

The Franciscans

at Saint Augustine's

and in Chicagoland



H. WINKLER



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The Franciscans
at
St. Augustine's
and in
Chicagoland

The Franciscans at

Commemorating the

75th Anniversary of the Coming of the Franciscans
to St. Augustine's

75th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Third Order
at St. Augustine's
1886 - 1961

50th Anniversary of St. Augustine's High School
1910 - 1960

*St Augustine's
and in
Chicagoland*

By Marion A. Habig O.F.M.

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THE FRANCISCANS AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S
AND IN CHICAGOLAND

by Marion A. Habig

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Words of His Holiness Pope John XXIII

“We have the same high regard for the Franciscan families that Our Predecessors had. We are moreover especially bound to you by the fact that as a young man We became a member of the Third Order; so We avail Ourselves of this occasion to exhort you most earnestly that, bearing in mind the origins from which you sprang, you strive ‘to walk worthily of the vocation in which you were called, with all humility and mildness’ (Ephes. 4, 1-2).”

—*To the ministers general of the First Order of St. Francis and of the Third Order Regular, April 4, 1959.*

“Now let us intone, beloved sons and daughters of the Franciscan family and all these others who belong to the innumerable associations of charity and the apostolate which are inspired by this ideal, let us intone in holy fraternity a hymn of thanksgiving for the seven hundred and fifty years of fruitful vitality of the ‘Rule of St. Francis’; and let us join in fervent prayer: ‘*Ad multos annos!* Peace and salvation for our sons! Glory and benediction upon the entire holy Church of God!’

“Beloved sons, let us add a special heartfelt word to all those present belonging to the peaceful army of the Third Order of St. Francis: ‘I am Joseph, your brother.’ We tenderly love to tell you so. We have been so from our youth of fourteen years. On the first day of March, 1896, we were enrolled by Canon Luigi Isacchi, our spiritual father and director of the seminary in Bergamo. We like to thank the Lord for this grace which happily coincided with the act whereby we began ecclesiastical life. We received the tonsure the same year and month.

“Oh, the serene and innocent joy of that coincidence: Third Order Franciscan, and cleric on the way to the priesthood. Thus we drew gently from the same source of simplicity, that which must accompany us to the altar, and that which we must afterwards give to others throughout life.”

—*From the Allocution in St. John Lateran, April 16, 1959.*



*Letter of His Eminence
Albert Cardinal Meyer*

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Chancery Office
719 NORTH WABASH AVENUE
CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS

August 29th, 1961

The Franciscan Fathers
St. Augustine Parish
5045 South Laflin Street
Chicago 9, Illinois

My dear Fathers:

I am very happy to learn that you will observe the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of your Order taking over the conduct of the St. Augustine Parish in Chicago. During these years the Franciscans have worked long and arduously to instill the marvelous spirit of St. Francis into the environs of St. Augustine Parish. The many and varied activities of the parish seem to encompass all phases of Catholic life. We are deeply grateful to you Fathers and in my own name and in the name of the Archdiocese we wish to express our heartfelt thanks for all the wonderful work that you have done during these Seventy-Five years, and I pray that God will continue to bless all your endeavors and to fructify the future life of St. Augustine's Parish with the same enthusiastic zeal that permeated the soul of the Founder of the Franciscans --St. Francis of Assisi.

With renewed best wishes and blessing and appreciation, I remain,

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Albert Cardinal Meyer
Archbishop of Chicago

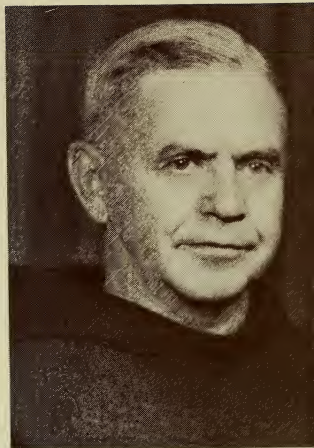


*Letter of the Most Reverend
Raymond P. Hillinger*

TO the Fathers and Brothers of St. Augustine Friary and to the Tertiaries of the several fraternities at St. Augustine Church, I extend my most cordial felicitations on their seventy-fifth anniversary. May their varied activities for the honor of God, the good of the Church, and the welfare of souls, in St. Augustine Parish, in the Archdiocese of Chicago, in our beloved country, and in foreign lands, be blessed and rewarded by the Giver of all good gifts, on this happy occasion and for many years to come!

(Signed) † Raymond P. Hillinger
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

*Letter of the Very Reverend
Dominic Limacher O.F.M.*



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THE SAINT LOUIS-CHICAGO

FRANCISCAN PROVINCE OF THE SACRED HEART

2140 MERAMEC STREET



ST. LOUIS 12, MISSOURI

September 10, 1961

The Rev. Marion Habig, O.F.M. and Community
St. Augustine Parish
5045 S. Laflin Street
Chicago 9, Illinois

Dear Confreres:

It affords me great pleasure to accept your kind invitation to be celebrant of the Solemn High Mass and to participate in the other festivities commemorating the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the coming of the Franciscan Friars to St. Augustine Parish.

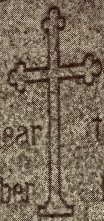
While we rejoice with you and congratulate the members of the present community and the good parishioners on the present flourishing condition of St. Augustine Parish, we welcome the opportunity to pay fitting tribute to the memory of the sturdy pioneers whose faith, wisdom and zeal, aided by copious blessings from heaven, laid the firm foundation upon which steady progress could be made.

The Solemn High Mass will be offered in loving thanksgiving to almighty God for His many past favors and in fervent petition that He may continue to bless the efforts of both friars and parishioners who labor for His greater honor and glory and the salvation of souls.

Devotedly yours in Saint Francis,

Fr. Dominic Limacher, O.F.M.

Fr. Dominic Limacher, O.F.M.
Minister Provincial



On or near this spot
September 19, 1680

Father Gabriel de la Ribourde O.F.M.
Pioneer French Missionary
and Member of
Tonty's Exploring Expedition
was killed by
A Band of Kickapoo Indians

1. *The First Franciscans in Chicagoland*

THE FIRST Franciscans to visit the site of Chicago were the three missionaries who accompanied La Salle on his expedition to the Illinois country in 1679-1680. They were Father Gabriel de la Ribourde, Father Zénobe Membré, and Father Louis Hennepin. Coming down the Wisconsin side of Lake Michigan in canoes, they passed the site of Chicago in October, 1679, and continued along the southern shore as far as St. Joseph, Michigan. Here La Salle built Fort Miami with a chapel dedicated to St. Anthony. Thence they journeyed through Indiana into Illinois; and, in February, 1680, they constructed Fort Crevecoeur, also with a chapel, near present Peoria. From this fort, La Salle then sent Father Hennepin along with Augelle and Accault to explore the upper part of the Mississippi River.

After La Salle set out for Canada to get additional supplies, his men deserted Fort Crevecoeur; but Fathers La Ribourde and Membré did missionary work among the Illinois Indians near Starved Rock for a half a year. Driven away by attacking Iroquois Indians, Father La Ribourde was murdered by a roving band of Kickapoo Indians near Seneca on September 19, 1680, while Father Membré continued north on the Illinois River with Tonti. Reaching the Des Plaines, they ascended this river, portaged to the Chicago River, and passed through what is now the business center of Chicago. After encountering many hardships they finally reached Green Bay.

Father Membré once more went along as chaplain on La Salle's second expedition in 1681-1682, which for the first time sailed down the Mississippi from the Illinois all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. This time the party came from Fort Miami, followed the lower end of Lake Michigan, and around Christmas Day, 1681, entered the Chicago River. Thence they journeyed on sleds down the frozen Des Plaines and Illinois rivers to Peoria, and from there in canoes to the Mississippi, which they reached on February 6, 1682. In April of the same year, Father Membré set up a cross at the mouth of the Great River and La Salle claimed the entire Mississippi Valley for France.

Set into the low parapet which separates South Shore Drive from

the lake shore at the foot of 67th Street in Chicago, there is a bronze tablet which commemorates the visit of La Salle and the three Franciscan missionaries in 1679. It is one of some eighty markers erected by the Chicago Charter Jubilee in 1937. The inscription reads as follows:

LA SALLE AND MISSIONARIES
SKIRTING THIS LAKESHORE IN OCTOBER,
1619, LA SALLE AND THE FRANCISCAN
MISSIONARIES, FATHERS LA RIBOURDE,
HENNEPIN, AND MEMBRE, JOURNEYED
BY CANOE TO THE ST. JOSEPH RIVER,
MICHIGAN, AND THENCE TO THE ILLINOIS
COUNTRY.

A memorial tablet to Father La Ribourde, the first missionary martyr of Illinois, has also been set up on the grounds of St. Patrick Church at Seneca, Illinois. It bears the following inscription:

ON OR NEAR THIS SPOT
SEPTEMBER 19, 1680
FATHER GABRIEL DE LA RIBOURDE, O.F.M.
PIONEER FRENCH MISSIONARY
AND MEMBER OF
TONTI'S EXPLORING EXPEDITION
WAS KILLED BY
A BAND OF KICKAPOO INDIANS.

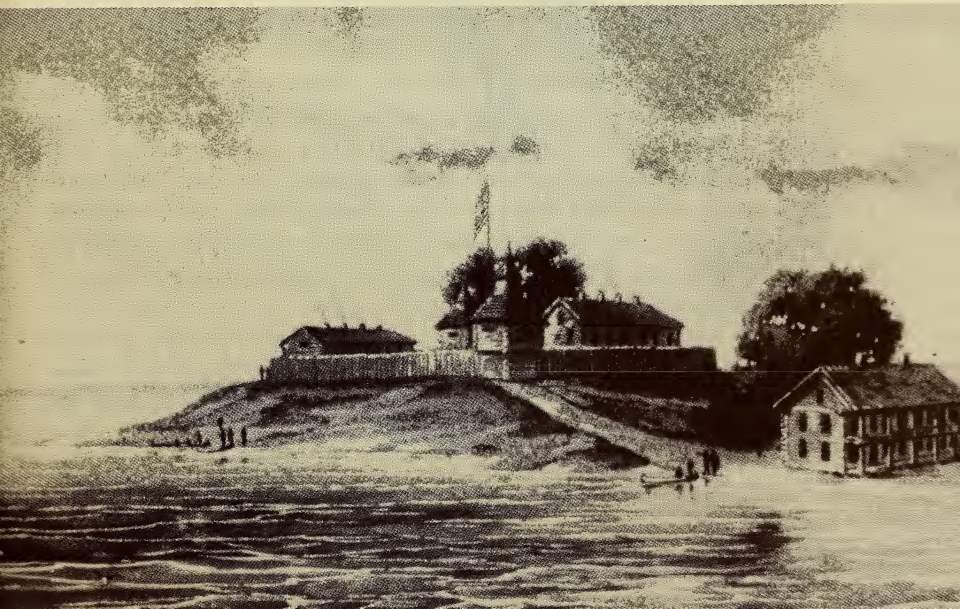
In the following century two Franciscan priests ministered to the people of the five French towns on the Mississippi in southern Illinois, of which the one at Fort de Chartres was the principal one. One of these missionaries was Father Hippolyte Collet, who served the French settlements from 1759 to 1764; and the other was Father Luke Callet, who came in 1761 and remained till his death in 1765. The latter very probably offered up the first holy Mass in the new town of St. Louis on the other side of the river shortly after it was founded in 1764.

2. *The City of Chicago*

THE Territory of Illinois was created by the United States Government in 1809 to include all the land west of the Wabash River and north to British America. Nine years later the State of Illinois was admitted to the Union. At that time (1818) the town of Chicago did not exist. In fact, the northern boundary of Illinois in the original bill of admission was a line drawn east and west through the southern extremity of Lake Michigan; but the delegate in Congress from the Territory of Illinois succeeded in having the bill amended and secured the present northern boundary of the State of Illinois. The future Chicago would otherwise have been in Wisconsin.

Fort Dearborn was erected at the mouth of the Chicago River in 1804; and gradually some families settled in the vicinity of the fort. It was not until 1830 that the town of Chicago was founded. At that time it was no more than a hamlet of log houses with less than a hundred people. The new town was bounded by State, Madison, Des-

Fort Dearborn, erected at the mouth of the Chicago River in 1804.





*The Great Fire
in Chicago on
October 8-9, 1871.*

Courtesy of Holy Name Cathedral.

plains, and Kinzie streets. Seven years later it was incorporated as a city. At that time it comprised about two and one-half square miles and had a population of 4,170.

During the remaining six decades of the nineteenth century, the area of the city was extended by annexations of adjoining territory to such an extent that by 1900 it covered more than 190 square miles, and its population had risen to more than one and one-half million. During the single decade from 1870 to 1880, the population of Chicago increased from about 306,000 to 1,105,000.

This tremendous growth took place despite the fact that the Great Fire of October 8-9, 1871, destroyed a large part of the city, including the main business and residence portion — a total of nearly three and one-third square miles.

The Columbian Exposition of 1893, which commemorated the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, was a truly great world's fair. It occupied over 600 acres in Jackson Park and the Midway Plaisance with a two-mile frontage on Lake Michigan. Noteworthy is the fact that the entire standing army of the Russian Empire of that day could have been drawn up under the roof of the vast building devoted to manufactures. This building was able to seat 300,000 people.

From a little city of some 4,000 persons in 1838, the city of Chicago and its suburbs has grown in 123 years to a metropolis a thousand times its original size. Today (1961) Chicago, including its suburbs, has a population of over 4,000,000.

3. Chicago's First Priest and Church

Courtesy of Holy Name Cathedral.



*Father St. Cyr, the first priest in Chicago,
1833-1837.*

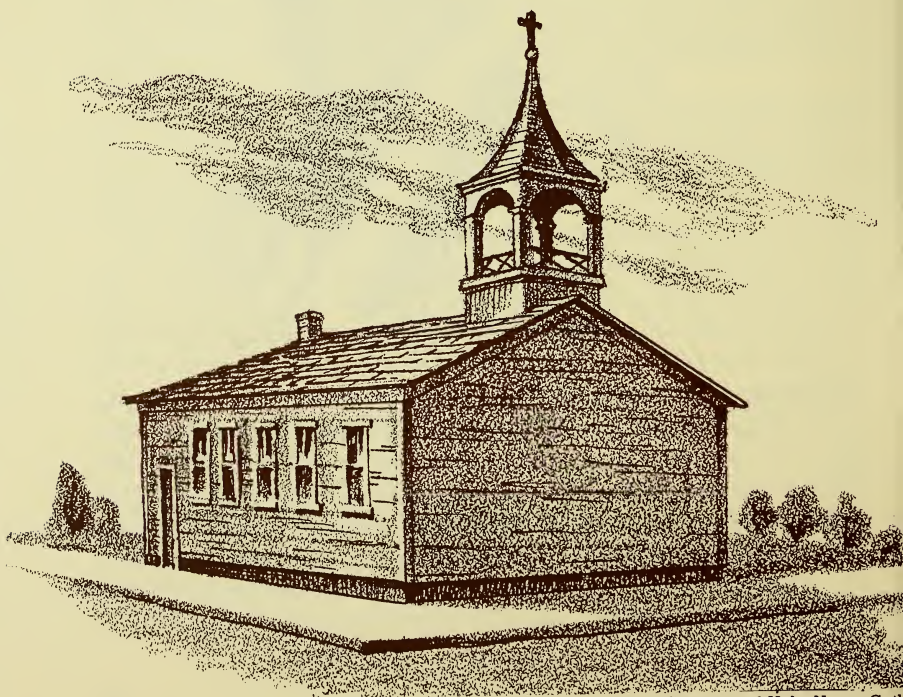
WHEN the town of Chicago was founded in 1830, Illinois belonged to the diocese of Bardstown, Kentucky; but the bishop of St. Louis also held the office of vicar general of the Bardstown diocese for Illinois. Thus it was from St. Louis that the first priest came to Chicago. His name was Father John Mary Irenaeus St. Cyr. Bishop Rosati sent him to Chicago in 1833, when he learned that there were 122 Catholics in the new town. Father St. Cyr made the trip on horseback; and on May 5, 1833, he celebrated the first holy Mass in

a log cabin on Lake near Market (now Orleans). Soon afterwards Father St. Cyr built Chicago's first church, 25 by 35 feet, at or near the corner of Lake and State streets, at the cost of four hundred dollars. It was dedicated in October, 1833, and named St. Mary's Church.

The following year Chicago became a part of the newly erected diocese of Vincennes, which comprised all of Indiana and eastern Illinois. However, Father St. Cyr remained in Chicago till 1837. The next year Bishop Bruté of Vincennes made a canonical visitation of Chicago.

Father Timothy O'Meara, successor of Father St. Cyr, moved the first St. Mary Church to Michigan and Madison. The next pastor, Father Maurice de St. Palais, first enlarged it to twice its original size and then began to build a new brick church on the north side of

St. Mary's, Chicago's first church, built by Father St. Cyr in 1833



Madison, west of Wabash. The latter was still unfinished when it became the Cathedral of Chicago.

The diocese of Chicago, comprising all of Illinois, was erected in 1843; and its first bishop, the Most Reverend William Quarter, was consecrated in 1844. When Bishop Quarter arrived, there were only two priests to assist him in Chicago and eighteen more in the rest of the diocese.

Bishop Quarter, using his own funds, completed St. Mary's and consecrated it in 1845. It remained the cathedral till 1861, when Holy Name Church (the second church, for which the cornerstone was laid in 1853) was made the cathedral. The latter, not yet completed, and also old St. Mary's were both destroyed in the Great Fire of 1871.

A former Protestant church at Wabash and Eldridge Court (now Ninth Street) was then purchased by the Catholic Bishop to become St. Mary's and to serve as the Pro-Cathedral from 1871 to 1875. The present Holy Name Cathedral was completed in 1875.

Since 1903 St. Mary's has been in the care of the Paulist Fathers. The latter now have also a new St. Mary's Chapel and Instruction Center at 21 East Van Buren.

St. Mary's was the only church in Chicago until 1846, when three more churches and a chapel were dedicated. They were St. Patrick's for the Irish and English, St. Peter's and St. Joseph's for the Germans, and Holy Name Chapel of St. Mary's University. A separate, though temporary Holy Name Chapel or Church, was built in 1849, to be succeeded by the church which was begun in 1853 and became the cathedral in 1861.

The diocese of Chicago comprised the whole state until 1853, when the southern part became the diocese of Quincy (changed to Alton in 1857, and to Springfield in 1923). Subsequent dioceses formed out of the Chicago diocese are the following: Peoria in 1877; Belleville in 1887; Rockford in 1908; and Joliet in 1948. The diocese of Chicago became an archdiocese in 1880; and its first archbishop was Archbishop Patrick Feehan.

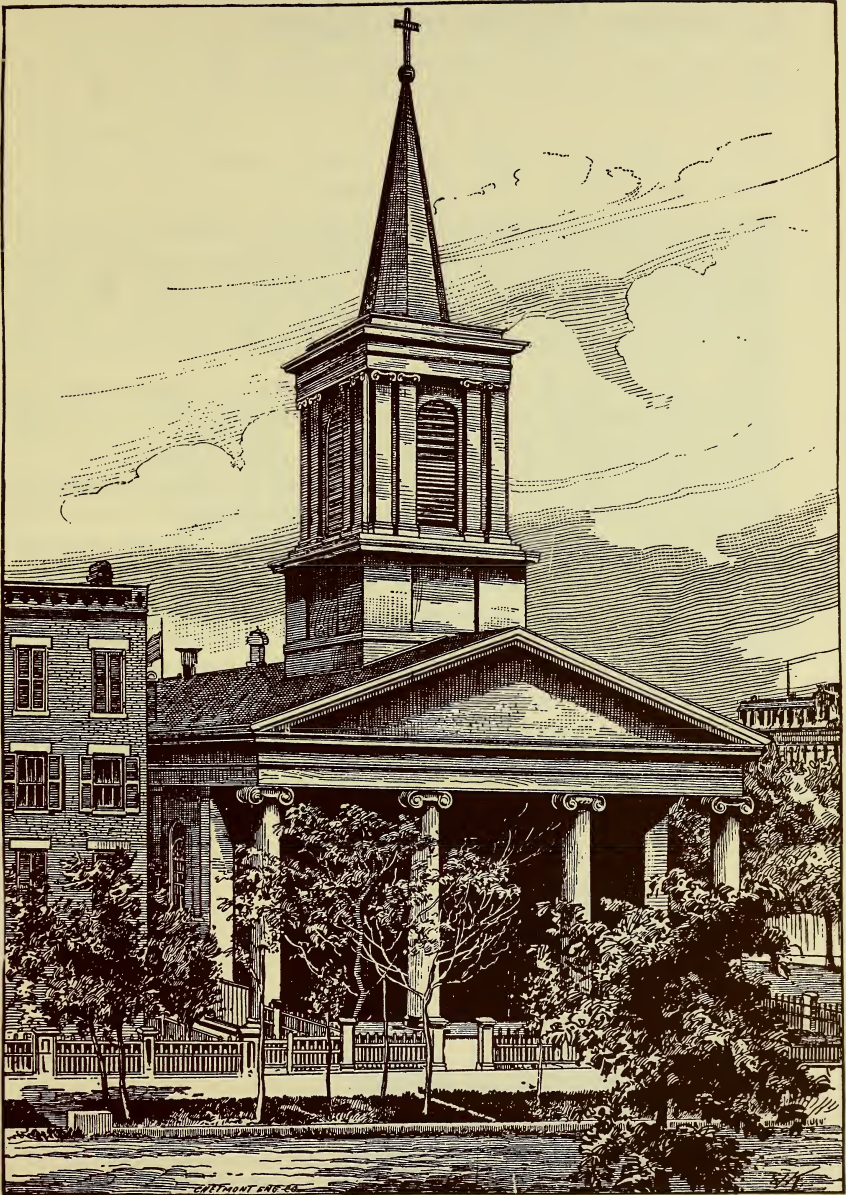
Today the archdiocese of Chicago is the largest in the United States. Though it now comprises only Cook and Lake counties, it has a total Catholic population of 2,118,831 with 2,778 priests and 436 parishes having resident pastors.

4. *Catholic Immigrants in Chicago*

AMONG the pioneers of Chicago and those who caused Chicago to grow so rapidly into a big city there were many immigrants from Europe; and most of these were Catholics. Bishop Bruté of Vincennes wrote in 1834: "The parish of Chicago now consists of four hundred souls, French, Canadian, Irish, and a good number of Germans." Of the first three churches erected after St. Mary's in 1846, two were for German-speaking settlers and one for the Irish. These became the mother churches for many others. The same is true for many of the other "national parishes" which were established subsequently. The following list of first churches in each language group will indicate how much the immigrants contributed to the development of Chicago and the Church in Chicago:

- 1846: St. Patrick — Irish and English
- 1846: St. Peter — German
- 1846: St. Joseph — German
- 1850: St. Louis — French
- 1863: St. Wenceslaus — Bohemian
- 1867: St. Stanislaus — Polish
- 1880: Assumption — Italian
- 1892: St. George — Lithuanian
- 1896: St. Michael — Slovak
- 1898: St. Stephen — Slovenian
- 1904: Our Lady of Hungary — Hungarian
- 1910: St. Mary — Greek-Ruthenian
- 1912: St. Jerome — Croatian

In many of the so-called "national" parishes, though their boundaries have not been changed, the English language is now used. But it was to be expected that the immigrants continued to worship God and instruct their children in their mother languages for some time. The adjustment which has been accomplished was necessarily a gradual development.



St. Mary's Cathedral, completed by Bishop Quarter in 1845 and used as the cathedral of Chicago till 1861.

5. German Parishes in Chicago

TWO years after he came to Chicago, that is, in 1846, Bishop Quarter founded two parishes in the city for the German-speaking Catholics who had become quite numerous. They were St. Peter's for those south of the Chicago River; and St. Joseph's, for those on the north side.

The first St. Joseph Church, located at Chicago Avenue and Cass (now Wabash) Street, was destroyed by the Great Fire of 1871; and a new church was built at Hill and Market (now Orleans).

The first St. Peter Church was on Washington between Wells and Franklin; but in 1853 it was moved to Clark and Polk.

The same year, St. Francis of Assisi Church was built for the Germans on the west side. This is no longer a German parish. The church, now on West Roosevelt, is in the care of the Claretian Fathers.



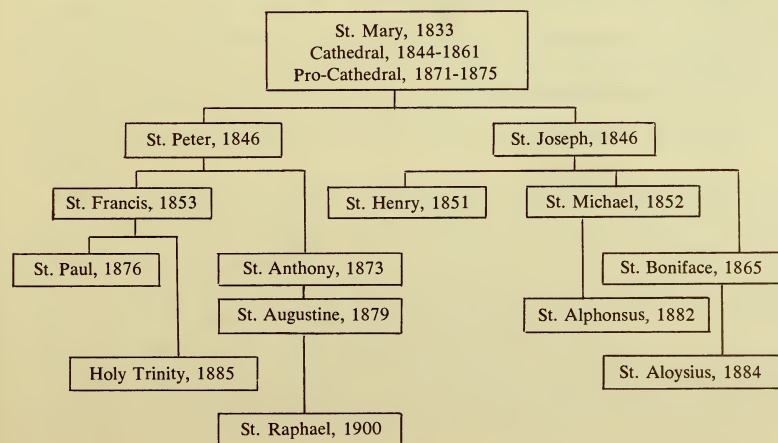
*Old St. Peter's
Church at Clark
and Polk, torn
down in 1953.*

A new St. Peter's was built at Clark and Polk in 1863-1864; and the Franciscans took charge of this church in 1875. It was torn down when the present St. Peter's in the Loop at 110 West Madison was completed in 1953.

Father Peter Fischer, pastor at St. Peter's from 1864 to 1873 (before the coming of the Franciscans), built a second parish school in 1868 at Hannover and McGregor for the Germans of the south-east side. This proved to be the beginning of another parish, namely that of St. Anthony of Padua, which was founded by Father Fischer in 1873. The first church built by him was at Canal and 24th Place; but a new church was constructed in 1914 at Wallace and 28th Place.

With lumber left over from the building of St. Anthony's, Father Fischer in 1879 built the first little St. Augustine Church on Laffin Street just north of 49th. For two years this church was used only as a school; and then, in 1881, the assistant priest at St. Anthony's began to offer up holy Mass in the church. The following year St. Augustine's received its first resident pastor. Some four years later, in August, 1886, seventy-five years ago, the Franciscans took permanent charge of the parish.

Thus the German parishes in Chicago became more and more numerous. In little more than a half century St. Peter's and St. Joseph's became the mother churches of no less than 29 additional German parishes. The following chart will show the early development of these churches:

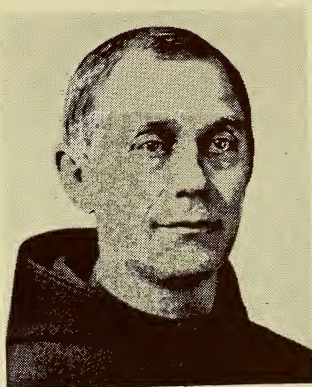


Other German parishes in Chicago, which were founded in the 80's and 90's and the first two decades of the twentieth century, are:

- 1881: SS. Peter and Paul
- 1883: Immaculate Conception
- 1884: St. George
- 1885: St. Martin
- 1888: St. Francis de Sales
- 1888: St. Francis Xavier
- 1888: St. Mauritius
- 1888: St. Matthias
- 1889: St. Teresa
- 1890: St. Nicholas
- 1894: St. Clara
- 1894: Sacred Heart
- 1895: St. Philomena
- 1896: Holy Ghost
- 1898: Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- 1902: St. Benedict
- 1904: St. Gregory
- 1905: St. Clement
- 1915: St. William

6. *The Coming of the Franciscans to St. Augustine's*

*Father Kilian Schloesser,
pastor of St. Peter's
1885-1888,
who sponsored the coming
of the Franciscans
to St. Augustine's.*



AUGUST 15, 1886, the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, seventy-five years ago, will always be a memorable day in the annals of the Franciscan Fathers of the Province of the Sacred Heart as well as the history of St. Augustine Parish in the archdiocese of Chicago.

On that day Father Symphorian Forstmann, first Franciscan pastor, his assistant Father Anselm Puetz, and two Franciscan brothers began to reside permanently in the rooms at the back of the combination church and school which stood on the west side of Laffin Street near the middle of the block between 48th and 49th streets. Less than half a block to the south were the train tracks of the Grand Trunk Railway.

Father Symphorian and his companions very probably came to St. Augustine's on this railway. Father Kilian Schloesser, who more than anyone else was responsible for the coming of the Franciscans, wrote on August 10, 1885: "It is good that daily six trains run from Wabash Depot on Polk Street to this parish, so that one need not lose much time although it is six miles distant from St. Peter's."

At this time St. Augustine's Parish was in a sparsely settled district outside the city limits of Chicago which was called "Town of Lake"

and extended from 39th Street to 87th Street and from State Street west to "no man's land." The parish itself was about six miles square, and was bounded on the north by 39th Street, on the east by Halsted, on the south by 63rd, and on the west by Western Avenue. There were 160 families in the parish, but the very next year their number had risen to 300.

Many German families who had settled in Chicago moved farther south to the "Back-of-the-Yards" neighborhood after the Chicago Stock Yards were opened in 1864, because everyone who was willing to work found a steady job in the Yards. They did this especially after the Great Fire of 1871. Subsequently they were joined by Austrians and Hungarians. One pioneer stated that when the Franciscans came in 1886, practically all the men of St. Augustine's were employed in the Stock Yards.

It was the opportunity for work that attracted them rather than the appearance of the neighborhood. Town of Lake was in fact an uninviting and barren prairie with clay soil, in which there were many crab holes. The roads were wretched and often impassable. Here and there stood a low dwelling. Much of the prairie was swamp land with puddles of water everywhere. These became little lakes after heavy rains, and that is probably the reason why the place was called Town of Lake. And since frogs abounded in these puddles and lakes, Town of Lake was nicknamed "Frogtown."

The decision to accept the care of St. Augustine Parish was made by Very Reverend Father Provincial Maurice Klostermann and his councillors at a meeting held July 7-9, 1886; and a Franciscan from St. Peter's began to attend the parish on Sunday, July 11. Even the four Friars who took up their abode at St. Augustine's on August 15 remained under the jurisdiction of Father Kilian Schloesser, the superior at St. Peter's, until the next year. It was on January 20, 1887, that their residence was finally recognized officially as a separate friary — the Franciscan Friary of St. Augustine.

However, the Franciscans were no strangers to St. Augustine's when they came in the summer of 1886. Father Symphorian, assisted at times by Father Anselm, both of whom resided at St. Peter's at the time, temporarily had charge of St. Augustine Parish in August and September, 1885, and also rendered assistance to the pastor (Father M. Welby) from February to July in 1886.

7. *St. Augustine's before the Franciscans Came*

SEVEN years before the Franciscans came to St. Augustine's, Father Peter Fischer, former pastor of St. Peter's and since 1873 pastor of the newly founded St. Anthony Parish, took the first steps toward the founding of St. Augustine Parish. In 1879, after Edward Koch and his wife Justina had donated four lots on the west side of Laflin in the southern half of the block between 48th and 49th, Father Fischer purchased the two remaining lots up to the train tracks; and with lumber left over from the building of St. Anthony's, he constructed the first little St. Augustine Church on this property. It was a one-story frame structure, 60 feet long and 25 wide; and it had a little tower.

*The first school (1879) and first church (1881) of St. Augustine,
near 49th and Laflin.*



For two years, however, the little church was used only as a school. It was not until October 2, 1881, that Father William de la Porte, assistant at St. Anthony's, offered up the first holy Mass there. In the same month Father John Westkamp succeeded Father de la Porte as assistant at St. Anthony's, and from there he attended St. Augustine's as a mission about every two weeks until May 11, 1882.

Father Denis Thiele was then appointed first resident pastor and remained for three years until August 2, 1885, when he received the task of founding Holy Trinity Parish on the west side. In 1882 Father Thiele enlarged the little church, of which a part was used as a school, to three times its original dimensions by raising the entire structure and adding a two-room school underneath and attaching some small rooms at the rear to serve as a rectory. The next year (1883) he built a separate two-story rectory of six rooms. And the following year (1884) he procured the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ as teachers of the school. When Father Thiele came to St. Augustine's, the parish consisted of 70 families; when he left, it had more than twice that number.

It is of interest to note that while Father Thiele was at St. Augustine's another church was being built not far away for Irish and English-speaking Catholics, namely St. Rose of Lima Church at 48th and Ashland. After this church was completed in 1883 and before it was dedicated, the Irish held a successful bazaar in it to pay off their debts. Afterwards Father Thomas Galligan, the founder and pastor, kindly permitted the Germans of St. Augustine's to use his new church for the same purpose. This bazaar also proved successful, netting a clear profit of three thousand dollars — a large sum in those days.

For two months after Father Thiele's departure, the Franciscans from St. Peter's took care of St. Augustine's. Then a Benedictine, Father Pancratius Diedrich, had charge of the parish until the second resident pastor was appointed, namely Father M. Welby. The latter served as acting pastor from October 11, 1885, to July 11, 1886; but since Father Welby was ill and could not speak German, he was assisted by Franciscans from St. Peter's not only on Sundays but also at other times.

Archbishop Patrick A. Feehan then placed St. Augustine's in the care of the Franciscans of Sacred Heart Province; and they have lived and worked there ever since — a period of seventy-five years.

8. *The Early Days in St. Augustine Parish*



St. Augustine's as it looked in 1895. Left to right: school and sisters' convent, completed 1893; front part of third church, built in 1892; hall, used as the second church 1888-1892; Franciscan friary, 1888-1899.

WHEN the Franciscans came to St. Augustine in 1886, and up to 1890, the only road which connected Town of Lake with the city of Chicago was Ashland Avenue. To go to Chicago people boarded the Grand Trunk Railway at 49th and Justine, and later at Ashland, where there was a shack which served as a station. There were six trains daily, and the fare was only five cents.

The railway was much better than the horse car on Ashland Avenue which ran for the first time in 1888 from 55th to Archer, thence to Halsted, and from there to the Chicago River. Later the horse car went to 19th and State, where one could transfer to the cable car

which ran downtown. It took several long and weary hours to go to Chicago by street car.

The trip was particularly uncomfortable in winter time. To keep the passengers' feet from freezing, a thick layer of straw was strewn on the floors of the cars. At a later date stoves were installed. About 1900 car tracks were laid on 51st and then on Centre Street (now Racine Avenue). The very first electric street car of Chicago ran on 47th Street as an experiment.

Up to the 90's the streets around St. Augustine's remained unpaved. The church records show that the pastor paid five dollars a month for sprinkling the streets to keep down the dust. The early settlers built sidewalks of wooden planks resting on supports two to three feet high. Sometimes these board walks broke or the planks came loose, and a heavy rain would wash them away. Boys used them as rafts on the little lakes of Town of Lake.

About 1890 these primitive sidewalks were replaced by cinder paths; and after 1892 the first cement sidewalks were laid — on 51st Street in 1893 and on Laflin Street in 1893, 1896, and 1899. Previously the first sewers had been put into these streets — on 51st in 1891 and on Laflin in 1894.

In the 80's, the people who ventured out at night had to carry lanterns to find their way and to avoid dangerous holes and puddles.

Rear part of former school after it was moved to 50th and Bishop in 1907.



Kerosene lamps, shedding a dim light, hung upon posts to mark the streets; and each of these lamps had to be lighted and extinguished by hand every evening and morning by a man who made his daily rounds carrying a ladder.

Then came the gas lights which likewise required daily individual attention. Finally, in the 90's, carbon electric lights were hung at street intersections. When the carbon had to be renewed, the lights were let down on pulleys. Incandescent electric lights were installed on the streets about 1915; and these were placed at regular and more frequent intervals.

Fifty-first Street was paved in 1893, and Laffin Street in 1896. An early attempt had been made to pave the streets with cedar blocks and wooden planks; for, when the steam shovels prepared Laffin Street for the concrete foundation in 1931, they dug out many mushy old planks and cedar blocks, which were gathered by young and old to be used as very good fuel during the winter. The new concrete paving was covered with a four-inch layer of asphalt; and between 51st and 50th Streets, Laffin was surfaced in this way to a width of 42 feet instead of the customary 30.

In St. Augustine Church, from 1886 to 1896 kerosene lamps were used. Good old Brother Pancratius was frequently seen going from lamp to lamp, refilling each, trimming the wicks, and washing the glass funnels. Before each service he had to go to each lamp with his lighter, and after the service with his extinguisher. Gas lights were installed in 1896; and these were retained even after electricity was introduced, because the electric current was unreliable. However, in 1932 the gas fixtures were removed except at the exits.

Between 1892 and 1898 a large amount of earth and cinders was hauled to the church and friary property, especially along 51st Street, to raise it as much as three and four feet out of the swamp. Thus many changes took place in the course of time, many improvements were made, and many conveniences were introduced; but it is well to recall the conditions and hardships of former days and to compare them with those of today. Many of the houses surrounding St. Augustine's were built long ago. The Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council deserves much credit for encouraging the residents to keep their homes attractive and clean.

9. *St. Augustine Church*

THE first church of St. Augustine consisted of the front part of the one-story frame building on Laflin near 49th which was erected in 1879; but it began to be used as a church only in 1881. It was no more than a large room, 40 by 25 feet, and could seat about 100 people provided they brought along their own chairs. The rear part of the building, 20 by 25 feet, served as a one-room school.

In 1882, the entire original building became a second-story church when it was raised and a two-room school was built underneath it. In August of that year Archbishop Feehan dedicated the church after the alterations had been completed. The church was now large enough for 300.

When the Franciscans were placed in charge of the parish in 1886, it was evident to Father Kilian Schloesser, superior of St. Peter's, that a larger church would soon be needed for the growing parish, and also that a better location was desirable since the train tracks were too close. Father Kilian, therefore, undertook to purchase, on August 1, 1886, the entire square block between 51st and 50th and between Laflin and Bishop. The cost was \$15,000.00, although this was reduced somewhat by a donation of several hundred. Some two years later, on September 17, 1888, he wrote: "There is hardly any friary so deeply sunken in debt at present as Chicago (St. Peter's), which carries \$12,000.00 upon the new place (St. Augustine's) at 6% interest." In 1902, fourteen years later, he wrote: "With the help of God, by means of subscriptions, of loans, and of begging, I succeeded in raising this sum." St. Augustine's owes much to Father Kilian's foresight and charity.

On the newly acquired property, on the south side of the present church, the second St. Augustine's Church was constructed in 1887-1888. It was 92 feet long and 40 wide, and seated 650 persons. This church was so planned that it might serve as a hall, after a larger and better church could be built. The cost of the second church, including a choir loft which was added later, was \$6000.00. The first holy Mass was offered up in this church on Maundy Thursday, March 29, 1888.



St. Augustine Church, completed in 1904.

Franciscan Brother Damian made many new pews for this church as well as a new confessional and pulpit.

The present beautiful Gothic church was built in two instalments. The front part up to the transept was constructed in 1891-1892, and the transept, sanctuary, and choir of the Fathers, in 1903-1904. The plans were drawn by Brother Adrian Wewer O.F.M.; and he and his assistant Brother Leonard Darscheid also superintended the construction, which meant a big saving to the parish. The completed church is 188 feet long, 71 feet wide except the transept which is 100 feet, and 84 feet high to the gable of the roof. The tower at the front rises to a height of 225 feet, and the small one at the rear to 135 feet.

10. Pastors of St. Augustine's

IN THE past seventy-five years St. Augustine's has had eleven Franciscan pastors. The following is a complete list, including the pastors who preceded the coming of the Franciscans:

1881 Oct.	Rev. William de la Porte
1881 Oct. - 1882	Rev. John Westkamp
1882 May 11 - 1885	Rev. Denis Thiele
1885 Aug. 5 - Sept.	Fr. Kilian Schloesser and other Franciscans from St. Peter's
1885 Sept. 20 - Oct.	Rev. Pancratius Friedrich O.S.B.
1885 Oct. 11 - 1886	Rev. M. Welby
1886 July 11 - 1900	Fr. Symphorian Forstmann
1900 Sept. 12 - 1912	Fr. Benign Schuetz
1912 July 24 - 1913	Fr. Matthew Schmitz
1913 Dec. 30 - 1914	Fr. Maurice Baukholtz
1914 July 15 - 1919	Fr. Matthew Schmitz
1919 July 9 - 1921	Fr. Timothy Magnien
1921 Aug. 10 - 1927	Fr. Vincent Schrempp
1927 Aug. 10 - 1939	Fr. Charles Schlueter
1939 July 12 - 1945	Fr. Justinian Kugler
1945 July 20 - 1960	Fr. Adrian Fischer
1960 July 6	Fr. Roch Hettinger

Father Symphorian Fortsmann, the first Franciscan pastor, was in his 37th year when he was appointed, and he continued to serve in that capacity for fourteen years and two months. Father Adrian Fischer was pastor longer than any of the others — almost fifteen years; he was 42 years old about a month after his appointment. Fr. Roch Hettinger was in his 53rd year when he assumed the duties of pastor of St. Augustine's.

When St. Raphael's Parish was formed in 1900, the southern boundary of St. Augustine's was moved from 63rd to Garfield Boulevard, but the eastern boundary was extended, between 49th and 53rd, from Halsted to the train tracks. Western Avenue and 39th remained the limits on the west and north.



Mat Anderson photo.

11. St. Augustine School

THE first school was opened in 1879. It consisted of a single classroom in the rear part of the little frame building which was put up in that year. The alterations made in 1882 transferred the school to two large classrooms on the first floor, while the original building was raised and became the second-story church. At the rear of the Friary which was joined to the back of the combination church and school, Father Symphorian in 1886 added another classroom, called "the Little School," and converted the two big classrooms on the first floor into three.

In the spring of 1888, the old buildings were moved from 49th and Laffin to the new property; and the school was set up at the corner of 50th and Laffin. The former upstairs church served for a while as the Sisters' Convent, and was then made a part of the school. By September, 1889, a new wing of four classrooms along Laffin Street



The old frame school at 50 and Laffin, 1888-1907.



The old frame school at the time it was moved to 50th and Bishop in 1907.

was added; and four more classrooms were added to the frame school in 1893.

After the frame school had been moved to the corner of 49th and Bishop, the first part of the present brick school was built in 1907 and the rest of it in 1911, just fifty years ago. The completed school is 155 by 82 feet and three stories high. It has 24 classrooms, each of which is 32 by 24 feet and 12 feet high and has its own cloakroom. The corridors are 10 feet wide. In the basement there are six large meeting rooms, a spacious hall, and a kitchen.

In 1920, St. Augustine School (elementary grades) was examined by the Chicago Board of Education and found satisfactory. Thus it was accredited by the Chicago Board of Public Schools.

12. St. Augustine High School

ST. AUGUSTINE High School began as a commercial high school of two years in September, 1910. Six girls were enrolled at that time; and these became the first graduates when they were awarded their diplomas on June 27, 1912. Twelve boys were enrolled in 1913. There were 73 students in 1922, and 153 in 1935. The two-year commercial high school was changed to a regular four-year high school in 1940. Its students now come, not only from St. Augustine's Parish, but also from other parishes. Though St. Augustine High School opened its doors for the first time in September, 1910, its first year in operation extended into 1911, fifty years ago; and so it is proper that we observe the golden jubilee of the high school at the present time, together with the diamond jubilee of the coming of the Franciscan Fathers.

Noteworthy is the fact that a new library, serving both the grade school and the high school, was dedicated on April 20, 1952. The many-windowed library was built on top of the janitor's home, which in turn was constructed over the boiler room at the rear of the school. The library is equipped with the latest in library furnishings and has about 5,700 volumes plus some 800 from the public library service as well as a liberal supply of periodicals. The daily exchange average is 150 volumes. Individual access is permitted on each school day, and each grade has a weekly thirty-minute library period.

*St. Augustine School, built in 1907 and 1911;
also High School, since 1910.*



Mat. Anderson photo.

13. *St. Augustine Hall*

AFTER the front part of the present church had been constructed in 1892, the frame building which stood next to it on the south side and had served as the church since 1888 (second church) was converted into a parish hall. It was used for this purpose for thirty-six years until the spring of 1924, when it was torn down.

The parish received an additional hall when the old frame school at 50th and Laflin was moved back to the eastern side of the grounds to make room for the new brick school in November, 1906. Bowling alleys and a pool room were then installed on the first floor of the old school; and the former classrooms on the second floor were converted into meeting rooms for the societies of the parish. Seven years later, in 1913, this hall, a part of which had been the original church and school of 1879 and 1881, was torn down. Some wept at the sight of the demolition; others took home pieces of wood as souvenirs.

Already in 1913, it was planned to build a new hall, but the First World War made it necessary to postpone the project. It was resumed by Father Timothy who continued to collect funds for the new hall; and in 1924 Father Vincent built the present brick hall at 50th and Bishop. It was blessed on November 17, 1924; and the same evening an entertainment was given in the auditorium on the second floor. On the first floor there are eight bowling alleys; where automatic pin setters have just been installed (1961).

*St. Augustine Hall (bowling alleys and auditorium),
built in 1924.*

Mct Anderson photo.



14. St. Augustine Social Center

THE Social Center building, just south of the Hall, on Bishop Street, was constructed in 1950 and blessed on November 5th of that year. It has a craft shop, in the basement; a large play room, four meeting rooms, an office, and washrooms, on the first floor; and a gymnasium with a small stage, a shower and locker room, and a kitchen, on the second floor. Thus a place for wholesome recreation is provided for the young people of the parish.

Scouting was introduced into St. Augustine Parish in 1920, but it was in 1930 that Troop 480 of the Boy Scouts was organized; and in 1933 the Drum and Bugle Corps of the Boy Scouts was formed. For the older boys a Sea Scout unit was inaugurated in 1937; and for the younger boys a Cub Pack was chartered in 1945. When the Social Center was built in 1950, also a special program for school-age girls was introduced by the formation of Camp Fire and Blue Bird units.

Each of these groups has its set of leaders, and supervisors are provided each evening at the Social Center. The large auditorium in the Hall is also used as a roller-skating rink. The over-all program, including that for the teen-agers in the large auditorium, is managed by the Social Center Council, a group of men under the direction of one of the assistant pastors. This group plans the program, arranges dates and meeting places, and directs policy.

St. Augustine Social Center, built in 1957.



Mat Anderson photo.

15. St. Augustine Convent

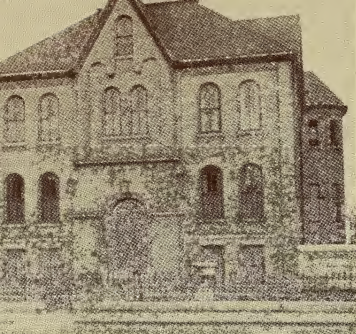
WHEN the first St. Augustine Church and School was enlarged in 1882 by the construction of a first floor underneath the original building, the former teacher's house was moved and added to the rear. These rooms then served as the first rectory until Father Thiele had built a separate rectory in the following year (1883). The next year, two years before the arrival of the Franciscans, the first Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ came to St. Augustine's to teach in the parish school. Their first convent consisted of the rooms at the back of the combination church and school.

After Father Thiele left in August, 1885, the Sisters moved into the separate rectory he had built; and thus it became the second convent.

The community of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, teachers of St. Augustine School and High School, since 1884 and 1910.

Mat Anderson photo.





*Old Sisters' Convent,
1897-1957.*

New Sisters' Convent, completed in 1958.



In 1888, after a new temporary church had been built on Laflin near 51st and the old buildings were moved to the new property, the old church (second floor) was used as a convent by the Sisters from June to August. This was the third convent.

Meanwhile a new convent, an addition to the frame school, was built. It had a little chapel; and the first holy Mass was offered up in it on Christmas Day, 1888. This was the fourth convent.

The fifth convent was a brick building on the north side of the present church. It was constructed in 1897. Sixty years later, it proved to be inadequate. It was torn down, and on its site was built the present new St. Augustine Convent in 1957-1958. It is the sixth convent.

For 77 years the Poor Handmaids have been the teachers of the children of St. Augustine Parish. Their record is one of selfless devotion to their work and Christ-like charity. St. Augustine's owes them a debt of gratitude that can never be paid in full. More than 200 Sisters have taught in the elementary school and the high school. And of the girls whom they have taught at St. Augustine's about 100 have joined the ranks of the Sisters. In addition, at least 23 other girls from St. Augustine's have entered other religious sisterhoods. The motherhouse of the Poor Handmaids is at Donaldson, Ind. The American province has no less than 619 sisters.

16. *St. Augustine Friary*

THE four Franciscans, 2 priests and 2 brothers, who came to St. Augustine's on August 15, 1886, took up their abode in the rooms at the back of the combination church and school, 49th and Laflin. This was the first friary.

When the old buildings were moved to the new property in 1888, the rectory which had been built by Father Thiele in 1883 and which had been used as the sisters' convent from 1885 to 1888 was moved to the rear of the second church at Laflin and 51st and converted into the second friary. It was a two-story frame house and had six rooms. The "Little School" built by Father Symphorian at the old site, which consisted of a single room, was added as the kitchen of the friary.

St. Augustine Friary, built in 1899.



The fathers and brothers lived in this friary for over eleven years.

Plans for the present brick friary were drawn by Brother Adrian Wewer in 1898. Since the frame hall, the former second church; occupied a portion of the ground where the new friary was to be erected, it was moved into the school yard, with its back to Bishop Street. The frame friary was also moved back toward Bishop Street. The cost of these moving operations was \$555.00.

Behind the friary, on Bishop Street, a frame carpenter shop was then built in April, 1899, and was used by Brother Adrian and the contractors as a workshop during the erection of the new friary. It had been planned to use this carpenter shop afterwards as a training school for young Franciscan brothers; but in 1920 it was moved behind the sacristy and converted into a residence for the janitor. It stood there until 1953, when it was removed.

The cornerstone for the new friary was laid on June 4, 1899, and the friars moved into it in October of the same year; but the formal dedication took place only on January 21, 1900. The old frame friary and the kitchen, the former "Little School," were raffled off and were moved as two separate homes to the west side of Loomis Street near 53rd, nos. 5252 and 5250.

At the same time that the friary was built, a brick wall was constructed along Laflin and 51st to enclose the friary garden. The cost of the wall was a little more than \$3,000.00, and the friary paid for one-half of this. The cost of the new friary was a little over \$24,000.00. More than half of this sum, namely \$14,000.00, was supplied by the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart; and the rest was collected from individuals and societies at St. Peter's and St. Augustine's, except for \$3,392.96 which came from the church treasury.

During the years that followed, St. Augustine Friary became the center of much Franciscan activity, not only for St. Augustine Parish and the archdiocese of Chicago, but for the entire Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart, and even for the whole country and mission areas outside the United States.

St. Augustine Friary was made a guardianate in 1901. It was one of the Houses of Study of Sacred Heart Province from 1900 to 1907; and during the years from 1927 to 1938 it was the headquarters of the entire province and the residence of the Very Reverend Father Provincial.



The community of St. Augustine Friary, in front of the church, on August 25, 1961. Left to right, first row: Fr. Farrel, Fr. Athanasius, Fr. Marion (Guardian), The Most Rev. James Ryan (Bishop of the Santarem Prelacy in Brazil), Fr. Innocent (Vice-Provincial), Fr. Roch (Pastor). Second row: Fr. Elias, Fr. Briant (Brazil missionary), Fr. Albert, Fr. Conrad, Bro. Innocent, Bro. Marion. Third row: Fr. Mark, Fr. Vincent, Fr. Claude, Bro. Roger, Bro. Myles. Fourth row of three: Fr. Nestor (Brazil missionary), Bro. Aloysius, Bro. Louis. Missing when the picture was taken: Fr. Severin (Vicar), Fr. Leopold, Fr. Richard, Fr. Kurt (who succeeds Fr. Conrad as assistant).

Besides serving the parishioners of St. Augustine's and others who came to St. Augustine Church, the priests of the friary have rendered assistance to the diocesan clergy and taken care of various institutions, also giving conferences to various religious communities and hearing their confessions. At the present time, St. Augustine Friary supplies the chaplains for Alverna Home Nursing Center, Guardian Angel Home and Nursery, Misericordia Home, and the Poor Clare Monastery.

St. Augustine Friary is the home of three fathers who are engaged in the work of Franciscan Herald Press, Publishers of Franciscan Literature; three more, who have charge of the provincial headquarters of the Franciscan Missionary Union; two, who are provincial superiors of the Third Order Secular of St. Francis, namely the provincial commissary and vice-commissary; two, who travel throughout the mid-west, giving missions and retreats; and two who take turns as confessors of the many Chicago priests who come regularly to the friary.

The present community of St. Augustine Friary consists of 15 priests and 6 brothers, a total of 21 friars. Their names are as follows:

Fr. Marion A. Habig, Guardian and Assistant Director of Franciscan Herald Press; born 1901 in St. Louis, Mo.; ordained 1927.

Fr. Innocent Swoboda, Vice-Provincial and Provincial Procurator of the Franciscan Missionary Union; born 1910 at Union, Mo.; ordained 1937.

Fr. Severin Nelles, Vicar, Chaplain of the Poor Clares Monastery, Assistant Procurator of the F.M.U.; born 1908 in Chicago; ordained 1937.

Fr. Leopold Kitt, Jubilarian in the Franciscan Order and the Priesthood, Chaplain of Alverna Home Nursing Center, Confessor of Priests; born 1878 in Pittsburgh, Pa.; ordained 1905.

Fr. Athanasius Steck, Jubilarian in the Priesthood, Confessor in St. Augustine Church; born 1889 in St. Louis, Mo.; ordained 1919.

Fr. Richard Kiemen, Retreat-master; born 1895 in St. Paul, Minn.; ordained 1922.

Fr. Roch Hettinger, Pastor of St. Augustine's; born 1907 at Pesotum, Ill.; ordained 1934.

Fr. Farrel Whelan, Confessor of Priests; born 1913 in Milwaukee, Wis.; ordained 1939.

Fr. Elias Koppert, Provincial Vice-Commissary of the Third Order Secular and Visitor of Third Order Fraternities; born 1915 at Marshalltown, Iowa; ordained 1941.

Fr. Mark Hegener, Director of Franciscan Herald Press, Provincial Commissary of the Third Order Secular, Director of St. Elzear's Third Order Fraternity at St. Augustine's; born 1919 at Petoskey, Mich.; ordained 1945.

Fr. Albert J. Nimeth, Assistant Director of Franciscan Herald Press, Director of The Alvernians (Young Peoples' Third Order Fraternity at St. Augustine's), St. Augustine High School Third Order Fraternity, and other fraternities, Chaplain of Guardian Angel Home and Nursery; born 1918 at Elk River, Minn.; ordained 1946.

Fr. Kurt Buranich, Assistant Pastor of St. Augustine's; born 1920 at Mishawaka, Ind; ordained 1946.

Fr. Vincent Elsen, Preacher of Parish Missions and Retreats; born 1921 at Grand Rapids, Mich.; ordained 1947.

Fr. Claude Buchanan, Assistant Provincial Procurator of the F.M.U., Chaplain of Misericordia Home; born 1929 at Richmond Heights, Mo.; ordained 1957.

Fr. Nivard Foust, Assistant Pastor of St. Augustine's; born 1931 in Chicago, Ill.; ordained 1958.

Bro. Louis Burger, Sacristan, Tailor; born 1905 in Cleveland, Ohio; entered First Order of St. Francis 1925.

Bro. Innocent Gill, Cook; born 1914 in South Melbourne, Australia; entered First Order 1934.

Bro. Aloysius Quinn, Porter, Maintenance Man; born 1914 in Cleveland, Ohio; entered First Order 1945.

Bro. Marion Weithman, Assistant Provincial Procurator of the F.M.U.; born 1933 in Cleveland, Ohio; entered First Order 1952.

Bro. Roger Kanne, Assistant Librarian of the Friary; born 1893 in Peoria, Ill.; invested as Tertiary Brother 1934.

Brother Myles McMahon, Assistant Sacristan; born 1896 in Indianapolis, Ind.; invested as Tertiary Brother 1948.

A total of 59 young men from St. Augustine Parish have joined the ranks of the Franciscans in Sacred Heart Province, 53 as priests, 4 as brothers, and two who are clerics preparing for the priesthood. Five others have been ordained priests, namely one Benedictine, one Passionist, and three diocesan priests.





17. *Franciscan Herald Press*

ADJOINING St. Augustine Friary, there is a two-story brick building at the corner of Bishop and 51st which was constructed in 1920, Franciscan Father Aemilian Zumkeller being the architect. It contains the offices and shipping department of Franciscan Herald Press, Publishers of Franciscan Literature.

Its principal purpose when built was to provide the editorial and circulation offices of the popular Franciscan monthly magazine, *Franciscan Herald*, which had been published since January, 1913, at Teutopolis, Illinois, and had now become one of the leading Catholic periodicals of the country. The purpose of the magazine was to foster the spirit of St. Francis, to promote the Third Order Secular, to acquaint the public with the work of the Franciscan missions at home and abroad, and to provide wholesome and entertaining reading for the Catholic home. In the fall of 1922, the magazine reached its peak in circulation with 152,000 subscribers. However, during the depression years in the 30's the magazine found it very difficult to continue publication; and finally, in April, 1940, it ceased to be published as a popular periodical. At that time it was merged with the official organ of the Third Order in the United States, *Third Order Forum*, which had been published at St. Augustine's since January, 1922; and the name was changed to *Franciscan Herald and Forum*.

Franciscan Herald Press, as a publisher of Franciscan books and pamphlets and a center of Third Order supplies, had its beginning already in 1920; and it continued to operate on a modest scale for about a decade after *Franciscan Herald* ceased publication. But since 1949, when Fr. Mark Hegener was appointed director, with Fr. Albert J. Nimeth as assistant, Franciscan Herald Press has gradually grown into one of the more important Catholic publishing houses of the country.

Besides publishing the monthly *Franciscan Herald and Forum*, the Franciscan Art Calendar (75,000 annually), *The Marian Era* (annually since 1960), inaugurating the *Franciscan Bookcase* plan for wider distribution of Franciscan literature, and providing Third



Franciscan Herald Press and Franciscan Missionary Union building, 1434 West 51st Street, Chicago 9, Ill., built in 1920 and 1948.

Order supplies, the Press has put out a large number of books and pamphlets, mainly of a Franciscan character.

About 200 titles (books and pamphlets) have thus far been published by Franciscan Herald Press.

18. *Franciscan Missionary Union*

AS LONG as *Franciscan Herald* was published, the work of gathering funds for the Franciscan missions was combined with that of publishing the magazine. *Franciscan Herald* had founded and organized St. Francis Solano Mission Association in 1919; but soon after this mission-aid society was supplanted by the international Franciscan Missionary Union, approved by Pope Pius XI in 1922, the offices of *Franciscan Herald* were made the provincial headquarters of the F.M.U.

The F.M.U. belongs to the class of canonical associations called pious unions. It has a twofold object: first, to spread the knowledge, appreciation, and love of the missions, and to awaken vocations for the apostolate in the missions; and secondly, to aid the many missions of the Franciscan Order by prayer and alms. There are three degrees of membership, namely annual, perpetual, and family. The deceased as well as the living may be enrolled. Many spiritual benefits have been granted to members. All members must have their names inscribed in the official register at provincial headquarters. The patron of the world-wide F.M.U. is St. Anthony of Padua; and in Sacred Heart Province the special patron is St. Francis Solano, the great missionary of South America.

At the present time the F.M.U. in Sacred Heart Province has the difficult task of supporting what is one of the world's largest missionary dioceses, the Prelacy of Santarém, in the equatorial jungle territory along the Amazon and its great tributary, the Tápajos, in the vast state of Pará, Brazil. Its missionaries are Franciscans of Sacred Heart Province, and its bishop is Chicago-born Bishop James Ryan O.F.M. Other missionaries of the Province are in Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Bolivia, and in the home missions among the Indians, the Colored and the Spanish-Americans.

After *Franciscan Herald* ceased publication in 1940, the F.M.U. was made a distinct and separate department in the building at 51st and Bishop streets; and to serve its needs, it was found necessary to add a special F.M.U. wing along 51st Street in 1948. During the



Mat Anderson photo.

Franciscan Missionary Union offices at 51st and Ashland, opened 1961.

present year (1961) additional office space has been leased in the rear part of the former bank building at 51st and Ashland. The phone number for St. Augustine Friary as well as Franciscan Herald Press and the F.M.U. is CL 4-4445 or 254-4445.

19. The Layman's Order Building

THE eighth separate building in St. Augustine's square city block is that of the Layman's Order or the Third Order Secular of St. Francis on the corner of 51st and Laflin Streets, which was built in 1957. It has a large hall which can be divided into three; and this hall is surrounded on all sides with a kitchen, offices, instruction and meeting rooms, a library, a religious goods store, and the headquarters of the Third Order Credit Union. One of the offices is that of the Provincial Commissary and Vice-Commissary of the Third Order.

Together with the diamond jubilee of the coming of the First Order to St. Augustine's, the Third Order is observing the 75th anniversary of its establishment at St. Augustine's Church. When the Franciscans arrived in August, 1886, there were already some tertiaries in St. Augustine's Parish, as is attested by Fr. Kilian's letter of August 10, 1885. Less than a month later, on Wednesday, September 8, feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the first group of tertiaries was received into the order at St. Augustine's. On October 4, feast of St. Francis, several more were admitted. On November 7, three men and seven women were invested; and on November 21, two men and five women. Thus was St. Anthony's Fraternity of the Third Order founded and organized. Its first regular monthly meeting was held on October 4; its second, on November 21. And from that time, the monthly meeting was always conducted on the third Sunday of the month.

The number of tertiaries belonging to St. Anthony's German-speaking Fraternity increased in thirty-three years (1886 to 1919) to 654. Father Francis Albers, acting director from 1902 to 1917, mentioned in 1913 that he and the sick committee had made six hundred visits to the sick. In 1930 St. Anthony Fraternity contributed to St. Augustine Church a new side altar, costing \$750.00. After Perpetual Adoration was introduced in the chapel of the Poor Clares on June 14, 1919, it was the tertiaries above all who made frequent visits there. In November, 1951, St. Anthony's Fraternity was merged with the English-speaking St. Elzear's Fraternity.



The Layman's Order building, at 51st and Laflin, built in 1957.

St. Elzear's Fraternity was founded at St. Augustine's on March 20, 1920, by Fr. Hilarion Duerk, who was also director of St. Anthony Fraternity at the time (1919-1922). Since 1951, St. Elzear's is also the continuation of the fraternity founded seventy-five years ago. At present Fr. Mark Hegener is its director; and its membership is about 1,000, including tertiaries from many other parishes besides St. Augustine's. It is this fraternity which maintains the Third Order Credit Union, to which also parishioners of St. Augustine's who are not tertiaries may belong.

The Alvernians were founded at St. Augustine's on October 4, 1939, as a separate fraternity for young people. Their director is Fr. Albert J. Nimeth.

The latter is also director of St. Augustine High School Fraternity, which was established in January, 1941.

Thus there are now three Third Order fraternities at St. Augustine's; and they have become models to others throughout the country. This is indicated by the fact that Fr. Mark Hegener's guide book, *Managing Your Third Order Fraternity*, and his *Ritual for Public Functions* describe practices which were tried out and proved successful in St. Elzear's Fraternity.

For those who are too young to join the Third Order, a special group of the Archconfraternity of the Cord of St. Francis has been founded. They are called The Cordeliers.

20. Societies of St. Augustine Parish

BESIDES the three fraternities of the Third Order of St. Francis and the groups mentioned in connection with the Social Center, St. Augustine's Parish has the following societies at the present time:

St. Ann's Altar Society. It was organized in 1881, and affiliated with the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers in 1901. Besides encouraging its members to live good Christian lives and to lead their families closer to God, the society provides vestments and other articles for the altar and takes part in parish activities.

The Parish Committee. The Trustees and Ushers group, formed in 1881, was reorganized in 1931 as the Parish Committee. Besides taking care of the ushering and collecting in church, the members direct fund-raising efforts in the parish and assist the school when programs are presented in the auditorium.

Young Ladies Sodality. The Young Ladies Society, organized in 1887, was affiliated to the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin in 1892. It is now one of the groups which make use of the Social Center.

St. Vincent de Paul Society. Organized in 1897, and reorganized in 1920, this Conference of the society is now recognized as one of the best in Chicago. Besides caring for the needy of the parish, members visit and assist the inmates of Oak Forest Infirmary, distribute Catholic literature in public institutions, and have charge of paper sales and pamphlet racks.

Holy Name Society. It was organized in 1918 to help the men live an exemplary Catholic life and to promote the welfare of the parish. Before the Social Center took over the work, members also sponsored athletic and social programs for the boys and young men.

St. Cecilia Choir. A parish choir was formed already in 1882; and in 1895 it became St. Cecilia Choir. During the past three decades it has been fortunate in having as its director Mr. Albert G. Tushaus,

organist of St. Augustine Church since 1930. The previous year, one of the largest church organs in Chicago, costing about \$270,00.00, was installed in St. Augustine Church. Its massive console is a four manual and pedal keydesk of the draw-knob type. The total organ has 73 stops. Besides the organ in the choir loft, there is a sanctuary organ; and the number of pipes in the two divisions is 3,415.

There are nine benevolent and insurance societies, which have also a fraternal and religious purpose:

St. Augustine Benevolent Society, founded in 1881 and incorporated the following year.

Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association, Branch No. 792, organized in 1902.

Catholic Order of Foresters, two courts. St. Mauritius Court, No. 97, was organized in 1889; and St. Augustine Court, No. 359, in 1893.

Women's Catholic Order of Foresters, two courts. St. Coleta Court, No. 411, was organized in 1889; and St. Mary Frances Court, No. 754, in 1908.

Catholic Knights of America, two branches. St. Francis Branch, No. 592, was organized in 1889; and St. Symphorian Branch, No. 1046, in 1913.

Catholic Guard of America, Branch 14, organized in 1911.

There are also the following three clubs:

St. Augustine Dramatic Club. It was originally organized in 1904 by Henry Fellmeth, a professional actor, as a society given to the study of German literature and drama as well as music. Since the introduction of television, the club has continued in existence as a service organization in the parish.

St. Augustine Good Fellowship Club, founded 1927, fosters fraternal good will among its members.

St. Joseph Seminary Club lends support to needy students for the priesthood at St. Joseph Franciscan Seminary, Westmont, Ill.

21. *The Poor Clare Monastery*

TWO blocks south of St. Augustine Friary and the Layman's Order building, is the Monastery of the Poor Clares at 5245 S. Laflin. Thus all three orders of St. Francis are represented in St. Augustine Parish.

Father Kilian Schloesser, who had been instrumental in founding the Monastery of the Poor Clares Colettines in Cleveland in 1877, brought the Poor Clares also to Chicago. In 1892 he arranged for the coming of some of the Poor Clares from Cleveland to Chicago, purchased for them the property at 53rd and Laflin, and engaged Brother Adrian Wewer to build the monastery for them. Father Symphorian Fortsmann, pastor of St. Augustine's, furnished the monastery and conducted the Poor Clares to it when they arrived on April 29, 1893; and he always remained solicitous about their needs.

The Chapel of Perpetual Adoration at the corner of 53rd and Laflin was built at the request of Cardinal Mundelein and with the encouragement of Father Matthew Schmitz, pastor of St. Augustine's. The latter persuaded the Poor Clares to open the chapel at the pres-

The Chapel of Perpetual Adoration at the Poor Clare Monastery, 53rd and Laflin, completed in 1919.





Interior of the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration.

ent site rather than in the Loop, a plan which was considered at the time. The builder of the chapel was Franciscan Brother Leonard Darscheid. The building was begun in 1916; and on June 19, 1919, Archbishop Mundelein himself solemnly dedicated the chapel.

From the beginning, one of the Fathers at St. Augustine's has served as chaplain of the Poor Clare Monastery; and since the opening of the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration (day and night), Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, with appropriate devotions, has been given twice daily, at four in the afternoon and at half past seven in the evening.

Two other monasteries of the Poor Clares have been founded from the one in Chicago; Roswell, New Mexico, in 1948, and Kokomo,, Indiana, in 1959. The story of the nuns' journey from Chicago to Roswell is told in Sister Mary Frances' well-known book, *The Right to Be Merry*.

The membership of the Monastery in Chicago, at the present time, is 30 cloistered sisters and 8 extern sisters.

22. *Franciscans in the Archdiocese of Chicago*

IN CHICAGOLAND, including adjoining parts of the Joliet diocese, there are no less than 21 friaries with 348 friars. Sixteen friaries with 168 friars are in the archdiocese of Chicago. Included among these are 5 friaries of the Conventual Franciscans with 35 friars. The Franciscans (O.F.M.) alone have 11 friaries with 133 friars in the archdiocese, and 16 friaries with 313 friars in Chicagoland. The Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart has 5 friaries with 87 friars in the archdiocese, and 4 more friaries with 100 friars in the Joliet diocese — a total of 9 friaries with 187 friars. That is almost one fourth of the province's total membership.

Besides St. Augustine Friary, the following are the Franciscan (O.F.M.) friaries in the archdiocese of Chicago:



*The new
St. Peter's
in the Loop
completed
in 1953.*

*Corpus Christi Friary
and Church, to which
the Franciscans came
in 1929.*



St. Peter Friary. The Franciscans of Sacred Heart Province assumed the care of St. Peter's Parish in 1875. Two years later, Father Liborius Schaefermeyer built a three-story brick school and sisters' convent on the west side of the church. Father Kilian Schloesser, who took such a great interest in St. Augustine's, was pastor from 1885 to 1888. His successor, Father Maximilian Neumann (1888-1894) enlarged the friary to twice its original size; and Father Cyprian Banscheid (1899-1906) added the spires to the towers of the church. In 1924 the friary was made a guardianate; but by that time the parish had dwindled down to 25 families, and St. Peter's had become a downtown church. The new St. Peter's was dedicated September 7, 1953. The main floor of the church seats 1,300 persons. The average daily attendance is 10,000; and on special days, such as Ash Wednesday, some 60,000 persons visit St. Peter's in the Loop. Among the many religious and apostolic activities of which St. Peter's is the center, are the chaplaincies of Cook County Jail and the House of Correction.

Corpus Christi Friary. This friary was established in 1929, when the Franciscans of Sacred Heart Province, at the request of Cardinal Mundelein, opened a retreat house in the former school of the parish which had become all but extinct. The parish was re-established as a predominantly negro parish in 1932. Since then it has grown into a large parish consisting for the most part of converts. In addition to the grade school which opened in 1932, a high school was begun in 1946.

Hales Franciscan High School. A new high school for boys, which will supplant the one at Corpus Christi, is now being built, and should be ready by September, 1962. The faculty will consist of Franciscan Fathers and some laymen; and there will be a new and separate friary on the third floor of the school building. The high school, which will accommodate about 600 students, will be named for the famous Franciscan teacher at the thirteenth-century University of Paris, Friar Alexander of Hales.

Gibson photo.



The new Franciscan Hales High School, 49th and Cottage Grove, as it looked on June 20, 1961.

St. Christopher Friary. In 1922 Cardinal Mundelein authorized the Franciscans at Oak Forest to organize a new parish at nearby Midlothian; and in that year the first holy Mass was offered up in a rented hall. The following year a small frame church was erected; and the next year (1924) a combination school and sisters' convent was built. During the past two decades the parish has grown by leaps and bounds. St. Christopher's Friary was opened as a so-called hospice in 1946, when a house was purchased by the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart and moved near the church. A new school and gymnasium was constructed in 1951, and the following year a new friary. At the present time a new church is being built.

St. Roch Friary. The first chaplain of Cook County Infirmary at Oak Forest, opened in 1910, was the diocesan priest, Father Angeletti; and his successor was Father Hurkmans. Both resided at the hospital. In 1912, Archbishop Quigley entrusted the work at the institution to the Franciscan Fathers of Sacred Heart Province; and Fathers Hilary Kieserling and Wolfgang Kraus came on August 15, 1912. The Archbishop built a residence for the friars outside the grounds of the institution; and the Franciscans began to live there on March 31, 1913. That marks the beginning of St. Roch's Friary. At present four priests and a brother reside at the friary. The priests visit the sick at the large hospital every day. And they have charge also of Sacred Heart Chapel, which was built by the Archbishop on the grounds of the hospital in 1911-1912, and dedicated by him on August 11, 1913.

St. Mary Friary and Seminary, Lemont, Illinois. The first Franciscans who came from the Slovenian Province in Yugoslavia, arrived in 1912. Their chief task was to take care of the spiritual needs of Slovenian immigrants, of whom there were not a few settlements in the country. The Slovenian Franciscans form the Commissariat of the Holy Cross, which has its headquarters at Lemont, Illinois. St. Mary's Seminary was founded here on September 2, 1924; and for a time

St. Mary's Friary and Seminary at Lemont, Illinois, completed in 1924.



both Slovenian and Slovak clerics were trained there. But at present, since these clerics are too few in number, they pursue their studies in the houses of study of other Franciscan provinces and the seminary has been temporarily discontinued. However, St. Mary's Friary at the Seminary is a busy center of Franciscan activity. Its printing presses produce most of the Slovenian prayer books and literature for the Slovenian immigrants and displaced persons in the United States, Canada, and Australia. Published here are the monthly magazine *Ave Maria* and the yearly publication *Koledar*. Two Third Order fraternities, with a total membership of 117, are established at St. Mary's. During the summer months there are pilgrimages to St. Mary's shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. To accommodate the pilgrims Baraga Guest House has been erected on the grounds, and it is also used as a retreat house. Week-end retreats for the laity are conducted during the fall and winter months.

St. Stephen Friary. St. Stephen's Parish was founded in 1898, at which time a large number of Slovenian immigrants settled in the southwestern part of Chicago. In 1919 Cardinal Mundelein entrusted the care of the parish to the Franciscans of the Slovenian Commissariat, which at that time had its headquarters in New York City. One of the first things they did was to build a parochial school. To



*St. Stephen Church,
Chicago, to which
the Franciscans came
in 1919.*



Baraga Guest House at Lemont, used also as a retreat house.

date, the latter has given the Church five Franciscan priests and about twenty-four religious sisters. The Third Order Secular was established at St. Stephen's in 1921. The membership of this fraternity has fluctuated with the Slovenian population from several hundred to the present ninety. In Slovenian circles, St. Stephen's, the first parish of its nationality to be founded in Chicago, is regarded as one of the most prominent in the country.

St. George Friary. The parish of St. George, founded for the Slovenians of south Chicago in 1903, was committed to the care of the Slovenian Franciscans in 1922, at which time they were establishing themselves in Lemont. The first Franciscan pastor was Father Benevent Winkler. In 1943 Father Alexander Urankar, who had previously been pastor of St. Stephen's, launched a program for raising \$100,000.00 in ten years in order to build a parochial school. The goal was reached in seven years. A modern two-story brick and cement structure, with eight classrooms, a library, an office, and a hall, was built in 1949-1951, and dedicated by Cardinal Stritch on July 8, 1951.

Croatian Franciscan Friary. The first Croatian Franciscan Fathers came to Chicago in the beginning of the twentieth century to do missionary work among the Croatian immigrants. The Croatian Franciscans in the United States belonged to the Commissariat of the Holy Cross until the year 1926, when they were formed into a separate commissariat which was dependent directly on the Father General; but in 1931 it was made dependent on the Province of the Assumption in Hercegovina. The headquarters of the commissariat were at St. Jerome Friary, Chicago, until 1944, when the Croatian Franciscan Friary at 4851 Drexel Blvd. was founded and became the headquarters. It is still such, though the address is now 4848 S. Ellis Ave. In 1946 the Croatian Franciscan Press was established here for the purpose of printing periodicals, books, etc., in the Croatian language. Since 1942 the Croatian Franciscans have been publishing a weekly Croatian newspaper, *The Morning Star*; a monthly magazine, *The Croatian Catholic Messenger*; and an annual almanac, the *Kalendar*. Besides promoting the Catholic press among the Croatians, the Franciscans at this friary help out in various parishes of Chicago and do missionary work. Their friary is the religious and cultural center for the Croatian people in the United States.

St. Jerome Friary. The first Croatian parish founded in Chicago is that of St. Jerome; and it was established in August, 1912, by Franciscan Father Leon J. Mecic. The first church stood on 25th Street near Wentworth; but the church and friary are now at 2823 S. Princeton. The parish has a school attended by 426 pupils.

Sacred Heart Friary. Another Croatian parish was founded a year after St. Jerome's in south Chicago. Since 1920 it is in the care of the Croatian Franciscans. There is a combination church and school, and next door is the friary. The pupils in the school number 239.

The addresses as well as statistical data for these eleven Franciscan friaries in the archdiocese of Chicago, and also for the Conventual Franciscan friaries in the archdiocese and the Franciscan friaries in the diocese of Joliet are presented concisely in the following table.

FRIARS AND FRIARIES IN CHICAGOLAND

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO:

Sacred Heart Province, O.F.M.:

St. Augustine Friary

5045 S. Laffin, Chicago 9..... 1 15 — 6 21

St. Peter Friary

110 W. Madison, Chicago 2..... 1 30 — 7 37

Corpus Christi Friary

4920 S. Parkway, Chicago 15..... 1 18 — 2 20

Hales Franciscan High School

49th and Cottage Grove, Chicago..... — — — — —

St. Christopher Friary

14641 S. Keeler Ave., Midlothian..... 1 4 — — —

St. Roch Friary

Oak Forest, Illinois 1 4 — 1 5

Franciscans of Sacred Heart Province..... 5 71 — 16 87

Slovenian Commissariat of the Holy Cross, O.F.M.

St. Mary Friary and Seminary

1400 Main St., Lemont..... 1 17 — 6 23

St. Stephen Friary

W. 22nd Place & Wolcott Ave., Chicago 8..... 1 3 — — 3

St. George Friary

9546 Ewing Ave., Chicago 17..... 1 2 — — 2

Croatian Commissariat of the Holy Family, O.F.M.

Croatian Franciscan Friary

4848 S. Ellis Ave., Chicago..... 1 14 — — 14

St. Jerome Friary

2823 Princeton Ave., Chicago 16..... 1 3 — — 3

Sacred Heart Friary

2864 E. 96th St., Chicago 17..... 1 1 — — 1

Franciscans of the Commissariats..... 6 40 — 6 46

Franciscans in the Archdiocese..... 11 111 — 22 133

St. Bonaventure Province, Polish, O.F.M. Conv.:

Provincial House

955 E. Ringwood Rd., Lake Forest..... 1 7 4 3 14

Sacred Heart House of Studies

6039 N. Sheridan Rd., Chicago..... 1 2 9 1 12

St. Bronislava Friary

8708 Colfax Ave., Chicago 17..... 1 4 — — 4

Our Lady of Consolation Province, O.F.M. Conv.:

St. Ann Friary

12 W. Main St., Chicago Heights..... 1 3 — — 3

San Rocco Friary

315 E. 22nd St., Chicago Heights..... 1 2 — — 2

Conventual Franciscans 5 18 13 4 35

Franciscans & Conventuals in Archdiocese.. 16 129 13 26 168

DIocese OF JOLIET:

Sacred Heart Province, O.F.M.:

St. Joseph Seminary, Westmont..... 1 24 — 15 39

St. Paschal Friary, Westmont..... 1 5 — 40 45

St. Francis Retreat House, Hinsdale..... 1 2 — — 2

St. John Baptist Friary

404 N. Hickory St., Joliet..... 1 13 — 1 14

Assumption Province, O.F.M.:

Christ the King Seminary

Routes 64 & 59, West Chicago..... 1 34 34 12 80

Franciscans in the Joliet Diocese..... 5 78 34 68 180

Franciscans of Sacred Heart Province,

both dioceses 9 115 — 72 187

Franciscans (O.F.M.) in both dioceses..... 16 189 34 90 313

All Franciscans in both dioceses..... 21 207 47 94 348

23. *Franciscan Sisterhoods in the Archdiocese*

ACROSS the street from Franciscan Herald Press building there is a little convent of Franciscan sisters, Alverna Home Nursing Center, conducted by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis. And at 46th and Laflin there is the Guardian Angel Home and Nursery, conducted by the Franciscan Sisters of Bl. Kunegunda. But these are only two of a large number of convents of Franciscan sisters in Chicago. No less than 21 different Franciscan sisterhoods are represented in the archdiocese of Chicago. Four of them have provincial or general mother houses in the archdiocese, namely:

(1) Felician Sisters (3800 Peterson Ave.), who conduct 21 grade schools and one orphanage in the archdiocese.

(2) Franciscan Sisters of Bl. Kunegunda (2649 N. Hamlin), who conduct 4 grade schools, one high school, and 4 other institutions. This sisterhood was founded in Chicago in 1894.

(3) Sisters of St. Francis of Christ the King (Lemont, Ill.), who conduct a high school for girls, also in Lemont.

(4) Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis (5531 S. Karlov Ave.), who conduct 8 grade schools.

The other 17 Franciscan sisterhoods in the Chicago archdiocese are listed here according to the location of their mother houses, since that is the best way of identifying them:

(5) Clinton, Iowa: Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; 2 schools.

(6) Dubuque, Iowa: Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Family; 4 schools.

(7) Ferguson, Mo.: Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help; one school and one institution.

(8) Hankinson, N. Dak.: Sisters of St. Francis of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; domestic department of Carmelite Priory.

(9) Joliet, Ill.: Congregation of the Third Order of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate; 17 schools.

(10) Joliet, Ill.: Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart; St. Anthony Hospital, one school, domestic department of Mundelein Seminary.

(11) Manitowoc, Wis.: Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity; one school.

(12) Milwaukee, Wis.: Congregation of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle; 2 retreat houses for women (513 Fullerton Parkway and 11600 Longwood Drive).

(13) Milwaukee, Wis.: School Sisters of St. Francis; 28 schools and Alvernia High School.

(14) Milwaukee, Wis.: Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of Penance and Charity; 3 schools.

(15) Mishawaka, Ind.; Poor Sisters of St. Francis Seraph of Perpetual Adoration; one school, St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights and St. Francis Hospital in Evanston.

(16) Newton, Mass.: Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception; one school.

(17) Rice Lake, Wis.: Sisters of St. Francis; domestic department of Servite Monastery.

(18) Rochester, Minn.: Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis of the Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes; 2 schools.

(19) St. Louis (Clayton), Mo.: Sisters of St. Mary of the Third Order of St. Francis; St. Francis Hospital in Blue Island.

(20) Springfield, Ill.: Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis; Alverna Home Nursing Center.

(21) Wheaton, Ill.: Franciscan Sisters Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary; Divine Providence Hall (for working girls).

In the archdiocese of Chicago, therefore, Franciscan Sisters conduct 94 grade schools, three high schools, four hospitals, 2 retreat houses, 3 domestic departments of institutions, and 7 other institutions.

It is of interest to add that in the United States there are 79 different Franciscan sisterhoods with a total membership of over 35,000.

24. *The Third Order Secular in the Archdiocese*

THERE is no other diocese in the United States and perhaps in the whole world which has so many fraternities of the Third Order of St. Francis as the archdiocese of Chicago. The total number of such fraternities is 83. Some of them, of course, are small groups; but there are others which have numerous members. There is, for instance, St. Elzear's Fraternity at St. Augustine's which has about a thousand members; and among them are many from other parishes. St. Francis Fraternity at St. Peter's has over a thousand; and St. Louis Fraternity, also at St. Peter's, has close to a thousand. Both of the latter are city-wide fraternities.

The first national congress of the Third Order in the United States was held in Chicago in 1921. It was especially the periodical, *Franciscan Herald*, published at St. Augustine's, which promoted the idea of a national congress and national organization; and the man who more than anyone else was responsible for the realization of both, Fr. Hilarion Duerk, resided in St. Augustine Friary. The first national congress turned out to be one of the greatest Catholic conventions held in the country up to that time.

When the International Eucharistic Congress was held in Chicago in 1926, the Third Order fraternities of St. Augustine's and St. Peter's in Chicago and of St. John Baptist Church in Joliet (then in the Chicago archdiocese) contributed the sum of \$5,000.00 for a memorial of the congress which was erected at Mundelein. It is a statue of the patron of Eucharistic congresses, St. Paschal Baylon, representing the saint, not in the usual way, adoring the Sacred Host, but as a sacristan, carrying a ciborium, his hands covered with a veil to show his deep reverence.

The following is a list of the 77 parishes and institutions in the archdiocese of Chicago at which Third Order fraternities have been established.

English-speaking fraternities are in the following parishes: St. Adrian, St. Augustine (3), St. Constance, SS. Cyril and Methodius, St. Gregory (2), St. Peter (4) Corpus Christi, St. Ann and San Rocco

in Chicago Heights, St. Christopher in Midlothian, and St. Francis Xavier in Wilmette. Also in the following institutions: Alvernia High School, Lourdes High School, Madonna High School, St. Mary Seminary and Mt. Assisi Academy in Lemont, Holy Family Villa in Orland Park.

Croatian fraternities are at the following churches: St. Jerome and Sacred Heart.

Lithuanian fraternities are at: St. George, St. Joseph, St. Michael, SS. Peter and Paul, All Saints, Holy Cross, Immaculate Conception, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Vilna, Providence of God, St. Casimir in Chicago Heights, St. Anthony in Cicero, St. Bartholomew in Waukegan.

Polish fraternities are at: St. Adalbert, St. Ann, St. Barbara, St. Bronislava, St. Casimir, St. Fidelis, St. Florian, St. Hedwig, St. Helen, St. Hyacinth, St. James, St. John Cantius, St. John of God, St. Josaphat, St. Joseph, St. Ladislaus, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Mary of the Angels, St. Mary of Perpetual Help, St. Pancratius, SS. Peter and Paul, St. Roman, St. Salomea, St. Simon, St. Stanislaus Bishop, St. Stanislaus Kostka, Assumption, Five Holy Martyrs, Good Shepherd, Holy Innocents, Holy Trinity, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph in Chicago Heights, St. Andrew in Calumet City, St. Mary of Czestochowa and St. Valentine in Cicero, St. John Baptist in Harvey, St. Stanislaus Bishop in Posen.

Slovak fraternities are at: St. John Baptist, St. Joseph, St. Michael, Sacred Heart, Holy Rosary.

Slovenian fraternities are at: St. George, St. Stephen, St. Mary Seminary in Lemont.

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Kober, Mr. & Mrs. George
 Sr. M. Georgann, P.H.J.C.
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 Konzen, Elsie
Krafft, Mr. & Mrs. Rudy
Krahn, Mr. & Mrs. Alex
Krahn, Richard
Krolkowski, Mr. & Mrs. S.
Kuhn, Mrs. & Miss Anna
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Lehnert, Mr. & Mrs. John
Lewandoski, Mr. & Mrs. Walter
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Neumann, Mr. & Mrs. L.
 & Family
Noak, Vernon C.
Otis - Meier Family
Palm, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Sr.
Pisczor, Mr. & Mrs. John
Point, Francis S. & Family
Putz, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond J.
Renk, O.F.M., Bro. Cyprian
 Renk, Terrence
Renk, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony
Ryan, William J.
Schick, Charles
Schick, Mrs. Helen
Schlamadinger, Mrs. T.
Schlessor, O.F.M., Fr. Kenneth
 Schlessor, Mrs. Loretta M.
Schmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Aloysius
Simandl, Adalbert & Alice
Skudlarek Family
Soch, Mr. & Mrs. August J.
Specht, Mrs. Stella C.
Sulzer, Mrs. Anna
Urbaniak, Mr. & Mrs. Frank
Voelker, Mr. & Mrs. Frank H.
Wacker, Johanna
Wagner, Miss Clara
Wagner, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph
Walczak, Anna
Weber, Anna & Josephine
Wilkinson, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph R.
 and Roy
Wolf, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph

CONGRATULATIONS
AND BEST WISHES
TO
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
OF
ST. AUGUSTINE FRIARY

THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS

St. Elzear and Delphine Fraternity

St. Augustine Youth Fraternity

The Alvernians

The Cordeliers

Fr. Mark Hegener, O.F.M.
Director

Fr. Albert Nimeth, O.F.M.
Director

1679: The Franciscan missionaries, Fathers Hennepin, Membre, and La Ribourde, companions of La Salle, traveled in canoes along the Lake Shore of Chicago during the month of October.

COMPLIMENTS

OF THE

THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS

ST. FRANCIS & ST. LOUIS FRATERNITIES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1680: On September 19, the Franciscan missionary Father Gabriel de la Ribourde was killed by Kickapoo Indians at present Seneca, Illinois, and thus became the first missionary martyr of Illinois.

THE FRIARS LEGION

Franciscan Shrines of St. Anthony and St. Francis

St. Peter's Church

110 W. Madison St. - Chicago, Ill.

JOIN THE FRIARS LEGION

A membership in THE FRIARS LEGION — is the perfect gift for all occasions!

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| —Birthdays | —Baptism |
| —Graduations | —First Communion |
| —Anniversaries | —Confirmation |
| —To the Sick | —Weddings |
| —Deceased | —First Masses |
| —Mother's Day | —To Priest or Nun |
| —Father's Day | —Christmas |
| —Name Day | —Special Occasions |

Alms requested for membership \$10.00 for one year for each person. Members will enjoy the following spiritual benefits:

1. A special Mass read each day of the year at St. Peter's Church.
2. Five High Masses during the year.
3. Four Novenas of Masses during the year.
4. All the Masses read at St. Peter's.
5. The Prayers of all the Franciscan Priests, Brothers and Seminarians throughout the world.
6. All the Novena Services in honor of St. Anthony and St. Francis.

The FRIARS LEGION is an association of lay people who by alms, prayer and sacrifice assist the Franciscans of St. Peter's to fulfill their financial and spiritual obligations.

1680: In October, the Franciscan Missionary Father Membre, after working for a half year among the Illinois Indians at Starved Rock, journeyed with Tonti by way of the Chicago River to Lake Michigan and passed through what is now the heart of Chicago.

SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS

TO

THE FRANCISCAN FATHERS

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

1681: On or about Christmas Day, the Franciscan missionary Father Membre, chaplain of La Salle's expedition to the mouth of the Mississippi, journeyed by way of the Chicago River, through what is now the business center of Chicago, to the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers.

BEST WISHES

ON YOUR

DIAMOND JUBILEE

ALTAR SOCIETY

CONGRATULATIONS

FROM

ST. AUGUSTINE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

1759: The Franciscan missionary Father Hippolyte Collet came to Fort Chartres in Illinois and ministered to the French settlers in the area until 1764, when he returned to Canada.

1761: The Franciscan missionary Father Luke Callet arrived at Fort Chartres in Illinois, and served the settlers in the French towns near the fort until his death in 1765.

LADIES' CATHOLIC BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

LEGAL RESERVE LIFE INSURANCE

FOR

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

BEST WISHES

SAVE FOR THE MISSIONS

Enroll yourself and your loved ones, relatives, friends, and neighbors,
living and deceased in the

FRANCISCAN MISSIONARY UNION

(Approved by Pope Pius XI, April 25, 1921)

Individual annual membership	\$ 1.00
Family annual membership	5.00
Individual perpetual membership	10.00
Family perpetual membership	100.00

Members have a share in 1,500 holy Masses offered up daily,
and enjoy many other spiritual benefits.

PRAY FOR THE MISSIONS

Beautiful

CERTIFICATES OF ENROLLMENT

for all members.

Special

GREETING CARD CERTIFICATES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

when you enroll your friends, living or deceased:
For Christmas, Easter, Father's Day, Mother's Day, Birthdays,
Weddings, Sympathy Cards, Baby Congratulations,
Get-Well Wishes, Joyful and Happy Occasions.

Write to: Franciscan Missionary Union

1434 West 51st Street

Chicago 9, Illinois

SACRIFICE FOR THE MISSIONS

- 1804:** The United States Government built Fort Dearborn on the present site of downtown Chicago at the mouth of the Chicago River.
- 1809:** The Territory of Illinois was created by the Government of the United States.
-
-

CONGRATULATIONS
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
OF
ST. AUGUSTINE FRIARY
A FRIEND

1818: The State of Illinois was admitted to the Union.

1830: The Town of Chicago, with a population of less than a hundred, was officially established.

1838: Chicago was incorporated as a city with a population of 4,170.

CONGRATULATIONS
AND
BEST WISHES
STELLA GALE and SONS

CONGRATULATIONS — FRANCISCAN FATHERS

Mitch's Barber Shop

Call for an Appointment
At your convenience

5357 S. Ashland - HE 4-7149

Wanda's Beauty Shop

Wed., Thurs., Fri. Evenings
Open all week

5357 S Ashland - PR 6-8820

CONGRATULATIONS — FRANCISCAN FATHERS

St. Augustine's Church Bowling Alleys

8 New Brunswick Automatic Pinspotters

1435 West 50th Street

Phone YArds 7-4646

A. M. Betz, Manager

1833: On May 5, Father St. Cyr offered up the first holy Mass in the Town of Chicago. In October the first Catholic church in Chicago, built at State and Lake, was dedicated to St. Mary in October.

Congratulations

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Congratulations

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

ST. AUGUSTINE'S COURT 359

CONGRATULATIONS

FRANCISCAN FATHERS



5225 South Laflin Street

Frank J. Wukitsch, Jr.

REpublic 7-5500

1843: The diocese of Chicago, comprising the entire State of Illinois (until 1853), was erected.

1844: The Most Rev. William Quarter was consecrated and came to Chicago as its first bishop.

CONGRATULATIONS

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

ACKERMAN'S PHARMACY

Corner 51st and Laflin Streets

1845: Bishop Quarter completed and consecrated Chicago's first Cathedral of St. Mary, at Madison and Wabash. It was supplanted by Holy Name Cathedral in 1861; and both were destroyed by the fire in 1871.

BEST WISHES

to the

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

from

FR. GODFREY, O.F.M.

SR. M. ANITA, P.H.J.C.

SR. M. FERNANDA, P.H.J.C.

HELEN AND TESS PIONTKOWSKI

BEST WISHES
FROM
SYRENA BUFFET & RESTAURANT
CATERERS

1825 WEST 47th STREET

Virginia 7-9660

(Your Caterers Monday Evening)

1846: St. Peter's, one of the three first Chicago churches after St. Mary's Cathedral, was built on Washington between Wells and Franklin; and in 1853 it was moved to Clark and Polk.

Congratulations
FRANCISCAN FATHERS

TONY RASH

5016-20 South Ashland Avenue

HEmlock 4-7840 - 4-7841

40 Years on Ashland Avenue

OUR SPECIALTY:
Custom Made Parlor Furniture. Your Choice of Style, Fabric,
and Woods in Decorator Colors at No Extra Cost.

CARPETING — HOME APPLIANCES

CASH OR TERMS

Congratulations
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
THE DRAMA CLUB OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Congratulations on Your
Diamond Jubilee
ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY CLUB

1871: The Great Fire raged in the city of Chicago and destroyed a large part, including the main business and residential section, in which there were seven Catholic churches.

Best Wishes to the
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
ST. AUGUSTINE SOCIAL CENTER COUNCIL

Congratulations
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
St. Coletta Court No. 411
Women's Catholic Order of Foresters

CONGRATULATIONS

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

KOWSKE'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.

1503 West 51st Street

YArds 7-4765 - 7-4766

1879: The first little church and school of St. Augustine was built on the west side of Lafin between 48th and 49th streets. First used as a church in 1881; enlarged in 1882; moved to 50th and Lafin in 1888.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Thelen

Rel. Frater Trason Thelen

Phyllis Thelen

1886: On July 11, the Franciscans took permanent charge of St. Augustine's; and on August 15, two priests and two brothers moved into rooms at the back of the church and school on Lafin near 49th.

"I Am the Herald of the Great King!" — St. Francis of Assisi

HERALDING THE GREAT KING THROUGH THE PRINTED WORD . .

Franciscan Herald Press

Publishers of Franciscan Literature for 30 years.

Franciscan Herald and Forum

Applying Christianity in the Spirit of St. Francis. Official Organ (monthly) of the Federated Provinces of the Third Order of St. Francis in North America.

Franciscan Book Club

The best in Franciscan literature made available to members at the best possible prices.

Franciscan Book Case

Through the Book Case every Franciscan Institution can be a Franciscan Book Shop and spread the ideas and ideals of St. Francis. Book Case is on consignment.

Franciscan Parish Bulletins

A new weekly service to Franciscan parishes and institutions to be inaugurated January 1, 1962.

Third Order of St. Francis Supplies

The main source of T.O. literature and supplies.

The Marian Era

World Annual of the Queen of the Universe. Published annually by the National Franciscan Marian Commission. Edited by Marion A. Habig O.F.M.

FRANCISCAN HERALD PRESS

CHICAGO (9) ILL.

BEST WISHES

LEO B. MENNER & CO.

INSURANCE

LLOYD'S OF LONDON

BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1899: The present St. Augustine Friary was built. Previously a seven-room frame house had served as a friary for eleven years. The Friary was made a guardianate in 1901. From 1900 to 1907 it served also as a house of studies. It was the residence of the Father Provincial of Sacred Heart Province from 1927 to 1938.

The Back of the Yards Council extends sincere congratulations to the Franciscan Fathers of St. Augustine Parish on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary. We are mindful and grateful for all they have done for the honor and glory of Almighty God and to make our community a better place in which to live.

Reverend Roman J. Berendt, President
Joseph B. Meegan, Executive Secretary

1904: The present and third St. Augustine Church was completed with the construction of the transept and sanctuary. The front part of the church, including the 225-foot tower, was built in 1891-1892. The architect of the church was Franciscan Brother Adrian Wewer.

JUBILEE
GREETINGS
from the
Grateful Hearts
of
ST. AUGUSTINE GRADE SCHOOL
and
ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL

1910: St. Augustine High School was opened in September with a two-year commercial course. It became a four-year high school in 1940. The high school occupies a part of the school building at Laffin and 50th streets. There were 68 graduates in the class of 1961.

CONGRATULATIONS

WITH

PRAYERS AND GOOD WISHES

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

THE MOTHERHOUSE

and

SAINT AUGUSTINE CONVENT

1911: The building of the present three-story St. Augustine School and High school was completed with the construction of the second half. The first half of the building had been constructed in 1907. A library for both the elementary and the high school was added at the rear in 1952.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

from

The Priests and People

of

ST. WILLIAM'S PARISH

Sayre and Wrightwood Avenues

Chicago 35, Illinois

1920: The office building of Franciscan Herald Press at the corner of 51st and Bishop streets was constructed. **Franciscan Herald** and **Third Order Forum** were published here till 1940, when the two were merged into **Franciscan Herald and Forum**. Franciscan Herald Press has since then become one of the leading Catholic publishing houses in the country. It has published about 200 books and pamphlets.

BEST WISHES

from

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

of

ST. CHRISTOPHER FRIARY AND PARISH

14641 South Keeler Avenue

MIDLOTHIAN

Illinois

COMPLIMENTS
of
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
of
CORPUS CHRISTI FRIARY
CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH
HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL

4920 SOUTH PARKWAY

CHICAGO 15, ILL.

1924: Provincial headquarters of the Franciscan Missionary Union, which enjoys papal approbation, were established in the Franciscan Herald building. A special wing for the F.M.U., along 51st Street was added in 1948; and in 1961, the F.M.U. also occupied offices at the rear of the former bank building at 51st and Ashland Avenue.

GREETINGS FROM
FRANCISCAN FATHERS
SAINT ROCH FRIARY

OAK FOREST, ILL.

Compliments

of a

Friend

and

Neighbor

1957: The Layman's Order (Third Order) building was built at the corner of 51st and Lavin streets. The Third Order was established at St. Augustine's in 1886, seventy-five years ago. There are now three Third Order fraternities at St. Augustine's. In the archdiocese of Chicago there are 83 fraternities of the Third Order, more than in any other diocese of the country.

COMPLIMENTS

of a

FRIEND

Program for the Diamond Jubilee

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1961

- 10:00 Solemn High Mass in St. Augustine Church, with the Most
A.M. Reverend Raymond P. Hillinger, Auxiliary Bishop of
Chicago at the throne.
Celebrant: Very Rev. Fr. Dominic Limacher O.F.M., Min.
Provincial.
Arch-Priest: Rev. Fr. Innocent Swoboda O.F.M., Vice-Prov.
and Prov. Procurator of the F.M.U.
Deacon: Rev. Fr. Roch Hettinger O.F.M., Pastor.
Subdeacon: Rev. Fr. Mark Hegener O.F.M., Director of St.
Elzear Fraternity and Manager of F.H.P.
Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Fr. Pancratius Freudinger
O.F.M., son of the parish.
Sermon by: Rev. Fr. Adrian Fischer O.F.M., former pastor.
- 2:30 Monthly Meeting of St. Elzear's Third Order Fraternity, fol-
P.M. lowed by Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1961

- 8:00 High Mass of Thanksgiving for the Golden Jubilee of St.
A.M. Augustine High School.
Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Roch Hettinger O.F.M., Pastor.
- 5:00 Solemn High Mass in St. Augustine Church for the Silver
P.M. Sacerdotal Jubilee of Father Alvin Schlubeck O.F.M.,
a son of the parish.
Sermon by: Rev. Fr. Jason Kommer O.F.M., a son of the
parish.

Note: Before the Mass the Psalm Jubilate and oration is sung;
and after the Mass; the Te Deum with orations, followed
by a special blessing.

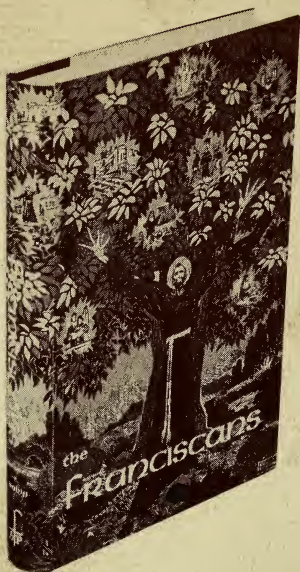
- 6:30 Dinner to commemorate the Diamond, Golden, and Silver
P.M. Jubilee, for invited guests, in St. Augustine Social Center.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1961

- 8:00 Solemn Requiem Mass in St. Augustine Church, for all de-
A.M. ceased former pastors, assistants, members of St. Augus-
tine Friary and Convent, and of St. Augustine Parish.
Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Marion Habig O.F.M., Guardian.
Deacon: Rev. Fr. Roch Hettinger O.F.M., Pastor.
Subdeacon: Rev. Fr. Kurt Buranich O.F.M., Assistant Pastor.
Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Fr. Nivard Foust O.F.M.,
Assistant Pastor.

THE FRANCISCANS

by Alexandre Masseron and
Marion A. Habig O.F.M.

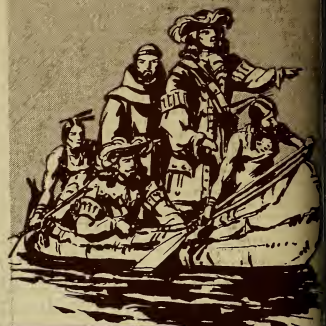


A one-volume encyclopedia of the history, spirit, organization and present-day apostolic pursuits of the entire Franciscan Order — Franciscans, Conventuals, Capuchins, Third Order Regular Priests, Brothers, Sisters, the Second Order of Poor Clare Sisters and the Third Order Secular.

Besides the many features of lists, charts, statistics and bibliography of English books on St. Francis and Franciscan history and spirituality, there is also a 32-page picture insert showing (1) the history of the Franciscan Order, (2) the First Order, (3) the Second Order of Poor Clares, (4) the Third Order Regular and (5) the Third Order Secular.

544 pages; beautiful jacket and endpapers by Kelly Freas
\$5.95

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1434 West 51st Street Chicago 9, Illinois



Franciscan Exploration
with La Salle, 1679



St. Augustine Church
Chicago, 1961



St. Peter's Church
Chicago Loop, 1961