaken, it is hoped the series of which this is the first article will gather such data together and make it conveniently available in one place.

The best works on Bishop Rosecrans are Michael J. Kelly and James M. Kirwin, *History of*

Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West; Cincinnati: Keating & Co., 1894, pp 234 ff; *In Memoriam*, the booklet published at the time of his death; and Hartley's *The History of Fifty Years*, pages 27-32. (All of these contain interesting anecdotes and details that are not repeated here.) The late Monsignor Mattingly was quite interested in Rosecrans and in the early volumes of our *Bulletin* published many items related to him and his episcopate, including portions of his Journal and the story of St. Aloysius Seminary.

1) Most sources give only a generalized date of 1845 (some say 1846) for the baptism, but

Code's Dictionary of the American Hierarchy gives the month and day; what might his source have been? For other details, see Father Mulhane's 1898 *Memorial of Major-General William Stark Rosecrans*, pertinent portions of which were run in the *Bulletin*, Vol. XVIII, No. 12 (December, 1993).

2) The early published sources agree on an ordination date of July 16, 1852; Hartley alone disagrees, giving a date of June 5, 1853. The date used here, June 5, 1852, is from Rosecrans's own journal, for which see the *Bulletin*, Vol. II, No. 10 (October, 1976).



Abstracts from *The Catholic Telegraph*

(Continued, from Vol. XXI, No. 12)

September 18, 1841

The following is an Extract of a letter of the Rev. Geo Wilson of Zanesville.

"Rev. William Murphy, Pastor of St. Dominic's, Guernsey County, is dead. He had been making preparations to attend the spiritual Retreat of the Clergy in Cincinnati, notwithstanding the delicate state of his health, but on Thursday last he returned from a Missionary tour suffering from violent pains. Not thinking that his situation was very dangerous he neglected to send immediately for a Clergyman. A message came for me about 8 o'clock, on Saturday morning I traveled by the stage to Washington and thence on horseback to his residence, but he had died about two hours before my arrival, which was on the same day on which I had received word of his illness. We buried him as decently as we could and I sang a requiem Mass on Monday."

The death of the young and pious Priest will be long regretted by his congregation and brethren in the ministry. He was a faithful follower of his

Divine Master; a man of singular purity of motive, and asking for no other consolation for his retired and difficult mission, than the triumph of truth and the preservation of souls from the slavery of sin.

[Thanks to Kay Schimler of the *Telegraph* staff in Cincinnati, who provided portions of the above that were out of focus on our microfilm.]

Subscriptions noted in this series of issues:

November 7, 1840: Creighton & Brady, Barnesville, O.; John Gallagher, Batesville, O.

November 28, 1840: D. Morton, Raphael Payne, Michael Boyle, and Nath. Majors, all of Mt. Vernon; Rev. Mr. Murphy.

December 12, 1840: John J. Murphy, Liverpool, O.; R. R. Clark, Franklin, O.

December 26, 1840: C. Gallagher, Batesville, O.; R. Gallagher, same.

January 16, 1841: M. McQuade, Somerset; Mrs. Turner, Circleville, O.; Wm. McCadden, A. Burkey, Miss L. Haskett, H. Orndorff, Jno. Faust, R. H. Dugan, and C. Rogers, all of Zanesville; E. Magevney, [and others, of]

Memphis, Tenn.; E. Brady, J. Dittoe, Jno. McEntire, Jno. Collins, David Finck, Allen Clarke, M. McKinney, and Edward Wall, all of Somerset. O.

January 30, 1841: John C. Cassily, Zanesville; Peter Joseph, same; M. Stafford, Marietta; John McCune, Beverly, O.

February 20, 1841: John McCarthy, Newark; John McCaddon, same; John Faust, Zanesville; John McCarthy, same; Samuel Dean, Rehoboth; Rev. J. McCaffrey, Marietta; Rev. Mr. Wilson, Zanesville.

March 6, 1841: Tim. Collopy, Mt. Vernon; Rev. Mr. L'Ami; And. Stanton, Marietta; Edward Ward, Senecaville.

March 13, 1841: J. A. O'Neill, James Heenan, Anth. Berkey, and John Lynch, all of Zanesville.

[After this, no city or post office is listed with subscribers, so that, though many of the names can be recognized as those of residents of the present dioceses of Columbus and Steubenville, they are useless for our purposes.]

September 25, 1841

On Wednesday the 6th and Thursday the 7th of October, the Right Rev. Bishop Purcell, will be in Chillicothe and on the following Sunday he will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in Zanesville. Subsequent appointments will be announced in the Telegraph.

DIED. -- In Lancaster Ohio on the 22d ultimo IGNATIUS LILLY, (not R.J. as was incorrectly stated in the last paper,) whose period of life had numbered sixty four years. All that was said of him in the last paper, was richly deserved; and in addition, his own remark, made some few months since, to the writer of this deserves to be repeated. It was the concluding observation of a brief retrospect of those years which God had then determined, were nearly filled. "I am now the happiest man in this community," And why? It was because, though fortune had frowned and

the cup of life been mingled at times with those ingredients which the worldling regards as distasteful, he had shared the affections of a virtuous and new widowed consort, was blessed with the filial regards of devoted children, and above all, that he had sought to fulfil with an efficacious faith in his promises as its sure consequence, our Divine Saviour's injunction, "Seek first the kingdom of God." To the rewards of that kingdom let us trust that he has gone.

Also, on the 6th inst., in the same town, MICHAEL GARAGHTY, JR., whose years had nearly numbered 27., "In his death." says a paper of Lancaster, "society has lost one of its most valuable members. Through life, he was distinguished for his amenity and kindness, -- his untiring industry -- strict integrity -- sound practical and good sense -- fidelity to all his obligations, and the observance of every duty that constitutes, in public or private life, the character of a good man. The highest eulogy that could be paid to his memory, was in the remark of a gentleman, made as the procession was passing along with the body to its final resting place. 'There goes one of whom it may be truly said, he never had an enemy.' How just the remark! -- Few men have lived and died in this community more universally and deservedly respected. In boyhood and youth, and manhood, he enjoyed the confidence and affectionate regard of all who knew him. Could sympathy and tears and prayers have kept him in our midst, he had not fallen."

But a higher eulogy still is derived from the calm serenity and patience under acute suffering, which the sister virtues, Faith, and Hope, and love combined to shed around his parting hours. May his companions and youthful acquaintance imitate him in life in the practice of those virtues, in order to feel their consolations at that hour, and may his soul rest in peace.

(To be continued)

St. Luke Parish, Danville, Ohio
Baptisms and Marriages, 1829-1842

St. Luke parish in Danville is one of the oldest in the State of Ohio. The first Catholics in that vicinity, who settled in 1808, were from the English Catholic communities of western Maryland. Their presence there became known to Father Edward Fenwick, the Apostle of Ohio, by 1815 and he probably first visited them in 1816. They built a log church around 1822 and it was blessed in 1824 and tended for many years by the Dominican priests stationed at St. Joseph's near Somerset.

The early sacramental registers of the parish have been transcribed and arranged in book form by Rev. Homer Blubaugh, James M. Logsdon, and Phyllis Davidson, all of this diocese, and by Richard Koch of Frostburg, Maryland. The transcribed baptismal records reach the year 1900, marriages 1905, confirmations 1909, and deaths and burials 1947. The transcription includes a complete index. Although only a small portion of this work will be published here, a complete copy of the printed version has been made for the Society's files. The comments of the transcribers, all of whom are familiar with the histories of the Danville families, are enclosed in square brackets [].

Through the year 1831, the baptisms, carried out by Dominican priests visiting from Somerset, originally were recorded on loose sheets of paper, called "fragments" by the compilers of the printed version. These were transcribed into the parish register, apparently by Father J. V. Bullock. Father O'Leary, who made the first records, pretty consistently spelled Magers as Majors, McKenzie as McKensy, Dial as Doyle, Lybarger as Libarger, and Colopy as Collopy. These spellings have been corrected, but not noted as such, in the transcription.

Baptisms
1829

29 August, John McKenzie s/o John McKenzie & Margaret Logsdon alias McKenzie. Sps: Samuel McKenzie & Henrietta McKenzie J. D. O'Leary

29 August, Margaret White d/o Anthony White & Kesiah Wade alias White. Sps: Caleb McKenzie & Margaret Magers JDO

(Here the fragment says, "Owl Creek enter St. Joseph Somerset".)

29 August, Elizabeth [Logue] d/o John Logue & Elizabeth McKenzie alias Logue. Sps: John Durbin & Honora Logsdon JDO [The fragment lists Samuel McKensy and Heneretta McKensy as sponsors.]

29 August, Margaret Logue d/o Raphael Logue & Catherine McKenzie. Sps: John Du'Urban [Durbin] & Honora Logsdon. (Fragment only, not in the register.)

8 November, Martha Magers d/o Peter Magers & Catherine McGue. Sps: Caleb McKenzie & Margaret Magers JDO

8 November, Francis McKenzie s/o Gabriel McKenzie & Anna [Nancy] Logue. Sps: Moses McKenzie & Honora Logue JDO

8 November, Nathaniel [Nathan] Magers s/o Nathan Magers & Winifred Logsdon. Sps: William Magers & Margaret Sapp JDO

8 November. William Arnold, s/o Elias Arnold and Teresa Pain [Payne] alias Arnold. Sps:

George Sapp & Mary Logsdon. JDO

8 November, Sarah Dial d/o George Dial & Margaret Logue. Sps: Nathan Magers & Winifred Magers [nee Logsdon] JDO

In Mt. Vernon

10 November, Francis Ignatius Morton s/o David Morton & Bridget McArdle alias Mor {ton}. Sps: John Mo {rton &} Maria McArdle at Mt. Vernon (Fragment only, not in register.)

11 November, {} amttim {missing section} & Anne {missing section} (Fragment only, not in register.)

1830

15 March, Sarah Jane Colopy d/o William Colopy & Maria Fitzpatrick alias Colopy. Sps: Sarah Colopy JDO

16 March, Luke Durbin s/o Martin Durbin & Sara Sapp (alias Durbin). Sps: Basil Durbin & Joanna Durbin JDO

17 March, William McKenzie s/o Jonathan McKenzie & Sarah Mattingly alias McKenzie. Sps: Benjamin Durbin & Elizabeth Durbin JDO

17 March, Martha Jane Sapp d/o Simon [Hartley] Sapp & Rachel Sapp. Sps: Jonathan Sapp & Maria Sapp JDO

19 March, Stephen Blubaugh s/o Jacob Blubaugh & Honora * Sps: Eliza Blubaugh & George Paine [Payne] JDO * The register gives the mother as "Honora Blubaugh", whereas the fragment gives her name as "Honora Logsdon alias Bluebeugh". The transcribers give her maiden name as McKenzie.

19 March, Margaret [Dial] d/o Samuel Dial & Elizabeth Lawrence. Sps: William Carter & Sarah Logue JDO

24 March, Rosanne Durbin w/o Benjamin Durbin & d/o George Lybarger & ; [Widow of Jesse Walker]. Sps: Catherine Sapp JDO

24 March, Edmund Walker s/o Jesse Walker & Rosanna Lybarger alias Walker. Sps: George Sapp & Catherine Sapp

same day, Samuel Walker s/o Jesse Walker & Rosanne Walker alias Lybarger. Sps: same as above JDO

27 March, Anastasia Mary McKenzie d/o Samuel McKenzie & Henrietta McKenzie. Sps: Gabriel McKenzie & Anastasia McKenzie JDO

28 March, Sara Catharine Colopy d/o James Colopy & Delila Sapp alias Colopy Sps: Hartly Sapp & Henrietta McKenzie JDO

20 May, Joseph Trullinger s/o George Trullinger & Honora Durbin alias Trullinger. Sps: Benjamin Durbin & Margaret Durbin. JDO

20 May, Elizabeth Logue d/o Richard Logue & Catherine Sapp. Sps: John Carter & Sarah Logue. JDO

23 May, Benjamin Durbin s/o Samuel Durbin & Helena [Hannah] McKenzie alias Durbin. Sps: Benjamin Durbin & Elizabeth Durbin. JDO

1831

4 January, Simeon Sapp s/o Jonathan Sapp and Maria Durbin. Sps: Simeon Sapp & Rachel Sapp. C. D. Bowling

4 January, Thomas Sapp s/o Samuel Sapp & Susanna [Magers] Sapp. Sps: Nathan Magers & Winifred Magers. CDB

6 January, Reason Welker d/o Solomon Welker & Elizabeth Welker. Sps: Daniel Durbin & Honora Dial. CDB

6 January, supplied ceremonies for Jane Durbin [born 14 Apr 1830] d/o Baptist Durbin & Catherine. [King] Durbin Sps: Abigail [Aparilla] Buckingham CDB

6 January, Eleanor Durbin d/o Daniel Durbin & Anna Hayden alias Durbin. Sps: Basil Durbin & Abigail Buckingham. CDB

11 March, Sarah Anna Hunt d/o Richard Hunt & Anna Colopy. Sps: Sara Colopy. CDB

13 March, Elizabeth Meumaugh [Mumaw] d/o Frederick Meumaugh [Mumaw] & Honora [Logue] Meumaugh. Sps: Moses McKenzie & Anna McKenzie. CDB

13 March, Susanna McKenzie & Hester McKenzie. Sps: Gabriel McKenzie & Susanna Sapp. CDB

13 March, Catherine King d/o John King & Maria King. Sps: Margaret McKenzie. CDB

7 May, Peter (remainder is blank)

8 May, Eliza [Magers] d/o Peter Magers & Rachel Magers. Sps: Margaret McKenzie. CDB

10 May, Rachael Logue d/o Henry Logue & Maria Logue. Sps: John Logue & Elizabeth Logue. CDB

11 May, Mary Akens d/o James Adkins & Mary Adkins. Sps: Sarah McKenzie. CDB

11 May, Lewis Durbin s/o Benjamin Durbin & Elizabeth [Reams] Durbin. Sps: Daniel Durbin and Anna Durbin. CDB

11 May, Maria Durbin d/o Lawrence Durbin & Honora Durbin. Sps: Cath. Sapp. CDB

12 May, Martin Ward s/o Stephen Ward & Sarah [McGough] Ward. Sps: Daniel Durbin & Elphina Durbin. CDB

10 July, Emelda Coleman d/o Jacob Coleman & Barbara Coleman. Sps: Simon Sapp & Elizabeth McDermott. CDB

10 July, Margaret Logue d/o Richard Logue & Catherine [Sapp] Logue. Sps: Samuel McKenzie & Henrietta McKenzie. CDB

11 July, Benjamin Dial s/o Jesse & Maria Dial. Sps: Benjamin & Elizabeth Durbin. CDB

11 July, Joseph Bowser s/o John & Elizabeth [Ewing] Bowser. Sps: Nath. & Winifred Magers. CDB

11 July, Lucinda Sapp d/o Levi Sapp & Maria [Colopy] Sapp. Sps: George & Catherine Sapp. CDB

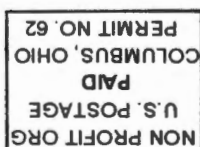
(To be continued)

Catholic Record Society -- Diocese of Columbus

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