

Dedication



St. Matthew
Church

1927

1955

C O M M E M O R A T I N G . . .

The Dedication and Solemn Blessing

of

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH

Harper Avenue at Whittier

By: His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, D.D.
Archbishop of Detroit

On the occasion of:

The Feast of St. Matthew

Nineteen Hundred Twenty-seven to Nineteen Hundred Fifty-five

September Twenty-First, Nineteen Hundred Fifty-five

Eight O'Clock in the Evening

WHAT A DEDICATION MEANS

Somewhat as Baptism makes a man a child of God, a special blessing prepares a church to become a house of God. The solemn liturgy, which prepares the church building for divine worship, is in three parts.

The first part, the Preparatory Blessing, is given when the cornerstone is laid.

The second part, the Dedication, takes place when the building is completed.

The third part, the Consecration, usually occurs many years later. In fact, many churches are never consecrated. A church cannot be consecrated until it is out of debt.

The first, or Preparatory Blessing, is intended to reserve the very ground itself for its destination and bless the work of construction. If the foundation is not prepared at this time an outline of the building is made on the ground before the ceremony. A wooden cross, about the height of a man, is set up at the location of the altar.

The cornerstone is a symbol of Christ. As the officiating bishop or priest sets the cornerstone in place, he asks Christ, as the cornerstone and unshakeable foundation, to strengthen the stone placed in His name and bless the work being undertaken for His praise and glory.

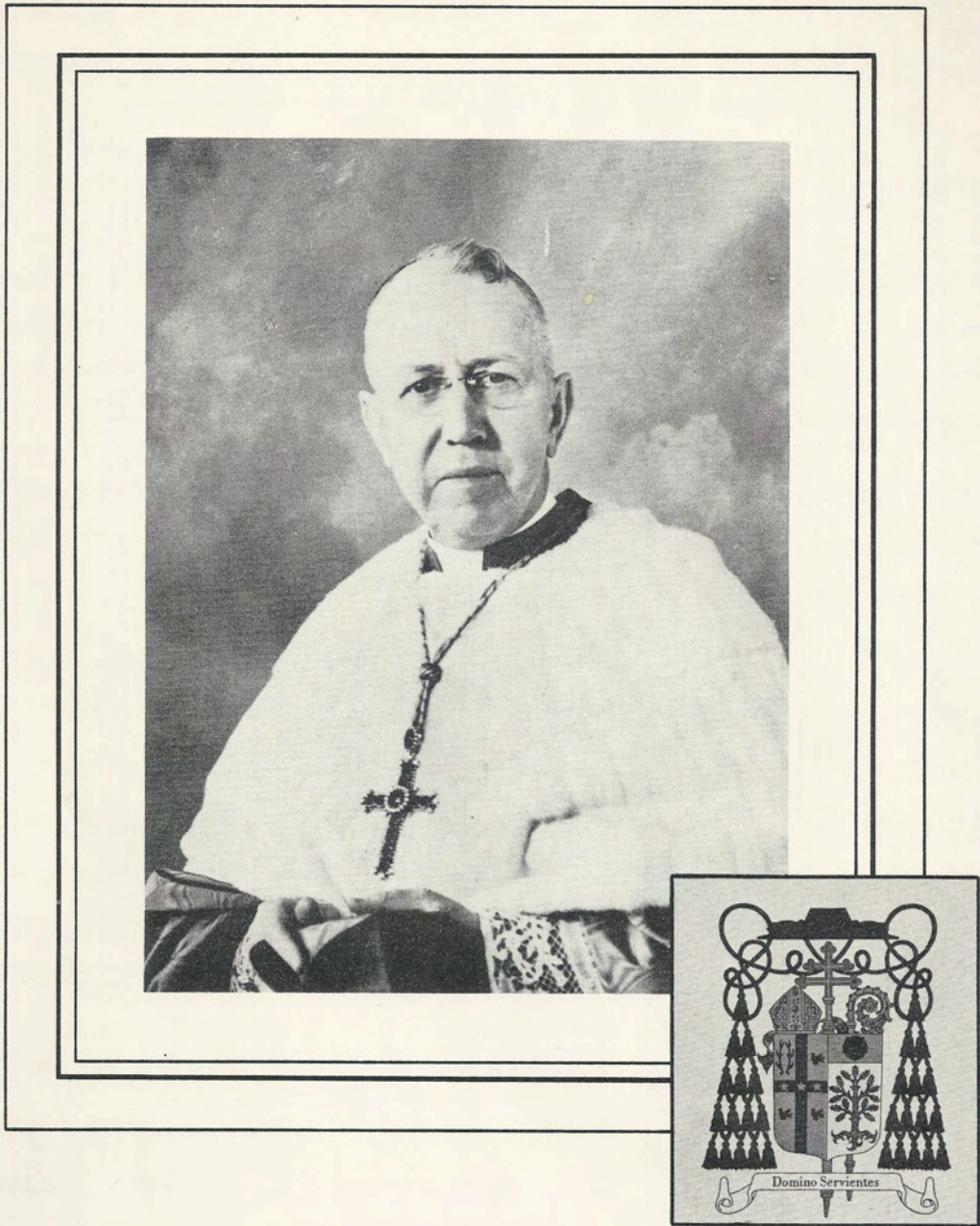
The second blessing, or Dedication, is a combination of early Roman and Gallican rites.

The Christians of early Rome considered the church a tomb, and the ceremony of opening a new church was a sort of funeral rite. The remains of the saints were solemnly transported to the new church and placed in the altar.

The Gallicans thought of the church as a living Christian. The rites which prepared the church for divine worship were similar to those which prepared a person to become a Christian.

In accordance with the Roman rites, the relics of Saints have been placed in the altar of St. Matthew Church. According to the Gallican rites, the church has been dedicated as though it were a person, in ceremonies which recall Baptism and Confirmation.

The Dedication ceremony is intended to remind us that when our soul is purified, like the church, it has the sanctity required to become a house of God.



HIS EMINENCE, EDWARD CARDINAL MOONEY, D.D.

ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT

Feast of St. Matthew

September 21, 1955

My dear Parishioners,

Our heart pulsates to the strain of genuine joy and gratitude. Seventeen years have elapsed since we made our appearance here to succeed Fr. James P. Welsh, of happy memory. It was he who organized the parish and endeared himself to all who knew him because of the self-sacrificing struggle he made in the face of circumstances that might have discouraged many other priests.

It was a rather gloomy horizon that presented itself to "Yours Truly" as we fashioned in a vivid imagination the mental picture of a group of buildings in harmony with the general material complexion of the parish and also expressive of the noble efforts of its people.

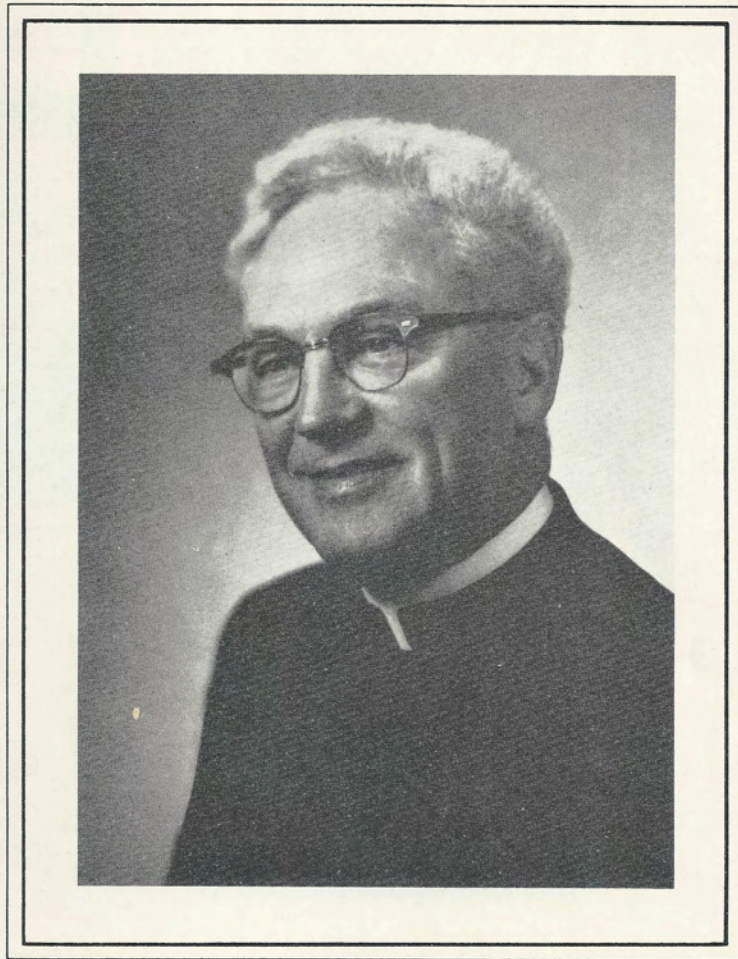
May we not then feel pardonably proud and rejoice at the fulfillment of one of our fondest dreams. And from the very source of this joy springs a compelling gratitude which seeks expression in our every thought, word and action.

Thanks to Almighty God, who has lavished countless favors and graces upon us; thanks to His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney for the implied confidence he placed in us in our assignment to St. Matthew parish; thanks to the energetic and faithful assistants who worked with me during these 17 years. Finally, a most profound and sincere thanks to our parishioners for their patience, loyalty and generous support without which we would have failed completely.

Most gratefully yours,

JOSEPH L. FILLION, *Pastor*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Joseph L. Fillion". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.



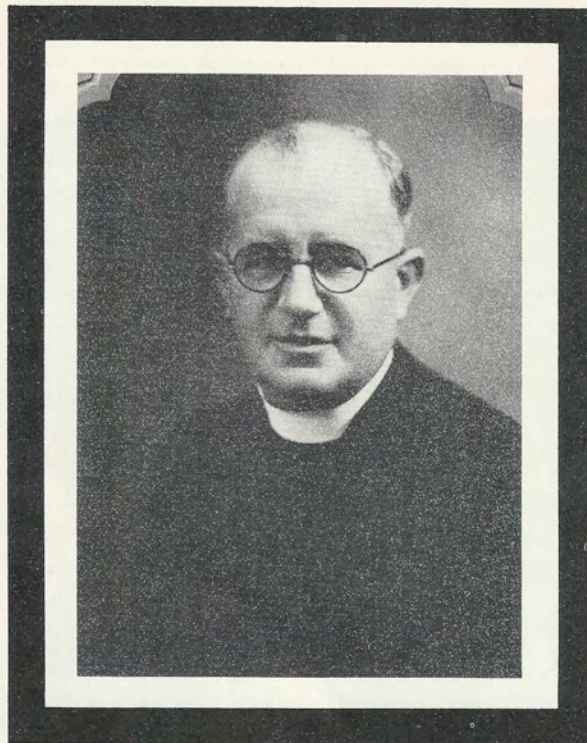
REV. JOSEPH L. FILLION

PASTOR

Born: April 26, 1890

Ordained: June 17, 1916

Appointed Pastor of St. Matthew Church: July 7, 1938



REV. JAMES P. WELSH

Founder and Pastor, 1927 to 1938

Born September 25, 1885, in Hubbardston, Michigan, Fr. James P. Welsh attended St. John's school there until 1899, when he went to Assumption College, Windsor, for his college and philosophy courses. In 1906, he was sent to Mt. St. Mary's-of-the-West, Cincinnati, Ohio, for theological studies.

Ordained July 4, 1909, by the late Bishop John S. Foley, Fr. Welsh's first appointment was as pastor of St. Mary's parish, Three Oaks. While there he built St. Anthony's Church, Buchanan, a mission of Three Oaks. He was there until 1919, when he was named pastor of St. Charles, Coldwater.

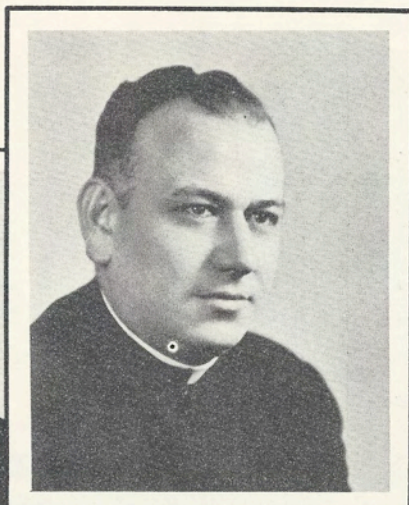
In 1926, the late Bishop Michael J. Gallagher asked him to organize St. Matthew parish here and to be its first pastor. In 1938 he was appointed pastor of St. David's parish, succeeding the late Bishop William F. Murphy, who was named first bishop of the Diocese of Saginaw.

After 46 years in the Priesthood—all of them as pastor—Fr. Welsh died of a heart ailment on May 8, 1955.

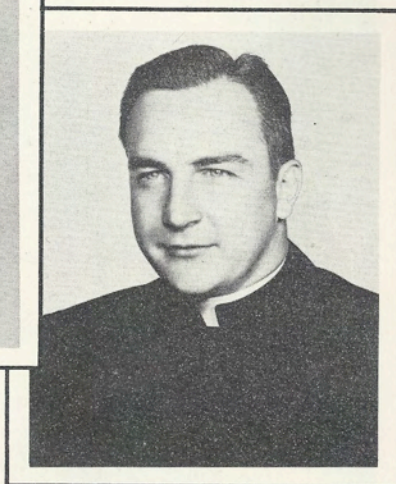
May Fr. Welsh, the Founder of St. Matthew parish, be frequently in the prayers of the parishioners of St. Matthew parish. And may his soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



REV. JOHN E. O'NEILL



REV. RAYMOND J. MARSHALL



REV. GERALD A. NITOSKI

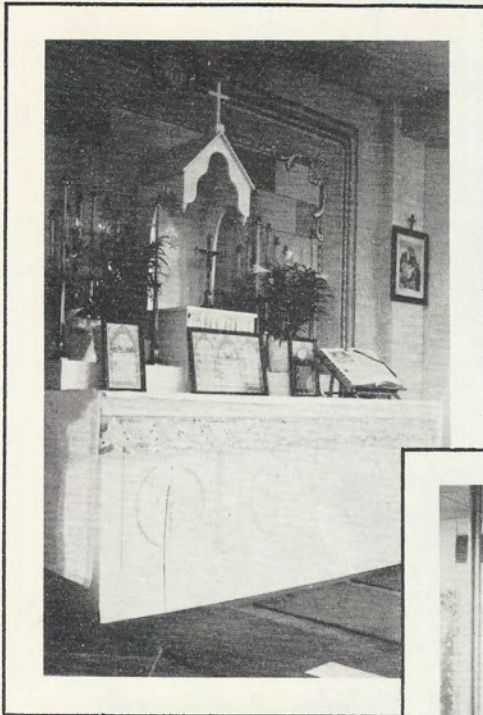
FORMER ASSISTANTS

Rev. Morgan V. Harris

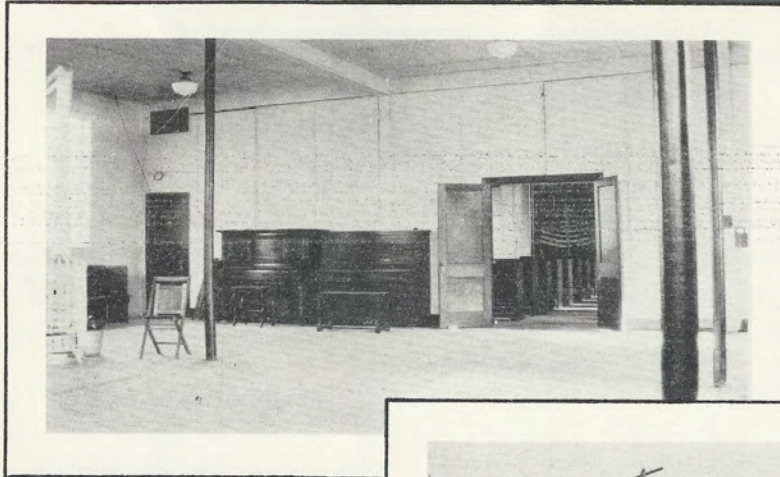
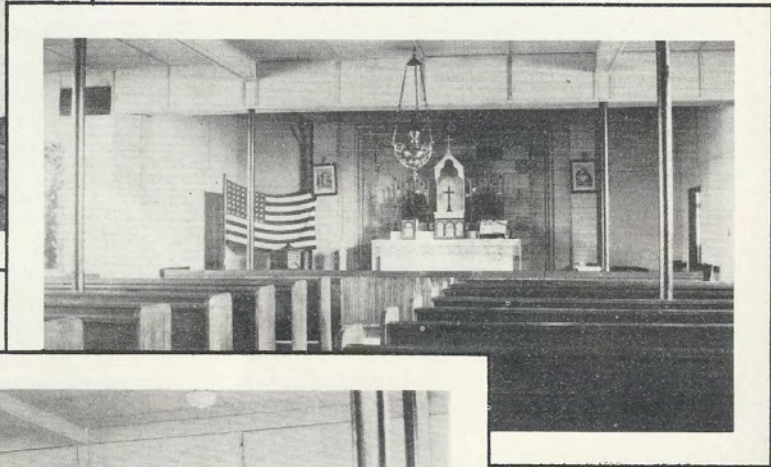
May he rest
in peace.

Rev. Joseph Canaan
Rev. Joseph M. Conroy
Rev. Leo J. DePlaunty
Rev. John F. Furlong
Rev. Charles J. Holton
Rev. Robert J. Kilcoyne
Rev. William P. Mooney
Rev. Clare A. Murphy
Rev. Raymond V. Myrick
Rev. John T. Reid
Rev. John C. Ryan
Rev. Alfred H. Sadler
Rev. Thomas F. Shields
Rev. Frank J. Walsh

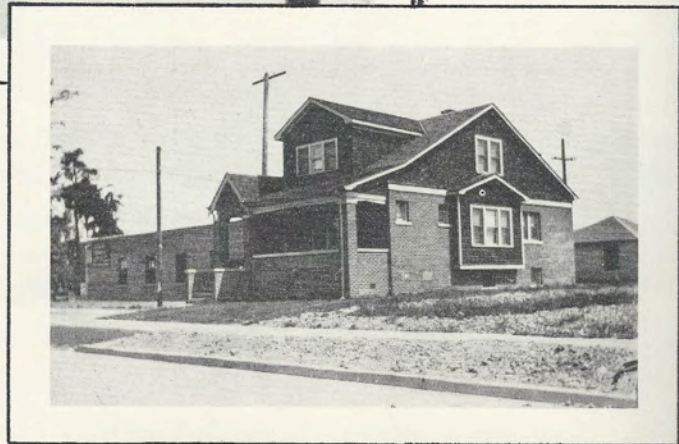
Week-end help: Rev. Cornelius P. Crowley, C. S. B.



These are the views of the interior of the old church building, Buckingham and Harper, now used as a parish hall. The whole parish centered around the one church building.



Partitioned off from the church was the parish hall used for social gatherings.



The first parish rectory, 5966 Buckingham, adjacent to the church.

HISTORY OF THE PARISH

The dedication of St. Matthew Church marks the fulfillment of a dream which began twenty-nine years ago.

St. Matthew Parish was founded in December, 1926. The vast, sparsely settled parish, bounded on the south by Waveney Avenue and on the west by Nottingham, was without boundaries on the north and east.

Farmers lent their horses to clear the land and turn the sod for the first parish building, the present hall at the corner of Harper and Buckingham. The building served as both temporary church and auditorium in the early years.

Father James P. Welsh was appointed the first pastor. When Father Welsh came to look over the territory assigned to him, only five homes were visible from the corner of Harper and Three Mile.

Celebrate First Mass

The first Mass was celebrated in St. Matthew parish on May 22, the fifth Sunday after Easter, 1927. Shortly thereafter, Father Welsh moved into the rectory at 5966 Buckingham, and the fledgling parish began its phenomenal growth.

Father Welsh was not only pastor, but doctor, benefactor, friend, advisor, and co-worker to the people in his care. It was never too late or too early for him to answer a call when he was needed. He dug deep into his pockets, and even through them, to assist his people and carry on the burden of the new parish.

Loyal workers and generous donors soon presented themselves, and St. Matthew Parish was definitely on the map.

Form Parish Organizations

The first parish organizations were formed in 1927. Local chapters of the Holy Name Society and the Confraternity of Christian Mothers were started to enrich the spiritual life of the people.

A men's and women's club were organized for social and fund-raising purposes.

An attendance of 16 to 20 was considered splendid at the first meetings of the Women's Club. Today it has over 250 members.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society was organized early in the parish, the men silently making their rounds, lending their time and giving out of their own pockets to help the needy.

The League of the Sacred Heart was formed, and the members distributed pamphlets door to door to all the parishioners.



Father Welsh

Organizations Work Together

The various parish organizations worked together on parish parties and affairs.

Many "get-acquainted parties" were held for the men, women, and young people of the Parish.

Box socials were popular. Many of the parishioners lent their homes for benefit parties. One couple put on a Moose Dinner for the whole parish at Buckingham Hall.

The Women's Club sponsored 25-cent afternoon card parties and evening Bingo parties. The women solicited on foot for donations for the parties, over unpaved streets and broken sidewalks which were almost impassable in winter.

Donations would be a jar of homemade jelly, a pound of coffee, 25 cents in cash, sometimes even a dollar.

Mrs. Welsh, mother of the pastor, and his sister, Miss Elizabeth Welsh, were members of the women's organizations. Father Welsh and his mother and sister attended most of the parish parties and other affairs in the early days of the parish, and enjoyed them and the songfests which followed.

More Property Purchased

Anticipating a building boom from Gratiot Avenue south, and north from Mack Avenue, the parish purchased property for further expansion at Whittier and McKinney Avenues, present site of Dominican High School.

The real estate development south of Harper progressed more rapidly than that on the north, so additional property, the present site, on Harper between Audubon and Whittier, was purchased and earmarked for the future development of St. Matthew Parish.

Build New School

In 1930, after three years of generous giving, plus innumerable bake sales, bazaars, and other fund-raising ventures, the first section of St. Matthew School, a convent, and a new church auditorium were built. It was a gala day, indeed, when ground was broken for the new building.

A home adjacent to the church property was purchased for a rectory. St. Matthew Parish was growing.

Parish is Tested

The '30's brought their problems. Work was scarce, and money, too. Despite stalwart parishioners, our financial indebtedness, due especially to our extensive property holdings, which proved burdensome, increased. Yet our spiritual progress, undiminished by our straitened financial status, was steady. New people were attracted to the parish. More homes were built. With the passing of the '30's, our vigorous parish resumed its steady growth.



Women's Club Pioneers



*St. Matthew School,
Audubon and Harper,
built 1930.*

Father Fillion Appointed

Father Joseph Fillion, our present pastor, succeeded Father Welsh in June of 1938. To him fell the task of paying off our accumulated indebtedness, which was considerable. Aided by staunch parishioners, Father Fillion began to show remarkable progress in getting us out of the red.

The war years of the '40's saw us increase in stature. Overcrowded conditions were alleviated somewhat, when Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish was formed. Much of its territory had been serviced by St. Matthew Church. Yet our early maturity left us without adequate school rooms.

Necessary expansion was not possible until our debt was liquidated. This was soon accomplished, and in 1949 an addition to the convent was completed.

Plan For New Church

Immediately, Father Fillion began to dream and save for the crowning gem of the parish, our new church.

By 1953, with \$300,000 already earmarked for the project, an intensive Building Fund Drive was organized. Under the leadership of Father Fillion, the men of the parish formed a Building Fund Committee, and enlisted workers to canvass every home for contributions to the fund.



So prompt and generous was the response of the people of the parish that ground was blessed and broken for the new church on October 11, 1953.

Eight months later, on June 27, 1954, Monsignor Henry E. Donnelly, Dean of the Eastern Deanery, now Bishop, laid the cornerstone for the new church.

Fr. Welsh occupied the second parish house at 5999 Whittier. It was used until 1955.



A long cherished dream begins to materialize as Fr. Fillion breaks the sod for the new church, Oct. 11, 1953.



Fr. Fillion blessing the ground before the ground-breaking ceremonies for the new church. Shown with him are Matthew Lalewicz, General Contractor, and Fred Laferty of Donaldson and Meier, Architects.

Construction proceeded rapidly, and in September, 1955, two years after the ground breaking, the building was completed.

On September 21, the Feast of St. Matthew, the new church was dedicated. Approximately 100 members of the clergy, and a record crowd of parishioners, and their families attended the dedication ceremony.

The first Mass in the new St. Matthew Church was celebrated the following Sunday, September 25th.

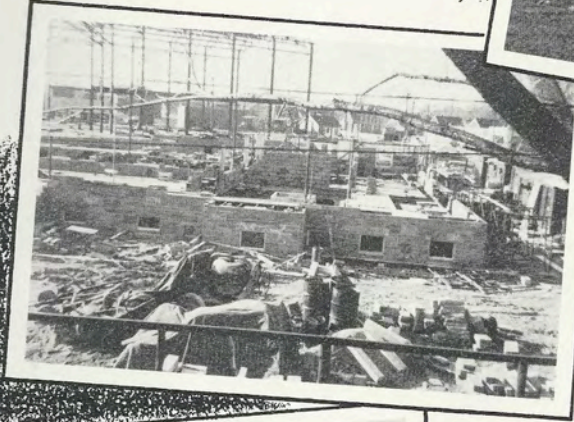
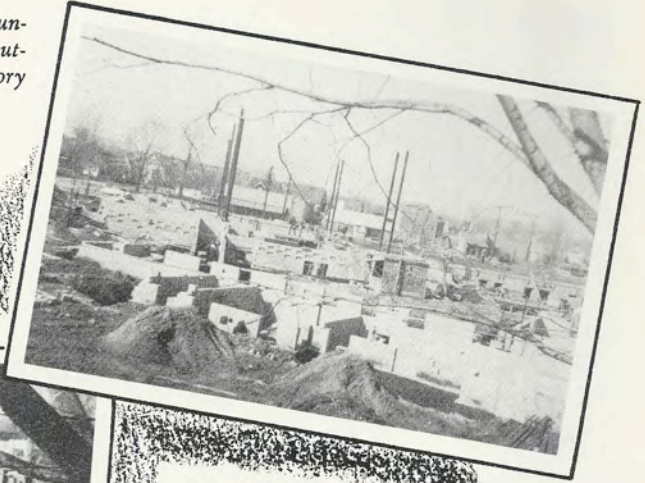
The completion of St. Matthew Church is the realization of a dream shared by the late Father Welsh, our founder, Father Fillion, our Pastor, and the people of St. Matthew Parish.

To all those who shared in making this dream come true, St. Matthew Church is more than a monument of stone and marble. It is a symbol of faith, and work, and sacrifice, the spiritual qualities required of those who would build a dwelling place for God.

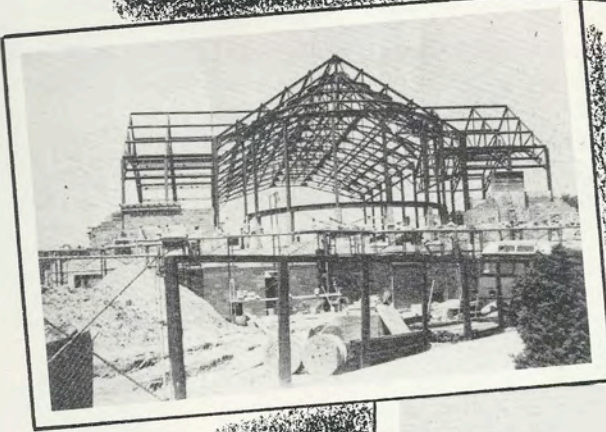


Below, assisted by Fr. Fillion, Msgr. (now Bishop) Henry E. Donnelly blessed the cornerstone of the new church on June 27, 1954.

By late fall, 1953, firm foundations were set and the outlines of church and rectory could be easily seen.

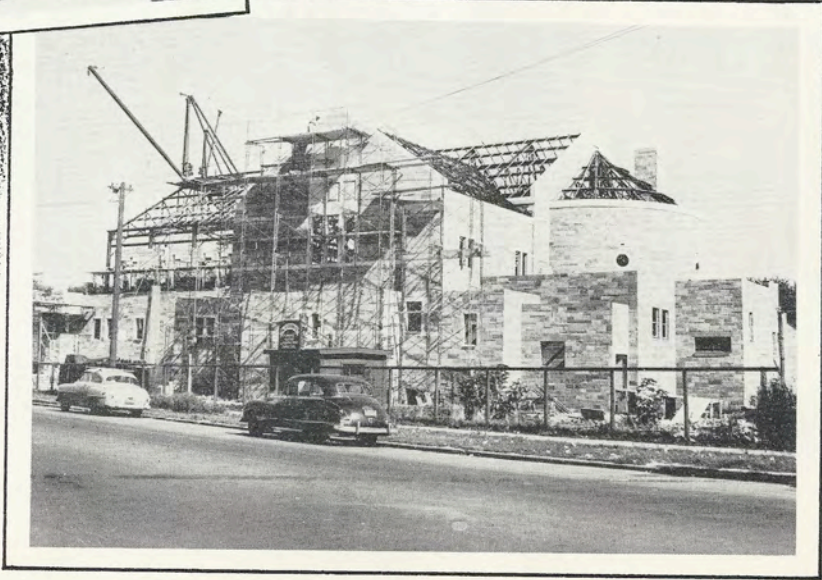


A mild winter favored rapid progress as the superstructures began to take shape.



Late summer, 1954, saw workmen scampering over scaffolding to complete the sidewalls so that the roofers could close in the church for winter work.

In the spring of 1954, the framework of the church took on a body of stone and the cornerstone was laid.



ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL

"Know you not that you are Temples of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you." This exhortation of St. Paul, frequently repeated in his epistles, is a truth that Catholic educators endeavor to make a realization in the lives of the children entrusted to them.

It is most significant that the dedication of our new and beautiful church marks the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the 351 living temples who began St. Matthew School.

Begins With Staff of Seven

When the school opened, September 8, 1930, the faculty consisted of seven members: Mother Sara, Sister Muriel, Sister Frances Paula, Sister Marie Vincent, Sister Raymonda, Sister Mary Matthew, and Mrs. Donnelly.

In the early days, St. Matthew Parish Hall served a triple purpose. It was a temporary church, a convent, and a school. Eager Sisters made frequent trips to view the building project on the corner of Harper and Audubon. So anxious were they to reside in their permanent home, that they moved into the new building even before it was completed.

To conduct classes amid the din and hammering and floor laying was counted as labor well spent, for soon the building would accommodate numerous children of parents who sought a thoroughly religious education for their families.

By 1940, the enrollment had increased from the original 351 students, to approximately 800 under the direction of 13 Sisters. At present the enrollment has reached over the 1000 mark, with 15 Sisters and three lay teachers on the staff.

As the numbers show, constant and frequent expansion was needed to keep pace with the growing number of children who sought entrance. Only a far-seeing pastor could joyfully make the expenditures necessary for extra rooms in the interest and cause of Catholic education.



First Graduation Class from the new St. Matthew School in 1931.



Fr. Welsh poses with the First Communion Class from St. Matthew School.



Crowning the statue of Our Blessed Mother by the children of St. Matthew School in May is an annual ceremony. Here is the first group to honor Our Lady.

School Initiates Cooperative System

St. Matthew School was selected as one of the key schools to initiate the Cooperative System of Education in 1937. Educators from Washington, D. C., Ohio, Illinois, and various parts of Michigan came to observe classes and receive instructions from the faculty. At that time, Reverend John C. Ryan, the present director of the Arch-Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, set up offices in our school and developed with our pupils a new course of religion according to the cooperative plan.

In the past few years, observation and directive studies in reading and social studies were conducted throughout the grades in St. Matthew School.

Results of this progressive teaching can be measured by the number of our students attaining scholarships at De La Salle, U. of D., Girls' Catholic Central, and St. Mary Academy, Monroe. Also, in 1940, the school came out on top for the All-City-Quiz-Down Program.

Encourage Music Activities

Music has always been considered part of the cultural development of the child at St. Matthew School. Forty-five members made up the first music class. Shortly after, a seven-piece orchestra was formed. By 1952, we had both a junior and senior orchestra.

Because of the increased demand for classroom teachers, the Sisters were forced to turn over the music department to lay teachers, but we are ever eager to encourage and foster musical talent.

Receive Sports Awards

Sports, naturally, play a share in the physical development of the children of St. Matthew's. Baseball seems to be a favorite sport. Our team proudly paraded the All-City Championship award in 1953. No one can agree whether the boys or Father Fillion were happier at receiving the award.

The football team of 1949 was exceptional. The St. Matthew team won the All-City Championship that year.

The girls of St. Matthew's also came to the foreground and displayed their skill at basketball in 1953. That year they won the C.Y.O. Championship Trophy.

Win Other Awards

On three different occasions St. Matthew School won a safety award, the Green Pennant, for a perfect safety record. In 1949, Mayor Van Antwerp and the Reverend Carroll Deady, Superintendent of schools, honored us with this presentation.

Several Choose Religious Vocations

The spiritual growth and development of our former students can best be measured by their lives. The seeds of 25 years of Christian education are now bearing fruit, especially in the number of religious vocations from the parish.

Nine boys from our school are now studying for the Priesthood in various seminaries. Two young men are preparing to become Brothers.

Twenty-two of our girls have generously answered the call of Christ to the Sisterhood, by joining the ranks of the Dominican and Immaculate Heart Sisters.

Studying for religious vocations are—

OUR BOYS

D. Leinger	Capuchins
D. Rees	Sacred Heart Seminary
J. Howard	Basilian Fathers
T. McSweeney	Sacred Heart Seminary
J. McCormick	Sacred Heart Seminary
T. Taggart	Augustinians
J. Mc Cormick	Paulist Fathers
J. Von Tobel	Jesuits
G. Faucette	Marists
E. Van Hollebeke	Br. Benedict David
J. Humbel	Br. Benedict Pius

OUR GIRLS

M. A. D'Haene	Sr. Donna Marie	O.P.
E. Murphy	Sr. Marie Aquino	O.P.
M. L. Reihl	Sr. Christine Mary	O.P.
M. A. Warras	Sr. Mary Leonice	O.P.
E. Mayer	Sr. Helene Terese	O.P.
M. Hall	Sr. Jeremiah	O.P.
N. A. Werman	Sr. Joan Francis	O.P.
J. Fitzgerald	Sr. George Agnes	O.P.
P. Mc Carty	Sr. William Francine	O.P.
J. Murray	Sr. Rose Roch	O.P.
S. Boettcher	Sr. Elaine Therese	O.P.
J. Monahan	Postulant	O.P.
M. Hemmen	Postulant	O.P.
T. Craig	Sr. Rose Terrance	O.P.
E. Denomme	Sr. M. Yvonne	I.H.M.
M. A. Humble	Sr. M. Lucinda	I.H.M.
J. Lauer	Sr. Janice Marie	I.H.M.
K. DeSmet	Sr. Joseph Rita	I.H.M.
M. Healey	Sr. Marie Gael	I.H.M.
M. A. Miller	Sr. Edmund Campion	I.H.M.
M. I. Miller	Sr. Marie George	I.H.M.
J. Thomas	Sr. Ann Kathleen	I.H.M.

ALTAR BOYS

"I will go unto the Altar of God, unto God who gives joy to my youth." All down the years, youths in the role of server have thus answered the priest at the altar.

For some of them, service as an altar boy ends with graduation from the eighth grade, for others with graduation from high-school. But that deeper sense of belonging near the altar remains with them always.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is a unique act of worship in which Christ offers Himself to His Father through the ministry of the priest.

By special privilege, the Church allows young men, not in the ranks of the clergy to put on the clerical garb—cassock and surplice—and assist the priest at this infinite Sacrifice.

After the priest, the altar boy receives the greatest share of the Mass and a greater share than the assisting laity.

Even before he begins to learn his Latin, the server experiences this call to come closer to Christ in the Mass.

When he accepts Christ's challenge and realizes his great privilege, then the server can meet joyfully any difficulty along the way, whether it be learning the prayers, coming to practice, or answering the 6:00 a.m. alarm.

In this same spirit of joy, the people of St. Matthew Parish pay tribute to all St. Matthew altar boys, past, present, and future; to those boys now preparing "to go unto the Altar of God" as priests; and to all those boys whose vocations will always be to act "through Him, with Him and in Him", to give unto God "all praise, love, and glory forever."

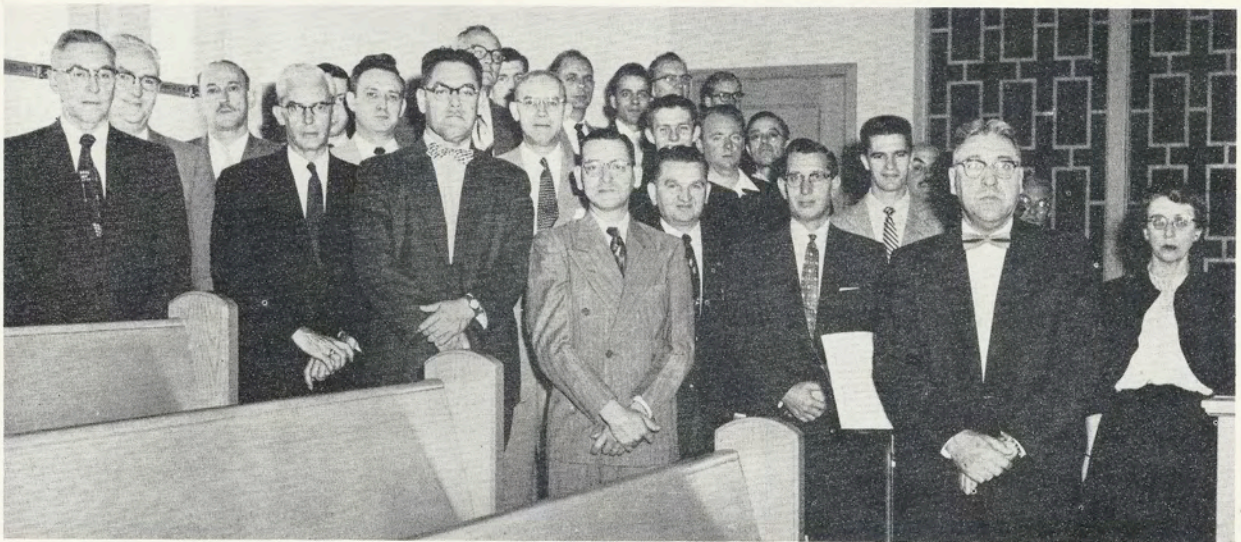
ST. MATTHEW MEN'S CHOIR

The new St. Matthew Men's Choir has a membership of some 30 men who have been rehearsing intensively since June, 1955.

At the dedication of our new church, the choir sang the impressive "Ecce Sacerdos Magnus," composed by Father John E. Ronan for three groups of voices. This singing took place as the cross bearer and the acolytes, leading the attending clergy, the celebrant, and ministers, first entered and proceeded towards the foot of the altar. The choir also sang the following numbers and responses during the blessing ceremonies:

Ecce Sacerdos Magnus	John E. Ronan
Veni Creator Spiritus	J. Singenberger
O Salutaris	Ph. Bellenot
Tantum Ergo	Palestrina
Holy God	

In preparation by the choir are also four-part High Masses for the regular Sunday Services, as well as solo numbers.



St. Matthew Men's Choir directed by Mr. S. E. Hebert.

Director of the St. Matthew Men's Choir is Mr. S. Edward Hebert, a long time resident of the parish. While not a professional musician, "Ed" Hebert has had long and successful experience as a choir director. He is also an accomplished organist.

USHERS' CLUB

One evening in September of 1928, a group of men held a meeting at the home of Al Milligan on Evanston Avenue in Detroit.

Meeting with Mr. Milligan were George Herbert, Walter Louwers, Archie Malo, Leslie Hartway, Otto Cole, James McNish, Michael O'Connor, Larie Allor, Arthur Louwers, Leo Brandel, Patrick O'Hara, James Young, George Quinn, Ben King, and Frank McMann. These men formed the nucleus of St. Matthew Ushers' Club.

Mr. Milligan, who acted as chairman of the meeting, selected Mr. Herbert and Mr. Arthur Louwers to draw up by-laws for the formation of the club. At the following meeting, the by-laws were approved and officers elected.

First officers of the Ushers' Club were :

Al Milligan, *President*

George Herbert, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Present officers of the Ushers' Club are :

Rev. Joseph L. Fillion, *Chaplain*

Joseph A. Karle, Jr., *President*

Lawrence Leduc, *Vice-President*

Anthony Caffrey, *Secretary-Treasurer*



Happy faces prove that working is as much fun as attending the Women's Club parties.

WOMEN'S CLUB

A group of women gathered at the home of Mrs. Joseph Eger on Courville Road in September, 1927, to form a working organization to help meet the financial needs of the parish. The twenty women present at the meeting formed the Martha Club.

The name of the organization was changed in 1929 to the St. Matthew Women's Club. Mrs. Ben King was elected the first president. The first luncheon and card party, given by the president, was held in the school hall. The price was just 35 cents.

As the parish grew, new members joined the club until today St. Matthew Women's Club has over 250 members. The Club holds monthly luncheons and card parties. The food served is excellent, and door prizes are an added incentive to attendance.

The custom of holding a Women's Club Banquet at the end of the working season in appreciation of the work accomplished began in 1934. Membership dues of \$1.00 were applied toward this expense.

When Father Joseph Fillion became pastor of St. Matthew Parish and spiritual advisor to the Women's Club, he took over sponsorship of the banquet. He terms it his "reciprocation for all the good work and efforts of the women of the club."

Space does not permit mention of all the individuals who have given time, effort, and money to help the club attain its goals. Each and every member has contributed to club activities and projects. The members are especially proud of their contributions to the St. Matthew Church Building Fund.

The President of the Women's Club for the coming season, Mrs. John E. Quirk, looks forward to another year of outstanding accomplishment for the club.

Past Officers of St. Matthew Women's Club

1927-28

Pres. Mrs. Ben J. King
V. Pres. Mrs. Alex Carreyn
Sec. Mrs. H. Keils
Treas. Mrs. George Belprey

1928-29

Pres. Mrs. T. J. LaFontaine
V. Pres. Mrs. James Young
Sec. Mrs. M. P. Wenzel
Treas. Mrs. Joseph Eger

1929-30

Pres. Mrs. J. B. Cunningham
V. Pres. Mrs. James Young
Sec. Mrs. L. Riecher
Treas. Mrs. George Belprey

1930-31

Pres. Mrs. P. V. O'Hara
V. Pres. Mrs. M. A. Smith
Sec. Mrs. L. Riecher
Treas. Mrs. M. VanCooley

1931-32

Pres. Mrs. A. W. Voiland
V. Pres. Mrs. Thomas Weatherly
Sec. Mrs. A. L. Allor
Treas. Mrs. James McNish

1932-33

Pres. Mrs. Joseph Gagnon
V. Pres. Mrs. Frank Saile
Sec. Mrs. John Quirk
Treas. Mrs. James McNish

1933-34

Pres. Mrs. Ben J. King
V. Pres. Mrs. L. Hartway
Sec. Mrs. E. H. Cook
Treas. Mrs. Edgar Ireland

1934-35

Pres. Mrs. T. J. Howard
V. Pres. Mrs. Thomas Weatherly
Sec. Mrs. W. P. Cusick
Treas. Mrs. Norbert Hoffman

1935-36

Pres. Mrs. Norbert Hoffman
V. Pres. Mrs. John Quirk
Sec. Mrs. Paul Reinke
Treas. Mrs. George Peters

1936-37

Pres. Mrs. John Quirk
V. Pres. Mrs. Philip Sillman
Sec. Mrs. S. Hemsteger
Treas. Mrs. Frank Saile

1937-38

Pres. Mrs. Frank Saile
V. Pres. Mrs. John Quirk
Sec. Mrs. Charles Stoll
Treas. Mrs. Arthur Louwers

1938-39

Pres. Mrs. Leo Easterman
V. Pres. Mrs. Frank Czekiel
Sec. Mrs. J. Hagermoser
Treas. Mrs. Henry Dymond

1939-40

Pres. Mrs. W. Mader
V. Pres. Mrs. Roy Geis
Sec. Mrs. Harry Ryan
Treas. Mrs. Louis Jensen

1941-42

Pres. Mrs. John Quirk
V. Pres. Mrs. Norbert Hoffman
Sec. Mrs. Arthur Dubeau
Treas. Mrs. Arthur Young

1942-43

Pres. Mrs. W. Crowley
V. Pres. Mrs. J. W. Baker
Sec. Mrs. W. W. Shafer
Treas. Mrs. John Corbett

1943-44

Pres. Mrs. T. W. Barden
V. Pres. Mrs. Jack Burke
Sec. Mrs. Arthur Louwers
Treas. Mrs. Sam Jones

1944-45

Pres. Mrs. T. J. Stodola
V. Pres. Mrs. Jack Pallach
Sec. Mrs. A. B. Allwein
Treas. Mrs. N. J. Schneider

1945-46

Pres. Mrs. John Baker
V. Pres. Mrs. Martin Tapatte
Sec. Mrs. Basil Cunningham
Treas. Mrs. Frank Smith

1946-47

Pres. Mrs. Walter Wiseman
V. Pres. Mrs. Ellen Ryan
Sec. Mrs. George Schafer
Treas. Mrs. I. Pohl

1947-48

Pres. Mrs. Ellen Ryan
V. Pres. Mrs. Frank McKay
Sec. Mrs. Don Hatzenbuhler
Treas. Mrs. Omer Denomme

1948-49

Pres. Mrs. B. Longhi
V. Pres. Mrs. Edward Hanafin
Sec. Miss Henrietta Rapp
Treas. Mrs. G. Newbold

1949-50

Pres. Mrs. Don Hatzenbuhler
V. Pres. Mrs. Omer Denomme
Sec. Mrs. C. P. Clarety
Treas. Mrs. C. Montgomery

1950-51

Pres. Mrs. Edward Hanafin
V. Pres. Mrs. K. Lyons
Sec. Mrs. B. Costa
Treas. Mrs. R. Keais

1951-52

Pres. Mrs. Edward Ploe
V. Pres. Mrs. Maurice Chevalier
Sec. Mrs. Daniel Sweeney
Treas. Mrs. Rupert Keais

1952-53

Pres. Mrs. Eugene Chapp
V. Pres. Mrs. Charles Stoll
Sec. Mrs. A. Caffrey
Treas. Mrs. C. Landine

1953-54

Pres. Mrs. Cyril Wanket
V. Pres. Mrs. John Defever
Sec. Mrs. Robert Huth
Treas. Mrs. William Sherman

1954-55

Pres. Mrs. Anthony Caffrey
V. Pres. Mrs. William Cusick
Sec. Mrs. Larry Zorn
Treas. Mrs. Harry Modoff
Corres. Sec. Mrs. Robert Heileman

1955-56

Pres. Mrs. John Quirk
V. Pres. Mrs. Marion Hodas
Sec. Mrs. George Lauhoff
Corres. Sec. Mrs. Charles Diedrich
Treas. Mrs. Edward Healey

SQUARE DANCE CLUB

"Do-si-do" and "Allemande left" can be heard on the first and third Friday evening almost every month during the winter season at St. Matthew Parish Hall, Buckingham and Harper. For square dancing is one of the popular activities among the people of St. Matthew Parish.

St. Matthew Square and Round Dances were organized ten years ago under the sponsorship of the Women's Club with the encouragement of Father Joseph Fillion. Mrs. Leo C. Johnson served as first chairman of the group.

First callers for the dances were from the Early American Ford Foundation. The present callers, Lee and Mildred Brennan, have led the dancers for the past nine years. Bauman's Musical Notes supply the music.

Mrs. Donald Alter served as chairman of the dances from 1951 to 1955. Mrs. Edward Kelly has taken over the chairmanship for the 1955-56 series.

Members of the Women's Club assist in handling door receipts, check room, and refreshments.