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ESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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This beautiful Renaissance basilica was begun in 1869 and completed in 1871; designed by Walter & Stuart from the original drawings of Father Kuhr in 1841. It was built of brick and stone by Anton Bley and Bros. The building is 87 feet wide, 90 feet deep; the trancept is 98 feet and the interior is 200 There are two cast iron columns giving support to feet high. the roof which are considered the largest in this part of country. At the front entrance is a granite parapet and four tall Corinthian columns. The entrance is enhanced with religious statuary and beautiful flowers in season. The two tall clock towers can be seen from nearly all parts of the city as well as from across the River in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The interior was designed and executed by Wencelas Thien who also made the marble frescoes which were installed a few years later - these are considered unequal in design and harmony. The cupola stands 150 feet high and contains a most unusual Italianesque mural, possibly done by Johann Schmitt who did the five beautiful murals in 1890. The cupola provides proper lighting for these murals which depict the "mysteries of the rosary"and are considered masterpieces of religious art. Johann Schmitt was called the "first Christian painter in America" and is recognized as the first teacher of Frank Duveneck, well known artist who worshipped here and taught at the Cincinnati Academy of Art as well as in Paris and Italy.

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A large crucifix over the center altar was done in 1871 by Covington (Ky.) sculptor Ferdinand Muer; the Stations of the Cross were executed by Paul Deschwanden in 1872. Other notable objects include magnificent art glass windows depticting various religious themes, all imported from Munich, Germany and installed over a period of years from the original early installations in 1871 to 1921, which enhance the beauty of this building. Beautifully carved wood communion table and pulpit done by Donnenfelser were added in 1891. The relics which had been put into the altar of the first church were enclosed in a magnificent marble altar in 1903. The Mettlach mosiac tile floor was also laid at this time.

A very large and magnificent organ built by Koehnken & Grimm of Cincinnati (Ohio) was installed in 1876 at a cost of \$7,800. (Present plans include the reworking of this organ, one of the few remaining such organs in this area.)

Carrara marble bowls for holy water were given at an early date and modernization of heating and lighting has been done as time and finances permitted.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	XX 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (II Applicab	le and Known) 186	9-1871	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

24.11

Mother of God Roman Catholic Church, built between 1870 and 1871, is one of the oldest churches in the City of Covington, Kentucky. It is the oldest Catholic Church in continuous use in Covington, and probably in the entire Northern Kentucky area.

In the early part of the nineteenth century there was a very large immigration of Germans, mostly Roman Catholic, to Northern Kentucky, especially Covington. These people became and are to this day among the leaders of the community.

St. Mary's parish, the first parish in the city of Covington, was established by Bishop Flaget in 1833. In 1834 the parish built a frame church, which was one of the predecessors of St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption. During the first eight years of its existence, St. Mary's parish was a mixed congregation of English-speaking and German-speaking parishioners. By 1841 the number of German-speaking families was large enough to warrant a separate parish, in The Germans were granted permission to establish their own parish, under the name of Mother of God's Congregation, and their first. services were held in a rented hall. Their first pastor was Reverend Ferdinand Kuhr who was born in Eslohe, Prussia and came to America in 1839 to establish German missions for the Since he was orphaned at an early age and had no church. money for education, Father Kuhr realized the importance of Even while the church services were still being education. held in a rented hall, he rented an additional building and opened a school. Father Kuhr played a large role in raising the money for the first German Church and one-story brick school which were opened in 1843. 12

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R					
<u>History of the Dio</u> Paul E. Ryan, 1954 of the Diocese of	(privately p Covington, Ke	rinted, entucky.)	Compiled	from the A	rchives
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As the designated State Liais tional Historic Preservation & 89-665), I hereby nominate the in the National Register and evaluated according to the cr forth by the National Park Se level of significance of this National State Name MAS, Sime State Histor Title Preservation	Act of 1966 (Public Law is property for inclusion certify that it has been iteria and procedures se rvice: The recommende nomination is: Local I Local	n Nationa	certify that the I Register. Public of Arche 7/24	is property is include Muttley pology and Alstoric P 23 The National Registe	Preservation
Date July 6, 1973		Date	7	20/23	

Form 10-300a (July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	STATE Kentucky
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		FOR NPS USE ONLY
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In 1867 the Mother of God congregation began a movement for a larger church, and by 1870 a lot was purchased and a temporary church erected. The present Mother of God Roman Catholic Church designed by Walter and Stuart from drawings made by Father Kuhr, and completed in 1871, is a majestic edifice that makes a lasting impression upon visitors. Its dimensions are: 87 feet front, 190 feet deep, 98 feet in transept and 200 feet high. Resembling a Renaissance basilica, it has a handsome portico and Corinthian columns, tall stained glass windows, a cupola 150 feet in height that illuminates the interior paintings, and slender towers with gold crosses that are landmarks which can be seen from most of the bridges crossing the Ohio River.

The theme of the interior decoration is the mysteries of the rosary, with the joyful mysteries depicted in the Johann Schmitt murals; the sorrowful mysteries in the plastic work, and the glorious mysteries in the windows. The Wenceslas Thien frescoes unequalled in design and color harmony, retain their original charm. The artistry of Krienhagen is represented by the pictures above the windows - a symbolism from the Litany of Loretto. The five Johann Schmitt murals, completed in 1890, are considered masterpieces of religious art. Johann Schmitt was called "The First Christian Painter in America". He also aided poor boys and tutored Frank Duveneck and saw him off to Munich. Speyer and Florence. Duveneck, was later called "America's greatest talent of the brush," and for many years he was the head of the Cincinnati Art Academy.

In 1879 Reverend William Tappert became the pastor of Mother of God Church while his brother, Henry Tappert, served as his assistant. The Tapperts were born in Dueren, and educated in Rhineland. The church prospered under the Fathers Tappert; they were universally popular with the members of the congregation and were men of the widest culture. Father William was a thorough German administrator. When he arrived the church had a \$90,000 debt, but in 1903, every cent had been repaid, as well as that incurred since his arrival. As a result the church was consecrated and blessed.

- Continued -



Form 10-300a (July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	STATE Kentucky
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	COUNTY
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Father Henry Tappert, who had received a classical & musical education in his native land, directed the church choir. The musical programs at Mother of God Church became famous on both sides of the Ohio and Licking Rivers. In a published criticism, Professor Elsenheimer of the Cincinnati College of Music, wrote a glowing account of the 1890 Christmas program at Mother of God In the summer of 1896 the St. Caecilia Society conducted Church. its Gregorian Institute in Covington, at the invitation of Father William & Henry Tappert. After hearing concerts presented by the St. Gregorius Singing Society of the parish, Professor John Singenberger, the most famous instructor at the institute, declared the St. Gregorius Singing Society the finest Catholic Church choir in the country. After Father Henry Tappert died in 1929, his able successor in directing the men's choir was Professor Edward Strubel who had begun his career as organist & choir director in 1895 under Father Henry Tappert. One of his best known compositions is "When Evening Shadows Fall" which was awarded first prize in a national contest for original American choral music in Chicago.

Education remained important in the Mother of God parish. In 1905 they built a modern school, containing an auditorium, gym, cafeteria, a specially designed music room. In Bishop Maes's opinion, Mother of God was "a model parish."

The Mother of God Roman Catholic Church or "Mutter Gottes Kirche" was built by German immigrants over a hundred years ago. Many aspects of the church served to remind the immigrants of their previous homes - the pastors were German and many of the church's beautiful pieces of art work, including stained glass art windows, a valuable Mettlach tile floor and stone statues from the Mayer Royal Art Institute, were ordered from Germany, others were executed by artists of German descent. The Mother of God Roman Catholic Church is a magnificent edifice, rivaling many fine churches of Europe. It is a symbol representing the German heritage of the immigrants who settled in Covington, Kentucky.



Riverside Unive Historia Kenton 5/3/11 REGISTER NOMBER NUMBER 71.11.21.0013 1/23/21 WAY DESCRIPTION 8/31/71 means 9/2/71 Too but the Soul pape fat that way about clark . GISTORI (D Sarles 1º/2/21 Map coverage is fine. I'm willing to accept as is, but do wish the statement like of significance were more significant. Chambres ar 10-5-71 or mullen DEST DESPER Stc 11/22/71 ENTRY ac CHIEF. CANP 11-23-71 The architectural descriptions could be more complete. District seems acceptable. 0/2 ED 10/5/71 EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR Date Federal Register Entry Annual Edition Entry Logget 11/23.171 11/23/71 5,3.71.1 WORKING NUMBER Return 1/20/11 BH - biblio refs available? - equil accente 3 maps gues - boundaries do hat harmonize additional chois of available.

Mother of God Roman STATE 8.15.72. 1235 Working number TECH REVIEW Photos _/___ Maps REVIEW No title or date after SLO's signature. Longitude nor latitude 72 de indicated on map; to HISTORIAN needs better # 8. I'd like to see more amphasis placed on the social history of this church. many local craftsmen are mentioned. Perhaps this is a good example of a rather sophisticated local concentration of artisans. The writer still leaves me wondering why a fabulous church like this in Covington 2/26/13 ARCHEOLOGIST ARCHITECT 3-20-7 BRANCH CHIEF EDITORIAL REVIEW KEEPER Acknowledge 8/15/12 National Register write-up Federal Register entry _____ Re-submit 7.10.13 Register no.

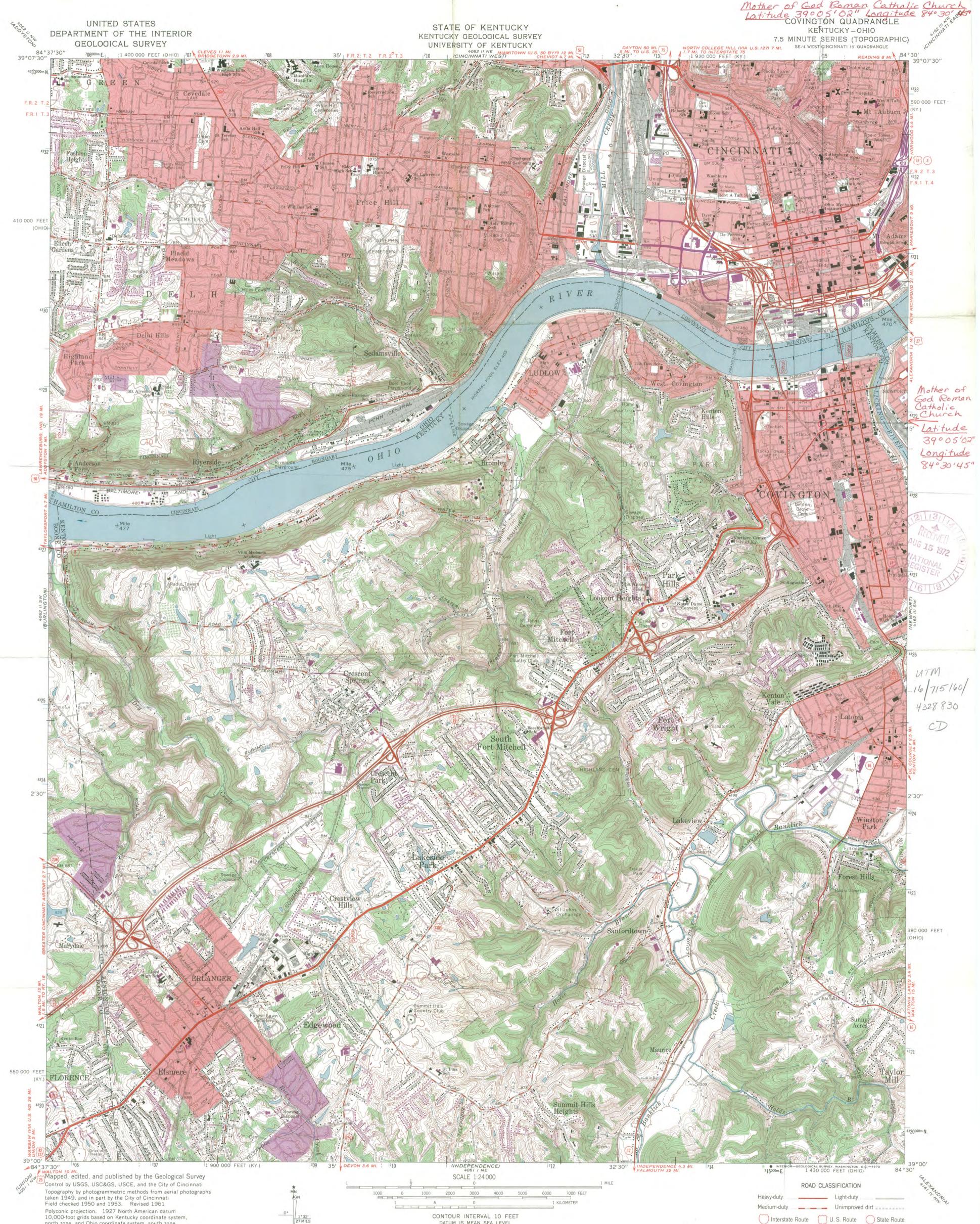
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE PROPERTY IS RESUBMITTED. DATE: 3-20-73 NAME OF PROPERTY MOTHER OF GOO R.C. CHURCH
The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your
office for clarification of the information indicated below.
1. Name
2. Location
3. Classification
4. Owner of Property.
5. Location of Legal Description.
6. Representation in Existing Surveys.
7. Description.
V8. Statement of Significance. 4/HAT HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE DOES THE CHURCH HAVE? WAS IT BUILT BY A GERMAN COMMUNITY?
9. Bibliography.
10. Geographical Data. a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates.
b. Acreage
11 Row Proported By
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LT2. Certification. TITLE AND DATE MISSING.
C Photographic Coverage. Please send interior photograph
Map Coverage. Name of property and Longitude of Latitude co-ordinates must in whitten on map. # indicated.
Other.
Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiati of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy National Register criter
in full.
Thank you for your attention to the above items checked. Maples
SIGNED: John To 193
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Federal Register entry 9-4-73	Re-submit		
	Entered	JUL 2 4 1973	









10,000-foot grids based on Kentucky coordinate system, north zone, and Ohio coordinate system, south zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET The state boundary as shown represents the approximate position of the low water line as determined from U.S. Corps of Engineers Ohio River charts, surveyed 1913 and 1914, and supplementary information Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown Ohio area lies within the Between the Miamis. Land lines based on the Great Miami River Base. Dotted land lines established by private subdivision of the Symmes Purchase

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242, KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506. AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601, A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL





COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY Kentucky Heritage Commission CORNER IN CELEBRITIES FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 MRS. SIMEON WILLIS STATE LIAISON OFFICER

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper National Register of Historic Places U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service 18th and C Streets, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:'

Wam pleased to resubmit National Register Nomination Forms for <u>Mother of God Roman Catholic Church</u>, 119 West Sixth Street, Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky. The additional information requested by your office is provided on the forms.

We trust this nomination may now be approved.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jimeon Willis

Mrs. Simeon Willis State Historic Preservation Officer

July 6, 1973

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY Date Entered JUL 2 4 1973

Name

Location

Mother of God Roman Catholic Church

Covington Kenton County

Also Notified

Hon. Marlow W. Cook Hon. Walter D. Huddleston Hon. Marion G. Snyder

Director, Southeast Region

State Historic Preservation Officer Mrs. Simeon Willis 401 Wapping Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

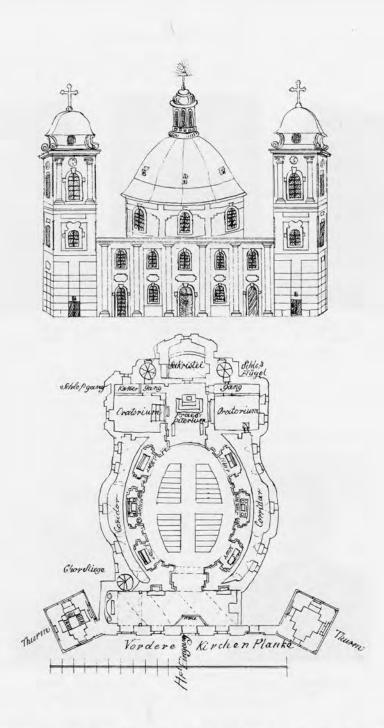
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16. REMARKS										
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100th Anniversary of the Dedication of Mother of God Church



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Original plan for the Mother of God Church by Father Kuhr in 1841



Rt. Rev. Mons. Edward Hickey Pastor 1966-1971



Most Rev. Richard Ackerman, STD. Bishop of Covington



Rev. Wm. H. Mertes Administrator



Rev. Raymond S. Hartman Associate



Rev. Douglas F. Fortner in Residence

A crisis is notorious for unifying a community - a kind of mystical glue that sets quickly to knit, as it were, large or small groups into a neat circle for purposes of helping each other, to aid in disasters of all kinds, to offer solace in sorrow for the loss of a loved one (for instance, the loss of a national leader calls for and brings together in sympathy world-neighbors).

Another mystical glue is part and parcel of a religious commemoration, such as the Centennial Celebration of the erection and dedication of the magnificent ediface, "Mutter Gottes Kirche," Many present parishioners, who trace their ancestry back to those who participated in the monumental undertaking with the early ministers of this church to push the building plans to fulfillment, are so bound together in the recollection of that great struggle and are thankful to those who pursued the impossible dream to a reality. Now, we who have reaped the benefit of that dogged determination, are called upon to keep in good repair and to pass along to future generations the masterpiece in art and architecture which our ancesters proudly and self-sacrificingly began in 1870 and saw to completion in 1871. In memory of our grandparents and parents who contributed so generously when this parish was a-building, we must see the current renovation to comple tion in order to preserve this structure of beauty bequeathed and devised to us as a result of that dedication. We cannot be less generous! Some few years from now others will be called upon to follow our example. Let us be sure to leave a legacy of continuing determination to maintain the beauty of this "Mother Church" of Covinaton.

As an integral part of the centennial celebration, a number of innovative programs are planned, some of which are demonstrations only and not presented with any suggestion of adoption. It is the thought of your planning committees to present quality, as well as variety - all looking toward the future, with emphasis on unity, coordination of the community, hopefully resulting in greater strength and a desire to keep this parish functioning against any and all odds.

The History of Mother of God Parish presented herein is a compendium of the following:

"A Centennial Chronicle" (1941) by Sister Mary Carmelite Brungs, S.N.D., the church records which have been preserved by the Pastors, various programs which were presented in the School Auditorium, newspaper articles, as well as the files of the diocesan weekly, "The Messenger."

Also aiding in the compilation were:

Mr. Joseph Lonnemann;

Miss Mathilda Brandner, Business Manager of the Messenger Mrs. Joseph Homan, a former parishioner

(In the translation of some German records.

HISTORY OF MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH

Doctor Ferdinand Kuhr, Mother of God's first pastor, was born in Eslohe, Prussia. Having lost his parents and being destitute at an early age, Ferdinand Kuhr-determined to become a priest-went on foot to the college of Propaganda Fide, so that he might be educated gratuitously for the missions. He was ordained in 1836 and remained at the college as professor of theology for three years before setting out for the American missions. He came to Cincinnati in the spring of 1839, his name appearing on the baptismal register of Holy Trinity Church. In June of 1841, Father Kuhr went to the rescue of missions in distress in Pennsylvania. After building a church or two for the Germans of the Quaker State, Father Kuhr offered himself for the German mission to be established by Bishop Flaget in Covington, Kentucky, and was accepted.

1841 When Father Kuhr came in 1841, forty families comprised Mother of God parish and its initial services were held in St. Mary Church which was located on Fifth Street where Notre Dame Academy stood until a few years ago. The congregation remained there for some time before a hall was rented on Scott Street opposite the old post office. Realizing the importance of a school, Father Kuhr rented a frame structure on Pike Street in the rear of the present church and opened a school.

In the spring of 1842, Father Kuhr, in need of money for his 1842 building program, had a collection taken up in Covington and Cincinnati; also after obtaining Bishop Flaget's permission, the trustees launched a collection tour through the country under an arrangement with the pastor, who was to pay fifty cents per day "during the time of collection" plus travel expenses.

Early in 1842 a building committee was elected to arrange for erection of a structure adequate to the needs of the congregation. The site on West Sixth Street - "on the out-skirts of the city" and known as the John S. Busch Lot - was bought for \$ 700.00 and on April 4, 1842, the cornerstone was laid. the Rt. Rev. Bishop placed the \$ 4.00 cornerstone in position and deposited the document commemorating the event:

In the reign of Pope Gregory XVI, the pious and able director of the whole church of God, the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Louisville, C.B.Flaget and his coadjutor, G.I. Chabrat, Bishop of Bolivia, under John W. Tyler, President of the United States of North America, and Robert P. Lechtner, Governor of Kentucky, and Moyse Grant, Mayor of Covington, after obtaining the necessary approbations, was laid this cornerstone of the German Roman Catholic church dedicated under the invocation of the Annunciation of the Ever Virgin Mary, Mother of God, by the Reverend Ferd.

Kuhr, a student of Propoganda, Rome, and the first pastor of this church.

The occasion was marked by a celebration in which Catholics of Covington were joined by Societies of Holy Trinity Parish, Cincinnati. Dedication of the building took place on October 30. Covington was a part of the Louisville Diocese and Rt. Rev. Ignatius Chabrat, Coadjutor Bishop of Louisville, performed the ceremony, at which 4,000 people were in attendance. This building, small in comparison to the one which graces the site today, was 95 feet in length and 50 feet in width.

- 1843 Father Kuhr went to Europe in 1843 to collect for his church, and in the following year the church was completed and a one-story brick building was erected to serve as a school.
- 1849 The parish received its first assistant pastor in 1849. On April 2, the trustees resolved to pay Father Gustave Busch a salary equal to that of the pastor - Father Kuhr was receiving \$ 300.00 annually. Payments in those early years were very irregular and the parish was more often receiving from, than giving to, its missionary pastor.
- 1851 The congregation grew and soon the church and school buildings were too small. The church was remodeled and on April 20, 1851, the enlarged building was dedicated by Bishop Martin Henni, of Milwaukee - a former pastor of "Holy Trinity" in Cincinnati. Enclosed in the main altar then were the relics of these martyrs: Fidelis a Sigmaringa, Simplicianus, Amandus, and Urbanus.
- 1853 The Diocese of Covington came into being on July 29, 1853, with George Aloysius Carrell, S.J., its first Bishop. It covered 18,307 square miles - there were 1500 families in Covington, 150 in Newport, very few in Carrollton, Frankfort and other cities.
- 1867 As noted in the Catholic Telegraph of November 27, 1867, Father Kuhr, as first pastor of the Germans of Covington, was celebrant for the dedication of Saint Aloysius Church.

Mother of God congregation soon began a movement for a larger church. At least fifty churches were completed or under construction since 1859 in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, which in 1869 was called "America's Rome", while Covington was fast becoming "The City of Churches".

1869 The Thomas Shay and Bernard Jansen lots were purchased by
Mother of God congregation in 1869 and 1870 and a temporary church
1870 was erected, The accepted plan for the new church was that of Walter
and Stuart for a Renaissance basilica. The contract was awarded to
Anton Bley and Brothers and, for the interior decorating, Wenceslas
Thien was engaged. The cornerstone was laid by Bishop Tobbe on July

3, 1870. The Bishop, having appointed trustees for 1870, felt at the end of the year that they should remain until completion of the church. The written request to them is as follows:

> Cathedral, Covington, December 31, 1870.

To the commendable Trustees of the Church of the Mother of God of this city.

Dear Sirs:

Because of the building of a new church, which requires great circumspection and great zeal, I would kindly request that you remain in office for the following year, so that this difficult task may be satisfactorily completed to the greater honor of God and our dear Mother Mary, and for the best interests of the parish.

Extending to each and all my heartfelt gratitude for the zeal manifested in the past year and wishing you God's best blessing, I ask, that you will also assist your good pastor, in your accustomed spirit of sacrifice and love, to bring this material business of the parish to completion.

I order, therefore, that you dear Sirs, fill the office of Trustees for the year 1871, as such you should receive abundant recognition.

Wishing you, your families, and the whole parish a blessed New Year and God's choicest blessing, I am

Respectfully yours,

A. M. Tobbe, Bishop

The appointed trustees were: Bernard Marschall, Joseph Puthoff, Sixtus Voss, Clemens Hellebusch, Bernard Becker, Henry Schulte, Fritz Gordes and George Lubbe.

Father Kuhr, who had celebrated his Silver Jubilee of ordination in 1861, and who had worked to accomplish the impossible, was taken by death on November 28, 1870, before the church building was completed. Father Ferdinand Raess was appointed administrator and Father Peter Teutenberg, who had come to the parish in 1868, continued as his assistant.

1870 From the history of the parish which was recorded in German, a
 - comparison of inventories of the number of benches and seats in the
 1871 German Catholic Churches of Covington, which apparently were

auctioned, shows the following:

1. Mother of God Church - 202 benches 1202 seats The sale or auction of seats, which occurred annually, yielded \$ 7,103.50 - average price per seat \$ 5.05.

2.	Saint	Joseph Church	-	180 benches
		1		852 seats

Yield: \$, 6, 704.00, average price per seat was \$7.75, auctioned every half year.

3. Saint	Aloysius Church	-	140 benches
			770 seats

Yield: \$6,753.50, average price per seat was \$ 8.00

The record shows that Saint John Church with 123 benches, 492 seats, but the yield was not ascertained.

1871 On September 10, 1871, the new church was dedicated. Bishop Tobbe officiated and Archbishop Purcell preached the sermon during the Pontifical Mass. This majestic edifice - 87 feet front, 190 feet deep, 98 feet in transept and 200 feet high - has been considered the most beautiful in the United States. The church makes a lasting impression upon visitors - the portico and Corinthian columns, the long stained glass windows, the cupola providing proper illumination for the interior paintings rising 150 feet, the slender towers and the gold crosses are landmarks from most of the bridges crossing the Ohio River.

The theme of the interior decoration is the mysteries of the rosary. The joyful mysteries are depicted in the Johann Schmitt murals; the sorrowful mysteries in the plastic work, and the glorious mysteries in the windows. The Wenceslaus Thien frescoes, which are unequalled in design and color harmony, have retained their original charm through many renovations. The five Schmitt murals, executed in 1890, are considered masterpieces of religious art. The artistry of Krienhagen is represented by the pictures above the windows - a symbolism from the Litany of Loretto. Johann Schmitt was called, "The First Christian Painter in America", and he found his second in a boy of the parish-Francis Decker (Duveneck) who, according to the Baptismal Register, was baptized on October 15, 1848. Artist Schmitt aided poor boys and he tutored the future artist and saw him off to Munich, Speyer and Florence. Duveneck later became known as "America's greatest talent of the brush".

While Fathers Raess and Teutenberg worked diligently at the monumental task of liquidating the debt on the new church, they were also concerned with the spiritual welfare of the parishioners. Motivated by this concern, the Capuchins of Calvary, Wisconsin, were invited to conduct a mission. The large crucifix, now over the center altar, was blessed by Father Raess on October 8, 1871, and erected at the communion rail. Plaudits for the beautiful work go to a Covington sculptor, Ferdinand Muer, and the crucifix was the gift of Herman Heinrich Meyer and Antonette Rehling. 1872 In March of 1872, Rev. Peter Teutenberg was appointed second pastor and remained until 1879.

The Stations of the Cross - the work of Paul Deschwanden - were canonically erected at the beginning of Lent, 1872. They were the gift of Fathers Raess and Teutenberg and twelve parishioners.

1873 The Sisters of St. Benedict took charge of the "Girls' School" in 1873, but relinquished in favor of the Sisters of Notre Dame, who arrived from Coesfeld, Westphalia, in 1874. A building was erected in 1876 on Fifth Street, the first floor of which housed a select school for girls. The chapel on the second floor was dedicated by Bishop Tobbe, and Sister Mary Modesta, sister to Bishop Tobbe, became superior. Sister Mary Armella was given charge of the girls' school at Mother of God, which was their first mission in America. Of the original group, Sister Mary Michaela spent thirteen years in the parish and was buried from Mother of God Churdh in 1893.

The very first Sisters of Notre Dame to labor in the Covington Diocese were assigned to Mother of God School 1874-1875. They were: Sisters Mary Odilia, Ignatia, Bibiana, Coletta and Cassiana.

Eighty eight years later when the school was closed because of dwindling enrollment, those on the faculty (1961–1962) were: Sisters Mary Irenas, Francello, Caryll, Bernard Clare and Ruth Agnes.

1876 A Koehnken and Grimm organ was installed in the church toward the end of 1876 at a cost of \$7,800.00. It was manufactured in Cincinnati and was considered one of the finest in the West. The dedication concert was held on Christmas Eve.

Professor Bernard H. Francis Hellebusch, while teaching at Mother of God School, continued publishing music with the student in mind. Mr. Hellebusch went to Saint Aloysius School with the arrival of the Tapperts, who were promoters of Caecilian music.

- 1878 On March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation of Mary, the church was in flames, caused perhaps by lightning. The Fire Department in the immediate vicinity understood the message, "Fire in church" as "Fire on Scott" -the Street, of course. In a short time the floor in the right side aisle, about a dozen benches and two windows were destroyed; however, the damage was covered by insurance.
- 1879 His health failing, Father Teutenberg resigned his post in December, 1879.

Just eight years after the church dedication, Rev. William Tappert became the third pastor, assisted by his brother, Rev. Henry Tappert, the brothers having arrived at Mother of God's on December II, 1879. The Tapperts were born in Dueren, Rhineland, January 14, 1848 and April 9, 1855, respectively. Father William preceded his brother to America in 1870, Father Henry following five years later after finishing his classical and musical education in his native land. Father William was ordained by Most Rev. Tobbe in 1872. The church prospered under the Fathers Tappert; they were universally popular with the members of the congregation and were men of the widest culture. Father William was a thorough German administrator and though he found a huge debt, he immediately abolished fairs and picnics as a means of support for the church. Father Henry directed the church choir and led it to a stage of efficiency that gained its musical programs fame on both sides of the Ohio and Licking Rivers.

- 1885 Father William Tappert with practical and efficient organization - had the rectory built in 1885, at a cost of \$11,000.00, without incurring any debt.
- 1888 As evidence of the economic efficiency of Father William, along with clearing the debt of his church, in 1888, \$4,500.00 was sent to the Bishop as a contribution toward lifting the diocesan debt.
- 1889 Bishop Maes, on his return from Rome in January, 1889, made Father William Tappert an irremovable rector.
- 1890 Father Henry Tappert's devotion to the beauty and purity of the liturgy received an expert's stamp of approval in a published criticism by Professor Elsenheimer of the Cincinnati College of Music, regarding the Mother of God Church Christmas Program of 1890. The Professor wrote:

We have to say, that hardly ever in our lives were we so astonished. As we entered this beautiful Renaissance building, we concluded spontaneously and rightly, that this holy temple would not be desecrated by improper music. Our expectations were fully satisfied ... The first High Mass sung was that of S. Lucia in F by Franz Witt. During the second High Mass the choir presented the Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Benedictus and Agnus Dei from Witt's Twelfth Mass in C; The Gradual from Walter; the Offertory: Tui Sunt Coeli by Stehle; and the Sanctus from the incomparable Missa Brevis of Palestrina ... The Et Incarnatus Est of Witt's Opus 12 was unusually impressive ... Here the incarnation of the Word was proclaimed to the praying people, not in empty musical phrases, but in holy melody from full hearts preserving the prayer of the gifted composer himself. It was a sacred moment, which must have brought to all the faithful a realization of the Divine Presence of the Almighty Creator of heaven and earth. Honor to the alert singer; honor to the efficient organist, teacher Abele; honor to the distinguished dirdirector, Rev. Henry Tappert, for such accomplishment.

- 1890 Extensive interior improvements to the church were undertaken in
- 1890 at a cost of \$31,000.00. The church was completely restored 1891 and transformed into a miracle of beauty by the greatest talent in the country, and the herculean job was completed in 1891 in time for the fiftieth anniversary celebration. The Thien frescoes and Krienhagen and Schmitt murals have been declared the greatest in the land. The art windows right and left of the sanctuary - representing the Assumption and Immaculate Conception - were imported from Munich at a cost of \$4,500.00. Beautifully carved were the magnificent wood altars, the work of the Schroeder Brothers, the exquisite communion table and the pulpit were the creations of Donnenfelser. On March 8, a Mass of thanksgiving was offered for artists and artisans, followed by a banquet in the school. Among those attending were: Artists Thien, Schmitt, Krienhagen, Schroeder and Donnenfelser.
- 1895 On June 30, Professor Abele, who came to Mother of God's with Fathers William and Henry Tappert, resigned after 25 years of teaching. With his departure, the Sisters of Notre Dame took charge of the entire school and Professor Edward Strubel became organist on September 1, 1895. He was born in Mandach, Bavaria, April 4, 1875, studied in Seminaries in Bavaria and came to America at age 20.
- 1896 In the summer of 1896, the St. Caecilia Society conducted its Gregorian Institute in Covington, at the invitation of Father William and Henry Tappert. Cincinnati, boasting a college and conservatory of music, many singing societies, a nationally famous May Festival and Symphony Orchestra, a Saengerfest and a Saengerbund, literally besieged her smaller sister city across the Ohio during that week of intensive training in ecclesiastical music, July 8 – 14, despite the extreme heat. Musicians, clergy, and laity thronged around the Caecilian masters of Old-World liturgical culture. Seven hours a day were given to instruction by Professor John Singerberger and his col leagues, aside from morning High Masses and evening concerts. The St. Gregorius Singing Society of the parish provided model demonstrations, both polyphonic and Gregorian, covering a wide selection as the following copies of programs show:





It was a critical assembly that gathered in the House of God to hear the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth-century masterpieces of ecclesiastical music rendered perfectly. The concerts were sacred in the strict sense of the word. No admission was charged, and no applause was permitted. The institute was closed with Solemn Benediction. At the social celebration, Professor Singenberger declared the St. Gregorius Singing Society the finest Catholic church choir in the country, and Rev. Raphael Fuhr, secretary of the St. Caecilian Society, commenting on the week's proceedings for the Amerika, said:

Hard days ... but beautiful, edifying and instructive ... The St. Gregorius Singing Society offered us a great deal. Besides the two evening concerts, they prepared two High Masses very conscientiously.

The first was celebrated by the pastor of the parish, Rev. William Tappert, Sunday, July 12. At the beginning of the services the large, beautiful church was filled to the last place ... The Mass of St. Mechtilde, one of the most difficult of the moderns, was rendered in a most distinguished manner ...

Several compositions of Rev. director of the choir were rendered at Benediction in the afternoon: "Adore Te", "Maria Konigin", "Tantum Ergo", and a pompous "Laudate Dominum", It is regretted that Rev. Tappert did not place any of his magnificent compositions on the concert programs. The solemn High Mass, Tuesday, July 14, was celebrated by Msgr. Joseph Jessing from Columbus, Ohio... Among the many priests present in the sanctuary was Msgr. Ernst Windhorst (nephew to the founder of the Center Party). Rev. M. J. Lochemes, Rector of the Catholic Teacher Seminar, St. Francis, Wisconsin, who delivered the sermon, called the institute an accomplishment significant not only for Kentucky, but for our entire country.

A "gemuthliche Nachfeier" took place in the school hall, during which the choir entertained with beautiful German folk-songs.

1903 At the time the Fathers Tappert came to the parish there was a near-\$ 90,000 debt; in 1903 every cent of it had been paid off, as well as that incurred since their arrival. Whereas, the parish started with about forty families in 1841, now over 690 families were members, or approximately 3450 individuals, with 569 children attending the school, and 214 children of the congregation attending Notre Dame Academy.

Mother of God Church, which had been granted a "Privileged Altar" in December, 1901, was consecrated on May 14, 1903. In anticipation of the colemn consecration, construction of the handsome marble altar was undertaken, as well as the mosaic tile floor. This was English cut tile and an innovation in this section of the country.

The relics which had been put into the altar of the first church. more than fifty years ago, were now enclosed in the marble altar by order of the Rt. Rev. Bishop, an all-night vigil having been kept over them.

The great difference between consecration and mere dedication of a church is this: Dedication is the blessing of a church so that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass may be celebrated-this is temporary and ceases when the church is abandoned; the consecration of a church is the permanent dedication or giving to God forever the church and everything connected with it - even the material which goes into the construction of the edifice. The material is forever after regarded as holy and must be treated as such. Most churches in the United States are blessed and not consecrated because they are more or less in debt, the rule of the Church being that a church may not be consecrated if there is a mortgage on it.

The consecration ceremonies are very interesting and full of mystic significance. The day previous to the consecration the Bishop and the congregation observe fast and abstinence, because men become spiritual temples of God only by mortification and penitential works, and only thus enter the heavenly Jerusalem, of which the Church is a symbol. The relics of the holy martyrs, which are to be enclosed in the altar, must have been previously authenticated by the Bishop and the casket in which they are placed is sealed by him. On the eve of the consecration the Bishop delivers the relics thus sealed and authenticated to the rector of the church, who places them in a temporary chapel outside the church, where a constant vigil is kept over them until the time when they are reposed in the altar.

Twelve crosses are either carved or painted on the inner walls of the church, and over each is placed a lighted candle at the beginning of the service. The twelve candles represent the twelve Apostles . . . "the light of the world". The Bishop says the seven Penitential Psalms, reminding the faithful that the road to the Kingdom of God passes only by way of a conversion of life. He blesses water and sprinkles the outside of the church three times, reminding them that only the pure of heart enter heaven. The Bishop sprinkles first the base, then the walls, and finally the roof of the church. Each time the front of the church is reached he knocks at the door, saying: Lift up your heads, ye princes; be ye lifted up, ye eternal gates, and the King of Glory will enter". The Deacon, who is posted inside the door, demands: "Who is the King of Glory?" The Bishop replies: "The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord, mighty in battle". The third time the Bishop knocks at the door he says, in response to the Deacon's Jestion: "The Lord of Armies; He is the King of Glory". The doors are then opened, and the Bishop and his assistants enter. The doors are thereupon closed against the people to remind them of Christ's entrance with a number of Saints into Heaven and the establishment of the Church Triumphant there.

The Bishop then intones the "Veni Creator", invoking the blessing and sanctification of the Holy Spirit upon the edifice.

The floor of the church is sprinkled with ashes from the palms blessed on Palm Sunday. The ashes are so strewn that the lines formed with them cross each other near the center of the church. In one of these lines the Bishop, with his crozier, writes the Greek alphabet, and in the other the Latin one, while the choir chants the "Benedictus", thus representing the union of Jews and Gentiles in one faith and one church. This also calls to the minds of the people the saying of the Lord: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end".

The Bishop then blesses a mixture of water, salt, ashes and wine, which is called the Gregorian water because Pope Gregory introduced it. The interior walls and altars are sprinkled with it.

The Bishop anoints with holy oil and chrism the five crosses which have been carved upon the altar - the altar representing Christ, the crosses His five sacred wounds. The Bishop then leaves the church and goes to the temporary chapel where the relics of the Saints have been guarded. The relics are carried in procession around the church, the people following and crying, "Kyrie eleison", and are then brought in. The clergy and the people enter while a hymn of praise and exultation is sung. The relics are finally enclosed in the altar, and the stone over them is cemented with mortar wet with the Gregorian water, signifying that the Saints are intimately united with Christ.

The altar is then incensed and the Bishop anoints the twelve crosses around the walls with chrism, incensing them three times. The Bishop returns to the altar and forms five crosses with five grains of incense, which are placed on the five crosses carved in the altar table; on each cross of incense he places a cross of wax and, when lighted, the incense is consumed. The burning wax and incense represents the fire of grace coming from the Holy Spirit.

The altar is then cleaned, new ornaments placed upon it, and a solemn Mass is begun with the words: "Terrible is this place; it is the house of God and the Gate of Heaven, and shall be called the Court of God" (Gen.xxviii. 17). "How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts! My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord" (Ps. lxxii. 4). The Bishop grants to all of the members of the congregation a one-year indulgence and to all who shall visit the church on any of the recurring anniversaries of its consecration a forty days' indulgence.

Palestrina's Assumpta est Maria" Mass was rendered by the church choir, the "St. Gregorius Singing Society" - the first rendition of the mass in America. It was a six-part composition - first and second mass in America. It was a six-part composition - first and second soprano, alto, first and second tenor, and bass. The entire musical program for the High Mass at 10:30 a.m. on May 14, 1903, was:

- 1904 On December 11, 1904, Fathers William and Henry Tappert quietly celebrated their silver jubilee. The trustees unveiled the portraits of their beloved pastors - the work of Miss Anna D. Shea.
- 1905 The cornerstone laying of the new school building took place on August 13, 1905. It was a civic celebration, marking the erection of one of the most magnificent schools in the country, which was attended by 10,000 people. Hannaford and Sons planned the building: a modern school, an auditorium, gym, cafeteria, a specially designed music room, and recreation rooms. Bishop Maes titled Mother of God "a model parish". The dedication of the school took place on September 9, with appropriate festivities.

1907 Father William Tappert, whose last efforts were spent on the plans and the building of the school, became ill in January and died on March 18 - mourned by his many friends both Catholic and Protestant. The area before the shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help became his final resting place.

Father Henry Tappert succeeded his brother as fourth pastor. He assumed his administrative duties, but the choir remained under his direction. Rev. Otto Hafen arrived from Louvain on October 2, and was appointed assistant pastor.

- 1911 Palestrina music took the church choir, its organist, director and pastor to Chicago for the Caecilian Institute. A six-voiced "Tu Es Petrus", rendered October 1, 1911, stirred music circles of Cincinnati.
- 1913 In the spring of 1913, Father Henry Tappert applied to the Bishop for permission to expend \$6,000.00 on remodeling the church, including enlarging the choir balcone and arching the windows. The permission was granted after some hesitation and not without reprimand, since Father Henry had proceeded to the bids before submitting the plans. But the artist and the German pastor won out, and the Bishop himself approved.

Two stained glass windows from Munich, Germany, were installed at a cost of \$1,700.00 each. The windows, representing the death of St. Joseph and of the Blessed Virgin, were the gifts of Father Henry and of Mrs. Henry Holtrup.

- 1915 A tornado struck the city of Covington at 9 p.m. on July 7, 1915, causing material damage to the church. One of the columns of the west tower plunged through the roof, landing in the aisle near the Rev. William Tappert Memorial window. Part of the east steeple was carried through the city. Hannaford and Sons executed the restoration along classical lines. The white granite parapet and tiled terrace lend grace to the approach; and the sculptured tympanum, portraying the Annunciation of the Blessed Mother of God, by the Kenwright Brothers, greatly enhances the facade. Reconstruction expenditures had reached \$22,000.00 at the time of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the parish.
- 1916 The Diamond Jubilee celebration took place on May 14, 1916. A 50-voice choir sang the Solemn High Mass under Father Henry's direction, with Professor Strubel at the organ. Press notices lauded the artistic liturgical performance.
- 1917 In recognition of his effort toward good, pure church music, Father Henry was made a Domestic Prelate by His Holiness Benedict XV. The translation of the cablegram is:

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XV has honored the Rector of the Mother of God Church, Rev. Henry Tappert, with the title of "Domestic Prelate" in an audience which he granted to the Rt. Rev. Nicolaus Sebastiani, Secretary a Brevibus Apostolicis, February 13, A.D., 1917.

- 1920 The renovation and remodeling which was undertaken in 1920-21
 at a cost of \$17,801.57, included a new heating system, marble
 1921 wainscoting, and the imported Mettlach tile floor. The Carrara angels with holy water bowls, valued at \$357.50 each, were the gifts of Mrs. Clem Hellman and Mr. Joseph Von Handorf. Candelabra were donated by Mrs. M.A. Moeller and family. Eight large and four small Munich art windows, telling the life story of the Blessed Virgin, were installed in the fall of 1921. A set of gold brocade vestments, valued at \$875.00, came from Crefeld, Rhineland; stone statues of SS. Peter and Paul and two mythological lions, valued at \$2,400.00, from the Mayer Royal Art Institute, Munich.
- 1923 Following Father Henry's trip to Europe, an art window of St. Cecilia, compliment to Msgr. Tappert of Mayer & Company, arrived in Covington in the spring of 1923. It was placed in Father Tappert's private study.
- 1924 The Sisters of Notre Dame commemorated the Golden Jubilee of their foundation in America on July 4, 1924. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Tappert presented them with \$ 1,000.00 as a gift of gratitude at the closing exercises of the School of the Mother of God -their oldest mission in America.
- 1929 This was the Golden Jubilee year of Monsignor Tappert-fifty years a priest and fifty years with the parish. However, even as it celebrated, a pall hung over the congregation, as well as the jubilarian - a feeling that the end was not far off. In February, 1928 he had appointed F.H. Hugenberg executor of his bequest of \$10,000.00 to the church for the erection of a memorial baptistry and altar. In January, 1929, Monsignor Tappert contributed \$1,200.00 toward secondary education in the diocese - schools being his great concern.

The good Monsignor died at St. Elizabeth Hospital on November 17, 1929. His remains rest beside those of his brother before the altar of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

1930 On April 26, 1930, Rev. Edward G. Klosterman was appointed fifth pastor and third irremovable rector of Mother of God Church. Father Klosterman did not assume his duties immediately, having previously made reservations for an European voyage and a visit to the Holy Land. Father Louis De Jaco remained in charge, as he had administered the parish since the death of Monsignor Tappert. In August, Father Klosterman returned to his home parish, where he had been baptized by Rev. William Tappert, had attended the parochial school, and had said his first Solemn Mass.

Father Klosterman had served several churches in Campbell County prior to 1920, when he was appointed pastor of Good Shepherd Parish in Frankfort. For ten years he served that parish, as well as being chaplain to the State Penitentary, and part-time chaplain to the State Legislature.

On his return to his home parish, Father Klosterman made every effort to carry on the work of the Fathers Tappert, whom he had admired and loved in his youth; his first concern being the erection of the new shrine altar to Our Lady of Perpetual Help as a memorial to his two Reverend Predecessors. The shrine and other improvements were completed at a cost of \$9,500.00.

Bishop Francis W. Howard appointed Father Klosterman Diocesan
 Director of CatholicCharities, October, 1931.
 1934

On the occasion of Father Klosterman's Silver Sacerdotal Jubilee in June of 1934, his parishioners provided the funds for the renovation of the church's interior - \$5,000.00, and the electrification of the tower clocks and bells - \$3,000.00.

1938 In anticipation of the observance of the congregation's centennial
in 1941, preparations were begun by the pastor and the committeemen
1941 on a "Pay As You Go" plan. After obtaining the approval of the Most Reverend Bishop, a contract was entered into for the complete renovation of the church, school and rectory. Work was programed in the sequence noted below and the generosity of the parish kept pace so that the ordinary and extraordinary expenses were met as the work progressed.

1938 - Paint removal, stain and tuck pointinr \$	16,924.00
1939 - Painting wood and metal exterior	1,500.00
1940 - Painting towers and dome	1,800.00
1941 - Cleaning interior of the church	4,100.00
1941 - Wiring and Lighting Fixtures	4,000.00

The pastor was aided in his efforts by his efficient assistant, Rev. Jerome P. Heuerman, who had come to Mother of God on September 12, 1936. Father Heuerman had been ordained in 1932 and, prior to coming to Covington, he had been chaplain at Cardome Academy, Georgetown, Kentucky and taught at Lexington Latin School.

1941 Mother's Day, May 11, 1941, was appropriately chosen for the initial celebration of th Hundredth Birthday of Mother of God Congregation. Following is the Centennial Festival Concert Program, presented by Mother of God Choral Club on May 11th, 13th and 15th, in the School Auditorium.

PROGRAM

Salutation
Chorus
The Creation
Ave Maria
Soprano Solo Miss Anna Mae Laible
Tenor Solo Mr. Arthur Schoenberger
There Were Shepherds C. Vincent Tableau: Miss Mary E. Schroder - Mr. Frank Kling
Chorus
Soprano Solos: Miss Martha Schroder – Miss Elizabeth Hils
The Seven Last Words of Christ

5 Soli, Chorus and Organ

Tableau: Mr. Henry Lueke, Mr. Dan O'Donnell, Mr. Thomas O'Donnell, Mr. Carl Vocke, Miss Mary E. Schroder and Miss Norma Kalvelage

TABLEAU

Lorraine Abeln	Janet Koester	Ray Berberick
Anna Catherine Dietz	Nayceil Nightengale	Arthur Bohman
Mary Catherine Glindmeyer	Ramona O'Donnell	Frank Kling
Mary Margaret Hellman	Dorothy Pauly	William Klocker
Mirella Kloeker	Matilda Schwarte	Andrew Lonneman
Rosemary Kloeker	Charles Averdick	Henry Lueke
Rosemary Klosterman	Robert Averdick	James Perry
Rosemary Koch	Joseph Berberick	Urban Reibling

Soloists

Mrs. Sylvia Grefer, Mr. Paul Wegener, Mr. Neil Frey, Mr. Arthur Schoenberger, Mr. Harry Goderwis, Mr. Theodore Vogt, Miss Anna Mae Laible, Mr. John Kloentrup, Mr, Harry Timon and Miss Ruth Cunningham

The Easter Miracle of St. Anne de Beaupre. Harvey Gaul Mother of God Choral Club

Chorus

MOTHER OF GOD CHORAL CLUB

SOPRANOS

Lorraine Abeln Doily Barnhorst Lee Bodde Rita Busse Mary Dietz Mrs. Sylvia Grefer Eiszabeth Hils Flora Hiltz Emma Hoffmeister Lorraine Huck Marjorie Jett

Mrs. E. Abeling Rosemary Averbeck Sara Crumley Ruth Cunningham Ruth Heidrich Alma Hiltz

Fred Boullie Frank Cetrulo Albert Due Neil Fry

Lawrence Abeling Frank Beierlien James Dixon Gordon Gehring Harry Goderwis Norma Kalvelage Margaret Kampe Elizabeth Kloentrup Alberta Laible Anna Yay Laible Marcella Lonnenan Mrs. Thureada Matracia Bertha Moeller Laura Moran Mrs. Elsie Nienaber Mrs. Nell Nelson

ALTOS Mrs. Ray Kentrup Grace Kern Mrs. Paul Nunnelley Evelyn Sellmeyer Mary Louise Spreckelmeyer Carlene Trame

TENORS

Herbert Hils John Kloentrup Robert Kloentrup Louis J. Kroger

BASS

Lawrence Lonneman Thomas O'Donnell Urban Reibling Harry Timon Theodore Vogt Ramona O'Donnell Dorothy Pauly Armella Prues Marie Schröder Mary E. Schröder Rosemary Von Haudorf Margaret Wermeling Betty Witte

Louise Trame Martina Wegener Mrs. Emma Weiglein Jodell Wilbers Mary Witte Marcia Witte

Joseph Schmitt Arthur Schoenberger Victor Schraivogel

Harry Von Handorf Paul Wegener Walter Wenning Joseph Wischer 1941 Over the years his devoted parishioners were privileged to parti cipate in many celebrations with their beloved pastor, Father Klos 1961 terman. Among these were:

His elevation to Monsignor in 1941.

The papal honor of Prothonotary Apostolic in 1954.

Two celebrations commemorating his Golden Sacerdotal Jubilee-1959 May 17 - Solemn Pontifical High Mass in Thanksgiving, at which Very Rev. Thomas A. McCarty was the speaker. The mass was sung by Mother of God Choral Club. Joseph Lonnemann was Master of Ceremonies at parish banquet that followed. Speakers were Dr. Charles Farrell and Albert Beckman concluding with remarks by Msgr. Klosterman. Musical numbers were presented by the men's choir.

May 24 - Solemn Pontifical High Mass in Thanksgiving, with Most Rev. William T. Mulloy, D.D., Ll.D. as celebrant; Music by men's choir. Very Rev. Thomas A. McCarty was Master of Ceremonies at the Jubilee Banquet in Devou Memorial Building. The Most Rev. William T. Mulloy addressed the assembly, followed by remarks of Rt. Rev. Edward G. Klosterman, P.A.

Only two short years after his Golden Jubilee, on February 4, 1961, Msgr. Klosterman was called to his reward. Filling the church at the Solemn Requiem were his saddened parishioners, good friends of many religions, city officials, and the sanctuary was filled to overflowing with his many friends in the clergy. The Most Rev. Richard H. Ackerman, Bishop of Covington, was celebrant, assisted by Reverends Leo G. Kampsen, Walter Greskamp, Urban Horstman, Richard G. O'Neill. Also assisting were: Reverends Edwin Trimbur, Carl Fischer, Jerome Heuerman, Norbert Middendorf, Robert Rosing and Jude Kloeker. The sermon was delivered by Rt. Rev. John V. Hegenauer. The spot of repose is on the east side of church directly in front of the baptistry and opposite the resting place of his two predecessors.

1945 Professor Edward Strubel devoted practically his entire life to - church music. His career as organist and choir director under Father 1955 Henry Tappert began in 1895, at age 20. He assumed full direction of the men's choir upon Msgr. Tappert's death and carried on the traditions established by his predecessor. In recognition of his steadfastness and musicianship, His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, conferred on him the medal "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee as organist of Mother of God Church in September, 1945. The medal was presented by the Bishop, the Most Rev. William T. Mulloy, D.D.

His best known compositions are: 1. "When Evening Shadows Fall" for four male voices. This was awarded first prize in a national contest for original American choral music in Chicago. It was first sung under his personal direction, June 12, 1924, by a male chorus of 4000 members. 2. "Mass in Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus" for unison voices and organ. 3. "Three Latin Motets in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary" which he composed on the occasion of his receiving the papal award. 4. "Ecce Sacerdos Magnus" and "Laudate Dominum" for four male voices. 5. A number of secular choruses formale voices.

In 1955, at the conclusion of sixty years of faithful service, Professor Strubel retired. As the announcement was made of his retirement, there was a movement among the members to disband the choir; however, Professor Strubel motivated them to continue by expressing his surprise "that they had been singing for Strubel and not for God".

Having enjoyed almost ten years of retirement, Professor died on January 10, 1964, in his 89th year.

1941 Mr. Paul J. Nunnelley, who was assistant organist from 1941 to until Professor Strubel's retirement, succeeded as director of the men's present choir. Mr. Nunnelley also taught choral music in the grade school and was director of the children's choir. In addition to his work at the organ and directing, he has composed and arranged music for the Mother of God Choral Club. Among his published works is a "Mass in Honor of St. Margaret".

1961 Msgr. John A. Bankemper was appointed pastor subsequent to
Father Klosterman's death and he assumed his new duties on April 5,
1966 1961. The observance of Father Bankemper's Golden Sacerdotal Jubilee took place on June 10, 1965, with appropriate ceremonies.

On June 5, 1966, Msgr. Bankemper retired, having served the parish for five years.

1966 Msgr. Edward T. Hickey was appointed seventh pastor of Mother
 of God's and took up his new residence on June 5, 1966.
 1971

During Father Hickey's pastorate many problems sought solution. These included: 1. The question of increased liability in maintaining the school building, since it would be practically empty with the foreseeable move of Villa Madonna College.

2. The next decision involved the church building itself. In a letter to the people, Father Hickey outlined the estimated costs to be incurred for necessary renovations. He found that almost unanimously his parishioners preferred to make whatever sacrifices were necessary to keep the church. After a survey was made, contracts were entered into for some major renovations.

3. Plans for the Centennial Celebration were initiated.

On Sunday, January 24, 1971, Msgr. Hickey spoke at each of the Masses – it was his "Farewell", as he announced his appointment as pastor of St. Agnes Church. At the same timeFather Hickey announced that Rev. William Mertes was to be his successor in carrying on to completion the solution to the problems and the plans for the celebration.

The beautiful and skillfully designed school building has served the parish successfully, providing well-appointed classrooms and a fine cafeteria for the grade school. Over the years its doors were also opened to some organizations outside the parish circle. Those which have been accomodated and the term of occupancy are noted below.

Covington Catholic High School used a part of the building and were served in the cafeteria from 1925 until January, 1955, when classes and equipment were moved to the new building on the Dixie Highway in Park Hills.

Special classes for the visually handicapped came to the school in September, 1957 and left when Mother of God School closed-1962.

Villa Madonna College (now Thomas More) used space in the school from September, 1957 to June, 1967. It occupied five classrooms on the first floor, where a physics laboratory was set up, and two classrooms on the second floor. The principal subject taught was physics, but also included were some math courses.

Good Council School was provided with some space from Septtember, 1962, until June, 1971 when they transferred to a new site.

The Mother of God Choral Club was begun as the joint effort of two parish groups - the Men's Choir and the Dramatic Club - the purpose being to prepare and present musical programs accompanied by tableau to dramatize the music. The hopes and plans received Father Klosterman's blessing and the group formally organized and launched into rehearsals the summer of 1938. By the time the Centennial of the Parish was celebrated in 1941, their reputation was firmly established and several of the previously successful programs were combined for presentation as the Choral Club's contribution to the celebration. (See History for 1941).

It was the enthusiasm and inspired direction of Mr. Leo J. Grote which kept the group functioning with great zest from the moment of its first rehearsal until his retirement, July, 1968, including first place in choral composition – Indiana University, Bloomington, July 20, 1949, netting the organization an invitation to compete in the Chicagoland Music Festival, Soldiers Field, Chicago, in August of that year. The capable and accomplished composer and organist for the Choral Club was Paul Nunnelley.

Karl J. Lietzenmayer took over direction of the Choral Club upon Mr. Grote's retirement. Under his competent leadership, the group carries the musical tradition of the parish at 110'clock Sunday Mass. Mark J. Schaffer, also an accomplished musician, is the present organist for the Choral Club. He is the son of Robert Schaffer, organist at Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption for many years.

Something new in music has been encouraged by Father Mertes just recently. A group of young musicians has been providing guitar music and doing an excellent job, leading the congregational singing at 12:30 Mass on Sunday. Parishioners and visitors are becoming increasingly familiar with the songs and responses and are joining in.

PASTORS AND ASSISTANTS OF THE PARISH

Dr. Ferdinand Kuhr, First Pastor, 1841 - 1870 Rev. I. B. Emig, December 4, 1842 - January 7, 1843 Rev. Michael Heiss, January 15, 1843 - November 21, 1843 Rev. Carl Boswald, November 21, 1843 - August 15, 1847 Rev. Gustav Busch, March 10, 1849 - March 20, 1849 Rev. Peter Hartlaub, July 14, 1849 - June 17, 1852 Rev. F. Karge, July 6, 1852 - December 28, 1852 Rev. Stanislaus Boyanowsky, January 31, 1853 - August 7, 1853 Rev. D. Rief, February 17, 1854 - July 10, 1859 Rev. Joseph Gezowsky, November 24, 1854 - October 16, 1855 Rev. P. F. Koller, January 21, 1856 - April 1, 1856 Rev. Columbion, O.S.B. January 1, 1862 - November 2, 1862 Rev. Odelo, O.S.B. Rev. A. M. Herman, O. S. B. Rev. Severin Rotter, December 7, 1862 - December 30, 1863 Rev. Clement Schewe, January 19, 1864 - October 19, 1866 Rev. Peter Teutenberg, May 14, 1868 - April 20, 1872 - then Pastor Rev. Ferdinand Raes, Administrator or Pastor pro-tempore, November, 1870 - March 1872 Rev. Peter Teutenberg, Second Pastor, March 1872 - December, 1879 Rev. William Robers, January 6, 1874 - February 14, 1877 Rev. Cl. Jesse, February 25, 1877 - November 17, 1879 Rev. William Tappert, Third Pastor, December 11, 1879 - March 18, 1907 Rev, Henry Tappert, December 11, 1879 - March, 1907 Rev. Antonius Maria Meyer, January 1885 - October, 1887 Msgr. Henry Tappert, Fourth Pastor, March, 1907 died November 17, 1929 Rev. Otto Hafen, October 2, 1907 - May, 1911 Rev. William Blees, May 11, 1911 - June, 1916 Rev. Henry Heringhaus, August 1916 - April, 1919 Rev. Joseph Keber, June 11, 1920 - died May 1, 1927 Rev. Francis X. Zerhusen, April 18, 1927 - August, 1927 Rev. Louis De Jaco, August 19, 1927 - August, 1930 Msgr. Edward G. Klosterman, Fifth Pastor, April 26, 1930 - died February 4, 1961 Rev. Walter Greskamp, August, 1930 - September, 1934 Rev. Carl Fischer, September, 1934 - September, 1936 Rev. Jerome Heuerman, September, 1936 - June 1, 1951 Rev. Norbert Middendorf, June 1, 1951 - June 1, 1956 Rev. Edwin H. Trimbur, June 1, 1951 - April 5, 1961 Rev. Robert Rosing, June 1, 1956 - June 25, 1960 Rev. Clarence J. Heitzman, June 25, 1960 - July 21, 1965 Msgr. John A. Bankemper, Sixth Pastor, April 5, 1961 - June 5, 1966 Rev. Louis R. Schmidt, April 5, 1961 - June 14, 1964 Rev. Maurice Brinker, June 14, 1964 - June 5, 1966 Rev. Robert J. Reinke, July 21, 1965 - June 11, 1969 Msgr. Edward T. Hickey, Seventh Pastor, June 5, 1966 - January 29, 1971 Rev. Andrew F. Timperman, June 5, 1966 - June 11, 1969 Rev. William H. Mertes, Assistant, July 11, 1969 Administrator, January 29, 1971 Rev. David MacPherson, 1970 - 1971 (Residence only) Rev. Raymond Hartman, June, 1971 -Rev. Douglas Fortner, July, 1971 - (in residence only)

DIOCESAN PRIESTS Sons of the Parish First Solemn High Mass

Rev. Edward G. Klosterman	June 20, 1909
Rev. John Kroger	June 11, 1922
Rev. Urban Horstman	May 26, 1929
Rev. Leo Kampsen	May 31, 1931
Rev. Henry Busemeyer	June 7, 1936
Rev. Jude Kloeker	May 31, 1959

RELIGIOUS ORDER PRIESTS Sons of the Parish

Rev. Dominic Meier, O.S.F. Rev. Raphael Hesse, O.S.F. Rev. Guido Stallo, O.S.F. Rev. Hilary Hoelscher, O.S.F. Rev. Camillus Fangman, O.F.M. Rev. Augustin D. Theissen, S.J. Rev. Raphael Schulte, O.F.M. Rev. Celsus Koenig, O.F.M. Rev. Baldwin Schulte, O.F.M. Rev. Frederick Ries, C.P. Rev. Regis Darpel, O.F.M. Rev. Roger Hengehold, O.F.M. Rev. Ambrose Kroeger, O.F.M. Rev. Elmer Trame, S.J. Rev. Robert Dressman, S.J. Rev. James Dressman, S.J. Bro. Henry Lonneman, O.F.M.

First Solemn High Mass

December 20,	1874
March 12,	1876
November 9,	1879
October 3,	1880
July 2,	1905
August 28,	1909
June 25,	1916
June 13,	1920
June 13,	
June 11,	1922
June 10,	1923
February 10,	1924
June 28,	
June 19,	1955
March 26,	1961

RELIGIOUS OF THE PARISH

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME Covington, Cleveland

Sister Mary Florentine Isphording Sister Mary Erdelbergis Bracke Sister Mary Feliciana Voss Sister Mary Hortulana Theissen Sister Mary Estelle Clark Sister Mary Severine Maurer Sister Mary Edmund Rehling Sister Mary Serena Rehkamp Sister Mary Miriam Dobbelhoff Sister Mary Erma Brames Sister Mary Roselda Niessen Sister Mary Crescentia Merkentrup Sister Mary Raymonde Dressel Sister Mary Celine Lindemann Sister Mary St. Clare Schramm Sister Mary Dorette Wiegand Sister Mary Camillus Kampschmidt Sister Mary Clareta Bonkamp Sister Mary Armella Nock Sister Mary Benitia Glindmeyer Sister Mary Margaret Pauly Sister Mary Cristene Schappert Sister Mary Ann Catherine Wehry Sister Mary Charla Bohman Sister Mary Andree Klaine Sister Mary Lucienne Averbeck Sister Mary Josetta Marie Lonnemann SISTERS OF SAINT BENEDICT Cullman, Alabama

> Sister Rose Rueter Sister Euphrasia Mary Von Hoene Sister Aurelia-Marie Rensing

SISTERS OF THE POOR OF ST. FRANCIS Hartwell

Sister Mercedes (Emma) Schroerer Sister Aloysia (Elizabeth) Siemer Sister Camilla Kurre Sister Koska (Catherine) Thamaun Sister Gervasia (Philomene) Thamaun Little Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis

SISTERS OF THE THIRD ORDER REGULAR OF SAINT FRANCIS - Oldenburg, Ind.

Sister Theodor (Antonia Hesse) Sister M. Arsenia (Catherine Paul) Sister M. Euphemia (Elizabeth Kall) Sister M. Alexandra (Caroline Hillebrand) Sister M. Firmina (Mary Paul) Sister M. Theodora (Marhareth Hesse) Sister M. Leopold (Regina Schnelten) Sister M. Leopold (Regina Schnelten) Sister M. Turibia (Julia Wischer) Sister M. Marcia (Hermina Kroger) Sister M. Benildis (Anta) C.P.P.S. Sister Margaret Mary (Stella Hoffmeister) Co-Founder of the Altar Society

H. J. ROLFES - COVINGTON. KY.