

## 18<sup>th</sup> Century Baptisms at Ivy Mills

“A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace” (as defined in the *Baltimore Catechism*). Catholic sacraments are personal encounters with Christ that change and transform us. Theologians have written that the sacraments are at the heart of Catholic faith and practice, not merely empty rites of passage.

Written records of the conferring of all seven sacraments on individual Church members have probably been kept since the beginning, in order to assure the integrity of Church membership and to keep track of the faithful. Sacramental records of the past 2,000 years are incomplete, but along with other administrative and narrative records, enough remain to testify through the centuries that the Church has been alive at every stage of history since the time of Christ. Such records also allow genealogical research, as a bonus.

Our Philadelphia area sacramental records are also incomplete, but Jesuit archives at Saint Joseph’s University have revealed a list of about 49 family names of persons baptized at Ivy Mills between 1758 and 1775 and of their sponsors. Most, but not all, of those baptized were infants. Note that the Willcox Homestead at Ivy Mills was the nearest Pennsylvania location for Catholic families from Kennett Square, West Chester, and Media. Only three of those names besides Willcox are known 18<sup>th</sup> century Concord Township family names (noted in the list below by asterisks). A detailed listing can be found at the FOST website (above).

Allen	Green *	Patton
Bird	Hanely	Pendigast
Blood	Haug	Ribau
Böhm	Hanely	Roanny
Broc	Haug	Ryan
Bullock *	Hugh	Sauerwald
Clark	Hunt	Shilling
Connelly	Lewis	Sherlock
Corman	Macra	States
Cornely	Marten	Sullivan
Davelin	McCarry	Sutton
Dewitter	McCann	Tenson
Duken	McMcnamin [ <i>sic</i> ]	Wegfort
Fitzsimmons	Montgomery	Wilcox [ <i>sic</i> ]
Fury	Moran	Wills
Gest *	O’Neal, O’Neil, O’Neill	Worrall
Gist	Patterson	

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass

Bishop Timothy C. Senior, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, celebrated FOST’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass on March 26, assisted by Deacon Fran Phillips. A half-hour prelude by parish musicians Kathy Davoine, Jennifer Campbell and Maria McAnulty preceded the Mass. The Knights of Columbus, Olde St. Thomas Council, led the opening and closing processions. Kathy, Jennifer, and Maria also provided music for the Mass.

In his homily, Bishop Senior spoke of the meaningful experience of connecting with the “faith of our fathers” in the first church of Pennsylvania’s first parish, and of the value in doing so. We still practice the same faith, and benefit ourselves, our families and communities accordingly.



## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Projects

### Updates

Six of the Franz Meyer stained glass windows from Munich have been fully restored and re-installed. Two more are in process, and should be completed by mid-June. The Saint Thomas window is scheduled next. We anticipate its completion by the end of the summer.

Re-siding of the steeple is still being studied. Decisions still to be made have to do with type of siding and installation method. More information to come by Fall.

Great thanks to all who have contributed funds so far! **Additional funds are still needed to complete these necessary improvements.** There are multiple ways to give. Donation forms are available in the 1852 church; visit [friendsofoldstthomas.org](http://friendsofoldstthomas.org), “Donations” tab; send a check to FOST, Box 19, Chester Heights, PA 19017, or call Mike Squyres, Treasurer (610 459-8392) to discuss additional donation formats.



### Help Wanted

Keeping the old chapel clean and fit for Mass, Adoration, devotions and private contemplation is a special work of the Lord that itself is a form of prayer. In the same way, keeping the grounds surrounding the chapel clean and attractive requires continuing effort. Dedicated crews have served in this manner ever since 1991. **Please consider assisting them in this work** that carries its own blessings. Minimal time commitment.

Please call Bette Popiel, 610 358-4835, or e-mail [fost@friendsofoldstthomas.org](mailto:fost@friendsofoldstthomas.org).

**Thank you  
to members and donors**

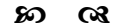
*April 16, 2016 -  
April 15, 2017*

M/M Robert W. Archer  
M/M Gerald E. Arters  
M/M Edward J. Barron  
M/M John Baselice  
Ms. Paula H. Bell  
M/M Robert D. Bennett  
M/M John F. Bielski  
M/M Daniel P. Bonner, Jr  
Dr/M James F. Bonner  
M/M. Patrick J. Bradley  
M/M John P. Brady  
M/M Arno J. Braunlinger  
Mrs. Elena Brazer  
M/M/ Joseph P. Brooks  
M/M Thomas C. Brown  
Mrs. Patricia D. Bruggeman  
Mrs. Rosalie Bryant  
Mrs. Margaret Cadden  
M/M Raymond C. Carabello  
Chester Heights Historical Soc  
M/M/ Thomas Christian  
M/M Anthony T. Ciccanti  
M/M Michael Ciocco  
Ms. Jean Ciocco  
M/M Robert Clarke  
Mr. John M. Cleary  
M/M Joseph P. Cleary  
M/M John E. Connor  
M/M Francis Connors  
Mr. Stephen C. Corcoran  
Mrs. Elizabeth Cord  
Ms. Lois A. Cortez-Hazard  
Ms. Evelyn J. Costa  
Mr. Lewis J. Costello, Jr

M/M Raymond Cross  
M/M John R. Cunningham  
M/M Mark H. Dambly  
Mr. A.J. D'Angelo  
M/M Harold DeNenno  
M/M James DeSandro  
Mr. Joseph DeSantis  
M/M Arthur R. DiNicola  
Mrs. Anne M. Docherty  
Mrs. Barbara L. Doherty  
Mrs. Anita J. Donovan  
M/M Edward A. Douglas  
M/M Joseph A. Dragon  
Ms. Maureen H. Drought  
M/M Lawrence A. Dunbar  
Mr. James P. Fawcett  
Mr. Lawrence J. Ferreri  
Mr. John J. Filicko, Jr.  
Ms. Christine R. Finigan  
Ms. Alice P. Flandreau  
M/M Stephen D. Ford  
M/M Albert J. Frattarola  
M/ M Stephen J. Funsten  
Ms. Kathleen Gekowski, MD  
Ms. Donna M Girton  
M/M Alfred J. Glessner  
M/M George Golden  
M/M Robert A. Grevey  
Rev. Francis P. Groarke  
Mr. Richard S. Guyer  
M/M John P. Hanlon  
M/M Robert M. Hanlon  
M/M Robert W. Hartje  
Mrs. Mary Pat Headley  
Ms. M. Nell Heffernan  
M/M Steven A. Henry  
Mr. Richard Holt, Jr  
Ms. Patricia A. Hyde  
Sr. Helen Jacobson, OSF

Ms. Denise M. Johnson  
M/M Robert A. Judge  
Ms. Theresa M. Kasper  
M/M Kevin Kelly  
Mrs. Cecilia M. Kennedy  
Mr. Ted E. Kerwin  
M/M Richard M. Klingman  
M/M Anthony A. Latini  
M/M Frederick C. Leiser, III  
M/M Mathias Lenner  
M/M Samuel J Lewis, III  
M/M Nicholas M. LiCalzi  
Mrs. Louise M. Little  
Mrs. Ann M. Loney  
M/M Robert T. Lucci  
Michael Marchlik/Jean Vislocky  
Ms. Marie T. Martin  
Ms. Penny L. Martin  
M/M Martin J. McCormick, Jr  
M/M John McCusker  
M/M Charles B. McFadden  
Mr. Edward McGrath  
Mrs. Marylou H. McLaughlin  
Mr/Mrs J. Scott McLaughlin  
M/M Robert P. McLaughlin  
Mrs. Fay McManus  
Mrs. Rita H. McManus  
Ms. Joan B. McNeal  
M/M George C. McNichol  
Ms. Linda P. McNichol  
M/M James. J. Meikle, Sr  
M/M Joel S. Minster  
Ms. Elizabeth A. Mullen  
M/M James Mullins, III  
M/M Joseph Munnis  
M/M James J. Murphy  
Mrs. Patricia C. Murray  
M/M Gennar Nicolini  
M/M William R. Oliver

M/M Edward J. O'Malley  
Mr. Theodore H. Ottey, III  
Mr. James V. Palo  
M/M Walter Picher  
Mr. C. Hardy Pipes  
M/M Gerald J. Plenzler  
M/M Philip Popiel  
M/M Alan Reed  
Mr. Gerard A. Remaley  
M/M Richard W. Riley  
M/M Philip V. Rosini  
M/M Eric A. Roth  
M/M David Santolieri  
M/M Martin Saporosa  
Ms. N. Lois Scheib  
M/M Jeffrey Seagraves  
M/M James K. Seaman  
Dr. & Mrs. James F. Shields  
M/M William Shockley  
M/M Jeffrey A. Smith  
M/M Richard Soloman  
Ms. Gloria R. Spaltro  
Mrs. Patricia N. Spangler  
M/M John A. Spivak  
M/M Michael S. Squyres  
Mrs. Louis Sweeney  
M/M Lawrence H. Taylor  
M/M Robert E. Tinney, Esq.  
M/M Ted M. Varney  
M/M William S. Vosseler  
M/M Joseph W. Ward  
M/M Darrel L. Williams  
Ms. Joyce M. Windfelder  
M/M David Woods  
M/M William Zak



**The Friends of Old Saint Thomas at Ivy Mills  
PO Box 19, Chester Heights, PA 19017**

**JOIN!**

**Annual: Family Membership \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ GENERAL DONATION (Any amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_**

\* Used only for Newsletters and occasional notifications

***Honor/Memorial Program***  
*(\$25 or more):*

**Please Enroll \_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_**

**Receipt to be sent to: Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**Notification to be sent to: Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

*Please make checks payable to FOST and mail to above address. Thank you.*

# *The Friends of Old Saint Thomas at Ivy Mills*

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 24, No. 2  
e-mail: fost@friendsofoldstthomas.org

Fall 2017  
www.friendsofoldstthomas.org

### **Priests at Ivy Mills**

One hundred twenty nine priests have served the faithful at Ivy Mills and Saint Thomas the Apostle Church. Father Joseph Greaton, S.J. was the first, in 1729. A member of the Society of Jesus (a Jesuit), he came from Bohemia Manor in Maryland, a large plantation the Jesuits owned just over 30 miles from Wilmington, Delaware. A few years later, in 1733, he established St. Joseph's Church in Philadelphia and continued to make the rounds to outlying mission stations, including Ivy Mills. St. Joseph's became the central headquarters for the five other Jesuit missionary priests who followed him. Together, they served the Catholics of Southeastern Pennsylvania for sixty-five years.

Their ranks gradually diminished after 1773 because the Society of Jesus was officially disbanded by the Pope that year. Still priests, the good fathers were not permitted to work in the name of the Society, though they completed their missionary rounds without fail. Until 1814, when the order was restored, no new Jesuits could be ordained. By 1794, so few former Jesuits remained that none could be spared to keep the outlying mission stations going. By then, former Jesuit Father John Carroll in Baltimore had been named the first bishop in the new U.S.A. (Thus it was that Baltimore became the first and only diocese in the country.)

Bishop Carroll begged for additional priests from Europe to take over, and they came, at first mainly members of other religious orders. Augustinians took up the mantle of serving Catholics in this area, along with other order priests. First to come to Philadelphia and Ivy Mills was Dubliner Fr. John Rossiter, O.S.A., an Augustinian. He came from White Clay Creek in Delaware (an offshoot of Bohemia Manor) and was followed by Irishman Fr. Charles Whelen, O.F.M., Cap. (Capuchin), who had already worked for many years in New York and Kentucky.

The longest serving missionary priest to visit Ivy Mills was Fr. Patrick Kenny, another Dubliner, who served for nearly 35 years – 1805-1839. He was a secular priest; he did not belong to an order. He was a jolly man devoted to his flock, who in turn loved their itinerant priest very much. More about Father Kenny in the next *Newsletter!*

See the FOST website, "History" tab (address above) for a list of all St. Thomas priests by name and dates of service.



*By the*

### ***Numbers***

*Priests at Ivy Mills & St Thomas  
the Apostle Church – 1729-2017*

**129**

Missionary Priests – 17

Augustinian – 2

Capuchin – 1

Jesuit – 8

Secular – 1

Vincentian – 5

Diocesan Priests – 112

Pastors – 27

Longest Serving Missionary – 35 Years

*Fr. Patrick Kenny*

Longest Serving Pastor – 23 Years

*Fr. William Cook*



### **Stained Glass and Steeple Updates**

**Stained Glass Windows** – Please stop by, if you haven't already, to see the stained glass windows. Fully funded (\$90,000) and completely restored, they sparkle like new and should last for several generations. GREAT THANKS to all whose donations helped make it happen!

**The Steeple Project** – Re-siding of the steeple is now FOST's main restoration project. The fundraising campaign is underway. A costly undertaking, (\$200,000), the project requires not only highly skilled steeplejacks observing best practices, but also requires rental of heavy equipment to reach high enough for them to work safely.

**The good Lord has already provided half the amount! An anonymous donor will match every donation up to \$100,000.**

Suitable recognition plaques will be installed after the Steeple Campaign has ended.

The project will not begin until the full amount is in the bank. Our goal is to complete it within the next two years or so, so that Father Francis can retire knowing that the 1852 Church steeple can remain for many decades as the icon of faith it has been for more than six generations in western Delaware County.

*See overleaf for ways to help.*

**Ways to Help!**

**If you have not already done so, please consider helping to re-side the Steeple with a financial contribution** as cash, check, or perhaps as a stock transfer (which eliminates the capital gains tax for donor and recipient alike. A protocol is already in place). **There are multiple ways to give:**

- a. use the Steeple Donor form (enclosed or from the 1852 Church or new Church narthex)
- b. visit [friendsofoldstthomas.org](http://friendsofoldstthomas.org), "Donations" tab
- c. call Mike Squyres, Treasurer, 610-459-8392, for additional information or to discuss arrangements that would best suit you.

**If you have already given, please consider a second donation OR pass the form on to a friend with an invitation to help the cause as well. FOST would appreciate your help.**

*Thank you!*



### Summer Maintenance/Improvements

- New railings have been installed in the choir loft along the front wall as a safety measure.
- Because of some minor vandalism, arrangements have been made for the installation of security cameras in the 1852 Church.
- Great thanks to all the volunteers who help maintain the historic district. Church cleaners and gardeners make sure the buildings and grounds are well-kept and attractive, ready for worshippers and visitors at all times. We are especially grateful for a parishioner who graciously volunteered her elbow grease to help brighten up the 1898 pews, applying scratch cover and polish to all 52 of them, and for another parishioner who regularly undertakes the special cleaning of the Blessed Mother's statue in front of the 1874 Rectory.
- **Please consider assisting us in this work** that carries its own blessings. All equipment and supplies are provided. For cleaning: light cleaning once every 6 weeks or so. Please call Bette Popiel, 610 358-4835, or e-mail FOST at [fost@friendsofoldstthomas.org](mailto:fost@friendsofoldstthomas.org)



### Please Pray with Us

Please pray with us for FOST's success in its efforts, and for all those who contribute so much to make our work possible.



**FOST Honor & Memorial Programs** honor the living and memorialize deceased individuals. Donations of \$25.00 or more enroll designated persons in the St Thomas Honor/Memorial Book displayed on special occasions. Recipients are notified by U.S. mail; donors receive a receipt.

**The Friends of Old Saint Thomas  
PO Box 19, Chester Heights, PA 19017**

*Checks payable, please, to FOST or Friends of Old St. Thomas*

*Please enroll:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

My Gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Receipt to be sent to you:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Used only for Newsletters and occasional notifications.

### Notification Card to be sent to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Join FOST !

Individual Yearly Membership  \$15

Family Yearly Membership  \$25

Additional Donation  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Used only for Newsletters and occasional notifications