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ST. MICHAEL'S, BROWNSVILLE

KNOX COUNTY, OHIO

1844-1875

Just three-tenths of a mile south of the Ashland-Knox county line on county road 43 in Jefferson township in northeast Knox county can be found an abandoned Catholic cemetery, mute testimony to a once proud mission. It was known as St. Michael's, Brownsville (now Jelloway), and spanned the years from 1844 to about 1875. Its proximity to the county line indicates that members of the little parish were from Knox and Richland (now Ashland) counties. Most seemed to have been from the latter.

The mission was variously named. Father Lamy (1), pastor at Danville in Knox county, as early as 1844 referred to it as "St. Ann's, Pine Run, Richland county" (2). In 1847 he still gave it the same designation (3), reported that there were 20 families and that the church was not yet completed. When it was first listed in the annual national Catholic Directory in 1854 it was given as St. Michael's, Brownsville, Jefferson township. It retained this title. Catholics of the area in later years referred to it as the "Henley Church," from a family of that name owning the farm around the church.

The earliest Catholics who settled in the area had to go to Danville to church, some 8 or 9 miles distant. The first name of a Catholic in the area is that of Daniel McHenry, given in the "Catholic Telegraph" of Cincinnati as living in or near Brownsville in 1839 (4). Other Catholic families had moved into the area of Pine Run, Richland county (5), north of the location of St. Michael's by 1840. Anthony Whisler was there with his wife and two sons; Michael Allerding with his wife, 6 sons and two daughters; Joseph Sheneberger and wife with two sons and two daughters, and Theodore Whistler with his wife and four children.

The early Catholic settlers, for the most part, were of German origin. The Henley (an anglicized spelling) family, which came later was of Prussian origin. Other early names were Hosfeld, Losh, Skilling, Fritz, Beam, Boeshart and Shaub (various spellings).

About the same time farther south and east, just a short distance across the line into Holmes county, was being established another mission (6). It was known as St. Joseph's, Mohican, whose members were mostly German. Prominent among them, however, was the Greer family who came from County Antrim, Ireland (7). This family was to give its name to the small settlement known now as Greersville in Jefferson township, Knox county.

The Jefferson township mission began to take on some permanence when property for a church was bought in 1846. Francis Fitzmire and his wife, Rachel, evidently members of the parish, on October 2 of that year sold a parcel of land containing one acre and 60 rods (8) to "John baptist Purcell, Bishop of the Roman Catholic church in the state of Ohio.....for the use of the Roman Catholic congregation, near Pine Run...." It was located in "the southwest corner of lot twenty-two, in township No. nine, section three, range two."

The history of Knox county published in 1881 (9) states in its chapter on Jefferson township that "there was also a society of Catholics organized here at an early date, and a small log building, called St. Michael's church (10), erected in the northern part of the township. There being flourishing Catholic societies at Loudonville and Danville, it was deemed inexpedient by the members of St. Michael's church to keep up the organization, and it was dissolved many years since, the members generally uniting with St. Luke's church, Danville, and the Loudonville Catholic church."

A history of St. Peter's church, Loudonville, written in 1951 (11), repeats the words of the Knox county history, adding that St. Michael's "enabled the Catholics of Loudonville and vicinity to attend Mass and receive the sacraments.... St. Michael's church was abandoned and later torn down about 1872."

Apparently St. Michael's served the Catholics of Loudonville and the nearby country until the late 1860's, when they were taken care of by priests from Wooster, and later from Mansfield.

As early as 1844 the little Jefferson township mission was attended by Father Lamy from Danville (12). The church was being built in 1847, but Father Lamy was transferred to Covington that year. Father Boulger (13) then came to Danville and took care of the Catholics in Jefferson Township. Father Julius Brent succeeded Father Boulger at Danville late in 1853 and took charge of the northern mission until 1874.

In 1854 the national Catholic Directory listed St. Michael's as being attended from Newark, but this seems unlikely because of the distance and Danville was much closer. So also, the Directory gave St. Michael's as attended from Mt. Vernon from 1855 to 1857. This also is doubtful since Mt. Vernon was a mission of Danville at the time. However, records in the Columbus diocesan archives show that it was attended from Mt. Vernon in 1868. Beginning in 1874 and continuing until 1880, the Directory listed the mission as "Brownsville, Jefferson Twp., St. Michael's." It is doubtful that it was viable until 1880.

Further evidence that St. Michael's was still being attended from Danville as late as 1869 is contained in a news report appearing in the "Catholic Telegraph" of Cincinnati on October 6, 1869 (14). Bishop Rosecrans was at Danville for confirmation of Tuesday, September 28, according to the "Telegraph", and the next day went to the mission: "The next day, Wednesday, September 29, the church of St. Michael's on the border of Knox and Ashland counties was visited and 41 confirmed. These people of St. Michael's congregation are the German Catholics who do not think 15 miles too far to go in order to hear Mass on Sundays."

As early as 1836 names appear in the sacramental records of St. Luke's, Danville, which later which later are those of regular members of St. Michael's. In 1846 Father Lamy signed records at Danville of people who later belonged to the mission parish. In 1849 and 1850 Father Boulger (14) signed such names in the Danville book.

Father Julius Brent became pastor at Danville in 1851 and recorded baptisms of St. Michael's people in 1853 and 1854. However, the little Brownsville church came into its own in 1856 when Father Brent started its own baptismal registry. This continued until 1871, with one record being added in 1873, signed by Father Brent, and one in 1875, signed by Father Ahern (15). Father Brent became pastor in Mt. Vernon in 1874.

Although St. Michael's church has been gone since the 1870's, the parish cemetery is still there, though badly neglected. The tombstone inscriptions give the names of the mission's pioneers.

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- (1) Father John B. Lamy afterwards became archbishop of Sante Fe.
 - (2) Letter of Father Lamy to Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 20, 1844. University of Notre Dame Archives (UNDA).
 - (3) Letter of Father Lamy to Bishop Purcell, Aug. 27, 1847. UNDA. See also "Bulletin", Catholic Record Society, Diocese of Columbus, July, 1978.
 - (4) "Catholic Telegraph," Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 28, 1839. Columbus Diocese Archives.
 - (5) Federal Census, Hanover Township, Richland county, Ohio, 1840.
 - (6) "Bulletin", Catholic Record Society, July, 1978, p. 331 sq.
 - (7) History of Knox County, Ohio, Its Past and Present, compiled by N.N. Hill, Jr., Mt. Vernon, Ohio, 1881, p. 494.
 - (8) Knox County Deed Books, Vol. EE, p. 133-134.
 - (9) History of Knox County, op. cit., p. 496.
 - (10) The mission church of St. Joseph's, Mohican (Greer), was also built of logs.
 - (11) "History of St. Peter's Parish, Loudonville, Ohio, " written in 1951.
 - (12) Letter of Father Lamy, 1847, op. cit. (UNDA).
 - (13) "Catholic Telegraph," Cincinnati, Ohio, October 6, 1869. Archives of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.
 - (14) Father Thomas J. Boulger was pastor at Danville until 1851.
 - (15) Father Michael Ahern, who was pastor at St. Mary's, Wilkesville, Vinton Co.

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Sacramental Records

Given here are sacramental records at St. Luke's, Danville, of people who later belonged to St. Michael's, Brownsville.

- 1836: Mary Breckler, born Oct. 6, 1836. Apparently a record of baptism. Added: Frs. Breckler, Mariann Breckler, his mother.
- 1839: May 19. Drusilla Losh, wife of Thos. McGough, b. Oct. 27, 1805, married May 20, 1839/
- 1846: September 15. Baptism of Mary Hosfeld, daughter of Sara Hosfeld. LAMY
October 25. Martin Shenenberger, born Sept. 15, 1846, son of Henre(?)
and Susanna Camel(?). LAMY
- 1849: May 23. Mary Elizabeth, daughter of John Breckler and Elizabeth Araden(?).
Sponsors: Michael Allerding and Mary Hesse. BOULGER
Same Day. Theodore, son of Aloysius Allerding and Catharine LaCroix.
Sponsors: Theodore Whisler and ----- Millie(?) BOULGER
Dec. 28. John, son of Ferdinand Fritz and Thecla Grim. Sponsors: John
Fritz and Mary Hosfeld, his wife. BOULGER
- 1850: Aug. 12, At. St. Michael's, Hanah Philomena, daughter of John Yuncker(?)
and Helen Beam. Sponsors: James Holler and Catherine Allerding. BOULGER

- 1852: July 18. John Joseph,, b. June 21, son of Joseph Losh and Frances Bøushart.
Sponsors: Victor and Catherine Iford(?) J. O'CONNOR
- 1853: Dec. 13. John Clement, son of Christopher Breckler and Magdalen Hosfeld.
Sponsors: Clement Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
- 1854: Sept. 28. Mary Elizabeth, b. Aug. 17, daughter of Elizabeth Anna Losh.
Sponsors: Thos. White and Margaret Durbin. J. BRENT
- Dec. 30. Mary Ellen, b. Dec. 17, daughter of Gregory Henley and Barbara
Bøshart. Sponsors: Jos. Boshart and his wife. J. BRENT

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SAINT MICHAEL'S, KNOX COUNTY

Register of Baptisms

The little book of baptisms of St. Michael's, preserved at St. Luke's, Danville, has written on its fly-leaf: "Registry presumably of St. Michael's Church." It is initialed by Father McDermott, pastor at Danville after Father Brent.

1856

- March 30. Joseph Martin b. Feb. 17, son of Clement Hosfeld and Anna Mary -----.
Sponsors: Joseph Hosfeld and ----- Henley. J. BRENT
- Francis, b. April 12, son of Gaspar Sheneberger and Ablony(?) Fritz.
Sponsors: ----- Ifert and Margaret Fitzmyre. J. BRENT
- Aug. 25. John Adam Louis(?), b. 3 July of -----.
Sponsors: Adam Shop and Madelin Smithhisler.
Sponsors: Louis Stimler and Cecilia Boeshart. J. BRENT
- [Note. Two sets of sponsors are given. If there was another baptism it was not recorded.]
- Oct. 31. Albert James, b. 26 Sept., son of Gregory Henly and -----.
Sponsors: Henry Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
- Joseph, b. 6 Sept., son of John Fritz and Alexia Goodbillet.
Sponsors: Jos. Losh and ----- Sheneberger. J. Brent

1857

- Mar. 20. Mary Lucy, b. 4 January, daughter of Ferdinand Fritz [Mother not given]. Sponsors: Caspar Thisberger(?) and wife. J. BRENT
- June 20. Nicholas[birth date not given] son of Nicholas Hubam(?) and Catharine Nines(?). Sponsors: Francis and Mary Allarding. J. BRENT
- Nov. 3. Joseph, b. 15 Sept., son of Francis Staab and Susanna Beam.
Sponsors: Joseph and Martha Ifert. J. Brent
- Mary Catharine, b. 18 Sept., daughter of Ferdinand Vonkle and Mary Staab. Sponsors: Michael and Catharine Ifert. J. BRENT

1858

- Mar. 25. John, b. 5 Feb., son of Nicholas Boseler and Margaret Differdosh.
Sponsors: J. B. Allarding and Susanna Boseler. J. BRENT

1858 Cont.

- July 13. Dan. Michael, b. 9 April, son of Michael Paul and Mary Henley.
Sponsors: Gregory and Genevieve Henley. J. BRENT
- Nov. 1. George, b. 4 Oct., son of Caspar Shineberger and Apolona Fritz.
Sponsors: George Livinglee and wife. J. BRENT
Mary, b. 10 Sept., daughter of John Fritz and Phebia Goodbarlet.
Sponsors: Ferdinand and Mary Fritz. J. BRENT
- Dec. 14. James, b. 30 Oct., son of James Allarding and Elizabeth Skilling.
Sponsors: J.N. Allarding and his wife. J. BRENT

1859

- Jan. 6. Maryann Catharine, b. 11 Nov., daughter of Victor Ifert and Matilda Gardner. Sponsors: Jos. and Mary Ifert. J. BRENT
- Feb. 22. Stephen, b. 18 Dec., son of Jos. Losh and Frances Bolser. Sponsors: F(?) Fritz and Mary Kunkel. J. BRENT
- Mar. 25. Barbara, b. Jan. 30, daughter of Michael Tibor and Catharine Hines.
Sponsors: John Worms and Barbara Wisler. J. Brent
- June 2. Joseph, b. 12 April, son of Ferdinand Fritz and Thecal Grim.
Sponsors: Jos. Losh and his wife. J. BRENT
Mary Elizabeth, b. 1 July, daughter of F. Gongly [Conkle?] and Cath. Sponsors: F. Fritz and Mary Elisabeth Wisler. J. BRENT
- Aug. 21. William Alphonse, b. 15 July, son of John N. Crouner and Margaret Wisler. Sponsors: ----- and William Wisler. J. BRENT
John, b. 13 June, son of John Keller and Cath. Sponsors: Jos. Boshart and M. Myres. J. BRENT
- Sept. 31. Sara Elizabeth, b. 6 March, daughter of Henry and Mary Gessling.
Sponsors: Henry and Veronica Hosfeld. J. BRENT
- Nov. 1. Francis Anthony, b. 15 Sept., son of F. Staab and Susanna Beam.
Sponsors: Anth. Staab and Caroline Beam. J. BRENT

1860

- May 17. Sara Anna, b. 20 April, daughter of John Wisler and Elizabeth Hosfeld.
Sponsors: Anth. Wisler and Sarah Hosfeld. J. BRENT
Frederic, b. 30 January, son of William Shaff and May Sheneberger.
Sponsors: F. Shadd and Regina Fitzmyre. J. BRENT
- June 19. Helen, b. 9 May, daughter of Adam Staab and Mary Smithiezler.
Sponsors: Phil. and Mary Smythhisler.
Anna Catharine, b. 30 May, daughter of John Allarding and Elizabeth Skilling. Sponsors: Jacob Hollet and his wife. J. BRENT
- Nov. 1. Francis, b. 15 Oct., son of F. Sulavan and Mary. Sponsors: Henry and Mary Magd. Shabb. J. BRENT

1860 Cont.

Dec. 7. Susanna, b. 31 Oct., daughter of Richard Boseler and Margaret Differoosh. Sponsors: John Wisler and Susanna Conrad. J. BRENT

1861

Jan. 5. Theodore Michael Jackson, b. 14 Nov., son of J. Crowmer and Margaret Wisler. Sponsors: Th. Wisler and Barbara Wisler. J. BRENT

Mar. 5. John, b. 7 January, son of F. Zongle [Conkle?] and Mary Cath. Sponsors: F. Fritz and Mary Sheneberger. J. BRENT

Apr. 14. Elizabeth, b. 20 Feb., daughter of Theodore Wisler and Barbara Allering. Sponsors: John Allering and Elizabeth Wisler. J. BRENT

Anna Josephine, b. 24 Feb., daughter of Caspar Sheneberger and Appolona Fritz. Sponsors: Appolona Wisler and Eric Sheneberger. J. BRENT

May 30. Isaac, b. 28 Nov. 1860, son of Philip Smithhisler and Mag--- Smyth Sponsors: Mich. Miller and Catharine Miller. J. BRENT

July 8. Mary Cath., b. 14 January, daughter of John Staab and Thecla. Sponsors: F. Fritz and his wife. J. BRENT

Aug. 15. Francis John, b. 18 June, son of F. Long [No other name given]. Sponsors: F. Fitzmire and his wife. J. BRENT

Apolona, b. 12 May, daughter of Mich. Tibor and Catherine Tibor. Sponsors: Apolona Wisler and L. Allering. J. BRENT

Sept. 17. John Madden, b. 27 June 1860, son of Mich. Madden and Anna Walsh. Sponsors: James K. Skilling and his wife.

Thomas, b. 3 April, son of M. Maden and wife. Sponsors: Mrs. John Allering and J. Brent. J. BRENT

Nov. 1. John, b. 2/3 Aug. son of Joseph Lizber(?) and Mary. Sponsors: John Schmidthausen and Mary Schmidthausen. Rev. F. BENDER

Nov. 25. Mary Apolona, b. 4 Oct., daughter of John Wisler and Elizabeth Hosfeld. Sponsors: Th. Wisler, Apolona. -----

1862

Feb. 11. Mary Elizabeth, Isabella, b. 6 Jan., of F. Gardner and Mary J. Allering. [Sponsors not given]

John, b. 28 Nov. son of William Wisler and Susanna Bosler. Sponsors: John Wisler and M. Bosler.

William Harris, b. 8 Jan., son of William Harris and Cath. Broderick. Sponsors: John Keely and Anna Wisler. -----

Mar. 25. Henry, b. 4 Feb. son of F. Fritz and Thecla Grim. Sponsors: H. Hosfeld and Sarah Hosfeld. J. BRENT

May 6. Charles, b. 9 April, son of Adam Shaab and Magdalena. Sponsors: H. Hosfeld and S. Shaab. J. BRENT

John Laurence, b. 15 March, son of John Allering and Elizabeth. Sponsors: John Werner and his wife. J. BRENT

1862 Cont.

- May 29. Henry Franklin, b. 24 April, son of Jos. Hosfeld and Berenice(?)
Adalina Bezancon. Sponsors: H. Hosfeld and F. Bezancon. J. BRENT
Charles, b. 27 April, son of Henry Raison and Adaline Bowerson(?).
Sponsors: N.I. Allerding and his wife. J. BRENT
- Aug. 15. Sarah Catilia(?), b. 30 May, daughter of Phil. Smythisler and Magdalena.
Sponsors: Adam and Mag. Shaab. J. BRENT
Laurence Daniel Sulavan, b. 22 June, son of Fr. Sul. and Mary Hananan.
Sponsors: Laurence and Barbara Shaab. J. BRENT
Ellen Sulavan, b. 11 July, daughter of Pat Sulavan and Mary Shahe.
Sponsors: Fr. Sulavan and Mary Sulavan. J. BRENT
- Dec. 2. Elizabeth, b. 28 Sept., daughter of Henry Rauson and Adaline.
Sponsors: John Gardner and Mary Allerding. J. BRENT

1863

- Mar. 25. Joseph Julius, b. 7 Feb., son of Ferdinand Konkel and [Not given].
Sponsors: Jos. Losh and his wife. J. BRENT
Mary Agnes, b. 7 Dec. [1862], daughter of John Crower and Margaret
Wisler. Sponsors: James Allerding and Apalona Wisler. J. BRENT
Nicholas, b. 3 Feb., son of Nicholas Bosler and Margaret Differdosh.
Sponsors: J.N. Allerding and Cath. Allerding. J. BRENT
- May 14. Catharine Tibor [No birth date given], daughter of Mich. Tibor and
Cath. Sponsors: Thod. Wisler and Cath. Allerding. J. BRENT
- June 4. Mary Catharine, b. 5 May, daughter of Theodore Wisler and Barbara
Allerding. Sponsors: Nich. Wisler and Cath. Allerding. J. BRENT
- Nov. 3. Fr. Joseph, b. 8 Oct., son of G. Bleil and Cath. B. Sponsors:
W. Beam and Mary Sheneberger.
Benj. Fr., b. 30 Aug., son of George Beam and Elizabeth Boshart.
Sponsors: ----- Henly and Cath. Shaab. J. BRENT
Mary Adelaide, b. 21 Sept., daughter of Philip Guenther and Louise
Bezancon. Sponsors: Jos. Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
Mary Elizabeth, b. 13 Sept., daughter of N. Hollet and Cath. Ifert.
Sponsor: John J. Friez. J. BRENT

1864

- Mar. 13. Nicholas David, b. 14 Jan., son of John Allerding and Elizabeth
Skillling. Sponsors: J. Allerding and Apolona Wisler. J. BRENT
- May 25. Ch. Purcell, b. 11 March, son of Jos. Boshart and Barbara.
Sponsors: Greg. Henley and his wife. J. BRENT
Marg. Salina, b. 24 April, daughter of Fr. Gardner ---- Allerding.
Sponsors: Martin Gardner and Marg. Allerding. J. BRENT
Henry Michael, b. 29 March, son of Casp. and Apolona Shiniberg.
Sponsors: Henry Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
Emma Cecilia, b. 19 Feb., daughter of Henry Peter and Anna Wisler.
Sponsors: Thed. Wisler and his wife. J. BRENT
John L., b. 18 April, son of Henry Raison and Adaline. Sponsors:
John Allerding and Mary Gardner. J. BRENT

1864 Cont.

- Oct. 26. Henry, b. 12 Sept., son of Ferdinand Konkell and Mary C. Staab.
Sponsors: Henry Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
- John, b. 16 Oct., son of Const. Kliene and Agnes Matthews. Sponsors:
John Werner and Constance. J. BRENT

1865

- May 2. Frances Honora, b. 28 Dec. [1864], daughter of Mich. and Elizabeth
Losh. Sponsors: Josh. Losh and his wife.
- May 28. Joanna Elizabeth, b. 25 April, daughter of George Beam and Elizabeth
Boshart. Sponsors: Ed Bezancon and Mary Boshart. J. BRENT
- June 16. Mary Fr., b. 27 March, daughter of Henry Peter and Anna Wisler.
Sponsors: Nicholas Wisler and Marg. Allerding. J. BRENT
- Aug. 20. Elizabeth Catharine, b. 20 June, daughter of Theodore Wisler and
Elizabeth Hosfeld. Sponsors: John Hosfeld and Elizabeth Wisler.
J. BRENT
- John Michael, b. 1 Aug., son of Anth. Wisler and Cath. Smyth.
Sponsors: John Smyth and Rosa Homan. J. BRENT
- Nov. 1. Mary Ellen, b. 24 Sept., daughter of John Allerding and Elizabeth
Skilling. Sponsors: Fr. Gardner and his wife. J. BRENT

1866

- Will Henry, b. 9 Oct. [1865], son of Adam Shaab and Mag. Smithisler.
Sponsors: L. Shaab and Barbara Shaab.
- George, b. 17 Nov. [1865], son of Ferdinand Fritz and Thecla Grim.
Sponsors: John Fritz and Thecla Staab. J. BRENT
- April 20. George Michael, b. 24 January, son of Ferdinand Konkell and Mary Cath.
Staab. Sponsors: Casper Shiniberger and his wife. J. BRENT
- July 17. Mary Adelaide, b. 3 May, daughter of George Blile and Cath.
Gutberlet. Sponsors: John Fritz and Mary Boshertz. J. BRENT
- Aug. 15. Mary Anna, b. 5 July, daughter of Mich. Homann and Elizabeth Losh.
Sponsors: Mich. F. Homann and his wife. J. BRENT
- Oct. 30. Susanna, b. 29 Sept., daughter of Michael Tibor and Cath. Weinens(?).
Sponsors: J. Wisler and Susanna Bosler. J. BRENT
- Bertha, b. 27 July, daughter of Constantine Klein and Agnes Mattes.
Sponsors: Greg. Henley and Cordelia Henley. J. BRENT

1867

- March 25. Edward Laurence, b. 20 Jan., son of Fr. Gardner and Mary J. Allerding.
Sponsors: Laurence and Elizabeth Allerding. J. BRENT

1867 Cont.

- April 23. Henry Xtopher, b. 21 Sept. 1856
Fr. Augustine, b. 13 July 1860
Mary Louise, b. 15 July 1862
George Jos., b. 11 Jan. 1864, children of Henry Gisslong and Mary
Teresa Hosfeld. Sponsors: H. Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
Emma Barbara, b. 18 Jan. 1866, daughter of H. Reason and Adeline
Bowers. Sponsors: T. Gardner and Baba(?) Allerding. J. BRENT
- June 20. Clara Anna, b. 14 April, daughter of H. Peter and Anna Wisler.
Sponsors: Anth. Wisler and Cath. Broderick. J. BRENT
- July 16. S. Cath., b. 24 May, daughter of Casper Shineberger and Apolona Fritz.
Sponsors: George Bliel and his wife. J. BRENT
- Nov. 1. Mary Sabina, b. 27 Aug., daughter of John Wisler and Elizabeth Hosfeld.
Sponsors: Henry Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT

1868

- Jan. 1. John L., b. 21 Nov. [1867], son of Laurence Allerding and Elizabeth
Ungachickt. Sponsors: J.N. Allerding and his wife. J. BRENT
- March 25. Francis, b. 16 Feb., son of Theodore Wisler and Barbara Allerding.
Sponsors: Fr. Allerding and Apolonia Allerding. J. BRENT
- April 21. Barbara Matilda, b. 14 March, daughter of Anthony Wisler and Cath.
Smyth. Sponsors: Th. and Barbara Wisler. J. BRENT
- June 14. Francis, b. 1 May, son of James Allerding and Elizabeth Skilling.
Sponsors: James Skilling and Barbara Wisler. J. BRENT
Joseph Sylvester, b. 5 April, son of Fr. Gardner and Cath. Statmiler.
Sponsors: Nicholas Wisler and his wife. J. BRENT
- Aug. 23. Leo, b. 22 June, son of F. Fritz and Thecla Grim. Sponsors: John
Beam and his wife. J. BRENT
Sarah Elizabeth, b. 1 July, daughter of Nich. Wiessen and Elizabeth
Wisler. Sponsors: N. Bosler and Elizabeth Wisler. J. BRENT
- Sept. 29. Charles Henry(?) Schop, b. 15 Sept., son of Lorenz and Margaret
Graber. Sponsors: Henry Hosfeld and Savina -----.
- Oct. 20. Silora(?) Christine, b. 28 Aug., daughter of Anth. Gardner and
Elizabeth Marshal. Sponsors: John Beam and his wife. J. BRENT
Julius H., b. 28 Aug., son of G. Bliel and Cath. Goodballot.
Sponsors: C. Shiniberger and Losh. J. BRENT
- Nov. 26. Matham, b. 3 Oct., son of Michael Homan and Elizabeth Losh.
Sponsors: P. Homan and his wife. J. BRENT

[1869]

- Jan. 20. Margaret, b. 19 Jan., daughter of Nicholas Wisler and Frances Miller.
Sponsors: Fr. Gardner and Magd. Miller. J. BRENT
- July 6. Fr. Gregory, b. 10 May, son of Clem Hosfeld and S. E. Crouner.
Sponsors: ----- Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
- Sept. 14. Fr. Ellen, b. 10 July, daughter of John Beam and Mary Shiniberger.
Sponsors: Fd. Fritz and his wife. J. BRENT

1869

- Nov. 1. Caroline, b. 4 Sept., daughter of Casper Shineberger and Ap Fritz.
Sponsors: John and Anna Fritz. J. BRENT

1870

- Jan. 2. Magd. Fr., b. 16 Oct. [1869], daughter of John Wisler and Elizabeth
Hosfeld. Sponsors: Will Wisler and Mary Gestling. J. BRENT
- March 27. Charles, b. 4 Dec. [1869], son of John Wisler and Anna Losh.
Sponsors: Adam Weber and Margt. Losh. J. BRENT
- April 26. Fr. Theodore, b. 3 April, son of Anth. Wisler and Cath. Smith.
Sponsors: Theodore Wisler and his wife. J. BRENT
- Sept. 13. Sarah Cath., b. 16 August, daughter of Ferdinand Fritz and Thecla
Grim. Sponsors: Josh. Losh and his wife. J. BRENT
Mary L., b. 6 August, daughter of Philip Boshart and Sophia Butler.
Sponsors: H. Hosfeld and his wife. J. BRENT
- Oct. 10. Margaret, b. 26 August, daughter of Mich. Homan and Elizabeth Losh.
Sponsors: Martin and Catharine Homan. J. BRENT
Elizabeth, b. 2 Sept., daughter of John Allerding and Elizabeth
Sk[illing]. Sponsors: Will and Catherine Harris. J. BRENT
Caroline, b. 29 August, daughter of James Stitzel and Frances Swan.
Sponsors: Gabriel Biddle and Elizabeth Miller. J. BRENT

1871

- Feb. 28. Will Alfred, b. 2 Jan., son of Henry Peters and Anna Wisler.
Sponsors: Will Harris and Apolonia Wisler. J. BRENT
- March 26. Mary, b. 8 Feb., daughter of Luke Neren and Mary Bush. Sponsor:
Joanna O'Hern. J. BRENT
- July 18. Peter, b. 13 June, son of Theod. Wisler and Barbara Allerding.
Sponsors: Peter and Margt. Allerding. J. BRENT
Catharine, b. 12 May, daughter of Nichol. Weisen and Elizabeth
Wisler. Sponsors: Will Wisler and Catharine Bosler. J. BRENT
James, b. 17 May, son of Ed Stargis and C. Lauder. Sponsors:
Mary and James Tibolt(?). J. BRENT

1871 Cont.

- Aug. 15. Margaret, b. 29 June, daughter of C. Hosfeld and S.L. Crowner.
Sponsors: Ferd. Fritz and his wife. J. BRENT
Charles John, b. [No date given], son of Nich. Allerding and
B. Smith(?). Sponsors: Jon Allerding and his wife. J. BRENT

1872

- March 25. Barbara Ellen, b. 15 December [1871], daughter of John Wisler and
Elizabeth Hosfeld. Sponsors: Will Harris and Barbara Wisler. J. BRENT
Sept. 24. Charles W., b. 3 August, son of J. W. Beam [wife not given]. J. BRENT
Sponsors: Casp. Shiniberger and his wife. J. BRENT
George Stitzel, b. 28 August, son of James A. Stitzel and Fr. A.
Swan. Sponsors: Greg Henly and his wife. J. BRENT

1873

- Mary Jos., b. 18 Nov., daughter of Fr. Gardner and Mary Allerding.
Sponsors: John Allerding and his wife. J. BRENT

1875

- June 18. Gregory, b. 9 February, 1875, in Jefferson Tp., Knox Co., son of
Charles William Henley and Frances Helen Giffen. Sponsors:
Gregory Henley and Rachel Blubaugh Henley. MICHAEL AHERN

S A I N T M I C H A E L C E M E T E R Y
Jefferson Township, Knox County

(Located .9 mile south of U.S. Route 3, and .3 mile
south of the Ashland-Knox County line. On Knox
County Road 43.)

Tombstone Inscriptions

- ALLERDING, Davied M., son of J. & E., d. Oct. 20, 1864. Aged 9M 5D.
ALLERDING, John L., son of J. & E., d. Oct. 15, 1864. Aged 2Y 9M 7D.
ALLERDING, John L., son of L. & E., d. Feb. 28, 1868. Aged 3M 7D.
BEAM, Benjamin, son of G.B. & E., d. April 22, 1865. Aged 1Y 9M 21D.
BEAM, Mary, wife of Jacob, d. Nov. 19, 1875. Aged 66Y 2M 9D.
BOESHART, William S., son of P. & S., d. Feb. 6, 1867. Aged 5M 16D.
BRECKLER, Christopher, d. Feb. 25, 1851. Aged 54Y 8M 21D.
BRECKLER, John.

M.A.B. - Footstone.

J.B. - Footstone.

CROWNER, William, son of J.M. & M., d. Sept. 4, 1860. Aged 1Y 1M 20D.

FRITZ, Catherine, daughter of F. & T., d. Dec. 14, 1860. Aged 8Y 6M.

FRITZ, John, d. --- 8, 1858. Aged 79Y 11M.

HOLLER, Anna Catherine, wife of Jacob, d. April 11, 1871. Aged 71Y 6M.

HOMMEL, John, son of F. & S., d. March 11, 1865. Aged 1Y 7D.

HOSFELD, Henry, d. Sept. 16, 1875. Aged 74Y 9M 10D.

HOSFELD, John S., son of J.N. & G.A., d. March 8, 1865. Aged 4M 5D.

HOSFELD, Veronica, wife of H. Hosfeld, d. --- 12, 18--. Aged 53Y 7M 17D.

LOSH, Henry, son of Jos. F. & C., d. April 17, 1819. Aged 1Y 6M.

PAUL, Maria, wife of Michael, d. July 5, 1868. Aged 53Y 3M 10D.

PAUL, Michael L., b. Aug. 10, 1809; d. July 31, 1879. Aged 69Y 11M 21D.

SCHAUB, Anna, daughter of H.G. & M.S., d. July 11, 1871. Aged 6M 8D.

SHENEBERGER, Francis, son of C(G?). & A., d. Oct. 7, 1860. Aged 4Y 10M 19D.

SHENEBERGER, Susanna, daughter of C(G?). & A, d. Oct. 18, 1860. Aged 6Y 10M 19D.

SKILL[ING], Ellen, wife of James, d. Feb. 20, 1872, in the 76th year of her age.

STOLTZ, Clara C., daughter of F. & M.A., d. Feb. 14, 1867. Aged 5Y 8M 18D.

WHISLER, John, son of T. & B., d. Aug. 23, 1851. Aged 16Y 1M 5D.

WHISLER, Mary A., daughter of -- & E., d. Oct. 25, 186-. Aged 2Y 1D.

-----, Casper, d. Feb. 1, 1877. Aged 55Y 8D.

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ST. REMIGIUS CHURCH, COLUMBUS
BURIAL RECORDS, 1837-1846

Translated and Annotated by
Donald M. Schlegel

The burial records presented here are contained in the register of baptisms, marriages and burials of St. Remigius (now Holy Cross) church in Columbus. The register covers a period of about nine years, from June of 1837 to January of 1846. In that entire period only twney burials were recorded, with only six prior to 1844. Few burials were recorded because St. Remigius had no resident pastor until May of 1843; even after that date hte pastor was often absent on missionary journeys. With one exception, burials were recorded pmlly when a priest was present to supply ceremonies and to bless the grave.

For eighteen of the twenty records, no place of burial was indicated. These were probably in the two Columbus public cemeteries. The North Graveyard, at the south-west corner of Spruce and High streets, was opened in 1813. The East (or South) Graveyard, opened in 1839, was used "principally by Germans" (1); it was probably the burial place of most deceased members of St. Remigius congregation after that date and until the Catholic Cemetery was opened in 1846 (2). The East Graveyard is now the site of Livingston Park.

Two of the burials were recorded as "in Frankletown" or Franklinton (the original community in the Columbus area, west of the Scioto River). These were no doubt in the Franklinton cemetery, which still lies at McKinley and Souder avenues though no tombstones remain there. A comparison of the St. Remigius baptismal register with the tombstone inscriptions which remained in the Franklinton cemetery in the 1890's (3) reveals five additional burials of Catholics in this era:

1. Katharine, wife of Adam Weisbecker, died October 16, 1839, aged 23 years.
2. and 3. Her twon infant children.
4. Jacob Fisher, died August 8, 1845, aged 71 years.
5. Wife of J. Fisher, died January 17, 1837, aged about 55 years.

In the following list from the St. Remigius register, the initials following some of the records indicate the name of the priest who signed them: HDJ is Rev. H. D. Juncker; JBE is Rev. J.B. Emig; WS is Rev. William Schonat, the first resident pastor.

1838, 15 July. Frances Katharine Adelsberger, 1ge 8 months, daughter of Johann and Katharina. HDJ

1838, 5 November. Johann, age 12 months, son of Georg Studer and Regina Werst. HDJ

1839, 5 January. Kolestina Thelma, age 45 years, wife of John Mario Ammiad. HDJ

1840, 25 February. Joseph and B.J. Bernard, two brothers, sons of Morris Bisig (4) and his wife Maria Anna. HDJ

1840, 28 February. Celestine, son of Morris Bisig and his wife Maria Anna. HDJ

1844, 22 January. In Frankletown, Louisa, daughter of Nicolaus Hanauer, aged four years. WS

1844, 10 May. ThaddeusMittelholz, died May 9, aged 68 years.

1844, 20 July. Anna Maria Keller, died 19 July, aged 1 year 2 months, and seven days. JBE (5)

1844, 21 July. Fridolin Johann Lichtenecker, died July 20. JBE (6)

1844, 16 July. Wilhelm Karl, son of Georg Studder, age 6 months. (7)

1844, 3 August. Ignaz Wölfel, died August 2, aged 15 years. WS

1844, 15 September. Georg Heinrich Fischer, died September 14, aged 64 years and six months. WS (8)

1844, 5 October. Anna Maria Frank, daughter of Jacob Frank, age two years and nine months. WS

1844, 17 October. In Frankletown, Heinrich, son of Wendolin Saile, age one year and four months. WS

1845, 17 July. Simon Frach, born 12 May 1843, died 16 July 1845, aged 26 Months. WS

1845, 15 September. Peter Beer, died 14 September in the Poor House, aged 54 years.

1845, 29 September. Bridget McGuire, died 28 September. WS

1845, 26 December. Johann Georg Engler, died 25 December, aged 52 years.

1846, 24 January. Johann, son of Franz Stecher, died 23 January, age four days. WS

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- (1) Studer, Jacob H., Columbus, Ohio: Its History, Resources, and Progress, 1873, pp. 224-226.
- (2) See the Catholic Record Society Bulletin, Vol. III, pp. 275-282.
- (3) The Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly, I (1898), pp. 70-71.
- (4) Listed as Morris Bisson, sawyer, residing at the south-west corner of Mound and Fifth streets in the 1843 Columbus Directory (The Columbus Business Directory for 1843-4, Columbus: J. R. Armstrong, 1843.)
- (5) Maria, born 9 May 1843, baptized at St. Remigius on 21 May, daughter of Ludwig Keller and Anna nee Schreiner.
- (6) Fridolin Johann, born 19 November, 1843, baptized at St. Remigius on 10 December, son of Ferdinand Lichtenegger and his wife Maria. The 1843 directory lists F. Lishtennegger, clock and watchmaker, residence north side of Friend (now Main) street, near High.
- (7) This record, though out of chronological order, is probably correct as written, for Rev. Schonat wrote (in Latin) not "I buried" but "was buried."
- (8) The 1843 Columbus city directory lists George Fisher, drayman, residence north side of South Public Lane (now Livingston Avenue), between Fifth and Sixth streets.

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CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH RECORDS
EARLY DIOCESAN HISTORY
(Continued)

These records are of the years before the Columbus diocese had its own. Taken from the "Catholic Telegraph" of Cincinnati, they are published here through the courtesy of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

September 9, 1869

On Sunday, August 23, the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Columbus visited the growing congregation of Bellaire on the eastern terminus of the Central Ohio branch of the B. & O. railroad. A schoolhouse has been built within the last two years, and a school with an average attendance of 100 scholars has been in operation for some time. The congregation has outgrown the church and there is now a need for an enlargement of the building. The Rev. J. Jacquet, of St. Mary's, Beaver, gives the place two Sundays of the month, but there is need of a resident priest. Thirty-five persons received the holy sacrament of Confirmation and the church was crowded to overflowing both at Mass and Vespers, to listen to the instructions. The B. & O. company is now building a bridge across the Ohio at this point, and if the activity now prevailing in the place survives the completion of that work Bellaire will be a large river town.

Tuesday, August 25, was the day of Confirmation at St. Mary's, Noble county. All the good Catholics of that ancient settlement in Ohio, assembled long before the 10 o'clock Mass, and many approached the sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist. Rev. J. Jacquet, pastor, saying the Mass at Bellaire, and the choir led by Miss Maggie Walsh did its part with taste and accuracy. After the Mass and sermon by the Rt. Rev. Bishop 24 were confirmed and 3 baptized.

On Thursday, August 27, the new church of St. Henry near Harriettsville, Noble county, built by the zeal and generosity of some six German farmers, was blessed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop. It is a neat frame about 55x30 with belfry bell, gallery, organ and pews. The neighboring congregation of the Immaculate Conception at Enoch, 11 hilly miles distant, turned out en masse with all their banners to assist in the procession from the house of William Smithberger, Esq., one half mile to the church, was really very beautiful. It was well set off, too, by a fact showing the difference between the influence of true religion and no religion on the masses of the people. While Catholic men, Women and children were going to church to pray, the Protestant population of those rustic regions was forming along the road to Harriettsville to see somebody's menagerie, and the two processions met each other on the road and passed without greeting. After the dedication High Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Damian Kluber, and the sermon preached by the Rt. Rev. Bishop.

October 6, 1869

Diocese of Columbus. On Sunday 26th of last month the holy sacrament of Confirmation was administered in the church of St. Vincent de Paul, Mt. Vernon, to 26 persons of whom over 20 were adults and converts. The church was crowded morning and evening. The Catholic Church seems to be growing in Mt. Vernon more rapidly than the city.

The Rev. Father Brent gave a well-attended course of lectures after Vespers last summer and on one occasion had for his audience an entire Cambellite congregation, preacher included, when he lectured on the Blessed Virgin and the Catholic Church.

October 6, 1869 (Cont.)

Tuesday, September 28, the old pioneer congregation of St. Luke's, Danville, was visited and 48 were confirmed. This is the congregation which was the first charge of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Lamy of Santa Fe, and it still preserves much of the spirit he infused into it. As usual all the neighborhood assembled in the church on the occasion of the episcopal visitation. The demeanor of the non-Catholics was in marked improvement over the former times.

The next day, Wednesday, September 29, the church of St. Michael's on the border of Knox and Ashland counties was visited and 41 confirmed. These people of St. Michael's congregation are the German Catholics who do not think 15 miles too far to go in order to hear Mass on Sundays.

At St. Luke's, Danville, when the tabernacle was opened at the first Mass it was discovered that some sacrilegious thief had stolen the pyxes, one that Bishop Lamy had obtained for the church from France. No lock had been broken and no damage done beyond this one theft.

On Sunday, Oct. 3, the exercises of the Jubilee closed in Lancaster with the confirmation of 100 persons. Rev. J. A. Walker, O.P., Rev. M. J. Ryan, Rev. W. J. Bigelow, Rev. Francis X. Specht and Rev. E. Thienpont assisted throughout the exercises.

There were 100 communions. Many converts were among the number confirmed. The pastor, Rev. Louis D'Cailly, was consoled by the return of many wanderers to the fold of the Church, and their duty. The church was crowded on Sunday and the music by the choir very much praised. A marble altar of the Blessed Virgin has been purchased in France for the beautiful church, and will shortly be received. The people of St. Mary's seem never to get tired of completing the fitting-up the most beautiful church in the diocese of Columbus.

October 14, 1869

Episcopal Visitation. Lancaster, Ohio. On Sunday, Oct. 3, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans administered the sacrament of Confirmation to 120 persons, chiefly youth in St. Mary's church, which is a beautiful edifice. ...Besides Father Rotchford, O.P., the worthy pastor, Father D'Cailly, was assisted by Rev. Father Thienpont of Logan, Father Bigelow of Steubenville and Fathers Ryan of Marietta, Specht of Columbus and Eppink of Zanesville....The exercises of the Jubilee were terminated by the visitation of the Rt. Rev. Bishop.....

Nov. 20, 1869

Zanesville, Nov. 15, 1869. On Sunday, Nov. 14, in the presence of a very large concourse of people three new bells were blessed for St. Nicholas German church. Their weight in full is about 3000 lbs....Rev. Magnus Eppink, the pastor, having been delegated, blessed the bells. After the sacred function the Te Deum was intoned and for the first time the bells rang out praises to the Most High.

(To be continued)

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