



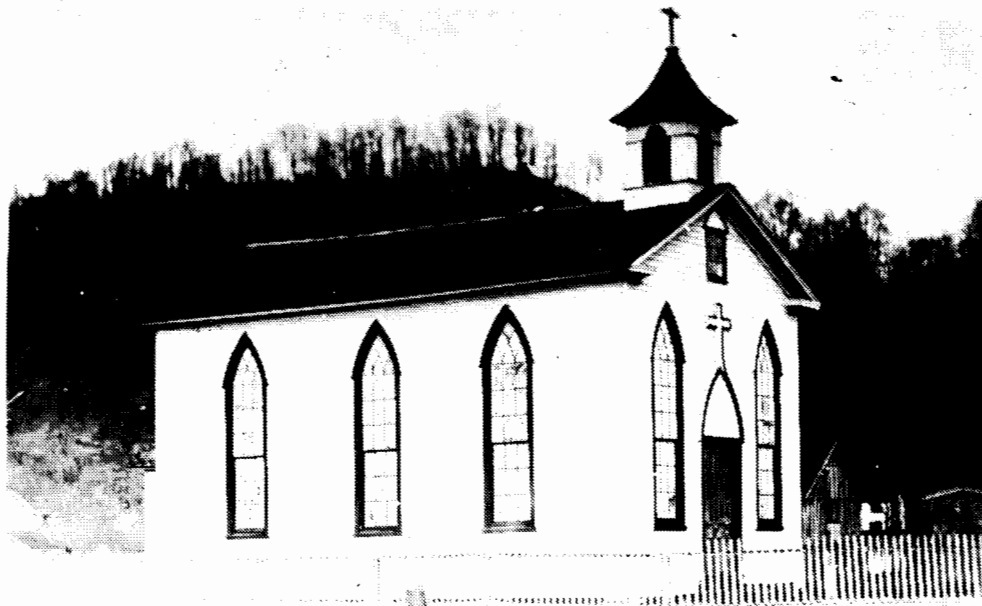
Barquilla de la Santa Maria

BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society -
Diocese of Columbus

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- July 26: St. Ann -

July, 1990



Catholic Church, Buena Vista, Ohio.

This photograph of the first St. Ann Church at Buena Vista was loaned to us by Rev. William H. Smith, who now serves the Catholic Rural Black Ministry in McRae, Georgia. It had been given to him by the Sullivan family while he cared for Buena Vista as a mission.

ST. ANN MISSION
BUENA VISTA, NILE TOWNSHIP, SCIOTO COUNTY
ca1910 - 1963

The history of the Catholic mission at Buena Vista in the present century can be divided into three periods. The first was that of the Benedictine Fathers and the first St. Ann's Church. The second was that of the Glenmary Home Missioners and the church of St. Ann by the Wayside. The third period was that of the Columbus diocesan priests. The Catholic population of the village declined throughout the century and it was the lot of the latter to close the mission.

St. Ann's Church

The old storeroom church of the Immaculate Conception at Main and Stonewall streets was still being used by the community in 1902 or 1903. (1)

The annual Catholic Directory first listed Buena Vista as a "station" rather than a mission of Ripley St. Michael's in 1903, indicating that the Immaculate Conception building was no longer in existence. The annual listing remained "station" through 1915. In 1916 and 1917 Buena Vista was not mentioned. It was not until 1918 that St. Ann's mission was first listed. We know, however, that the new church had been built several years earlier.

Rev. Theodosius Osterrieder, O.S.B., pastor at Ripley St. Michael, had taken over that post in April of 1904. He wrote to Archbishop Moeller in 1913 and described the normal operation of the mission:

Mass is celebrated in Buena Vista 5 or 6 times a year; but the people 7 families in all come together every Sunday morning for the Religious Instruction of the children and Rosary. I am sure as long as they have a church to meet the people and especially the children will keep up their religion. (2)

His reason for writing was to ask for aid in repairing the church, which had been damaged in the great flood of that spring. His greatest surprise was "that the little church standing on the edge of the Ohio River was not swept away altogether." The building one pictures in reading of the damage was not the ware-room with second story room of the 1860s but does fit the photograph of St. Ann Church supplied by Father Smith. "The sacristy has been torn off & also the fence & the coal house. The water was 9 feet in the church; paper & carpets were ruined & many windows broken. The organ & the vestments were saved." (3) The damage was estimated at \$200 and the pastor also requested relief for the people, all of whom were "in the flood" except one family, who fed and kept the others until the water receded. (4)

That the church of 1913 was the same as the later St. Ann's Church is also testified by a sort of diary written for his superior by Rev. Anthony Hoch, O.S.B., a later pastor. After the flood of 1937 he remarked that the church could not "get away" for it had been anchored after the 1913 flood by Mr. Sullivan (one of the local Catholics). (5) One other indication of the age of St. Ann's Church is the memory of Mr. Bernard Collignon of Buena Vista, who first remembers the church from the 1920s and remarks that it "seemed old" to him even then.

The site of St. Ann's was the northwest corner of Main and Stonewall, the property donated by John Mueller in the 1860s. No deed appears ever to have been recorded for the property. When it was transferred from Archbishop McNicholas of Cincinnati to Bishop Ready of Columbus in 1945 it was described as 50 feet on Main Street and 90 feet on Stonewall Street. The only previous deed reference, however, was the exception of the site from property transferred many years earlier. (6)

St. Ann mission continued for many more years under the care of the Benedictines stationed at Ripley. Father Osterrieder was replaced in the 1920s by Rev. Ambrose Reger, O.S.B. In August of 1933 Father Reger was elected Abbot of St. Benedict Abbey in Cullman, Alabama and sent Rev. Anthony Hoch to take his place.

The damage done to the building by the flood of February, 1937 was described by Father Hoch.

And the church? Well, it stands, and that is about all. Due to the anchoring done by Mr. Sullivan it couldn't get away. He had done that after the 1913 flood. It moved, though, about 5 inches off its foundation. Most of the window panes are broken, 2 upper sashes are shattered and must be replaced, the whole church will have to be replastered, the statues are a total loss, so are the stations. The altar can be put together again with little trouble. The sacristy is torn away a little from the main structure. (Cf note 5)

The building was put back on its foundation (7) but it is not clear whether it was ever again used as a church.

St. Ann by the Wayside

On October 16, 1939 the Buena Vista mission was removed from the care of the priests at Ripley and was given to the Glenmary Home Missioners. (8) The Society of Home Missioners had been established by Rev. Howard Bishop with the purpose of training and supplying priests for the rural areas of America where the Church was unrepresented and unknown. Father Howard sought long for a diocese which would accept the headquarters of the proposed society, and it was Archbishop McNicholas of Cincinnati who finally agreed to the proposal, in 1937. So it was that the society's headquarters became established at Glendale in Hamilton County, it adopted the name of "Glenmary", and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati was among the first to benefit from its efforts. (9)

One of Father Bishop's first associates in the society was Rev. Raphael A. Sourd. Father Sourd lived for a time at St. Martin's in Brown County and later at the Glendale headquarters; he was administrator of the parish at Manchester, of which Buena Vista now became officially a mission.

On November 21, 1941 Father Sourd purchased a 1.6 acre site for a new church for Buena Vista. It was not near the river but instead was on the north side of the highway. (10) On the map on page 239 of the May Bulletin, the site is the rectangular lot north of the word "Portsmouth" in the name of the "Portsmouth & Buena Vista Free Turn Pike", together with additional land



St. Ann by the Wayside

on the north and west. The chapel of St Ann by the Wayside was built there and was dedicated in 1942, the first of all the chapels build by the Glenmary Fathers in the United States. (11)

The Glenmary Fathers soon established a mission headquarters at Our Lady of Lourdes, Otway, in western Scioto County. Some of the priests who lived at Otway, making their way through the hills and hollows, calling Catholics to live their Faith and seeking converts, were Revs. Francis A. Massarella, Francis Wuest, Herman Foken, Charles W. Jones, Clement Borchers, Robert P. O'Donnell, and William H. Smith. Their missions included Buena Vista, Manchester, and Pond Creek. They also re-established the Church at West Portsmouth. Associated with the Glenmary Fathers was an order of religious women who helped in the work of the Society. In the summers the sisters lived in a "woodland camp" at Pond Creek, where they conducted a summer catechism school beginning in 1944. They also used the "rectory" at St. Ann by the Wayside as a summer residence while teaching catechism in Buena Vista. (12) This house was razed by 1960. (13)

The withdrawal of the Glenmary Fathers from Scioto County was gradual. In January of 1945 the western portion of the county was transferred from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to the Diocese of Columbus. In June of 1949 the new church at West Portsmouth was dedicated under the invocation of Our Lady of Sorrows. Three months later the Glenmary Fathers turned the already-flourishing mission over to the Diocese of Columbus, the first of their missions to so "graduate." Buena Vista remained a mission of Father O'Donnell and then of Rev. William H. Smith. In 1950 Father Smith removed from Otway to West Union; this was across the new boundary in the Archdiocese, but he continued to care for the mission of St. Ann. On June 14, 1956 St. Ann was removed from the care of the Glenmary Fathers and was attached to West Portsmouth as a mission of diocesan Fathers John H. Graf and Clarence Durbin. (14) This post was taken over by Rev. Wayne Meyer in 1963.

End of the Mission

Throughout the century, the Catholic population at Buena Vista gradually declined. Immaculate Conception had been established in the 1860s for the thirty or forty families who had come to work in the stone quarries and had brought their faith with them. By 1902 or 1903 they were reduced to thirteen families, 30 to 40 communicants, and 15 in Sunday school. (15) In 1903 the last of the quarries at Buena Vista closed and in 1910 the Catholics were living primarily by farming and logging. The families which remained the longest were those of John T. Sullivan, an old Irish immigrant, and the Collignon family from Belgium. Some representatives of the Flanagan and Dambach families of the 1860s still also remained in 1910. (16)

By 1945 the mission counted only 26 souls in eight families. (17) By 1963 there were only three families left and only about ten persons attended Mass regularly on Sundays; on some Holy Days only one attended. Rev. James J. Carroll, Chancellor of the Diocese, wrote to Father Graf at Our Lady of Sorrows, "in such circumstances it is not only an obligation to the people, but we also have the responsibility that due propriety and reverence is given to the Blessed Sacrament in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It would seem that when only one person is present, as you reported, that is hardly justification to have Mass." (18) In addition to the problem of small

numbers, the furnace in the church rusted out, apparently early in 1963, and the cost of its repair was beyond the means of the mission. Bishop Issenman suggested that Mass be offered there only on alternate Sundays. That autumn when the weather began to be too cold for the people to attend Mass there with no furnace, they began driving to West Portsmouth. No Mass was offered at St. Ann by the Wayside in October of 1963 and Father Meyer reported in November that the church was closed. (19)

The historic chapel, first physical fruit of the Society of Home Missioners and outgrowth of the early efforts of Father Schreiber and Mr. Mueller, is still standing. It was sold by Bishop Issenman to Albert Collignon on November 23, 1970 (20) and is now used for storage. The old St. Ann Church had been taken down piece by piece about 1939 and was rebuilt as a house. It too stands on the north side of the highway, about a quarter-mile below Buena Vista, just inside the Scioto County line.

NOTES

1. Evans, Nelson W., A History of Scioto County, Ohio; Portsmouth: 1903; page 383.
2. Osterrieder to Moeller, Apr. 21, 1913. Courtesy of the Historic Archives of the Chancery, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Mr. Don Buske, archivist.
3. Ibid.
4. Osterrieder to Moeller, May 16, 1913.
5. Diary of Rev. Anthony Hoch, O.S.B., courtesy of Rev. Thomas Schnurr, O.S.B., St. Bernard's Abbey, Cullman, Alabama.
6. Scioto County Deed Record 308/76 ff, McNicholas to Ready, Dec. 10, 1945 (parcel two).
7. Statement of Mr. Bernard Collignon of Buena Vista, whose father eventually purchased the property.
8. Very Ref. Mathias F. Heyker, Chancellor of the Archdiocese, to Hoch, Oct. 16, 1939.
9. Santen, Herman W., Father Bishop, Founder of the Glenmary Home Missioners; Milwaukee: Bruce Press, 1961.
10. Scioto Co. Deed Record, 278/110 and 278/205.
11. Santen, op. cit., page 62 and ninth page of photos.
12. Ibid., page 71. Rev. William H. Smith to Bishop Ready, Apr. 15, 1951 (Chancery, Diocese of Columbus).
13. Rev. James J. Hollern to Graf, July 29, 1960 (Chancery, Diocese of Columbus).
14. Ready to Graf, June 6, 1956 (same).
15. The annual Catholic Directory for 1903 gives the number of families. See also Evans, op. cit.
16. Federal Census of 1910, Nile Township (Lower Part), Scioto Co., dwellings 77 through 115.
17. Archdiocese of Cincinnati, annual report for 1944 for St. Ann by the Wayside (Chancery, Diocese of Columbus).
18. Graf to Issenman, Aug. 31, 1962. Carroll to Graf, Sept. 20, 1962.
19. Meyer to Carroll, Nov. 21, 1963.
20. Scioto Co. Deed Record 613/18.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MISSION
BUENA VISTA, NILE TOWNSHIP, SCIOTO COUNTY
BAPTISMS, 1859-1867

(Continued from Vol. XV, Number 5)

1862

May 6 William, son of Martin Flanagan and Helen Reilly, born April 2; spons. Thomas Burke and Helen Corbett. James J. O'Donohue

same Mary Louise Philomena, daughter of Robert Fouret and Sidonia Panger, born March 13; spons. John Baptist and Mary Louise Panger. JJO
 same Catherine, daughter of Michael Fallon and Mary Frawly, born April 30; spons. Lawrence O'Brien and Jane Gorman. JJO
 July 11 Lawrence, son of Michael Foley and Mary O'Neile, born June 27; spons. Thomas Gorman and Mary Fallon. JJO
 Aug. 15 Charles Nicholas, son of Francis DeMesy and Mary Rose Parmentier, born Oct. 29, 1861; spons. Nicholas Molar. JJO
 Oct. 10 Francis Leonard, son of Michael Wolf and Mary Friermont, born Aug. 26; spons. Leonard Denpach. JJO
 same Catherine, daughter of Thomas Ryan and Bridget Lally, born Sept. 9; spons. Michael Fallon and Bridget Frawly. JJO
 Dec. 30 Bridget, daughter of Edmund Bourke and Margaret Caton, born Oct. 26; spons. Patrick Fallon and Bridget Gorman. JJO
 same Otilda, daughter of Peter Klein and Mary Nysus, born Dec. 10; spons. Otilda Danbach. JJO

1863

July 9 Michael, son of Nicholas Reephand and Mary Densendeffer, born May 26; spons. Michael and Catherine Seifert. JJO
 Sept. 8 Francis, son of Edward Noonan and Mary Kennelly, born Aug. 16; spons. Michael Corbett and Helen Corbett. JJO
 same Mary Hannah, daughter of Victor Saint and Desire Appolonia Mouget, born July 20; spons. Nich. Molar and Mary Ann Bolen. JJO
 same Jane, daughter of Thomas Gorman and Jane Landrigan, born Sept. 6; spons. Edmond Sullivan and Honora O'Brien. JJO
 Dec. 10 Mary Helen, daughter of Daniel McCarthy and Catherine Marky, born Nov. 17; spons. James Corbett and Mary Reinhardt. JJO

1864

Feb. 4 Catherine, daughter of Martin Flanagan and Helen Reilly, born Jan. 18; spons. Michael Foley and Jané Gorman. JJO
 same James, son of James Kelly and Anne Wynne, born Dec. 31; spons. Patrick Kelly and Bridget Regan. JJO
 May 2 Ann, daughter of Michael Fallon and Mary Frawly, born Apr. 29; spons. Phil Reilly and Ann Fallon. JJO
 Apr. 11 At the house of Michael Reinhard, Carolyn, daughter of John Bernard Kollmeier and Katharina Wessel Kollmeier, born Apr. 3 in Buena Vista; spons. Katharina Heib. Michael Mary Ahern
 same day and place, Jacob, son of Michael Wolf and Maria Freiermuth Wolf, born at Buena Vista on Mar. 29, 1864; spons. Valentine Seufert and Barbara Reinhard.
 July 12 In the house of Mr. Reinhard, Michael, son of Jacob Heib and Caroline Austin Heib, born at Buena Vista on June 16, 1864; spons. Michael Reinhard and Barbara Reinhard. MMA
 same day and place, Charles Louis, son of Jacob Huguenot and Emily Boerschlen Huguenot, born Sept. 17, 1863 in Buford, Allen County, Ohio; spons. Patrick Fallon and Josephina Lamont. MMA
 same day In the house of the father, Mary, daughter of Philip Reilly and Bridget Frawley Reilly, born July 8 in California; spons. Michael Fallon and Mary Fallon. MMA
 Sept. 20 Caroline Charlotte Philippa, daughter of Victor Saint and DeSaler Munger Saint, born Sept. 1 in California, Green Township, "Scioto County"; spons. Philip Peltier and Caroline Matthien. MMA
 same day In the house if Michael Reinhard in Buena Vista, Barbara, daughter of Ferdinand Feuterer and Wilhelmina Pehl Feuterer (non-Catholic),

born Sept. 9 in Green Township; spons. Michael Reinhard (proxy Lawrence O'Brien) and Barbara Reinhard. MMA

same day and place, conditionally baptized Wilhelmina Feuterer, daughter of Ferdinand Feuterer and Wilhelmina Feuterer, born May 12, 1862 (previously baptized by a Lutheran minister); spons. Lawrence O'Brien and Katharina Seufert. MMA

Dec. 27 John Stephen, son of Lawrence Fichter and Mary Secunda Walter Fichter, born Dec. 13, 1864 in Green Township, Adams County; spons. John Kirschner and Caroline Kirschner. MMA

same Nicholas, son of Peter Klein and Maria Klein, born Dec. 18, 1864 in Rockville, Green Township, Adams County; spons. Leonard Dorbach and Odelia Dorbach. MMA

same Mary Jane, daughter of John Champion and Jeanette Janet, born Dec. 22, 1864 in Green Township, Adams County; spons. John Janet and Anna Maria Barthlemey. MMA

1865

Feb. 17 Helen, daughter of Lawrence O'Brien and Honora Gavin O'Brien, born Feb. 14, 1865 in Green Township, Adams County; spons. "Patrick (Fergus) O'Brien" and Mary O'Brien. MMA

Mar. 30 Edward, son of Edward Burke and Margaret Keating Burke, born March 29, 1865 in Green Township, "Scioto County"; spons. Michael Foley and Helen Corbett. MMA

Apr. 25 Rosina Secunda, daughter of John Kirschner and Rosina Sepfal Kirschner, born Apr. 16, 1865 in "Green Adams Co."; spons. Michael Reinhard and Maria Secunda Fichter. MMA

1866

June 5 Mary, daughter of Michael Hennessy and Catherine White Hennessy, born Apr. 26, 1866 in Green Township, Adams County; spons. Thomas O'Brien and Helen Quinlan Hennessy. MMA

same Catherine, daughter of James Kelly and Honora Wynne Kelly, born May 27, 1866; spons. Patrick Kelly and Mary Frawly Fallon. MMA

same John, son of Michael Fallon and Mary Frawly Fallon, born May 17, 1866; spons. Martin Frawly and Sara Kelly (by proxy Bridget Foley). MMA

same Ottilia Katharina, daughter of August Kleinimann and Theresa Sach (?) Kleinemann, born Apr. 25, 1866 in Buena Vista; spons. Leonard Darbrecht and Ottilia Der----. MMA

same Euliela Wright and Margaret Lange Wright, daughters of Jane, born about thirty years ago in Russell County, Virginia; spons. Patrick Kelly and ---- [sic] Cull. MMA

Oct. 8 Mary, daughter of Tircilius O'Brien and Mary Pearl, born at Buena Vista Sept. 21, 1867; spons. Thomas Gorman and Jane Gorman. John Curley

same Catherine, daughter of Philip Reily and Bridget Frawley, born at Buena Vista on Sept. 3, 1867; spons. Michael Fallon and Sara Kelly. JC

same Hanna, daughter of Edward Burke and Margaret Keating, born at Buena Vista on Oct. 2, 1867; spons. Thomas Corbet and Mary Burke. JC

same Mary Ann, daughter of William Wright and Mary Lords, born Oct. 4, 1850; spons. Bridget Gorman. JC

BUENA VISTA BAPTISMS RECORDED AT WHEELERSBURG

1865-1866

The following baptisms were recorded at Wheelersburg by Rev. Louis J. Schreiber. Only the first one on October 2, 1865 gives the location as Buena Vista.

1865

Oct. 2 Michael, born Apr. 19, 1865, son of John Jeunet and Maria Anna;
spons. Michael Reinhard and Cahclotta Jeunet. LJS

same Barbara, born June 8, 1865, daughter of Philip Peultier and
Charlotte Mathieux; spons. John Jeunet and Barbara Reinhard. LJS

same Elizabeth, born Sept. 13, 1865, daughter of David Klotter and
Barbara Braecker; spons. Frederick Mayer and Agatha Mayer. LJS

1866

Jan. 22 Margaret, born Dec. 18, 1865, daughter of Thomas Gorman and
Jane Lander; spons. James Caton and Julia Sullivan. LJS

same Helen, born Jan. 4, 1866, daughter of Philip Reilly and Bridget
Frawley; spons. Patrick Frawley and Bridget Gorman. LJS

same Catherine, born Jan. 16, 1866, daughter of Valentine Seifert
and Helen Corbit; spons. Michael Seifert and his wife. LJS

same Mary Agnes, born Nov. 30, 1865, daughter of Ferdinand Flüterer
and Wilhelmina Bohl; spons. Andreas Seifert and Barbara Reinhard. LJS

BUENA VISTA MARRIAGE RECORD
RECORDED AT PORTSMOUTH HOLY REDEEMER

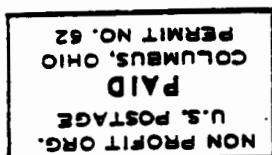
July 30, 1866 at Buena Vista, Eugene Kearney and Catherine Davis;
witnesses: Rev. Francis Kargo (previously married with impediment;
dispensation obtained). MMA

The records of Buena Vista from 1868 to 1873 should be located at St. Michael Church in Ripley. From 1873 to 1897 they should be with those now kept at Otway (these records, written by Father Mertian, do not give any locations to distinguish among the several missions). After 1897 and until 1940 the records would again be at Ripley. After 1940, the records would be at Manchester, Otway, West Union, or West Portsmouth as described in the history above.

ANOTHER NOTE ON FATHER JACQUET

Sister Mary Ramona Mattingly, of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, writes that the letters of Father John M. Jacquet published in the June Bulletin reminded her of an incident which happened when she was a young girl. She was born in 1893 and was a member of St. Mary Church, Mattingly Settlement, which Father Jacquet served as a mission. She never met Father Jacquet but heard older people speak of him with love and respect. She writes, "I remember distinctly being shown by Miss Minnie Mattingly, Aunt of Father Herman, the spot near the church which she said was the place where Father Jaquet drove a stake in the ground under a tree near the church where he wished to be buried. She said he wrote later, 'Pull up the stake. They will not let me return now, and I'm certain they will not send my body back to Ohio.'"

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