

TEXTS OF ARTICLES TAKEN FROM FALMOUTH ENTERPRISE

7/7/1907

"The installation of pews, which replaced the settees formerly used in St. Joseph's Church, Woods Hole, has been completed and the change adds much to the edifice."

3/2/1912

→ "St. Joseph's Church, of which Rev. T. F. Kennedy is pastor, will open its doors Sunday morning after being closed several weeks. The ceiling and walls have been newly frescoed, the woodwork painted and the floor covered with new and handsome carpets. The altar has received a coat of cream colored paint with gold trimmings, and together with the memorial windows, presents a handsome effect. A new sanctuary lamp has been installed and the church equipped with electric lights. New Stations of the Cross of beautiful and artistic design have supplanted the old and antique hand-painted pictures and are the gifts of several parishioners as follows: Rev. T. F. Kennedy and sisters, Miss Julia F. McKean, Mrs. Robert A. Goffin, Alex Levesque . . . , Mr. & Mrs. David Duft, Miss May Walsh, Mr. & Mrs. M. H. Walsh, Miss Anna Stacy, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lane (of Falmouth), Mrs. Ellen F. McCarty, Margaret B. Wilson, and May A. Roundy."

6/24/1937

(Substantially the same as below) Also: "It is built of pinkish-brown granite, native to Falmouth, and on clear days casts a beautiful reflection in the still waters of the pond."

5/14/1938

"St. Joseph's parish here bears the distinction of being one of the oldest Catholic parishes on Cape Cod. . . St. Joseph's was founded as a mission of Corpus Christi Church at Sandwich. Later, in 1882, the church was dedicated with the Reverend Cornelius McSweeney serving as the first pastor. In those days the parish included Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket as well as all sections of Falmouth. Father McSweeney made regular trips to the islands to attend the spiritual needs of his large flock of parishioners. Stories are told of his ventures to and from the islands even under the most severe weather conditions to officiate at church services. It is said that his Nantucket parishioners sometimes stood weeping on the dock as their beloved priest braved the elements in a small boat so that he would not be late for a service in another section of his large parish. . . . succeeded in 1902 by Rev. James Coffee. At this time the parish was split up so that the new priest had only the Falmouth section with the islands set up as a new parish. Father Coffee remained as pastor here for three years. The Reverend Thomas F. Kennedy of Falmouth, who recently observed his golden jubilee anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood, succeeded Father Coffee. Father Kennedy took over the parish May 22, 1905, and was active until his retirement in 1933. Five years before Father Kennedy's retirement, Woods Hole became a separate parish with the pastor taking charge of the chapel of the Immaculate Conception at North Falmouth during the summer. . . . A great many improvements in Catholic churches here are directly responsible to the untiring labor and interest of Father Kennedy. During his work here, the priest was church gardener, janitor and hand man as well. . . . He was born in Barton, Vt., Jan. 12, 1860. Following Father Kennedy's retirement, duties of the parish were taken over for a short time by the Rev. Hugh A. Gallagher who served until May, 1935. Father Gallagher was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas J. McLean who was active up until his transfer to the Church of the Assumption at Osterville last February after three years here. Father McLean was succeeded by the Rev. Timothy J. Calnen . . . Across the street is a granite bell tower with two peals of bells, the gift of Mrs. Frank R. Lillie whose husband has long served as president of the Marine Biological Laboratory Corporation . . . The tower is an impressive structure set in a lovely garden of flowers and trees. Included in the tower decorations are bronze plaques, representing in relief the 14 stations of the cross."

TEXT OF ARTICLE TAKEN FROM FALMOUTH ENTERPRISE,
JANUARY 2, 1930

BELLS RING OUT FOR CHRISTMAS

**Angelus Peal Sounded Christmas Morning From
Granite Memorial Tower at Woods Hole**

On Christmas morning at 5:45 a. m., for the first time, the Angelus peal rang out from the bronze bells in the beautiful granite memorial tower erected on Millfield Street, Woods Hole, as the gift of the wife of a director of the Marine Biological Laboratory, Mrs. Frank R. Lillie of Chicago and Woods Hole.

The electric mechanism has been installed this week, and the bells ring at 7 a. m.; noon and 6 p. m., except Saturday night and Sundays. As all Catholics know, the Angelus commemorates the annunciation of the incarnation of Christ to Mary by an angel, as told in the Gospel. The words of the services are divided into three versicles with responses, followed by a prayer; and this division is customarily indicated by the manner of ringing the Angelus appeal. The words are:

- Mary, etc.
- V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
- R. That we may be made worthy of the promises
 of Christ.

Let Us Pray

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

The tower is fifty-five feet in height, constructed of pink West Falmouth granite, with a small oratory on the north side, in which are to be installed bronze doors in bas relief whose panels will depict scenes from the life of St. Francis d'Assisi. Wilfrid Wheeler of Ashumet has been in charge of the work, with Arthur Chase of West Falmouth as mason-contractor.

DEDICATE BELLS AT CHURCH

**Bishop Cassidy Officiates in Ceremonies at Tower
Given by Mrs. F. R. Lillie**

A picture long to be remembered for impressive beauty was witnessed on Thursday afternoon, July 31, on the shores of El pond, Woods Hole when a procession headed by priests with cross and candles, with the auxiliary bishop of the diocese in his episcopal robes, wound across the green lawn from St. Joseph's church to the bell tower of granite, for dedication of tower and bells, as the gift of Mrs. Frank R. Lillie of Chicago and Woods Hole.

Hundreds of people stood reverently on the scene while the procession moved under the trees in the quiet sunshine of the late afternoon to the little oratory in the base of the tall tower of pink West Falmouth granite, with the two bronze bells, cast in England, swinging high above the ground. Rt. Rev. James E. Cassidy, D. D., auxiliary bishop of the diocese of Fall River, accepted the gift for St. Joseph's church and blessed the bells which will ring the Angelus peal morning, noon, and night. The large bell is named Mendel, for the great student of heredity, bearing the inscription "I will teach you of life--and of life eternal" while the smaller bell, named Pasteur, for the famed French originator of the theory of bacteria and germs, carries the wording "Thanks be to God." Sponsors of the bells were two sisters-in-law of the donor, Mrs. Charles R. Crane of New York and Woods Hole; Mrs. George C. Lillie of Falmouth Heights; Lincoln Clark, Chicago attorney; and Alfeo Faggi, artist of Woodstock, New York, who designed the exquisite bronze panels depicting in bas relief scenes from the life of St. Francis d'Assisi, on the doors of the oratory.

Following the service in the oratory, the procession, followed by many of the crowd, returned to St. Joseph's church where the bishop preached a short sermon, linking science with religion, and gave the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, assisted by Rev. George C. Maxwell of Corpus Christi church, Sandwich, as deacon; Rev. Thomas F. Kennedy, pastor of St. Joseph's church as sub-deacon; and Rev. James A. Coyle of St. Thomas' church, Falmouth Heights as deacon of exposition.

In the church was also accepted as a gift from Mrs. Charles R. Crane a new statue of little St. Theresa of the Flowers. Beautiful Russian music, both at the oratory and in the church was rendered by the Marine Biological Laboratory choir, directed by Professor Ivan Gorokhoff of Worcester and Woods Hole, each member of the choir receiving from Mrs. Frank Lillie a picture of the bell tower as a remembrance of the occasion. Richard Bradley sang a charming solo in the church.

All the clergy of the vicinity took part in the exercises, including those mentioned and: Rev. E. J. Ward of Fall River, chancellor of the diocese; Rev. E. J. Connelly, Fall River; Rev. Manuel J. Teixeira, St. Anthony's church, East Falmouth; Rev. E. J. Callahan, Wareham; Rev. P. H. Yanci, Woods Hole and St. Louis. Altar boys serving were Edward Nichols and John Cavanaugh. Directing traffic and parking during the ceremony were officers Joseph Joseph and Frank Hamilton of the Falmouth police department.

The tower itself was actually built last summer, Charles Coolidge of Boston being the architect, Wilfred Wheeler, Ashumet, whose wife is another sister-in-law of Mrs. Frank Lillie, the contractor; and Manuel Brazil, New Bedford, having charge of the stone-mason work. All three were present at the exercises. Whether viewed from

the lawn of St. Joseph's church, with Eel pond in the distance or seen from the M. B. L. buildings across the pond with the beautiful trees as a background, the tower is picturesque. The stonework is native pink West Falmouth granite, with a red-tiled roof on the belfry and oratory, and the grounds about have been landscaped attractively.

The donor, Mrs. Frances Crane Lillie, effaced herself throughout the ceremonies, not marching in the procession, and sitting quietly as one of the congregation in the church, with her two little grand-children, Frank and Martha, son and daughter of Dr. and Mrs. D. C. Egloff, with her. Mrs. Lillie's husband, Dr. Frank R. Lillie is professor of zoology at the University of Chicago and president of the board of trustees of the Marine Biological Laboratory so that the names of eminent scientists given the bells symbolize, as it were, the life interest of the couple. A few years ago they made a large gift to the University of Chicago, endowing a research laboratory of zoology.

Following the ceremony, Bishop Cassidy and a number of clergy, family and intimate friends, were entertained at dinner at the Juniper Point estate of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Crane. Among members of the family present were: Dr. and Mrs. Frank R. Lillie, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Crane, Mr. and Mrs. George C. Lillie, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Wheeler, Mr. Ralph Lillie, Mrs. Charles Lillie.

TWO PHOTOS ENTITLED " BISHOP DEDICATES BELL TOWER AT WOODS HOLE" HAVE THE FOLLOWING CAPTION:

Upper: Rev. Jas. A. Coyle, Rev. Manuel J. Texeira, East Falmouth, Rev. E. J. Callahan, Wareham; John Cavanaugh, Edward Nichols; Lower: Rt. Rev. James E. Cassidy, D. D., center; Rev. Thos. F. Kennedy, Woods Hole, right; Rev. George Maxwell, Sandwich, left.

YOU SHOULD VISIT --

WOODS HOLE BELL TOWER

First of a series of unusual places to visit and things to see
on a Falmouth vacation.

On a quiet summer day the smooth water of Woods Hole Eel Pond reflects a lovely picture of the bell tower on Millfield street, a picture to which we are long accustomed and which is well worth a drive to Woods Hole from any part of Falmouth. The tower has stood there for 17 years, across the street from St. Joseph's church, the gift of a Woods Hole summer resident. The big bells hanging in the tower sound their peal three times daily. The doors to the little oratory are open for meditation by the devout, and for visits of those interested in seeing the beautiful decoration of the room. Within and without, the tower is a small gem of architecture and a picturesque part of the town which should not be overlooked.

The tower was presented by Mrs. Frank R. Lillie of Chicago and Woods Hole, sister of the late Charles R. Crane whose impressive summer home overlooks the harbor at Juniper Point; and wife of a former president of Marine Biological Laboratory trustees. It was built in the summer of 1929 and dedicated with formal religious ceremony in the summer of 1930. On Christmas Day, 1929, the bells first sounded their peal in the winter dawn.

The tower, 55 feet high, is built of gray-pink granite quarried in West Falmouth. It was designed by Charles Coolidge, Boston architect, and built under direction of Wilfrid Wheeler of Ashumet Farm. Arthur Chase of West Falmouth was in charge of masonry work, and Manuel Brazil of New Bedford the stone mason.

In the red-roofed belfry hang two handsome bronze bells, cast in England. Appropriately for Woods Hole, one of the world's great scientific centers, they bear the names of two of the world's most noted scientists. The larger of the two is called Mendel, for the great student of heredity, and is inscribed, "I will teach you of life--and of life eternal". The second bell, named Pasteur for the French physician who originated the study of germs, is inscribed simply, "Thanks be to God." Three times a day, morning, noon, and evening, their peal sounds across the still pond to remind the devout of prayer hour.

The small oratory is furnished with simple benches and a shelf of religious books. The double doors are decorated with bronze bas-reliefs of the life of St. Francis of Assisi. On the walls are bronze plaques of the Stations of the Cross. The designs were by Alfeo Faggi, New York sculptor.

The dedication service, on July 31, 1930, brought a large crowd of spectators to the pond shore. The Most Rev. James E. Cassidy, bishop of Fall River diocese, then auxiliary bishop, headed the procession of clergy who bore cross and candles from the church across the street to give tower and bells formal blessing of the church. Bishop Cassidy blessed the bells, whose sponsors were sisters-in-law of the donor, Mrs. George C. Lillie of Falmouth, Mrs. Crane, Lincoln Clark of Chicago, and Mr. Faggi. Clergymen assisting in the service which followed in the church included the Rev. Thomas F. Kennedy, then pastor at St. Joseph's; the Rev. James A. Coyle, former pastor at St. Patrick's; and the Rev. Manuel J. Teixeira, then pastor at St. Anthony's.

TEXT OF ARTICLE TAKEN FROM FALMOUTH ENTERPRISE,
MAY 16, 1952

BELL TOWER HAS GARDEN DEDICATED TO VIRGIN MARY

Beside Woods Hole's familiar bell tower on Millfield street is a small statue of St. Margaret, patron saint of gardens.

St. Margaret looks down upon a distinctive and beautiful garden, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. On a quiet summer day the benches adjoining the garden are a source of delight for year-round and summer residents alike. Over the trimmed hedge of Rosa Rugosa can be seen the smooth water of EEL pond and within the garden itself are blue and white patterns formed by flowers planted by Wilfrid Wheeler of Ashumet.

This garden, believed to be the first in the United States dedicated to Mary, is maintained by a fund given by Mrs. Frank R. Lillie, also donor of the bell tower.

It was made after the centuries-old fashion of pre-Reformation England. In those days more than 500 flowers bore names honoring the Virgin Mary.

First Full Planting

First full planting of the garden, built on marshland owned by St. Joseph's church, was in 1936. Flowers used were those bearing Catholic names -- Lady-smock, Mary-gold, Rosemary, Lady Slipper. It was designed in the shape of a cross, marked off by small stones. At the center of the crucifix is a statue of the Virgin Mary.

Along the street side of the garden was a magnificent box hedge grown on a Virginia estate. Background cedar, pine and privet enclosed the garden.

It was costly and difficult to preserve the Mary's garden. Most of the plants were annuals and had to be replanted each year. Some were not able to grow satisfactorily in the soil. Many of the flowers bloomed only for short periods each year.

When the 1938 hurricane swept through the garden, depositing a boat and boat-house against the bell tower, the garden was devastated. The box hedge was destroyed and was later replaced by yew.

During the war years it was decided to simplify the garden, planting flowers which would preserve the beauty but reduce the cost and care necessary.

Petunias, marigolds and ageratum were planted. These flowers, more hardy and less costly, have been growing in the garden since then, tended by Mr. Wheeler. The expense is about half what it used to be.

Recently, two Philadelphians heard of the Woods Hole garden and began a project to plant Mary gardens all over the country, using the original religious names. They now hope to provide, at their own expense, seeds, bulbs and plants for restoration of the Woods Hole garden to its original planting.

TEXT OF ARTICLE TAKEN FROM FAIMOUTH ENTERPRISE,
OCTOBER 24, 1952

ORIGINAL FLOWERS TO BE PLANTED IN WOODS HOLE

Plans are now being worked out for restoration of many of the original flowers that bloomed in the garden beside Woods Hole's familiar bell tower on Millfield street. This beautiful little garden, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, originally was planted with flowers named for Mary. The hurricanes of 1938 and 1944 devastated the garden. During the war years the garden was simplified and many of the original flowers discarded.

Now, through the intercession of two Philadelphians who are attempting to develop Mary's gardens all over the country, many of the original flowers are to be replanted. The men conferred this summer with Wilfred Wheeler, who is in charge of maintaining the garden, and Miss Dorothea K. Harrison, landscape architect, who made the original design of the garden, as well as the Rev. Thomas J. Stapleton, pastor of St. Joseph's church. The garden and bell tower are maintained by Mrs. Frank R. Lillie of Chicago.