

· FOR GOD AND COUNTRY ·

Dedication Program

Saint Odilo's Church

Berwyn, Illinois

Sunday, November Fourth
Nineteen hundred and twenty-eight

PROGRAM OF DEDICATION

St. Odilo's School
Berwyn, Ill.

Sunday, November 4, 1928



11 A. M.—Dedication of School by His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein,
Archbishop of Chicago.

11:30 A. M.—Solemn Mass.

His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein
Presiding at Throne

Assistant Priest

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Francis A. Purcell

Assistant Deacons

Very Rev. Monsignors Peter F. Shewbridge and William R. Griffin

Celebrant

Rev. Charles A. Murphy

Deacon

Rev. Timothy A. Rowan

Sub-Deacon

Rev. Francis A. Ryan

Master of Ceremonies

Rev. Joseph P. Morrison

Assistant Master

Rev. William I. Ward

Sermon

Rev. Patrick C. Conway



Millard's Mass in G sung by St. Odilo's Choir
Under the Direction of Prof. George Hrusa
Genevieve Doyle McNichols, Organist.

JOE W. McCARTHY

ARCHITECT

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Dedication Program St. Odilo's Church, Berwyn, Ill.

St. Odilo's Church, Berwyn, Ill.



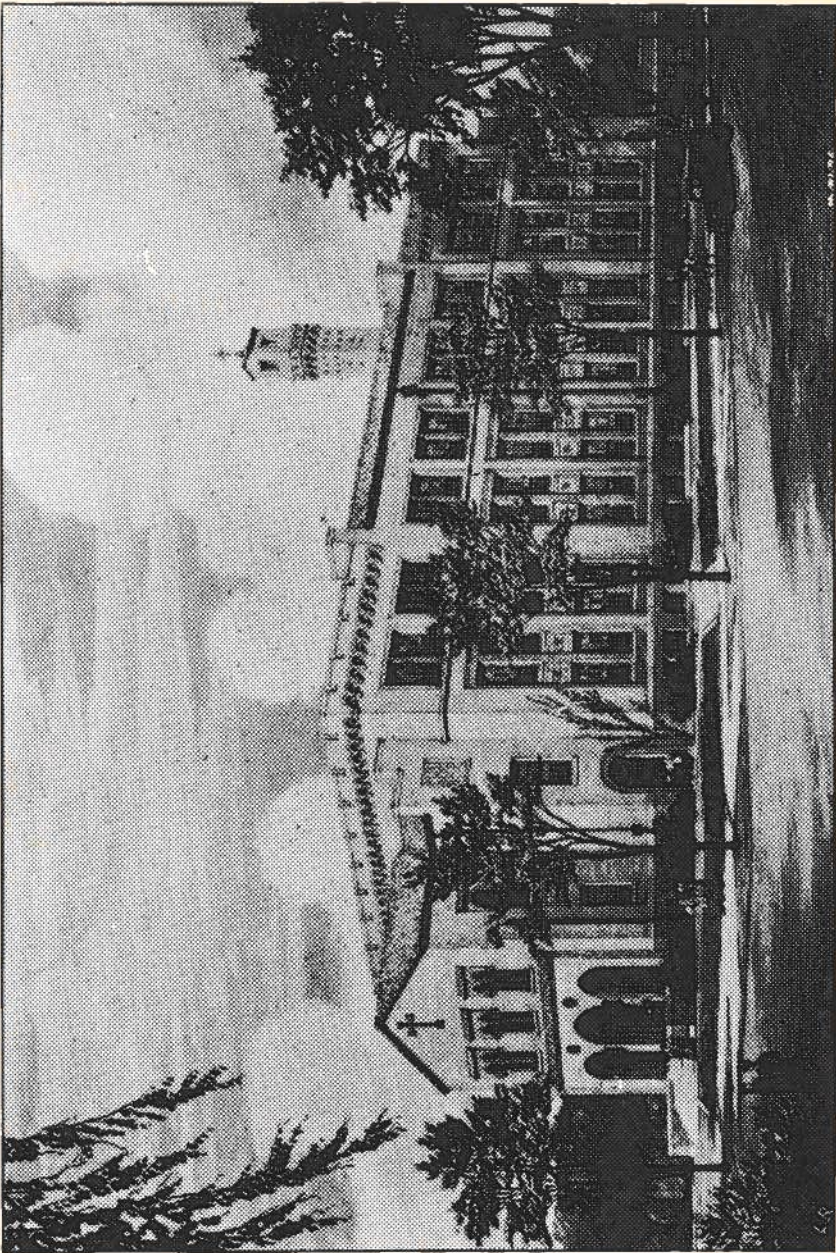
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BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. ODILO'S



His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein, ever alert to the increasing needs of his flock, turned his eyes westward to the fast growing City of Berwyn where wide spaces separated the heretofore sparsely settled churches.

The area was surveyed for a period of several years by the chancery office, and when their observation disclosed a heavy migration of the Catholic faith through the center of Berwyn in the territory bordering 22nd Street and the Metropolitan Elevated lines, with no nearby Catholic church, plans were completed in April, 1927 for the institution of a parish in this fertile field.

The approximate geographic center of the new parish was established at the corners of 23rd St. and Clarence Ave., Berwyn. McMahon & Hoban, chancery office real estate brokers, purchased the site of 300 feet on Clarence Ave. for the sum of \$48,000. The pastoral cares of the new congregation were entrusted to Rev. Wm. J. Roberts, formerly of St. Leo's, Resurrection and Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Chicago and from the outset it was evident that the new parish was to have an auspicious career. Father Roberts demonstrated his ability as a missionary and organizer, and in a short time had a small but enthusiastic band of Catholic lay workers to support his enterprises. With these workers he set about establishing temporary quarters of the new parish in a 25 foot front store located at the corner of 22nd Street and Clarence Avenue. The tiny church was tastily furnished and soon assumed the aspects of a well appointed chapel with a seating capacity of 200 persons. The literal christening of the newly created parish was in readiness, and the first mass was celebrated by Father Roberts at eight o'clock on the morning of June 12, 1927 in his new church, dedicated to that saintly Abbot of Cluny, St. Odilo, a nobleman and a scholar who lived in the 10th century, relinquishing the royalty, luxury and splendor of court life to enter the priesthood of Christ and who, as Abbot of Cluny, gave to the Church and the world the great feast known as All Soul's Day, which will be known as the feast day of this parish.

On June 12th Masses were celebrated at 8:00 and 10:00 A. M. On July 3rd two more masses were added at 7:00 and 9:00 and on August 19th two more masses were added at 10:45 and 11:30 A. M.

At this Dedication Mass it was apparent that the rapidly growing congregation made necessary preparations for the accommodation of the parishioners in more spacious permanent quarters, and a meeting of the men of the parish was called on Monday, June 20. At this meeting the St. Odilo's Building Fund Committee, under the guidance of Chairman Fred W. Cramer was organized as the lay business organization of the parish. All activities of the various societies were instigated by this committee and all funds derived therefrom tabulated by them

and passed into the parish building fund. Frank F. Kiedrowski was elected Recording Secretary and Nicholas Becker, Chairman of Finance.

By a series of card parties conducted in various homes and in the "parish hall" beneath the chapel, which consisted of a poorly ventilated cellar, probably intended for a butcher's poultry, a dry good's merchant's reserve stock or a druggist's storeroom, together with a summer outdoor carnival in September and an indoor Christmas festival, the pastor and his newly founded flock boasted a financial statement showing gross receipts of over \$28,000 with some \$6,000 expenses, or a net sum of \$22,000 accumulated by a new parish in a period of less than seven months.

Progress has been the password and after many notable events had come to pass particularly the efficient house to house Subscription Drive made by the men of St. Odilo's Building Fund Association under the leadership of our beloved, sterling Catholic friend, Fred A. Cramer, the St. Patrick's Eve. Party that overtaxed the halls in the Berwyn Club House, the "Old Friends Party" fostered by Mrs. Vanda Schiller, who has since gone to her reward, Mrs. James Cullerton and Mrs. D. A. Horan, which netted the parish \$1200.00, the Summer Carnival, etc., the Cornerstone of St. Odilo's was laid on Sunday morning by Father Roberts, surrounded by his parishioners.

A Rectory and Convent were procured at 23rd and East Ave. and the Sisters of Charity B. V. M. came to Berwyn to carry on the work of Christian Education. Five Sisters, Sister Mary Celerina, Superior, Sister Mary Di Pazzi, Sister Mary Carlos, Sister Mary St. Therese and Sister Mary Del Rita have been courageously teaching school in the little store and basement since the beginning of the fall term. But now that our new building is a reality the Pastor, Sisters and people look forward to many happy years in the church and school dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory.

Parish organizations assisting in the work and worthy of great commendation are St. Odilo's Building Fund Association, Holy Name Society, Altar and Rosary Society, Young People's Club and St. Odilo's Booster Club. These societies have been ably supervised by the following officers:

ST. ODILO'S BOOSTER CLUB

Fred W. Cramer, President
Charles A. Walsh, Vice President
Frank F. Kiedrowski, Secretary
John J. Bily, Treasurer

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

William J. Delaney, President
William J. Folan, Vice President
Joseph J. Jirik, Secretary
John J. Bily, Treasurer

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We are quite proud of the fact, that we were selected by Father Roberts to apply the roof on his new Church and School — (St. Odilo's).

We have, we believe, applied the roof hereon, as near perfect as is humanly possible.

In the course of our effort however, this is constantly our aim and in the event we can possibly serve some of the readers of this Souvenir Booklet, as time rolls on, it will be our desire to serve you in the same manner.

SOME OF OUR RECENT WORK:

St. Odilo's — St. Theodore's — St. Symphorosa Visitation — St. Adalbert's — Resurrection — St. Stephen's St. Columbkills — Ascension, Oak Park — West Side K. of C. Club House and numerous others.

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BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. ODILO'S

USHERS CLUB

7:00 O'clock Mass	8:00 O'clock Mass
Frank F. Kiedrowski	Thos. Shea
John J. Bily	Joseph Jirik
Frank Schuster	Loren Brown
9:00 O'clock Mass	10:00 O'clock Mass
Wm. J. Delaney	Wm. F. Folan
Dr. A. H. Bennewitz	John Schuster
Richard Collins	Hurley
Loren Maddock	Richard Hesse
10:45 O'clock Mass	11:30 O'clock Mass
James McGrath	Wm. E. Ford
Charles Becker	Charles A. Walsh
Clem Kayse	Augie Schaid

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY

Mrs. Mary Shea, President
 Mrs. J. Pfister, Vice President
 Mrs. Mary Schubert, Secretary
 Mrs. Blanche Goyette, Treasurer

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CLUB

John Schuster, President
 Catherine McGovern, Vice President
 Margaret Burns, Secretary
 Clem Kayse, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Fred W. Cramer Thomas Shea

SACRISTANS

Mrs. Blanche Goyette Mrs. J. Pfister

The new building is located at the southeast corner of 23rd and Clarence Ave. Its architecture is Northern Lombardy. It contains an assembly hall, accommodating 1000 people, a church seating 825, eight class rooms, three music rooms and offices and eight more class rooms may be added if the future wills it. The exterior is of rough straw and face brick trimmed with stone. Mr. Joe McCarthy is the architect and Math. Rauhen the general contractor.

The Altars, Statuary, and stations, of Rigalico by Daprato Statuary Company are original and beautiful. A Shrine of the Poor Souls has been erected where the faithful can gather at the weekly services to honor their departed. The Romanesque Pews are by Feuerborn Mfg. Co. and the sweet throated organ by Geo. Kilgen & Sons of St. Louis, Mo.

And so St. Odilo's takes on a new life and prepares to carry on offering thanks to its many friends and benefactors with the hope that the future will bring God's blessing upon them, the parish and its people.

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(Excerpt from the Editorial of the Chicago Daily News)
 Saturday, October 27, 1928.

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Republican Candidate

for

Sanitary District Trustee

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Republican Candidate

for

Sanitary District Trustee

(Full Term)

Election, Tuesday, November 6, 1928