Church of the Holy Angels, Dayton, Ohio: 1994

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Church Of The Holy Angels
Dayton, OH - 1994
Angels . . .
Preserving Our Past

The relocated frame church facing Brown Street with the school in the background.

Interior of the original frame church with kneeling angel on each side of the main altar.

Rev. Martin P. Neville
first pastor - 1902-1922.

As the restoration of the church is completed, it seems fitting for us to celebrate and give thanks for all that the Church of the Holy Angels is and has been. The beautifully refurbished church, the busy activity center, the school, Father's home, and most importantly, the spiritual and communal life of the parish: all are cause for us to rejoice and to be grateful. Our gratitude extends to both living parishioners and those who have gone before us, for it is the work of all of us that has made possible these achievements. Finally, our thanksgiving arises to those invisible beings from heaven, God's angels, who have watched over and guided our parish from its beginnings in 1902.

And so, with joyful hearts, we remember . . .

1901:
On December 17 the Most Reverend William Henry Elder, D.D., Archbishop of Cincinnati, establishes a Catholic church in South Park, Dayton, with the appointment of Reverend Martin Neville as pastor.
1902: Father Neville offers the first Mass on October 19 in the new two hundred seat frame structure on Stewart Street and names the church Holy Angels. Two classrooms in the back of the building serve as the first school under the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.

1906: The Society of Mary donates land at Brown & L Streets to Holy Angels, and the frame building is moved to that location. Father Neville acquires adjacent land, and that same year the church is enlarged, a bell tower and new roof are added, and a separate two-story school is constructed. Shortly thereafter, Father Neville establishes a building fund for a larger church, and over the next several years, raises $100,000.

1922: Father Neville dies in April, and Reverend Denis Halpin succeeds him as pastor.

1923: Additional land is acquired on K Street.

1924: The school is remodeled, and the following year, the liturgy moves to the second floor of this building while the new church is under construction.

1927: On May 8 the present Norman Gothic Church of the Holy Angels is dedicated by the Most Reverend John T. McNicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati. Designed by Maginnis & Walsh of Boston and constructed by Danis-Hunt of Dayton at a cost of $300,000, the new structure seats approximately eight hundred. Credit for the artistic glass-filled wooden screen between the vestibule and the auditorium goes to the Peter Kuntz Lumber Company, while the cathedral pews are the work of M. Ohmer and Sons. In addition to completion of the church, two K Street properties are purchased, one for use as a rectory, and the other, a convent.

Rev. Martin Molloy third pastor 1939-1944
Rev. Denis M. Halpin second pastor 1922-1939
Msgr. Francis T. Culley fourth pastor 1944-1949

Solemn procession with honor guard, the flag, lace surpliced altar boys.

School girls participating in a devotional ceremony in the 1920’s.
1939:
Father Halpin dies in November. Reverend Martin Molloy is appointed pastor.

1944:
Because of poor health, Father Molloy retires but not before seeing the decoration of the interior of the church completed; the parish debt liquidated; and another home purchased and joined to the existing rectory creating a much-needed enlarged parish house. Reverend Francis Culley, a former assistant at Holy Angels, succeeds him as pastor.

1946:
The first pipe organ, a twenty-one rank Kilgen, replaces the Hammond organ, the successor of the reed organ used in 1927.

1948:
Father Culley is raised to a monsignor. With the move of the Sisters of Notre Dame to a home on Park Road in Oakwood, the convent becomes known as the Recreation House, a place used for meetings by Holy Angels' parishioners. Sometime during the 1940's the C.C.D. program is born with classes initially offered only to high school students.

1949:
In March a library is formed in the vestibule of the church. Work is begun on a school addition in September. Father Culley dies unexpectedly on October 28. Reverend Joseph McFarland becomes pastor.
Exterior of church showing original spires which were removed in 1970.

Iconic Byzantine style angel: sanctuary wall after 1952.

School with addition begun by Father Culley: addition completed in 1950.

Wedding of Richard Miller and Patricia Falke in 1957.

1950:
The school is enlarged and remodeled. By 1950 the C.C.D. program includes grades one through twelve.

1952:
The Church of the Holy Angels celebrates its golden jubilee. In preparation the church interior is newly decorated, including the addition of carpet and the painting of the iconic Byzantine style angels in the sanctuary. To commemorate the jubilee, the Most Reverend Karl J. Alter, D.D., Archbishop of Cincinnati, assisted by ten priests, offers a solemn pontifical Mass on Labor Day, September 1. By this date the following organizations are well established: the Rosary-Altar Society, St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Name Society, Junior Holy Name, P.T.A., and the Athletic Association.

1954:
Father McFarland is elevated to a monsignor.

1958:
Holy Angels School has a peak enrollment of 794 students.

1960:
To comply with a fire regulation mandated by the large number of worshippers, the shrine of the Little Flower is moved, and the east exit is constructed.

1963:
Bridge for Charity begins.

1965:
Tuckpointing of the bricks is initiated.

1967:
The Church of the Holy Angels is one of the largest parishes in Dayton with 8,500 parishioners. Seven Masses are offered on Sundays; eight, on weekdays.
1968:
Holy Angels is the first parish in the diocese to employ a full time C.C.D. director. Sister Helen McDermott, S.N.D., fills that position. The Sisters of Notre Dame move from Park Road to Sawmill Road. The Parish Council is formed.

1970:
The roof on the church is replaced, and probably at this time, the spires are removed. The church interior is repainted. A notice from the Archdiocese states that masses offered on Saturday evenings between 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. satisfy the Sunday obligation. Holy Angels begins to offer Mass on Saturdays at 7:00 p.m. Lay lectors begin reading at Mass.

1971:
In December the church doors begin to be locked at 5:00 p.m. on Sundays and after 8:00 p.m. weekdays. New red velvet draperies are hung in the confessionals. The first Community Penitential Rite is celebrated before Easter. Coffee and doughnuts are served after some masses on Sundays.

1972:
Pre-school religious education is offered during a Sunday Mass for the first time, and a vacation Bible school is inaugurated. The Education Commission comes into existence as the Board of Education for the first time represents C.C.D. and adult education as well as the parish school. Additional tuckpointing to the church is necessary.

1974:
Msgr. McFarland celebrates his golden jubilee as a priest on March 15. The laity begin to distribute communion, and the practice of using cantors to lead congregational singing begins. The Leisure Club is formed.

1975:
On November 12, Msgr. McFarland retires, and Reverend Edward Haskamp is appointed pastor. The former convent/recreational facility is remodeled and named The Haven - a poor forerunner of the Parish Center.

1976:
The baptistry in the vestibule of the church is converted to a reconciliation chapel.
1977:
Holy Angels celebrates its diamond jubilee on its patronal feast day, October 2, with sung Vesper and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and more formally on November 6, with a pontifical Mass concelebrated by the Most Reverend Joseph L. Bernardin, Archbishop of Cincinnati, and thirty-nine priests.

1978:
Father Haskamp is succeeded by the Reverend Gail Poynter. Holy Angels PTO sponsors the first garage sale.

1979:
Father Poynter is reassigned, and the Reverend Joseph Goetz assumes the pastorate at a special Mass offered by the Most Reverend Joseph L. Bernardin on Sunday, September 30. Sister Helen McDermott celebrates her golden jubilee as a Sister of Notre Dame on September 9.

1980:
In an ecumenical spirit, the vacation Bible school merges with the one offered by South Park United Methodist Church. A bathroom is added in the vestibule of the church.

1981:
Sister Rose Marie Burns, a Sister of Charity, begins her ministry at Holy Angels. After extensive exterior repair, the church tower is rededicated on October 4, patronal feast of St. Michael and the Holy Angels.

1982:
Dr. J. Ritter Werner is hired as organist and music director. The Worship Commission is formed.

1983:
The first RCIA program is offered at Holy Angels under the leadership of Sister Rose Marie Burns and Rev. Anthony Geraci, an assistant pastor. Holy Angels School holds the first Christmas wreath and roping sale, and C.C.D. sponsors Project Christmas Stocking, which raises money to buy toys for the less fortunate children.

1984:
Sister Helen retires, and Sister Rose Marie assumes the position of director of Religious Education as well as Adult Education. The Maintenance Committee is formed. Rev. Michael Holloran replaces Reverend Thomas E. Meyer as associate pastor.

1985:
Beginning in January, one Mass a month is signed for the deaf including the music and homily. On May 26, Pentecost Sunday, a solemn Eucharist celebrating Father Goetz’s twenty-fifth anniversary as a priest is held at 12:30 with a reception following on the square. In November a new rectory for the priests is purchased at 305 Oakwood Avenue.

1986:
Dr. Elizabeth Waters, S.N.D., retires as principal of Holy Angels School. She is the last Notre Dame sister to serve the parish. The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur had been associated with Holy Angels since its beginnings in 1902. On June 22 at the 9:30 Mass, Holy Angels parish celebrates with Eldon M. Cotterman his ordination to the permanent diaconate. Earlier in the year Angelus ’86, a campaign to raise funds for a parish activity center and school and church repairs, is launched with a goal of $840,000.
1987: The Haven and rectory on K Street are razed in January. On May 17 after the 12:30 Sunday Mass, a ground-breaking ceremony for the new parish activity center is held. The architects are Mark Beachler & Associates, and the contractors are L.B. Robinson, Inc. Beginning March 8, the 6:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is discontinued, reducing the number of masses on Sunday from six to five. There are three weekday masses. Baptismal preparation classes are offered for the first time.

1988: On Sunday March 13, following a service of evening prayer, the Most Reverend Daniel E. Pilarczyk blesses and dedicates the Parish Activity Center. The first "Heavenly Affair" is held there two months later on May 21. Profits from the social go toward the parish computer system. On June 5, a Mass of Thanksgiving for the ministries of five parish staff members who are leaving is offered followed by a farewell reception. Those honored are Father Goetz, pastor; Father Daniel Meyer, assistant; Father Michael Holloran, associate; Mrs. Mary Wlodarski, junior/senior high C.C.D. co-ordinator; and Mrs. Diane Popp, elementary C.C.D. co-ordinator. Reverend Thomas E. Meyer returns to Holy Angels as pastor; Sister Rose Marie Burns is appointed pastoral associate; and Mrs. Karen Davis is the new Director of Religious Education. They are commissioned at the Vespers Service on the parish feast day. Because the parish has only one priest, the Mass schedule must be reduced again: four Masses on Sunday and one on the weekdays.

1989: Dedication of the organ and a second "Heavenly Affair" are held on May 27. Profits from the social go toward the parish computer system. On June 25, at 12:30, a Mass of Thanksgiving for the ministries of five parish staff members who are leaving is offered followed by a farewell reception. Those honored are Father Goetz, pastor; Father Daniel Meyer, assistant; Father Michael Holloran, associate; Mrs. Mary Wlodarski, junior/senior high C.C.D. co-ordinator; and Mrs. Diane Popp, elementary C.C.D. co-ordinator. Reverend Thomas E. Meyer returns to Holy Angels as pastor; Sister Rose Marie Burns is appointed pastoral associate; and Mrs. Karen Davis is the new Director of Religious Education. They are commissioned at the Vespers Service on the parish feast day. Because the parish has only one priest, the Mass schedule must be reduced again: four Masses on Sunday and one on the weekdays.

1990: Many new activities and outreach programs are inaugurated: the men's breakfast on Saturday mornings, the bereavement ministry, the intergenerational choir, Respect Life Sunday, preparing meals for the homeless at St. Vincent's Hotel once a month, and the food collection barrels at the entrance to the church. In March the first St. Patrick's Day Irish Sweepstakes is held, and on September 8, Sister Rose Marie Burns celebrates her twenty-fifth anniversary as a Sister of Charity at the 5:00 p.m. Mass.
1991:
An alabaster crib set is donated to the parish in memory of Mrs. Jean O'Brien. All church doors are locked during the week except at times of services. The rectory on Oakwood Avenue is sold, and a smaller house at 1128 Broadview Boulevard is purchased for Father Meyer. A church restoration committee is formed, and repairs to the brick mortar joints are begun by Kenneth Goss Masonry Company and to the precast concrete areas by Oren Associates. The church receives a new roof.

1992:
Many parishioners open their homes to the young people from all over the world attending the Pilgrimage of Trust on Earth sponsored by the Taize community of brothers from Taize, France. The renewal is held at the University of Dayton Field House in May. The practice of giving a special blessing to expectant parents is begun at Holy Angels.

1993:
Beginning in January, Mass is held in the parish activities center while the interior of the church is being refurbished. A book with the names of all those who have died during the year is placed in the sanctuary during the month of November so that all the parish might remember them in their prayers. A Respect Life committee is established.

1994:
Refurbishment of the church interior is completed. It has included painting the entire church, painting and lightening the angels on the sanctuary walls, a new altar and ambo, moving the altar closer to the people, new carpet, and upgrading the lighting and sound systems. Contractors are I.F. Weber Co., Conrad Schmitt Studios, Inc., Chapel Electric Co., Mutual Electric Co., and Quinlan & Son, Inc. The Most Reverend Daniel E. Pilarczyk, Archbishop of Cincinnati, blesses the new altar on Sunday, May 22.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:
The committee acknowledges John Bach for design of the historical pages; Tom Jackson for preparation of the roster; United Photographic Industries; Dr. Richard Miller and the Holy Angels archives. We also thank all parishioners who assisted with the family pictures or scheduling, and the pastoral staff for their assistance and support.

Barbara Boose
Ann Jackson
Pat Sauer
Dear People of the Church of the Holy Angels:

This Parish Pictorial Directory is published in conjunction with the recent celebration of the dedication of the new table - altar and the restoration of our church.

Holy Angels Parish was founded in 1901. Since its beginning, the parish has been exceedingly blessed by God through the intercession of the holy angels with many dedicated parishioners. In this year of 1994, we give thanks to the Lord for our present parishioners.

There are pictures of over four hundred and fifty parish household members. I thank the committee that was responsible for organizing and publishing this directory. They graciously gave many hours of their personal time in this effort.

Many people involve themselves with the work of the Lord by offering their time and talent in various parish ministries and the organizational life of the parish. The generosity of the people of Holy Angels is indeed an example of God's love for His people. That gift often comes to us through community, through the example and support of people trying their best to follow the way of the Holy Spirit.

May the joy and peace of the Risen Lord always be upon the people of the Church of Holy Angels.

Father Thomas E. Meyer
Pastor
Our Leaders and Staff

Rose Marie Burns, SC
Pastoral Associate

Rev. Mr. Eldon M. Cotterman
Deacon

Mrs. Louise Moore
School Principal

Ms. Karen D. Davis
Director of Religious Education

Dr. J. Ritter Werner
Music Director

Mrs. Judy Cannon
Youth Minister
Our Council and Commissions

Parish Council

Worship Commission

Education Commission

Mary Lee, Sue Wiedeman, Kathy Beigel, Teresa Francis, Irene Turckes
Our Educators and Youth Workers

Parish School Faculty

Athletic Council

Youth Group

A hardworking class

CJ's Sister Christine Hucik and two band students
Our Children and Young Adults

Seder Supper

Religious Education Faculty

A pre-school class

Girl Scouts

PTO Officers

Cub Scouts
Angels ... Inspiring Us

Cantors

Ushers

A Sunday Liturgy

Choir
as We Worship

Harry Nawroth Sacristan

Eucharistic Attendants

Eucharistic Ministers
as We Minister to Others

Parish Visitors

Bereavement Committee

Altar Rosary Society

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Men's Breakfast

Meals for the homeless
Laurie Stueve
and to One Another

Sunday Coffee and Doughnuts
Tom and Margie Borchers

Bridge for Charity

Social Committee

Leisure Club

Newsletter: Sue Kelleher - Editor
Sanctuary showing newly refurbished angels

Relocated Baptismalfont
New ambry by Brother Barrish

Brother Joseph Barrish, SM, with altar he designed

Ambo by Brother Barrish
and Our Lives

Refurbished Tabernacle on new marble column

Lightened dome with redesigned angels

Refurbished bas-relief angel

Fundraisers: Norm and Bobbie Eckstein, Gene and Annette Casella, Jim Kelleher

New exterior cross

Restoration Chairmen: Jack Martin and George Vance
to God's Service

Baptismal Team

Audrey Toohey at Park Manor

Adult Catechetical Team

Mardi Gras: fun for charity

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
WILLIAMS, Brett
WILLIAMS, Garth & Lynn
WINTERSTEEN, Denny & Sue
WISE, Joe & Mary Lou

WITTCBERG, Tom & Kathy
WOEHRMYER, Bob & Carole
WOESTE, Tim & Ruth
WOURMS, David & Julie

WRIGHT, Patrick & Kathleen
WUEBKER, James & Charlotte
ZAHORA, Jeff & Melinda;
ZAIMAIN, John & Kathy

ZEHENNY, Joe & Kathleen
ZILLI, William & Patricia
ZIMMERMAN, Barbara
DICICO, Joseph & Julia
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