The History of Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Rock Creek, Ohio

A Compilation from Many Sources

Inspired by Ruth Ann Deis

Table of Contents

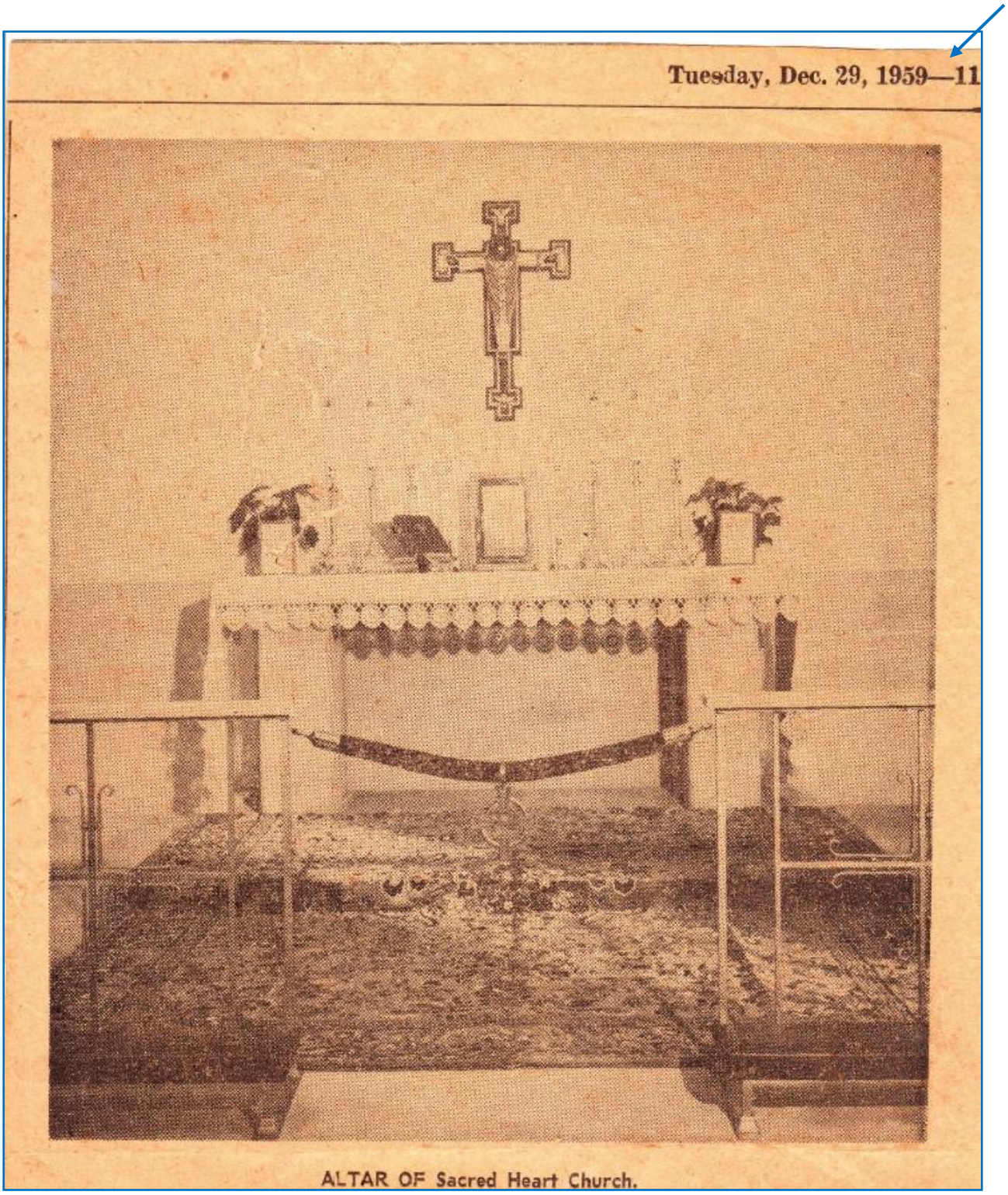
Blessed Altar of Sacred Heart 1
Sacred Heart Church, Inside and Outside..... 2
Joseph and Rose Kujbus, Sacred Heart's Founders 3
In the Beginning..... 4
Diocesan Publication..... 6
Church History (authored by two parishioners)..... 7
Rev. Rath, Ground Breaking, 1959..... 8
The Kujbus Family Residence (destroyed by fire)..... 9
Historic Account #1..... 10
Historic Account #2..... 11
Historic Account #3..... 13
Historic Account #4, Timeline Stories, Part 1..... 15
Historic Account #5, Timeline Stories, Part 2 19
Historic Account #6..... 22
Historic Account #7, 20th Birthday (Authored by Margaret D. Tadsen)..... 24
Historic Account #8, 25th Birthday, Silver Jubilee..... 26
Historic Account #9, 60th Birthday..... 30
Altar and Rosary Minutes..... 32
Aerial View of Sacred Heart, 1976..... 34
Sacred Heart's Pastors..... 35
Decree of Erection..... 37
Maps, Rock Creek Area 1874 38
Maps, Rock Creek Area 1905 40
Locating Sacred Heart, Distance Calibration..... 41
Maps, Rock Creek Area (Kujbus house location relative to Sacred Heart), 1950 & 2024..... 42
Pictures, Historic Rock Creek..... 43

Ruth Ann Deis inspired this compilation which was created by many of Sacred Heart's parishioners.

Thankyou

Ruth Ann and Bill Deis

The Blessed Altar of Sacred Heart



ALTAR OF Sacred Heart Church.

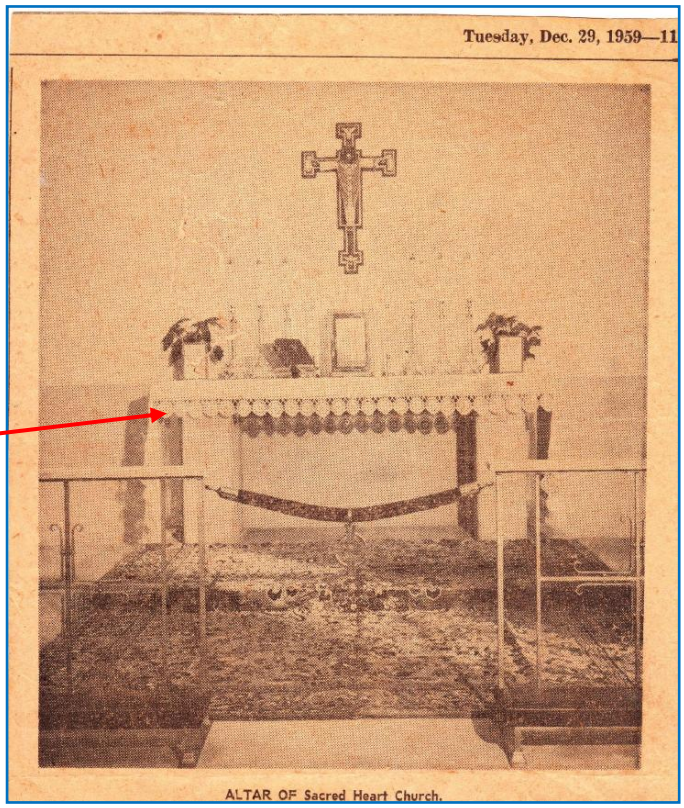
Note the altar's position, the priest's back is toward the people (Pre Vatican II) and the communion rail kneelers are at the bottom, left and right.

Sacred Heart Church, Inside and Outside

Joseph and Rose Kujbus, Sacred Heart's Founders

Pronounced Koo-ja-bus

1956 - Joseph & Rose Kujbus, Hungarian Immigrants, donated 10 acres of land. Sacred Heart mission was established on October 14.



Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1959—11

ALTAR OF Sacred Heart Church.

Rev. Rath receiving the first altar linen from Rose Kujbus. Note the picture.

In the Beginning...

Sacred Heart Church

Celebrating 50 Years in Service to God
1956 – 2006

Catholic Spirituality throughout 50 Ye

We are all so blessed and privileged to be parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish, Rock Creek, OH!

The Exponent carried an awesome article on October 19, 1956. "Rock Creek Is Going To Have a Church!" The wire service did not pick up this news, but area Catholics who received a note from Father John Rath telling about a church considered it the biggest news to hit print in a very long time.

And the story of just how the Mission – Sacred Heart would be its name – came to be is about poignant a one as you'll come upon.

Joseph and Rose Kujbus lived in this tucked away hamlet of 700 [Morgan Twp.]. They went to St. Mary in Orwell for mass each Sunday. In 1953, as they traveled on their Sunday "lift" – they didn't drive an auto – they noticed a piece of land on the west side of Rt. 45 and determined it would be a good spot for a church.

Mr. Kujbus inquired about the property and was told he'd have to buy all 10 acres, so he did. He later related, "Now the fellow wants it back, but I said, 'No. A church will be built there.'"

Now what does an immigrant couple with 10 acres do to get a church? They didn't know. You don't just barge in on the bishop & say, "We've got 10 acres. Build us a church." At least you don't if you're a pious, old-world couple, a couple to whom a bishop is an awesome person.

So they kept the land for three years, praying confidently that somehow, some day a church would be built there.

Finally, through a friend, word got to Bishop Emmet M. Walsh who appointed Father Rath, then pastor of Assumption Parish in Geneva, to set up a mission.

And Mrs. Kujbus, whose devotion to the Sacred Heart prompted her to suggest the mission be placed under His patronage, was elated to hear Father Rath report the Bishop had said, "If Rose wants it named for the Sacred Heart, that's what it will be."

Meanwhile, Father started offering mass in the Rock Creek [Elementary] School at 8:30 each Sunday morning & later in the now Rock Creek Grille. Parishioners, some whose names we still hear today—Clark, Dyrcz, Ecko, McClusky, Roach, Rowley, Tadsen & others—helped clean & prepare their place of worship for Sunday Mass. Mr. Kujbus, a retired steelworker & farmer, found himself very busy with the new project.

In the Beginning, cont.

prizes won.

The Sacred Heart Catholic Church broke ground July 5th for a 50 x 100 foot building. For mal approval to build the church was received July 2. The new building is expected to be com pleted this fall will become the permanent home of the church which was organized three years ago. The ceremonies took place following 8:30 a.m. mass. New location for the building is on Rt. 45 near the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. substation. Ten acres of land were donated for church use by Mr and Mrs. Jos eph Kujbus, Rock Creek. Parti cipating in the ceremonies was the Rev John Rath of Geneva and the Catholic War Veterans of Geneva. The Rev Fr. Rath was one of the organizers and the first pastor of the sacred heart church. The Rev. Donald Oser assistant to the Rev. Fr Rath during the organization of the chruch met at the Rock Creek School. For the past two years the church has leased a building near the Rock Creek Library. Present membership is 160. A breakfast was served after the ground breaking at the sacred heart church.

Rose Kujbus

Aug 30, 1889 - Aug 1962

Ohio

Rose Kujbus of Ohio was born on August 30, 1889, and died at age 73 years old in August 1962.

Diocesan Publication

Sacred Heart Parish, Rock Cre

1943-1993
50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN GOD'S LOVE

If it were not for the devout faith of Hungarian immigrants, **Joseph and Rose Kujbus,** Sacred Heart Parish, Rock Creek, in Ashtabula County, might not exist today.

The couple purchased land in 1953 in the hope that Bishop Emmet M. Walsh would establish a parish in the Rock Creek area and build it on their property.

On Oct. 14, 1956, Sacred Heart became a mission church of Assumption Parish, Geneva. **Fr. John Rath,** pastor of Assumption, offered the first mission Mass in the Rock Creek School gym. Fr. Rath served the mission for four years.

Feeling uncomfortable in the large gymnasium, the members of Sacred Heart in 1957 began holding Mass in a building that later became the Blue Rooster Restaurant.

Still, the members wished for a proper setting for worship, so construction began in July 1959 on a multi-purpose concrete-block structure. Enough work was done on the building that Sacred Heart celebrated its first Mass at midnight on Christmas in its new and permanent home.

On June 24, 1960, Bishop Walsh gave Sacred Heart parish status.

While the parishioners were ecstatic, that excitement was tempered with the realization that Sacred Heart was faced with a large debt. Parishioners, though few in number, were diligent in reducing the expenses.

Under the guidance of **Father Francis Stulc,** who was pastor for one year June '63-'64, the debt did become easier to manage.

In June 1964 **Father James Cavanaugh** became the third pastor of Sacred Heart. He served the parish for two years. His contributions included remodeling the sanctuary with paneling and stone as well as further lessening the parish debt.

Father Alexander Dempster became pastor in June 1966. He also served for two years.

In June 1968 **Father Sylvester Kaminski** was named pastor of Sacred Heart and remained until 1985.

While the pastorate of Sacred Heart remained constant for a number of years, much of the rest of the parish went through changes. In July 1970, the concrete block facade was brick-veneered. Also, the outdoor shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary was erected.

Construction of the new rectory began in November 1971 and was finished in June 1972. An old residence housed the original rectory as well as CCD classes.

On June 8, 1975, the Sacred Heart Shrine and the Sacred Heart Memorial Section in Rock Creek Union Cemetery were blessed by Auxiliary Bishop William A. Hughes. During July of that same year the bell tower at the church was erected.

Volunteerism is commonplace among Sacred Heart's parishioners. The new Social Center annex was completed on Oct. 14, 1976, with much of the work done by donated labor.

Other renovations to the church and its facilities as well as the everyday activities that bring Sacred Heart's members closer together have been aided by charitable parishioners.

Father Edward Kowalski, who became pastor in 1985, is assisted by permanent deacons John Pallo and John Lucchetti in serving the 200 parish families.

Church History (authored by two parishioners)

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Father Rath started saying mass at Rock Creek Elementry School every Sunday at 8:30 am starting on October 14th, 1956. The initial church had fourteen families.

The Kujbus donated their ten acres of land to build their new church. Construction began in July of 1959 and was finished in time to celebrate mass on Christmas Eve, 1959.

On July 24th, 1960, Bishop Walsh gave Sacred Heart Church "Parish Status." The first six pastors did not have to share their work with any other parish. A new rectory was completed in 1972, accommodating the priest and a housekeeper.

In June of 1975 a section of Rock Creek Union Cemetery was purchased and Bishop William Hughes consecrated this as the Sacred Heart Memorial Section. The bell tower was also erected at the church in 1975. The bronze bell was cast about 1898 and originally hung at St. Joseph Church, Newton Falls. The social center annex, a multi-purpose building was completed on October 14th, 1976 which Bishop James Malone blessed and consecrated.

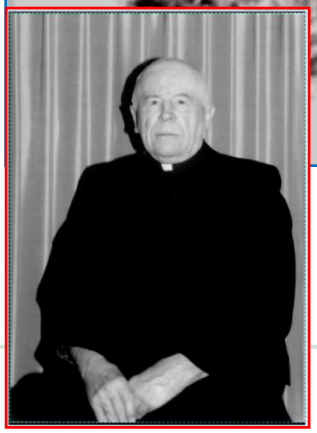
Father John Rath organized the Altar and Rosary Society on December 4th, 1956 with nine members at the first meeting. Today the A & R Society is still going strong with 14 active members and 7 inactive members who show up when workers are needed. We raise money with an annual 2 day sale on Labor Day weekend, and Meatloaf and Cabbage Roll dinners twice a year, and other smaller fund raisers throughout the year. The money raised goes to help with projects in the church.

Much has changed since our 50th anniversary. Many have passed away or relocated. They are all part of our communion of saints that we pray for. Today we are a twin parish with St. Mary's. Our Knights of Columbus is active and shares a council with St. Mary's.

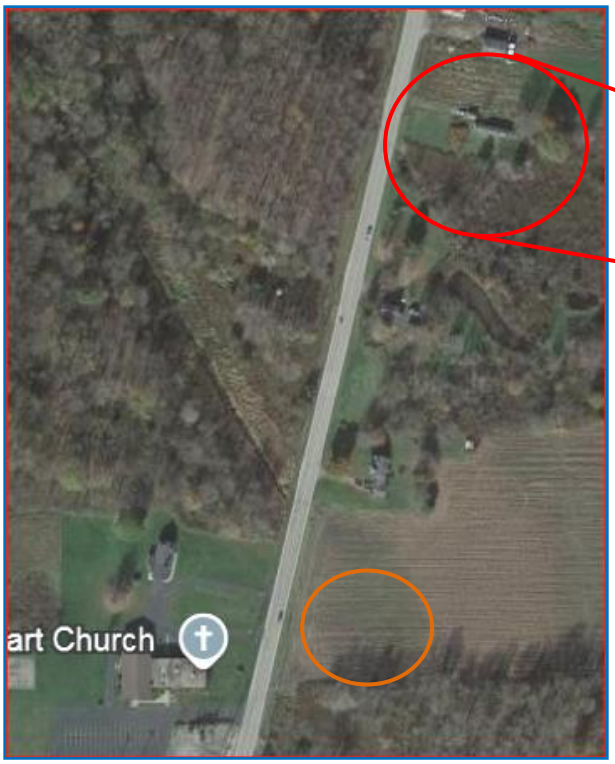
Our 60th anniversary was celebrated On December 4, 2016 at a luncheon after mass with the older members sharing their memories with the rest of us. This year we are 62 years and going strong.

Put together by Pat & Don Commodore & Ruth Ann Davis in May, 2018

Rev. Rath, Ground Breaking, 1959

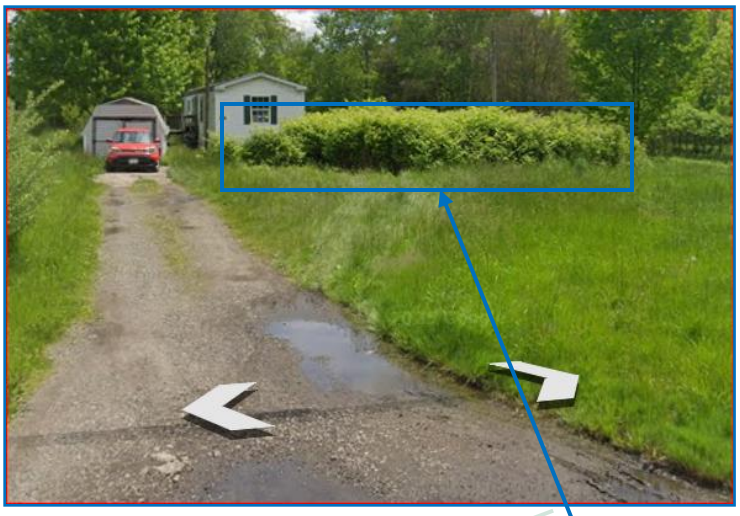


The Kujbus Family Residence (destroyed by fire)



Sacred Heart

House remnants



2968 Rt 45 North
Street View (Google Earth, 2015)
House location
garnished with sumac trees

Aerial view, 2012
Shadow of the house wall

Historic Account #1

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Historic Account #2

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

1943-1993

50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN GOD'S LOVE

Sacred Heart Parish, Rock Cre

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Historic Account #3

old

PRE HISTORY

HANDFUL OF CATHOLICS IN AREA NOT EASILY IDENTIFIED
WHEN WEATHER PERMITTED, ATTENDED ST.PATRICK'S THOMPSON 11 MILES AWAY, OR GENEVA 17 MILES AWAY OR ST. JOS JEFFERSON 8 MILES AWAY WHILE POLES GRAVITATED TO ST. MARY ORWELL WHICH WAS CONSIDERED A POLISH PARISH WITH POLISH SERVICES
DEFINITE WASP AREA. MC CLUSKYS TOLD THEY WOULDN'T LAST BUT A FEW MONTHS BECAUSE THEY WERE CATHOLIC 1937
CATECHE-SIS CATECHEIS POOR - INSTRUCTIONS LEFT TO PIOUS WOMEN WHO GATHERED CHILDREN IN THEIR HOMES AND GAVE MINIMAL INSTRUCTION XX
PRIESTS FROM STMARY'S ORWELL OCCASIONALLY VISITED THESE HOMES WHERE CATECHISM CLASSES WERE HELD.

RESULTS: MANY WHOSE ETHNIC NAMES WOULD INDICATE A CATHOLIC BACKGROUND, E.G., POLISH, ITALTIAN ARE FOUND ON THE REGISTERS OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

MANY OF THE ORIGINAL CATHOLICS HAVE A VERY RELAXED ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION. THEY ONLY ATTENDED CHURCH WHEN THE WEATHER WAS GOOD. ONLY ONE ROAD WAS PAVED PARTIALLY IN 1941.
THESE ORIGINALS ARE THE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENT IN THE PARISH
AT THE START OF SACRED HEART AS A MISSION THERE WERE ABOUT 70 FAMILIES.

THE MISSION WAS BEGUN BY & SERVICED BY PRIESTS FROM ASSUMPTION GENEVA....FIRSTX IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL GYM THEN IN A TINY STOREFRONT.

IT WAS PREMATURELY ERECTED TO PARISH STATUS BY THE BISHOP TO SOLVE A PROBLEM...A PRIEST ELIGIBLE SENIORITY-WISE FOR A PARISH XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX WHOM THE BISHOP DID NOT WANT TO ASSIGN TO A FLOURISHING PARISH.

AS A RESULT OF A MODEST BUILDING PROGRAM & ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND AND AN ANCIENT HOUSE THE CONGREGATION WAS WAS SADDLED WITH AN UNWIELDLY DEBT.

THERE WAS A XXXXXXXXXXXXX RAPID SUCESSION OF PRIESTS, EACH FOREWARNED THAT HE WOULD BE IN ROCK CREEK ONLY FOR A VERY BRIEF TIME. AS A RESULT, COMMITMENT XX AND LONG RANGE PLANS WERE IMPOSSIBLE. VERY LITTLE PROGRESS COULD TAKE PLACE UNDERX THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

IN THE MID-SIXTIES AN XXXXXXXX ARTIFICIAL LAKE 5 1/2 MILES LONG WAS CREATED WITH IMPROVED HOMESITES.
BEGINNING IN 1968, NEW HOMES BEGAN TO ARISE BRINGING AN SMALL SLOW INFLUX OF NEW XXXX PEOPLE, MOSTLY FROM CLEVELAND.
MOST OF THE NEW-COMERS ATTENDED PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS, MANY HAD ATTENDED CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS.
THE NEW COMERS WERE MOSTLY MIDDLEAGED AND XXXXXX MAKING A PRE-RETIREMENT MOVE.
AT THIS POINT, THE PARISH HAD NO TRADITIONS TO BREAK & AS A RESULT, NO OPPOSITION DEVELOPED/SURFACED TO THE CHANGES MANDATED BY VATICAN COUNCIL II.

Historic Account #3, cont.

IN 1973 A STUDY BY THE SOCIOLOGY DEPT OF CASE WESTERN RESERVE SHOWED THAT THERE WERE 250 ELDERLY, MOSTLY PROTESTANT LIVING WITHIN A 3 MILE RADIUS. AS THESE PEOPLE EXPIRE, THESE ANCIENT HOMES ARE BEING PURCHASED BY YOUNG COUPLES WITH SMALL & SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN. THE PEOPLE PURCHASING NEW HOMES IN THE AREA ARE ALSO YOUNG COUPLES. THE PARISH NOW NUMBERS 250 FAMILIES.

...ABOUT 175 ARE EXCELLENT IN PARISH PARTICIPATION; 50 IRREGULAR AND 25 KNOWN NON PARTICIPATING.

137 CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN CCD PROGRAMS

NO ONE NATIIONALITY STANDS OUT OR PREDOMINATES....IDEAL BLEND.

SUMMER CHARACTER: MASS ATTENDANCE INCREASES SUBSTANTIALLY

1) LAKE DWELLERS HAVE MANY VISITORS IN THE SUMMERTIME
2) MOTELS ON INTERSTATE 90 DIRECT GUESTS TO PARISH
3) GRAND RIVER COTTAGES NEAR BY
4) BOY SCOUT CAMP (CLEVELAND) GIRL CAMP (CLEVELAND) CAMP FIRE GIRLS (CLEVELAND) AND AT LEAST SIX OTHER CAMPS ARE WITHIN THE PARISH BOUNDARY.

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, VERY OFTEN 60% OF THOSE ATTENDING MASS ARE VISITORS.

PARISH SOCIAL MIX

SEVERAL VERY WEALTHY MEMBERS

MOST STABLE MIDDLE CLASS. HARDLY ANY KNOWN POOR $ CATHOLICS

ONE BLACK CATHOLIC FAMILY. NO HISPANICS

YOUNG PARENTS WITH CHILDREN NOW PREDOMINATE.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ON SUNDAY UNSUALLY FILLS THE CHURCH WITH YOUNG PARENTS. THESE TEENAGERS OF THE LATE SIXTIES HAVE TURNED CONSERVATIVE.

PARISH FACILITIES

LAND - 19 ACRES S INCLUDES TWO ATHLETIC FIELDS

WORSHIP CENTER SEATS 300...CAN BE EASILY EXPANDED

SOCIAL CENTER (NEW) CAN ACCOMMODATE 500

RECTORY (NEW) CAN ACCOMMODATE 2 PRIESTS + HOUSEKEEPER

STAFF : PASTOR + RESIDENT PRIEST + Volunteers

PARISH SURVIVES THERE ARE NO PAID EMPLOYES

INCOME AVERAGES ABOUT $600.

THE FIRST SUNDAY COLLECTION OF THE PRESENT PASTOR 14 YEARS AGO WAS $120.

PARISH OPERATES MOSTLY ON THE SUNDAY OFFERTORY.

PRESENT DEBT IS $24,000

PARISH CEMETERY - PARISH PURCHASED A SECTION OF THE PUBLIC CEMETERY. IT IS MAINTAINED BY A TRUST FUND AND TAX DOLLARS, THEREFORE GRAVES IN THIS CONSECRATED SECTION ARE ONLY $30 TO PARISHIONERS.

CCD PROGRAM

LITURGY PROGRAM

Historic Account #3 cont.

ECUMENISM: THOUGH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE LOCAL METHODIST CHURCH & OUR OWN ARE WARM & CORDIAL, NOT MANY ECUMENICAL EVENTS TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE OF WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS.
THE THIRD CHURCH IN TOWN IS COMPRISED OF FUNDAMENTALISTS WHICH PRECLUDES ECUMENICAL ACTIVITIES

WE PARTICIPATE IN: ANNUAL PASSION PLAY & LENTEN CONCERT WITH AREA CHURCHES
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

PASTOR BY DESIGN HAS PULLED BACK FROM FURTHER INVOLVEMENT BECAUSE HE WISHES TO REINFORCE A STRONG CATHOLIC IDENTITY ESPECIALLY AMONG THE YOUNG.

YOUTH MINISTRY - NEW & PROMISING

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL ATTENCE: ABOUT 14 STUDENTS SPREAD OUT IN ASSUMPTION, GENEVA (17 MILIES) MT CARMEL ASHTABULA (21 MILES) ST JOSEPH, ASHTABULA (20 MILES) MOTHER OF SORROWS (20 MILES) AND NOTRE DAME ELEMENTARY, CHARDON (27 MILES)

Rita

SACRED HEART TIMELINE STORIES

BEFORE 1956
Catholics in the area went to St. Joseph in Jefferson (8 miles), St. Joseph in Ashtabula, St. Mary in Orwell (considered a Polish parish in a WASP area), Assumption in Geneva (17 miles) and St. Patrick in Thompson (11 miles) Many seemingly Catholic families ended up joining to Protestant Churches. In 1941 only one road was paved partially in the area. At the beginning of Sacred Heart as a Mission Church there were about 70 families.

Tadsen's children went to school at Assumption.

Brandeberry's worshipped at St. Mary in Orwell after moving to Rock Creek in 1954. They lived just east of the Fire Station.

1956
Fr. Rath was the first assigned priest. He lived in Geneva and was pastor at Assumption as well.

Masses started in the Rock Creek School Gym/Auditorium on the southeast corner of the Gym. After 6 or 7 months, they moved to the Storefront/Restaurant. When Masses were in the school, there was a portable altar with wheels that was wheeled into the gym. Jim Roach served the first Mass in the Gym.

Sophie Echo also has memories of meetings and CCD and possibly Masses at Kraus's Grocery Store next door to Browns Hardware Store on west side of 45 as well. There were rats in the building and the roof used to leak.

The restaurant was painted by parishioners including Mr. and Mrs. Echo – inside and out – so it could be used for Masses. Todd Brandeberry was baptized in the storefront church in January, 1959. His mother, Louise, remembers that is was a small room with makeshift seats. She received the Mother's Blessing at the end of the Baptism ceremony.

1956 – 1959 – Founders of the church included William and Catherine McCluskey's, Joe and Rose Kujbus, Sophie and Joe Sieckowski, Genevieve and Leonard Roach, Betty and Joe Ferra, Leonard and Josephine Painter, Clement and ?. Behner, Barbara Chah, Irene and William Grimes, Mr. And Mrs.Norbert Brown, Miss Gloria Whisner, Mrs. Louise Brandeberry, and Sophie Echo

Kujbus's had no children and the church was their family. They chose to donate their land for the new church. Mrs. Kujbus made wonderful donuts. She also would leave candy in bags at the door of the Brandeberry's for the Brandeberry children.

Building the Church:
The parish took out a loan to build the church.
Summer, 1959 – The outside walls were up but the floors were dirt. There was a '54 Ford tractor inside the building leveling the dirt. The tractor came in the main south

door. At the time Bill Grimes was the general contractor on the building. His son-in law, Mr. Kay Clark worked for Bill Grimes on the building. Bill Grimes had a son, young bill, and a daughter, Kathy, who now resides in Jefferson.
At this time Joe Dyrcz was about 16 and remembers putting the altar up. There was no steel. He had to go home and get some steel rod to hold the altar together. Frank Capado plastered all the inside walls in the building.
The property was very wet and at the main South entrance the gravel (B-19) was 6 feet deep at the end of the sidewalk. Joe Dyrcz remembers taking the tickets from the gravel truck drivers.

1960's
The first Mass in the new church was on Christmas Eve in 1959.

Louise Brandeberry remembers that at the first Mass the servers robes were way too long. Fr. Appel brought her a package of straight pins before Mass and asked her to "do something with those robes." She pinned them up and the servers wore them.

Rose and Joseph Kujbus were so thrilled to celebrate the first Mass in the Church built on their donated property. They donated the old house just north of the current church. It was not in good enough condition to be used as a rectory, but it was used to teach classes. Catechists can remember the rodents and the leaking water in that old house. The Kujbus's lived in a house across the street and a little north. It has been torn down. After the new church was built, Joseph Kujbus had a stroke and Rose tried to take care of him at home. They didn't have a car and she would walk downtown to do shopping.

The room is where the freezer is located.

Fr. Appell lived in the church – in room across from the kitchen. His bathroom was in one of the closets. Fr. Appell lived in the small classroom at first and had a straw bed he slept on. There was a filing cabinet at the door and you had to walk around it to get in the room. Everything – his belongings and all church and bingo supplies were in the room. Fr. Appell was a friend of Princess Grace in Monoco and he was invited to visit her there. Fr. Appell always wore a straw hat. But he had a winter hat when it got really cold

In the early 1960's nine additional acres were bought with an old house which served as rectory and CCD classrooms.

Ken Yarish installed and added on to the cabinets in the sacristry and cry room.

Originally only the front of the church was brick. After fund raising in 1970 the block on the rest of the building was brick veneered. At some point after that the vestibule was closed in.

Joseph Sieckowski (Sophie Echo's husband) died of a heart attack when their three children were 2 years to 9 years. Sophie did washing and cleaning and painting around the community to hold the family together until the youngest was old enough for school.

Then she went to work at Reliance Electric. All the children are college educated which they did on their own.

Mr. Kujbus and Mr. Sieckoski used to joke around that when they died they would play cards together – because their cemetery lots were side by side.

Mrs. McClosky donated the statue of Mary by the side of the church.
Mr. and Mrs. Ray (Irene) Haas did a lot of work around the church and donated the side doors and wiring. Fr. Phil Miller is their grandson.

Tractor in picture with Fr. Appell is still in circulation. It was a Silver King. It was seen at Wayne's Tractor Show in 2004.
During the 60's and 70's Raymond Haas did maintenance at the church.

1963 - Jan Roach Pallo and Judy Roach, when they were Juniors in HS, began teaching CCD with Agnes Lambert and her daughter Agnes Lambert and Mary Rowley. Mary 's daughter Joanne is still in the community. CCD was held in the old parish house. There were mice running around. Kathy Yarish and Pat Hunter were Jan Pallo's students. Jan and Judy Roach continued teaching through college, sometimes returning on weekends in snow storms. Classes were in several rooms in the parish house which was where Father lived as well. The basement was usually filled with water.

In the mid-sixties an artificial lake (Roaming Shores) 5 ½ miles long was created with improved homesites. Beginning in 1968 new homes began to be built with people moving here mostly from Cleveland.

Fr. Dempster had a big St. Bernard. He would stay in the Sacristy while Father said Mass.

1970's
Joe hauled a load of blond oak pews from St. Roberts in Cortland and they were installed to replace the folding chairs when Bingo stopped.

One of the first events in the new hall was the funeral luncheon for William McClusky.

1975 – a section of Rock Creek Union Cemetery was purchased and Bishop William Hughes consecrated this as the Sacred Heart Memorial Section. The Bell Tower was erected at the front of the church. The bronze bell, cast about 1898, originally hung at St. Joseph Church, Newton Falls.

In 1976, twenty-four stained glass chandeliers were added. A six-foot crucifix of Honduran Mahogany was carved by Frank Celender of Pittsburgh for the sanctuary.

1978, nine faceted stained glass windows were added. They depict the Seven Sacraments, Jesus and the Sacred Heart.

Historic Account #4, Timeline Stories, Part 1 cont.

A marble statue of the Sacred Heart, imported from Italy, was erected in the cemetery donated by William and Catherine McClusky. Graves were $15.00. The McClusky's were generous benefactors at this time.

There was a nursing home in the brick building across the street. Al Futchko would bring John Doe and who helped out and lived for going to church. Bill was abandoned as a child. He had epilepsy and no one wanted him. John Doe was an orphan. He never knew his name. Al took such good care of the people there.
Ken Yarish did painting at the NH. One of the men, probably Bill, had an imaginary doll. Ken took a doll of Kathleen's with changes of clothes and Bill took care of it like a baby.

Every Fri night Every Friday Joe picked up workers for Bingo. Eventually everyone got tired of Bingo.

The parish had a '53 Ford Country Squire Station Wagon, possibly donated by Kennedy Funeral Home in Geneva. It's main purpose was to take the kids to school at Assumption.

It was while Father Kaminski was here that the new rectory was built. People remember Zita McGlaughlin as his wonderful housekeeper.

John Pallo became deacon in 1978.

19?? - Sophie Echo designed and painted the first sign for the church which is still there, "touched up" by Dave Mersek. Her son-in-law, Eli Hostetler, built the frame around the sign. She also designed and organized the work on the current landscaping around the church. She went to Girard Nursery and bought the plants. Originally the statue of Mary was under the bell tower, and she arranged to have it moved to its current location.

Unique characteristics of the parish – real sense of closeness and family. Every spring around St. Pats day would have a potluck supper.
FUTURE
June 2006 – 50th Annivesary Celebration
2005 – picture directory

SACRED HEART PARISH 1956 - 1976

1956 Sacred Heart Mission was established on October 14, 1956 by Bishop Emmet M. Walsh, Bishop of Youngstown. The first Mass was said in Rock Creek School on October 21, 1956 by Father John Rath, Pastor of Assumption Church, Geneva, who continued to take care of the Spiritual needs of Sacred Heart Mission for four years and supervised construction of present building now used as a church.

1953 The "first" parishioners were Joseph and Rose Kujbus, immigrants from Hungary. In 1953, they purchased 10 acres of vacant land just north of Rock Creek Village. For the next three years they held the land, prayed and hoped that the Bishop would establish a Church in Rock Creek. Their prayers were heard and the Bishop, learning of their great devotion and that of the Catholics in the area to the Sacred Heart, established the Mission under this title. These ten acres were then deeded to the diocese.

1957 In June 1957, the tiny congregation moved into the store now occupied by the Village Restaurant in Rock Creek.

1959 Construction of multi-purpose concrete block building began in July, 1959 and was sufficiently completed to celebrate Midnight Mass on Christmas, 1959.

1960 On June 24, 1960, Bishop Walsh elevated Sacred Heart to parish status and appointed Father William A. Appell as the first resident pastor. His living quarters at first were the rooms at the rear of the Church. Shortly thereafter 8.9 acres adjoining to the north were purchased which contained an old, old residence which served as rectory and C C D class rooms until 1972.

1963 Father Francis Stulc succeeded Father Appell in June, 1963 and served until June 1964.

1964 Father James K. Cavanaugh then became pastor and served two years, leaving Sacred Heart in June, 1966. During his tenure, the sanctuary was remodeled with paneling and stone, much as it appears today.

continued

1968 Father Alexander P. Dempster succeeded Father Cavanaugh and served the parish from June 1966 to June 1968, succeeded by the present pastor, Father Kaminski.

1970 In July 1970 the concrete block ediface was brick veneered, the parking lot paved and the outdoor shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary installed.

1971 Construction of the new rectory began in November, 1971 and was completed June 1972, and the old rectory was burned to the ground by local volunteer firemen.

1975 On June 8, 1975 Auxiliary Bishop William A. Hughes consecrated the recently purchased Sacred Heart Memorial Section of the Union Cemetery in Rock Creek. Bishop Hughes also blessed the Sacred Heart Shrine.

1975 Erection of Bell Tower.

1976 On June 21, 1976 Construction on the New Social Center annex began, and was completed on October 14, 1976 the twentieth anniversary of the founding of Sacred Heart Mission.

Today Sacred Heart Parish remains one of the smallest parishes in the Youngstown Diocese, numbering 120 families, growing slowly but steadily.

The new construction, renovation, landscaping are the visible evidence of the grit, faith, love, determination, tenacity and spirit of sacrifice which has always marked this spiritual family ... a truly Christian Community where most people are involved.

In its twenty year history, Sacred Heart has become more than a parish .....

it is a family of diverse people
who grow together in faith
work together in hope
worship together in love
bear one another's sorrow
forgive one another's faults
share one another's joy
need one another
support one another
look for God in one another
see God in everyone
live as indivuals
are separate yet one
are joined by God's presence
living in each other.

1979 PARKING AREA EXPANDED AND PATIO BUILT TO ALLOW FOR SOCIALIZING BEFORE AND AFTER MASS.

1981 PATIO EXTENDED TO PREPARE AREA FOR A NEW ST. THERESA SHRINE. NEW ORGAN INSTALLED AND ALTAR FURNISHINGS REUPHOLSTERED AND REGILDED. CURRENTLY, SACRED HEART PARISH IS COMPRISED OF 225 FAMILIES AND GROWTH IS SLOW DUE TO HIGH INTEREST RATES AND HIGH FUEL COSTS. OUR FACILITIES CAN ACCOMMODATE DOUBLE OUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP. CCD ENROLLMENT IS 135 STUDENTS, PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 12. OUR GREATEST NEEDS AT PRESENT ARE A STORAGE BUILDING AND ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE. SPIRITUALLY, THERE IS A VERY STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY EVEN THOUGH HALF OF OUR FAMILIES HAVE ARRIVED IN THE PAST SIX YEARS. OUR FACILITIES ARE USED SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, OFTEN THREE TIMES IN ONE DAY. BECAUSE MOST WORKING PARISHIONERS ARE EMPLOYED IN CLEVELAND IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SCHEDULE EVENING FUNCTIONS AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS. THE PARISH THOUGH SMALL IS EXTREMELY HEALTHY BECAUSE VOLUNTEERISM IS A WAY OF LIFE HERE. BY ALL ECONOMIC FORECASTS RAPID GROWTH IS EXPECTED WHEN THE ECONOMIC PICTURE BRIGHTENS. PRIESTS SERVING SACRED HEART AT PRESENT ARE FATHERS ROBERT J. O'DEA (RETIRED), JOHN HUMPHREY (IN RESIDENCE AND DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE, GLENBEIGH) AND S. P. KAMINSKI (PASTOR).

25

7

Historic Account #6

1

PW copy from stuff

Sacred Heart Church evolved over the years continuing to grow in both size and spirituality. Sacred Heart began as a mission of Assumption parish Geneva. For the first year Mass was said in the auditorium of Rock Creek elementary school. Second year until the Church was built rented a storehouse (most recently a restaurant) on Main St.

In the early 50s Morgan Township residents Joseph and Rose Kujbus traveled to St. Mary Church in Orwell. In 1953 the couple noticed a piece of property on the west side of Rock Creek and determined it would be a great location for a church.

Kujbus purchased 10 acres of land in Rock Creek but weren't sure how to go about having a church built. They kept the land for 3 years praying confidently that somehow, some day a church would be built there.

Eventually Bishop Emmet M. Walsh heard about it and appointed John Rath, then pastor of Assumption in Geneva to set up a mission. Rose Kujbus' devotion to the Sacred Heart prompted her to suggest the mission be placed under his patronage which the bishop agreed to

On Oct. 14, 1956 Sacred Heart began as a mission church to Assumption. The first year Fr. Rath began offering Mass at Rock Creek Elementary School at 8:30 each Sunday morning. The second year until the Church was finished a storage building on Main St. (later Rock Creek Grill) was rented.

Parishioners helped clean and prepare their place of worship for Mass. Kujbus, a retired steelworker and farmer, found himself very busy with the project. Mrs. Kujbus made altar cloths. Until a few years ago they were made by Jo Yarish.

By 1959 the concrete building was completed enough to celebrate Midnight Mass. Chairs instead of pews and doubled as a hall. Bingo Fri. night--Mass Sun--CCD) A flat roof with intention of building a second floor for classrooms. Around 1980 a hall was built in instead . In 1976 Chairs still used as pews

On June 24 Bishop Walsh gave Sacred Heart parish status. The population of the church grew in order for it to stand alone as a parish. There were enough Catholics in the area to warrent a resident pastor. The first pastor was said to have lived in the lunchroom with a divider in the wall.

The 6 pastors we didn't have to share were: Fr. William Appell 1960; Fr. Francis Stule 1963; Fr. James Cavanaugh 1864; Fr. Patrick Dempster 1966; Fr. Sylvester Kaminsky 1968; Rev. Edward Kowaleski 1985.

Until 2002 Sacred Heart was an independent parish with a resident pastor and didn't

1

have to share a priest with any other parish. Due to the priest shortage now share a priest with Orwell. Fr. Fedor became our pastor too followed by Fr. Weikard and now Fr. Madden. They wanted us to merge with St. Mary. Some things are now done together -- sacraments, Christmas & Easter, holy days, Sat. Masses, Knights of Columbus and other ministries.

We used to have 2 Masses on Sun. Now there's one. We used to have Mass here every Sat. Now we're sharing one with St. Mary. 6 months at each parish.

Sacred Heart always had an active AR; organizing, cleaning church, fundraisers for church needs, helping where needed etc. All parishioners help.

At one time Sacred Heart was home to 260+ families. Most come from Rock Creek, Morgan Twp. Trumbull Twp. Rome Twp. Roaming Shores and Hartsgrove. There are also parishioners that come from Jefferson Geneva and Austinburg as well. Roaming Shores -- built originally to be second homes to people in the city but now with more permanent residents--- is a second parish to those who do have summer homes.

We can now belong to any parish anywhere but back when they were set up by boundaries those on tne north side of 6 belonged to Sacred Heart and those on the South side St. Mary.

In the 1980s the youth force, former name of youth group, made and sold donuts, Fish Frys are held by parish during Lent, AR has Yard Sale and cabbage roll dinners etc.. to help the church. All Parishioners help regardless of who is sponsoring an event.

14 Servers in pix. Father Ed used to take servers to Geauga Lake once a year while he could walk

Historic Account #7, 20th Birthday

20th anniversary

SACRED HEART CHURCH
Rock Creek, Ohio
April 16, 1985

Bishop Emmett M. Walsh of the Youngstown Diocese established Sacred Heart Mission on October 14, 1956, with Father John Rath, Pastor of Assumption Church, Geneva, serving the needs of its initial fourteen families. Mass was celebrated in Rock Creek School and, subsequently, in the Village Restaurant. Ten acres of land for a new church was donated by Joseph and Rose Kujbus, Hungarian immigrants, and construction began in July, 1959. The church was finished in time to celebrate midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, 1959.

Sacred Heart was elevated from Mission to Parish status on June 24, 1960, and Father William A. Appell appointed its first Pastor. Nine additional acres were purchased with an old residence serving as Rectory and CCD classrooms.

Interim pastors serving the parish were: Reverend Francis Stulc, Reverend James K. Cavanaugh and Reverend A. Patrick Dempster. During Father Cavanaugh's pastorate, the sanctuary was embellished with native stone and panelling, blending with the rural atmosphere.

In 1968, Reverend Sylvester P. Kaminski was appointed pastor. A new rectory was completed in 1972, built to accommodate two priests and a housekeeper.

In June, 1975, a section of Rock Creek Union Cemetery was purchased and Bishop William Hughes consecrated this as the Sacred Heart Memorial Section. Also in 1975, the Bell Tower was erected at the front of the church. The bronze bell, cast about 1898, originally hung at St. Joseph Church, Newton Falls.

In preparation for the 20th anniversary of the parish in 1976, twenty-four stained glass chandeliers were added. A six-foot crucifix of Honduran mahogany was carved by Frank Celender of Pittsburgh for the sanctuary.

Historic Account #7, 20th Birthday, cont.

Sacred Heart Church
Rock Creek, Ohio
Page Two

The Social Center Annex, a multi-purpose building, was completed on October 14, 1976, and on this occasion, Bishop James Malone blessed and dedicated the new addition.

In 1978, nine faceted stained glass windows were added. Those in the church depict the Seven Sacraments; Jesus with the children is in the Childrens' Cry Room and the Sacred Heart is in the Priests' Sacristy.

The nineteen acres of land owned by Sacred Heart Parish include two athletic fields utilized by local sports organizations. The church proper seats 300 persons and the Social Center accommodates 500. At present, the Parish is comprised of 250 families served by Father S.P. Kaminski, assisted by Father John Humphrey, Director of Pastoral Care at Glenbeigh Hospital. There are about 140 children in its CCD classes. Also assisting with the Parish Liturgy are Deacon John Burke and Deacon John Pallo.

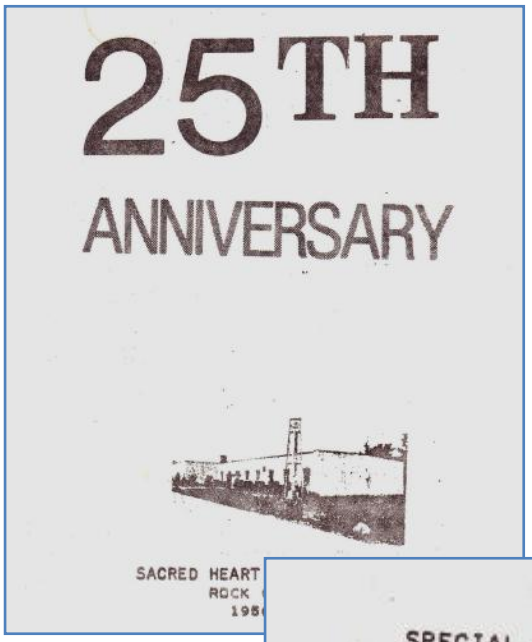
Because of its deep sense of community and its easy accessibility for older people, Sacred Heart Church has served as a meeting place and nutrition site for senior citizens for many years. It also provides space for the Rock Creek Area Pre-School Co-op and many other organization meetings. Its Social Center, the largest hall in the vicinity, has served for numerous wedding receptions and local functions.

Authored by Margaret D. Tadsen

Historic Account #8, 25th Birthday

Silver Jubilee

The timeline is in a preceding title



25TH

ANNIVERSARY

SACRED HEART
ROCK
195

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....

BISHOP JAMES W. MALONE, PH.D., BISHOP OF YOUNGSTOWN, FOR HIS GRACIOUS PRESENCE

VISITING PRIESTS WHO HONOR THIS OCCASION AND OUR PARISH BY CONCELEBRATING THE LITURGY

JOHN D. PALLO & LEONARD ROACH HOSPITALITY CHAIRMEN

JOHN BURKE LITURGY COMMITTEE

PATRICIA LAMBERT HUNTER ORGANIST FOR THIS OCCASION

PEG TADSEN HALL DECORATING

DOLLY TAMBURRO, MERI HOSTETLER, JO YARISH, KATHLEEN YARISH VOLUNTEER PAINTERS OF THE SOCIAL CENTER

ANDY MIZSAK, DOROTHY MIZSAK, BEA KIVIMAKI, JOSEPHINE YARISH AND KATHLEEN YARISH WHO REFINISHED THE SANCTUARY FURNISHINGS

SAM NAPPI CATERER

ZERBY LANDSCAPING SERVICES WHO DONATED THE LABOR INVOLVED IN BEAUTIFYING OUR GROUNDS

THE RICHARD SIEMBOR FAMILY WHO DONATED THE NEW PATIO AND PURCHASED THE MARBLE STATUE OF SAINT THERESA WHICH WILL SOON BE ENSHRINED THERE

MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY WHO TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN OUR SANCTUARY

EVELYN ALLEN FOR HER WORK ON THIS BOOKLET

AGNES MERSEK FOR DONATING THE ANNIVERSARY CAKE

1

Historic Account #8, 25th Birthday
Silver Jubilee, cont.

SILVER JUBILEE NEW ORGAN FUND

BENEFACTORS

M/M WILLIAM GRAD
MRS. DELORES HALL
M/M JOHN R. KAMPF
M/M HOWARD KAMPF
M/M FRANK KNAM

PATRONS

M/M ALBERT BOZAK
M/M JOHN BURKE JR.
M/M JOSEPH DYRCZ SR.
M/M RAYMOND HAAS
MRS. HELEN KAMINSKI
MRS. CARRIE KELLAR
MIRKO NOVAK FAMILY
M/M JOHN D. PALLO
MR. LARRY SONOSKI
M/M STEVE VITEZ
M/M GEORGE ZAMBORSKY

DONORS

M/M JOSEPH ALLEN
M/M ANTHONY DE LUCA
M/M WILLIAM DOLAN
M/M RAY KAMINSKI
ANDREW KAWALEC
M/M TONY KASZA
MRS. MAGDELENA KUNASH
MRS. ERIKA KURIATNYK
MRS. VERONICA LADYGO
M/M LLOYD MARTIN
M/M ANDY MIZGAK

DONORS CONT'D

M/M MITCHELL MOLENDA
M/M ANTON OBLAK
MISS BARBARA PALLO
M/M FRANK PALLO
M/M RICHARD PUCHEIN
M/M LEO STENGER
M/M WILLIAM STEINMETZ
MRS. GERTRUDE STAN
M/M JULIUS SZORADY
DR. & MRS. PAUL VASKO
M/M ROBERT WOODWORTH

CONTRIBUTORS

M/M E. F. AMBROSE
JOHN CHERNEY FAMILY
MRS. KAY HLAVAC
M/M ELI HOSTETLER
M/M WILLIAM KALETA
M/M RAY KIVIMAKI
MISS SUE MANCINI
MRS. CATHERINE MC CLUSKY
MRS. JACK METZNER
M/M ALAN O'DONNELL
MRS. BERTHA ONDREJKA
MRS. JOSEPHINE PAVELKA
MRS. JAN PETYAK
MRS. LEONARD ROACH
+ M/M BURLYN TRASK
MRS. HELEN TRUSZKOWSKI
MISS GLORIA WHISNER
M/M LEO WHITELY
M/M J. H. WILLIAMSON
MRS. BERTHA WOODWORTH
M/M HARRY WORKMAN
HELEN ZERBY FAMILY

NEW ALLEN ORGAN INSTALLED OCTOBER 9, 1981

THANK YOU!

ANNIVERSARY BUFFET

SAUSAGE & PEPPERS
ROAST CHICKEN
MEAT BALLS & STOVE PIPES
ROAST BEEF
SCALLOPED POTATOES
GREEN BEANS
CHEESE TRAY
RELISH TRAY
JELLO
ROLLS & BUTTER
ANNIVERSARY CAKE & COOKIES
BEVERAGES

Historic Account #8, 25th Birthday
Silver Jubilee, cont.

SACRED HEART PARISH COUNCIL

MEMBER	AREA OF CONCERN
JOHN D. PALLO	COMMENTATORS
MIKE MC GINNIS	LIAISON, SACRED HEART A.A.
RAYMOND HAAS	BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
JOSEPH DYRCZ SR.	• •
FRANK PALLO	• •
LLOYD MARTIN	• •
ROBERT ZERBY	• •
FREDDIE WOOD	ALTAR & ROSARY
MARY PAULA KAMPF	CHILDREN'S LITURGIES/ORGANISTS
GENEVIEVE ROACH	PARISH RECORDER
CHARLOTTE GRAD	PARISH BOOKKEEPING
SISTER MARY NATALIE	PARISH SUMMER SCHOOL
ANDY MIZSAK	LIAISON, SENIOR CITIZENS
DOROTHY MIZSAK	• •
JOHN BURKE JR.	ADULT PARISH LITURGIES
JAMES HEIDENREICH	CCD TEACHERS/YOUTH MINISTRY
KATHLEEN YARISH	PRE-SCHOOL CCD PROGRAM
EVELYN ALLEN	PARISH PRINTING
HELEN VITEZ	CATERING
PATRICIA BURKE	MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
----------	COMMUNION CLASS PARENTS
WILLIAM LIPTAK	LIAISON, FLOTILLA 5-6
STEVE VITEZ	USHERS
JAMES H. WILLIAMSON	EMERITUS
CATHERINE MC CLUSKY	EMERITUS

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP IS MADE UP BY THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED A DEEP AND ABIDING INTEREST IN THE PARISH AND DEMONSTRATED THIS INTEREST BY ACCEPTING AND FULFILLING RESPONSIBLE POSITIONS FURTHERING THE LIFE AND WORK OF SACRED HEART PARISH.

PARISH WHO'S WHO

CCD TEACHERS

KATHLEEN YARISH
JENNY SIEMBOR
JANET PALLO
JOHN D. PALLO
PATRICIA BURKE
JOHN BURKE JR.
JAMES HEIDENREICH
FATHER KAMINSKI
ROBERT ZERBY
CAROLYN MC FARLAND
GERRY LUEDERS
LARRY MASTROMATTEO
MERI HOSTETLER
PATRECE SIEMBOR

CHILDREN'S LITURGIES

MARY PAULA KAMPF
KATHLEEN YARISH

LITURGY COMMITTEE

JOHN BURKE, CHAIRMAN
MARY PAULA KAMPF, ORGANIST
PATRICIA HUNTER, ORGANIST
GARY HUNTER, SONG LEADER
ALL COMMENTATORS

COMMENTATORS

JOHN BURKE JR.
JOHN D. PALLO
MIKE MC GINNIS
ANTHONY KEEFER
PAUL VASKO

ENVELOPE RECORDER

GENEVIEVE ROACH

PARISH BULLETIN

EVELYN ALLEN

BOOKKEEPING AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

M/M WILLIAM GRAD

FAMILY LIFE

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
MARRIAGE PREPARATION
JOHN & PATRICIA BURKE

ACOLYTES

J.P. BURKE
TIM BURKE
CLIFF VASKO
JON VASKO
MATT VASKO
MATT O'DONNELL
JON SIEMBOR
PAT SIEMBOR
DAN METZ
TOM BOIARSKI
DENNIS BOIARSKI
JOE DYRCZ
JOHN POWERS
JOHN KAMPF
DARRIN MARTIN
TOD TAKACS
ROBB LOFTUS

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

JAMES HEIDENREICH
JOHN BURKE JR.
JOHN D. PALLO

9

Historic Account #8, 25th Birthday
Silver Jubilee, cont.

PARISH WHO'S WHO CONTINUED

ALTAR & ROSARY

FREDDIE WOOD
DOLORES CHAH
CHARLOTTE GRAD
BEA KIVIMAKI
DOROTHY MIZSAK
JO CARR
CATHERINE MC CLUSKY
MARYLOU POWERS
ADELAIDE LIPTAK

GROUNDS
&
BUILDINGS

RAY HAAS
JOE DYRCZ SR.
MATT O'DONNELL
LLOYD MARTIN
ZERBY LANDSCAPING
ANDY MIZSAK

ORGANISTS

MARY PAULA KAMPF
PATRICIA HUNTER
KATHLEEN YARISH
JOAN JOHNSON

USHERS

STEVE VITEZ
RAY HAAS
ANDY MIZSAK
JIM HENSON
TOM HENSON
JOHN R. KAMPF
JOE DYRCZ JR.
JOE DYRCZ SR.
TONY DE LUCA
J.H. WILLIAMSON

PERMANENT DEACONATE

JOHN D. PALLO
JOHN BURKE JR.

ORGANIZATIONS USING SACRED HEART FACILITIES

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTION DOCTRINE
ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY
BOY SCOUTS
ROCK CREEK AREA CO-OP PRE-SCHOOL
SACRED HEART A.A. GROUP
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FLOTILLA 5-6
TWIRLING STARS BATON CORPS
OVER FIFTY CLUB
SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM
LITTLE LEAGUE
MEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE
YOUTH MINISTRY

10

Historic Account #9, 60th Birthday

1

ROCK CREEK - Next year Sacred Heart will be 60 years old

Sacred Heart Church has evolved over the years, continuing to grow both in size and spiritually.
Sacred Heart began as a mission of Assumption parish Geneva. For the first year Mass was said in the auditorium of Rpck Creek elementary school.

2nd year til Church was built rented a storehouse (most recently a restaurant) on Main St.

In the early 1950s, Morgan Township residents **Joseph and Rose Kujbus** traveled to St. Mary's Church in Orwell. In **1953, the couple noticed a piece of property on the west side of Route 45 and determined it would be a great location for a church.**

Kujbus **purchased 10 acres of land in Rock creek** but weren't sure how to go about getting a church built they kept the land for three years, praying confidently that somehow, some day a church would be built there.

Eventually **Bishop Emmet M. Walsh** heard about it & appointed the Rev. **John Rath**, then **pastor of Assumption in Geneva** to set up mission.

Rose Kujbus' devotion to the Sacred Heart prompted her to suggest the **mission be placed under his patronage which the bishop agreed to.**

On Oct. 14, 1956 Sacred Heart began as a mission church to Assumption.
1st year Fr. Rath began offering Mass at Rock Creek Elementary School at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

2nd year- til church finished Mass a storage building on Main St (later Rock Creek Grill) was rented

Parishioners helped clean and prepare their place of worship for Sunday Mass. Kujbus, a retired steelworker and farmer, found himself very busy with the new project. Mrs. Kujbus made altar cloths. Until a couple yrs. ago they were made by Jo Yarish

By Christmas 1959, the concrete block building was completed enough to celebrate Midnight Mass.

(Chairs instead of pews so church Doubled as hall----Bingo Fri—Mass Sun—CCD)
Flat roof---intended to build a 2nd floor for classrooms---later built hall instead

On **June 24, 1960 Bishop Walsh gave Sacred Heart parish status.** The population of the church grew in order for it to stand alone as a parish.

There were enough Catholics in the area to warrant having a resident pastor.

6 pastors we didn't have to share First pastor Fr. William APPELL 1960,--- Rev Francis STULE 1963; --- Fr. James CAVANAUGH 1964 ---Fr. Patrick DEMPSTER 1966 Sylvester KAMINSKY 1968 --- Rev. Edward KOWALESKI 1985 ---

1st Pastor was said to have lived in lunchroom --- with room divider in wall---chairs still there in 1976---hall built sometime around 1980

Historic Account #9, 60th Birthday, cont.

2

SH always had active AR. Organizing cleaning the church, fundraisers for church needs, helping where needed etc. All parishioners help

Until 2002 Sacred Heart was an independent parish with a resident pastor and didin't have to share a priest with Geneva, Orwell or any other parish

Because of priest shortage now share priest w Orwell Fr. **Fedor** from Orwell became our pastor too, followed by Fr. **Weikart and now Fr. Madden.**

They want to merge us with St. Mary's and some things are already done together. **---Youth group--- sacraments---Christmas & Easter, holy days soon Sat masses –youth group, Knights of Columbus, other ministries**

We used to have 2 Masses on Sun. Now there's only one.
CCD was held between Masses --- as many as 15 kids in each grade—bulletin board dividers

At one time Sacred Heart was home to about 260 + families. Most parishioners come from **Rock Creek, Morgan Township, Trumbull Township and Hartsgrove, but there are parishioners that come from Jefferson Austinburg Geneva. Residents of Roaming Shores and Rome Township** utilize the church as well.

Parishes used to be set up by territorial boundaries like towns or townships are but now we can belong to any parish anywhere

People this side of 6 —RC other side Orwell

Roaming Shores—not here when church built ---- Originally intended to be 2nd homes for those in the city --- but it has more permanent residents --- Sacred Heart is sort of a second parish to do have summer homes

(1st album) 1980s --- Youth group was called '---YOUTH FORCE – 20 members in pix--- made & sold donuts

14 SERVERS in pix -- Fr. Ed came (1985) took them to Geauga Lake every year while he could walk

Picked Blackberries & strawberries in fields that are now houses -- didn't know some streets there.

Altar and Rosary Minutes

A R min

TO ALL WOMEN OF SACRED HEART PARISH:

December 4th, 1966, marked the tenth anniversary of the Altar and Rosary Society of Sacred Heart Church. To celebrate this date, its members are conducting a membership drive during the month of December, to be culminated by a Mother-Daughter Tea on January 15th, for all women and girls of the parish.

A glance at the history and accomplishments of this organization, small as it is, may inspire other women to join its present membership to work for the betterment of the parish.

Reverend John Rath organized the Altar and Rosary Society of Sacred Heart Church on December 4th, 1956. The first meeting, attended by nine members, was held in a meeting room over Kraus's Grocery Store. Elected at this time were: Mrs. Wm. McClusky, president - Mrs. Wayne Rowley, vice-president - Mrs. Leonard Roach, secretary-treasurer. Other charter members present were:

Mrs. Joseph Kujbus (now deceased)
Mrs. Clement Behner
Mrs. Barbara Chah
Mrs. William Grimes (now deceased)
Mrs. Norberte Browne
Miss Gloria Whisner

Vitez Ecko
Roach
Dyres
Ferra

During the first month of its existence, members raised over $56.00 to be used for its mission parish. In May, 1957, members helped select the new site for Sunday Mass, which heretofore had been celebrated at Rock Creek School. Shortly afterwards, a store in Rock Creek, now the Village Restaurant, was used for Sunday services, with Altar and Rosary Society paying for improvements to the building.

During the year of its inception, the organization's rolls grew to 22 members. Husbands and wives took turns in cleaning the Church and setting up the portable altar for Mass. Mrs. Clement Behner laundered all linens and furnished flowers for Sunday Mass. Mrs. Joseph Kujbus made the altar linens, some of them with hand-crocheted borders still in use on our altar today.

In October of 1956, ten acres of land were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kujbus, and in July of 1959, construction

of our present church began. Upon its completion in December of that year (in time for Christmas Mass), Altar and Rosary members, who had been working diligently on various projects (bake sales - selling religious articles, Christmas cards, etc.), now went to work to furnish the new church.

In addition to cleaning sanctuary and sacristies, furnishing flowers, candles, hosts and wine, laundering linens and cleaning vestments, the Society now purchased the following items:

the altar @ $375.00	altar linens
ciboriums	palls
purificators	amices
alb	stole collars
processional cross	vestment cases @ $400.00
two chalices	sanctuary rug
paten	coffee urn
dishes for kitchen	

These articles were purchased for the church at a total cost of $1223.75. In addition, $700.00 has been donated toward the parish debt from proceeds of rummage sales held annually by the members. Decorating the church for Christmas, providing special effects and arrangements during Lent, Easter and Forty Hours, packing clothing for the Bishop's Thanksgiving Clothing Drive, and maintaining the pamphlet rack are among other parish works which they handle.

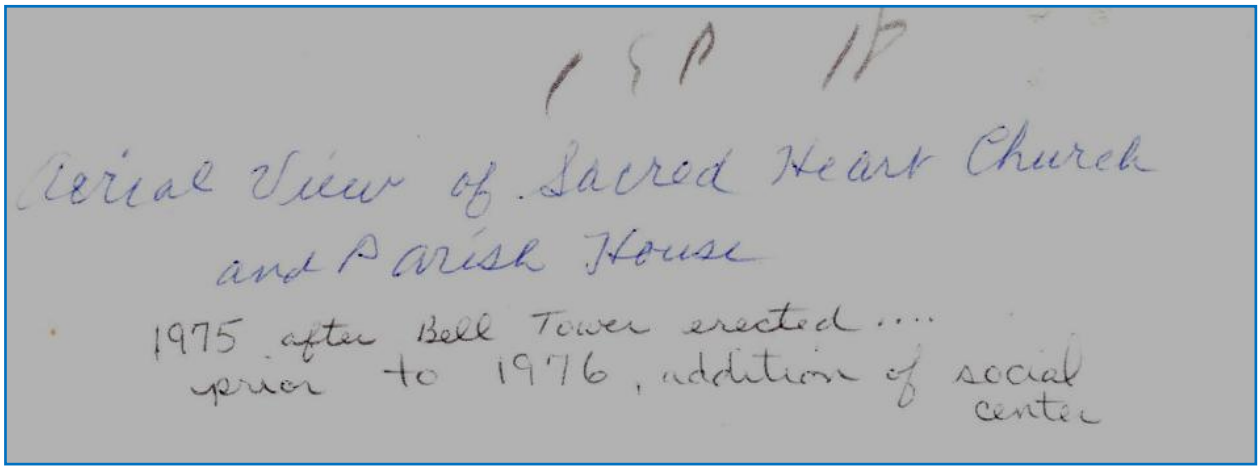
At present, the Altar and Rosary Society numbers fourteen women from the parish as members. If this small group could do so much toward helping the parish, then a larger group could do much more. We earnestly solicit all the ladies of Sacred Heart Parish to become members of the Society. Spiritual benefits accrue to all members, both living and deceased. A Mass is said on the second Sunday of every month for all members, and a rosary is said monthly by the members, for the members.

Please contact one of the officers or members and ask to join, so that you, too, may share in work benefitting your parish.

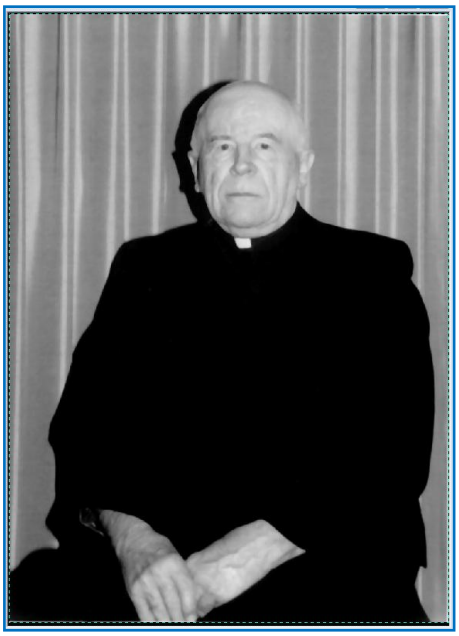
Mrs. Francis Tadsen, pres.
Miss Gloria Whisner, vice-pres.
Mrs. May Clark, sec'y-treas.

Aerial View of Sacred Heart, 1976

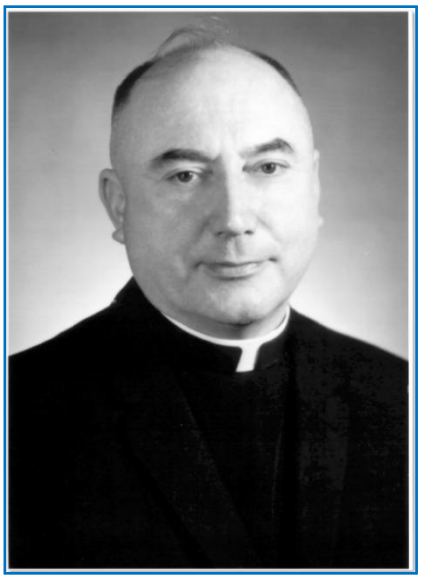
Handicapped baseball field



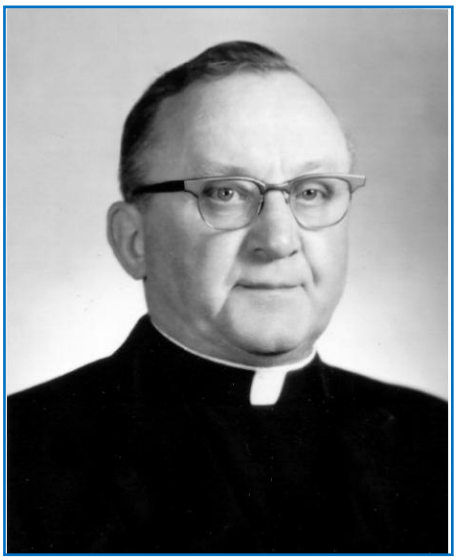
Sacred Heart's Pastors



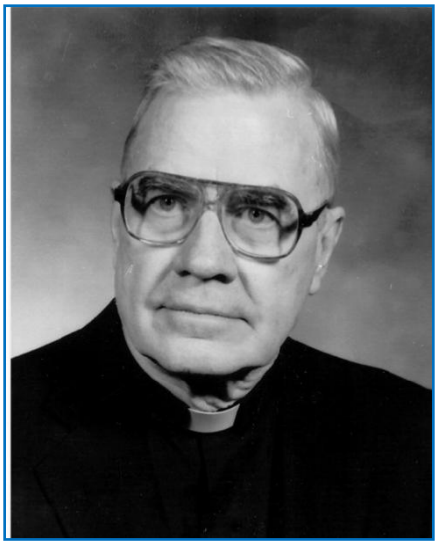
1 Rev. Rath



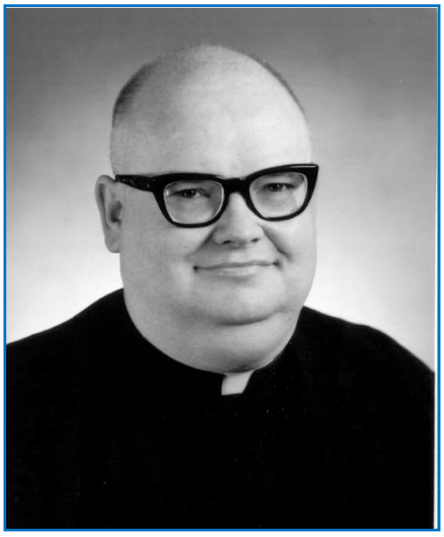
2 Rev. Appell



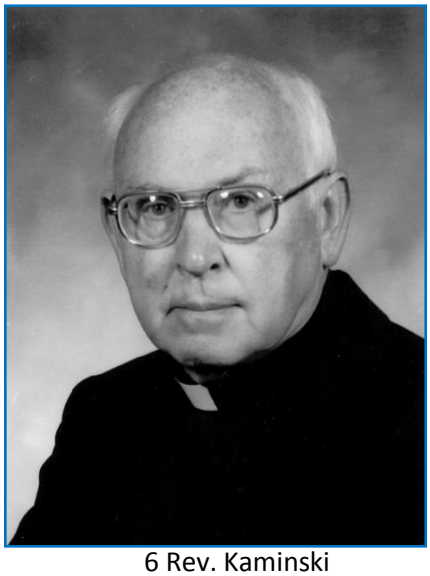
3 Rev. Stulc



4 Rev. Cavanaugh

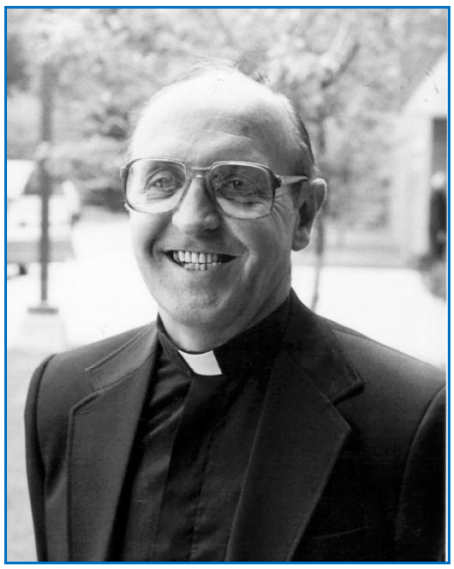


5 Rev. Dempster

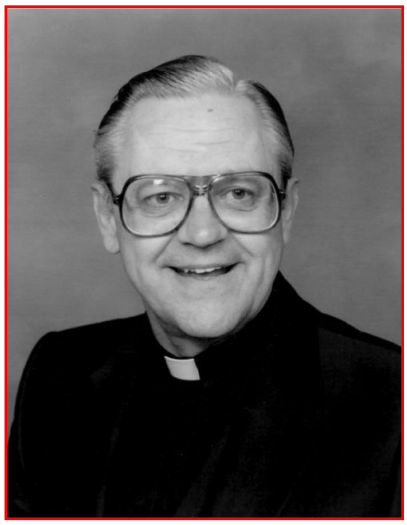


6 Rev. Kaminski

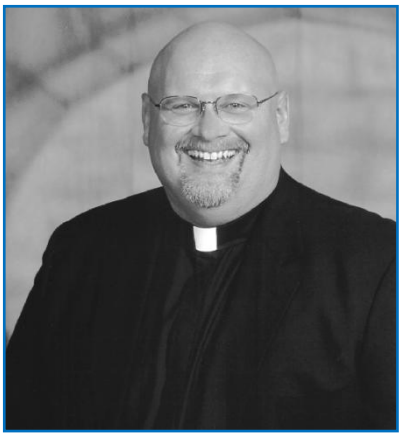
Sacred Heart's Pastors, cont.



7 Rev. Humphrey

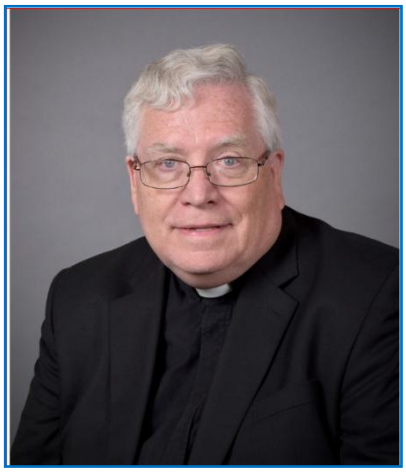


8 Rev. Koweleski



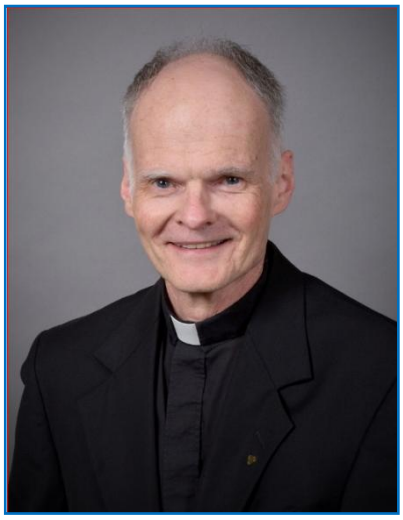
9 Rev Fedor

10 Rev Weikart



11 Rev. Madden

Rev. Bridling



12 Rev. McCaffrey

Decree of Erection

DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN
144 WEST WOOD STREET
YOUNGSTOWN 3, OHIO

C
O
P
Y

OFFICIAL

DECREE OF ERECTION OF SACRED HEART PARISH

After deep consideration of the spiritual needs of the Catholic people who are presently attending Sacred Heart Mission in Rock Creek, and after consultation with the Pastor of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Geneva who has been caring for the spiritual needs of these people, I do, by virtue of this decree, elevate Sacred Heart Mission to the status of a Parish.

Also, by virtue of this decree, I do appoint the Reverend William A. Appell to be the first pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, with all the rights and duties accorded to a removable pastor by the Code of Canon Law and by the approved customs of the Diocese of Youngstown.

The boundary lines of Sacred Heart Parish shall be the same as those of Sacred Heart Mission. Sacred Heart Parish shall therefore service the spiritual needs of the Catholics in Trumbull and Morgan Townships, and in Hartsgrove and Rome Townships north of Route #6.

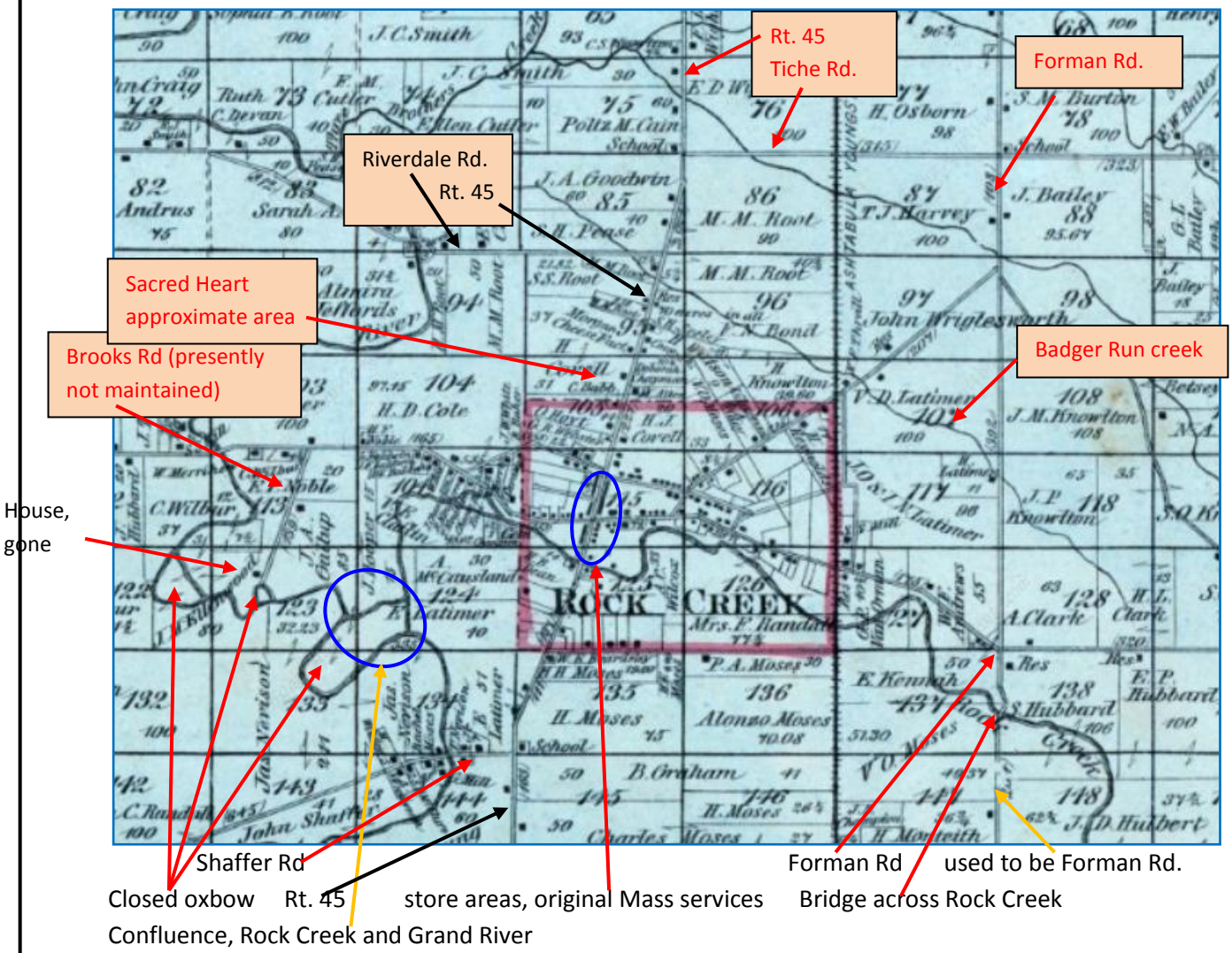
+ Emmet M. Walsh.
Bishop of Youngstown, Ohio

Given at the Chancery
Office, Youngstown, Ohio
This fifteenth day of June, 1960

This decree becomes effective as of June 24, 1960

Maps

Rock Creek, 1874

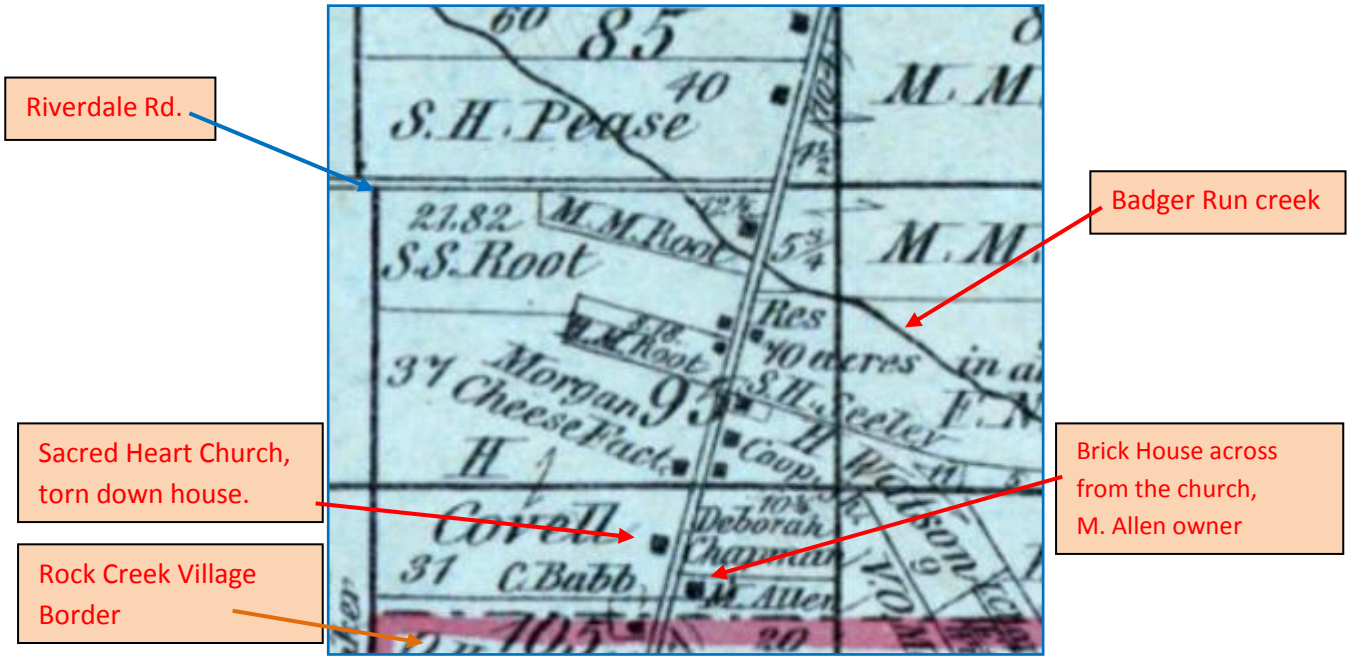


When **Spencer Harvey** found an abundance of flint arrowheads and other implements on his farm, in 1852, it gave rise to the idea that at some remote time that had been the scene of a battle between Indian tribes.

The construction of a plank road from Rock Creek to Painesville gave the town a big impetus, as it brought much additional trade to the merchants and made it much easier for them to obtain their merchandise stock.

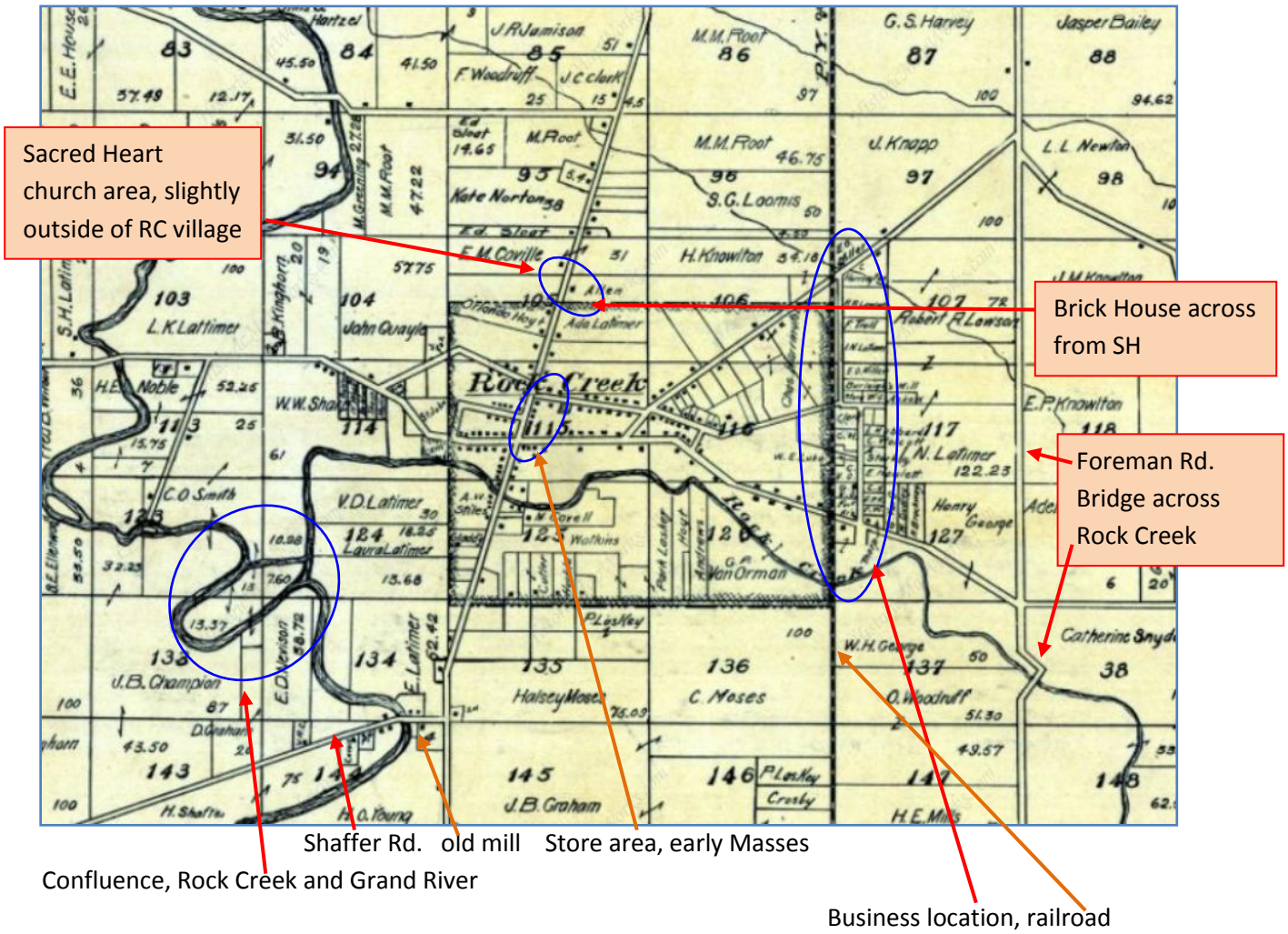
Maps

1874, Detailed Map



Maps

Rock Creek, 1905



Maps

Locating Sacred Heart, Distance Calibration

2024 aerial image

about 2,170’ Riverdale to Sacred Heart

2024, Sacred Heart

1950 aerial image

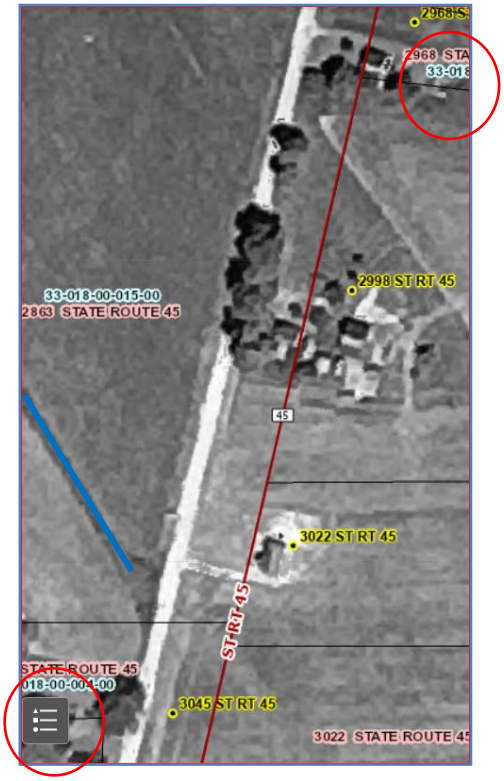
about 2,710’ Riverdale to original farm

1950

original farm

Maps

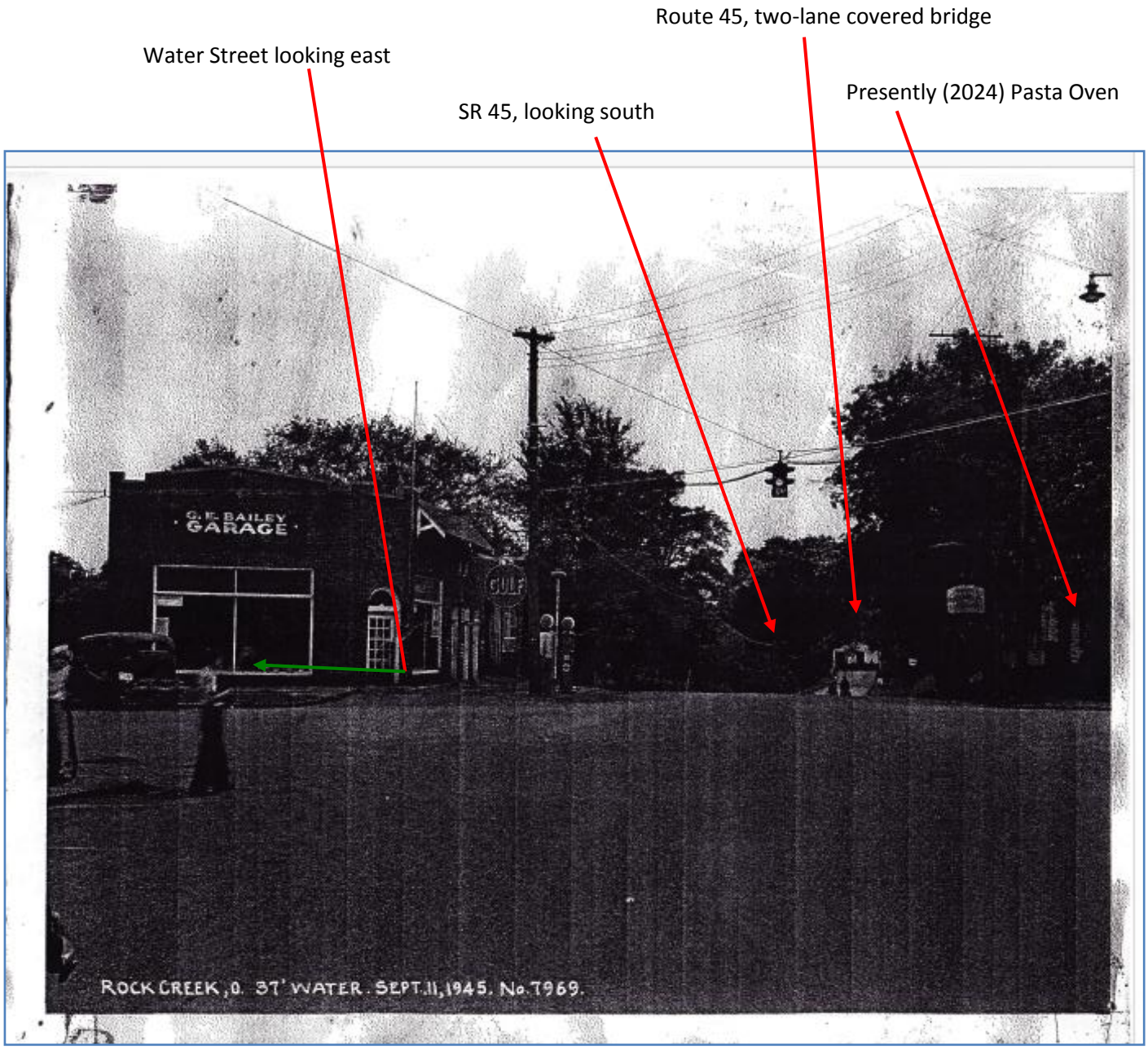
The Kujbus Home Relative to Sacred Heart



2024 SH 1950

Maps not to scale, notice a creek ditch (in blue)

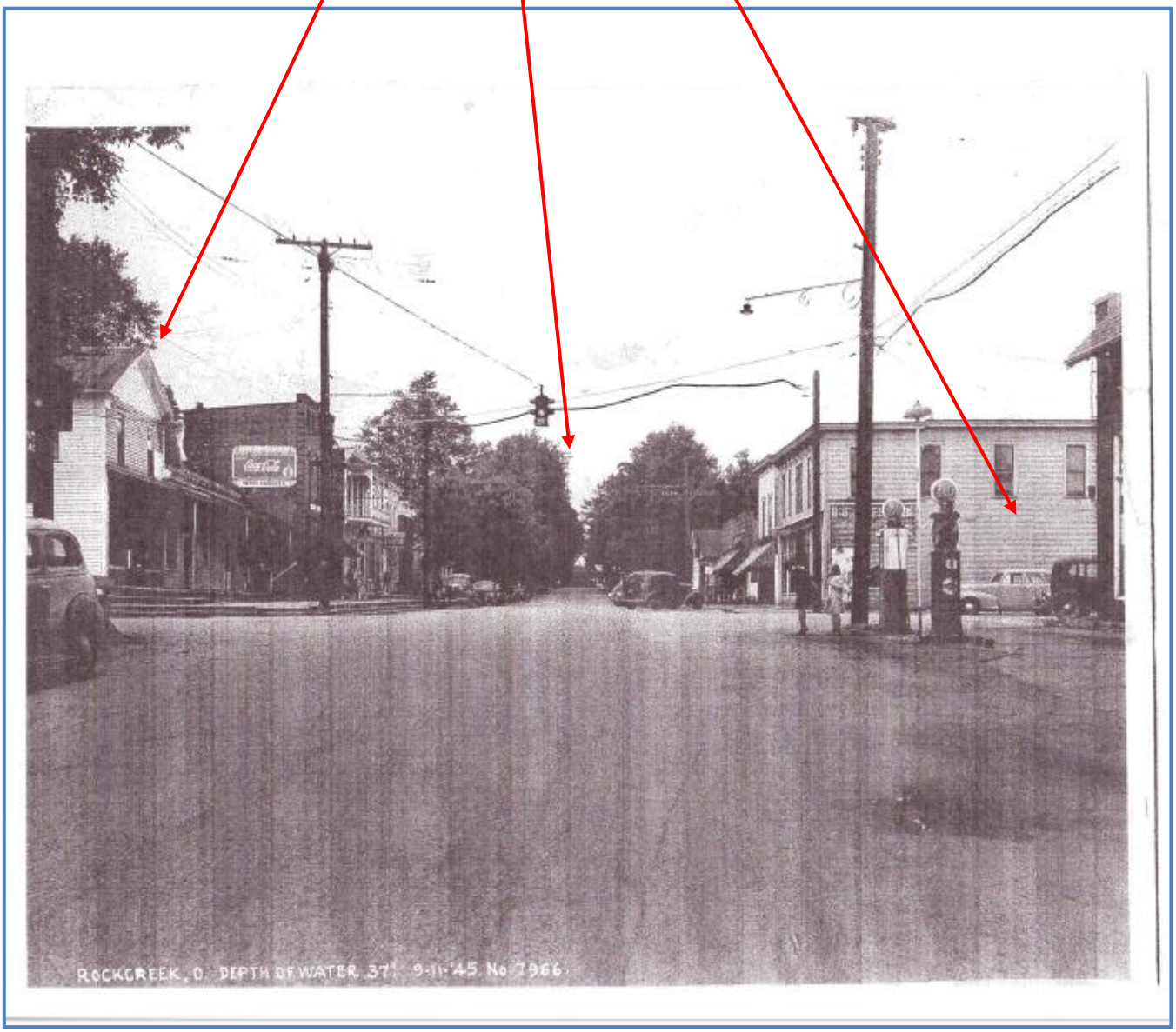
Yesteryear, The Village of Rock Creek

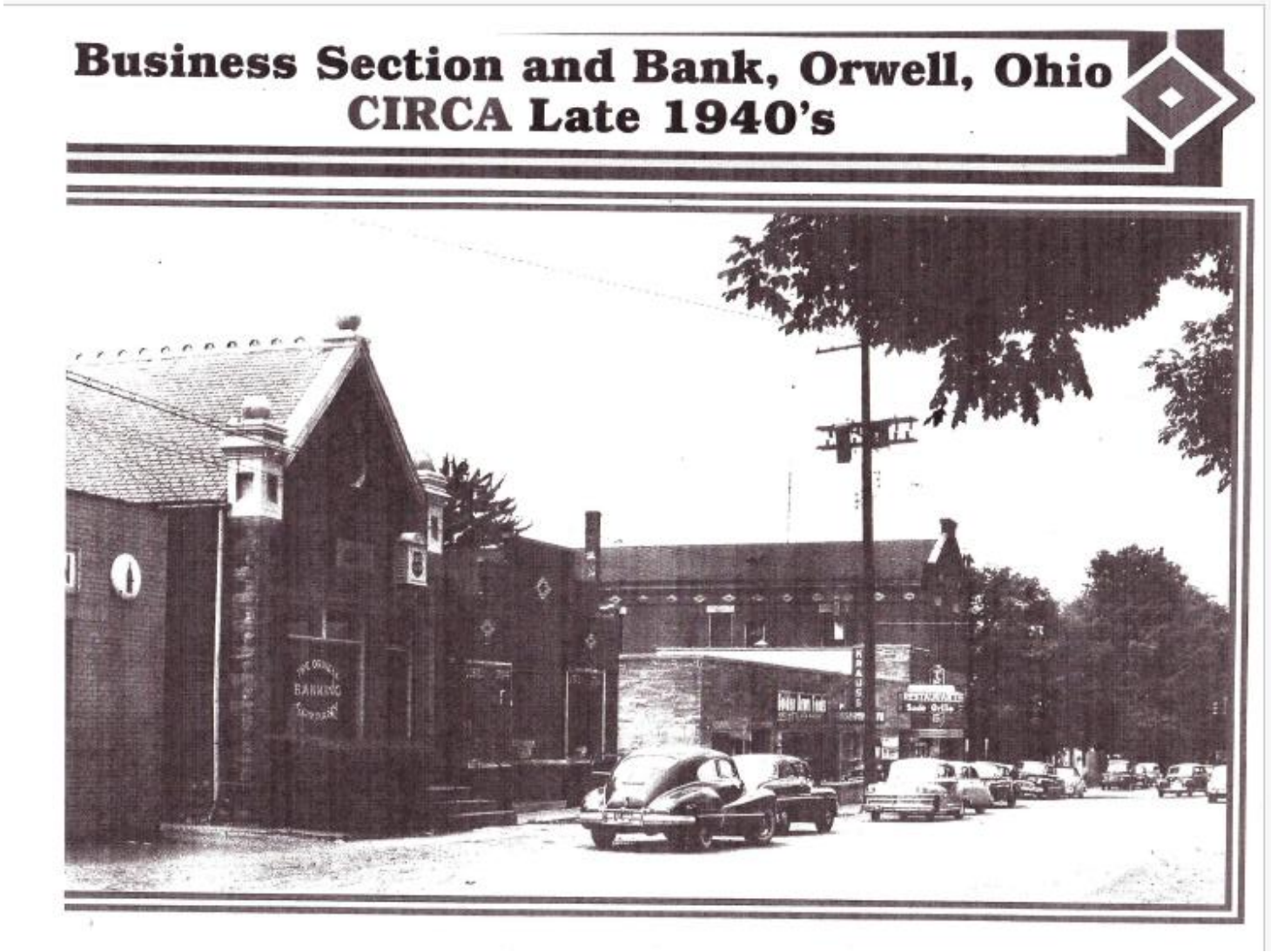


Historic Rock Creek

Rt. 45, looking north
Hardware Store

Water Street East




Business Section and Bank, Orwell, Ohio
CIRCA Late 1940's