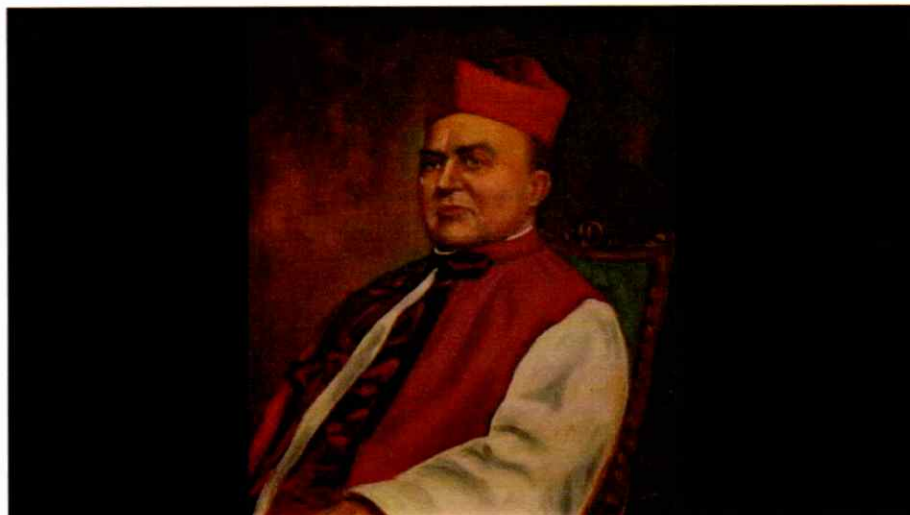


A Moment In Time



***Celebrating the 130th Anniversary of the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters
1894 – 2024***

Radiating the Mystery God's Love

God's goodness was so evident in the early life of the congregation with the generosity of people who gave their services to the sisters. A great friend and benefactor was **Very Reverend George Borneman**, pastor of St. Paul's in Reading, a man of great vision, keen social interests. His great apostolic soul discerned the future possibilities for the spread of God's kingdom through the community. He was Mother Veronica's chief advisor and fatherly protector during all those years. In August 24, 1905, Monsignor Borneman gifted the sisters with a ten acre parcel of land. On the first of September of the same year, Mother Veronica bought five adjoining acres from the owners Monsignor Borneman and Mr. Owen paying the purchase value of \$1500. in cash. It was on this plot that Mother Veronica had Sacred Heart Convent built. The convent was planned according to the suggestions of Mother Veronica and Mother Frances, but the supervision of the building was carried out by Monsignor Borneman. Mother Veronica placed her complete trust in his fatherly protection and Monsignor Borneman served her faithfully. The dedication ceremony of the convent was carried out on the feast of Saint Clare on August 12, 1907 by Monsignor .Borneman to whom the community owed so much.