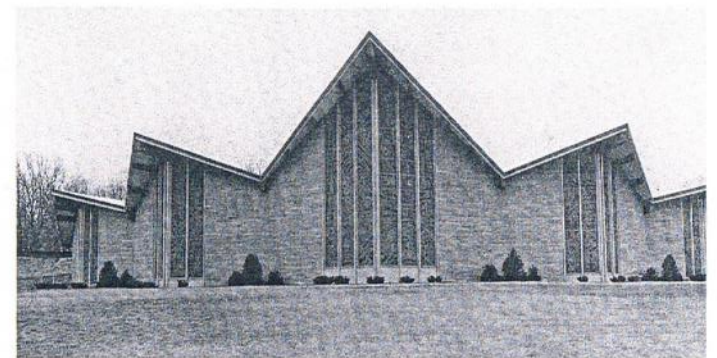




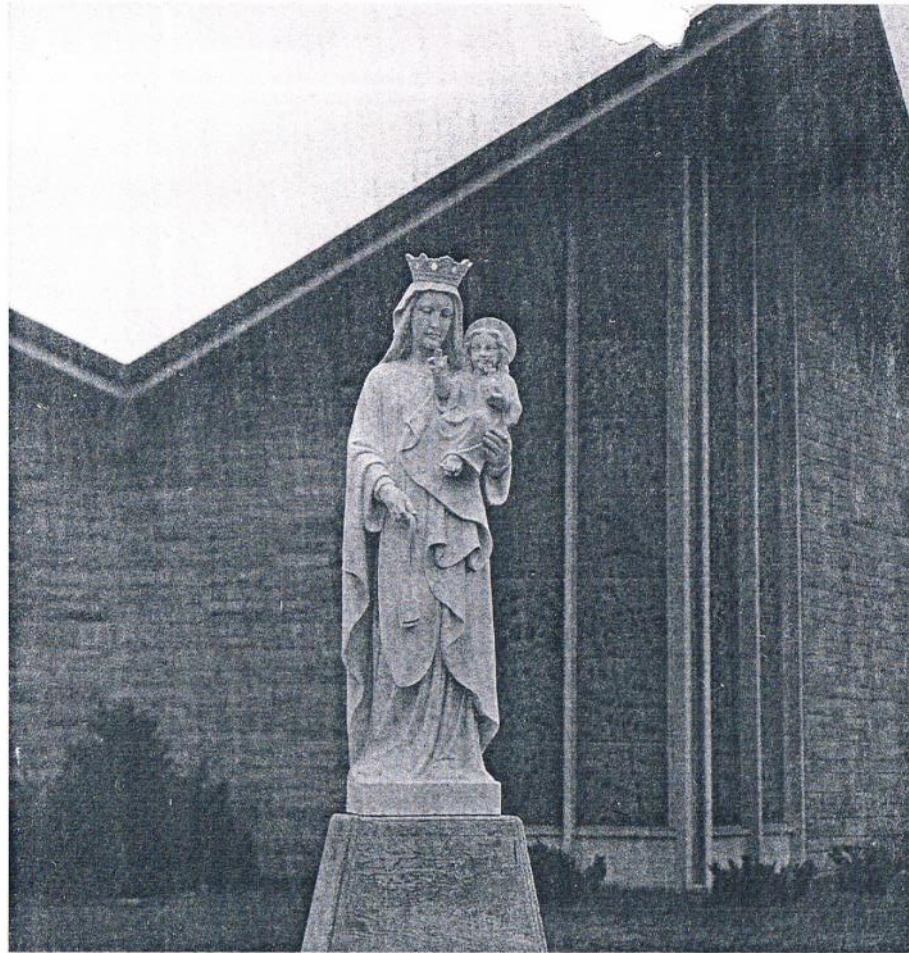
OLD CHURCH
OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH
LAWLER, IOWA

History
OF
OUR LADY
OF
MT. CARMEL PARISH

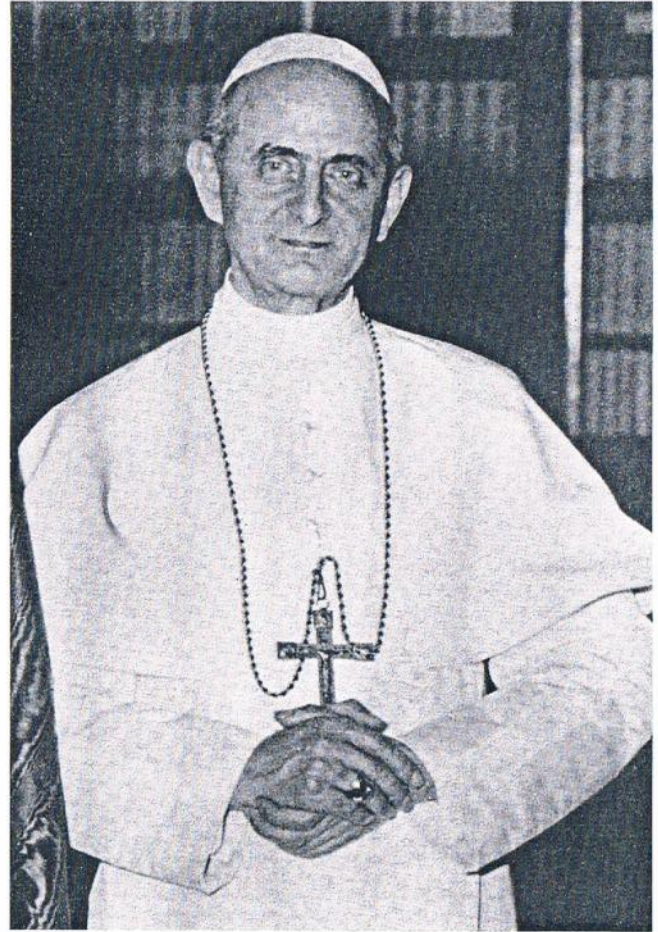


NEW CHURCH
OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH
LAWLER, IOWA

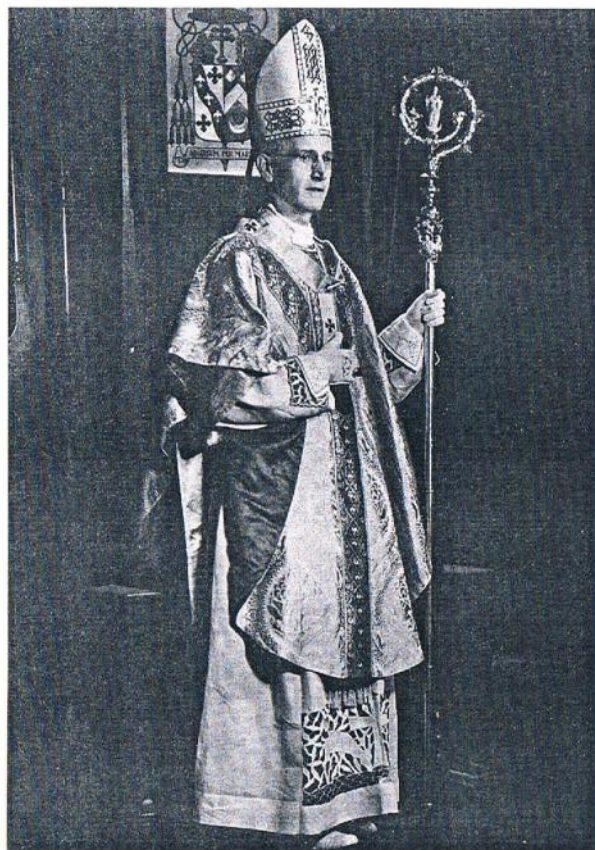
1870-1970
LAWLER, IOWA



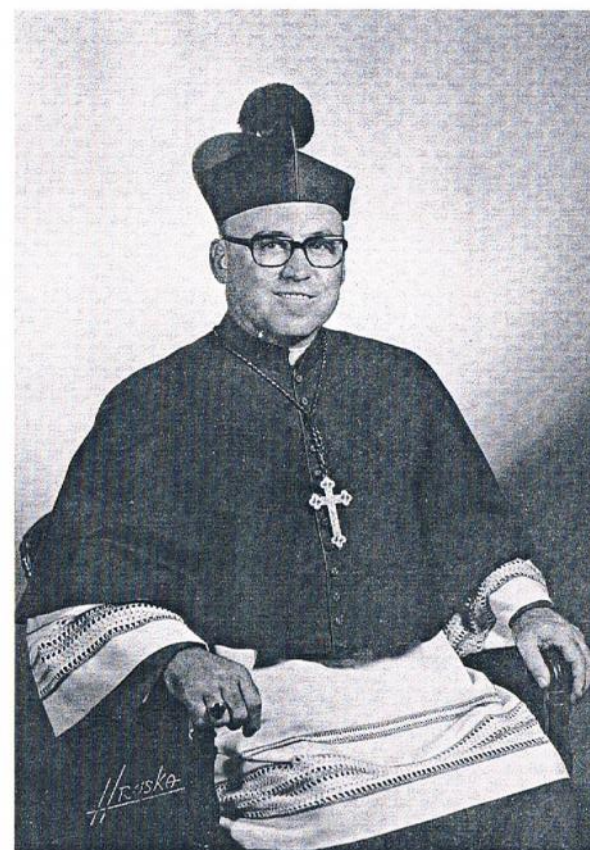
OUR LADY
OF
MT. CARMEL PARISH
1870-1970
LAWLER, IOWA



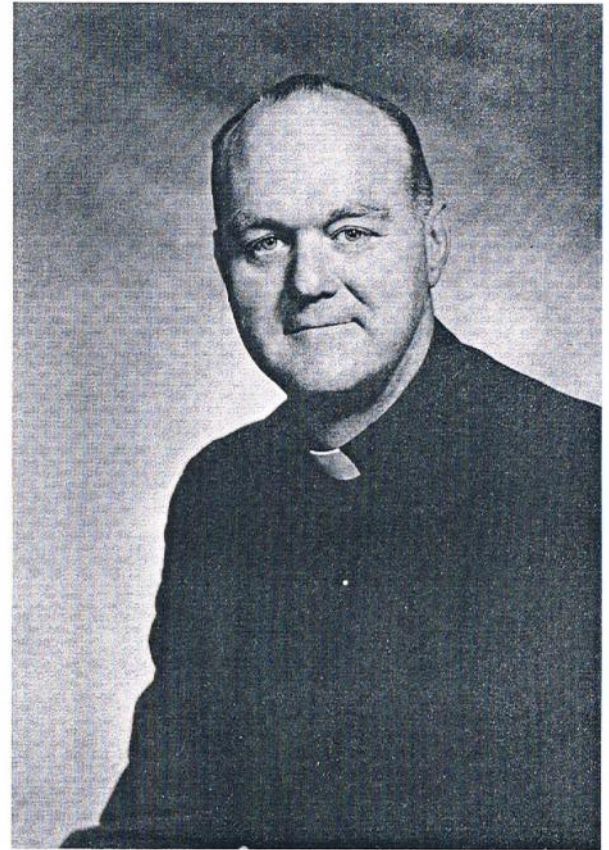
POPE PAUL VI



MOST REV. JAMES J. BYRNE S.T.D.
ARCHBISHOP OF DUBUQUE



MOST REV. FRANCIS J. DUNN D.D.
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF DUBUQUE



THE REV. JOHN W. MORAN
PASTOR OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL

1969 -



THE REV. JAMES F. DELAY
SERVED AS PASTOR OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL
FOR 24 YEARS
1945 - 1969

Rev. James Delay spent the best years of his life here in Lawler. Like footprints in the sands of time, no man spends more than a fourth of his life in one place and vanishes. His achievements live on and are always with the next generation. He has seen two generations come and go. The children he baptized when he came here — he married and baptized their children — and thus life goes on. Like the Apollo landings, names may be forgotten but their achievements never die — they go down in history and live on. Like landmarks, he will always be remembered for all his accomplishments in our parish.

He made many improvements in our old church, the Sisters' Convent, and the school and supervised the building of our new church. His trials and heartaches were many and his days were long. Many car accidents early and late at night found him administering to the sick and the dying on our highways. His duties to his flock were never neglected; the aged and sick in the hospitals were never forgotten, and his cheerful smile and pleasant visits were an inspiration to all. We have many things for which to thank Father Delay. May God bless him and may his rewards be great.

Foreword

Yesterday may be but a dream, and tomorrow is only a vision, but it was yesterday's dream with its hardship, poverty, humility and "Love of God," that made our Pioneers build the History of our parish. Their sweat—their labors—blood and tears, all combined, helped to reveal their faith—and we, their descendants, are blessed to have fallen heir to a heritage that we hope will not be dimmed by the lapse of time. May their memory ever be kept sacred and in that sweet hour of recollection let us breathe a prayer of thanks to them.

To all those kind people in Lawler who aided me in my search for information and dates found in this brief history of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, and to all others who have related historical incidents concerning our parish, I wish to express my sincere thanks.

Mrs. James Blazek

History

Separating our Town's history from our parish history is like separating the wheat from the chaff—it's almost impossible. For the sake of some of the parishioners who came here in recent years they might enjoy some of both.

The very first two log cabins on the west side of Crane Creek (where the Town of Lawler is now located), were Peter Pitts and Mr. Kirk's,—Mrs. C. Sheppard's grandfather. Peter Pitts' daughter (Mrs. Roths) of Ionia is still living. She is past ninety years of age and is one of the oldest living residents to have been born in Lawler. All pioneers liked to build their cabins near the river for several reasons—wood, water, and the easy access to meat, game or fowl which lived in surrounding areas.

In 1867 the Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad decided to build their line west, and provisions had to be provided for the men that worked. Water was one of the necessities, and it was decided that Crane Creek could supply the need. So, like a mushroom that springs up over night, thus began the Town of Lawler, and also thus arose the beginning of our parish.

The Town was named after John Lawler, who was a catholic and was overseer for the building of this railroad. The railroad was completed in 1868 and a depot was built in 1869. The town also opened a post office that same year. The Town was incorporated in 1870.

It seemed that most of the people who flocked to Lawler were of Irish descent, and were nearly all of the Catholic Faith. We find the names of Casey, Lynch, Green, Kerby, McHugh, Martin, Leonard, Sullivan, etc., as some of our first parishioners. These people formed the nucleus of our parish.

Not far from the banks of Crane Creek, rising proudly on a hill, ("Holy Hill" to its parishioners), in unshakable solitude stands a result of man's love for his Creator, our church, handsomely constructed, implying the immortality of its teachings. Its cross-shaped architecture denotes the piety and virtue of those good people who labored long and tedious hours to perfect their act of love. Due to the dire need of the numerous Catholics who flocked to Lawler to help build the railroad in 1868, a church was inevitable. Prior to this time, the pioneers worshipped in log cabins, in groves, and in the neighboring parishes of St. Rose and Reilly Ridge.

According to the Town plat, our church is located on South Street and also on Highway 24. It was built in the years of 1871 and 1872 of a frame structure, 40 ft. by 80 ft. This main building was erected at a cost of \$5,500. Seems like a small sum—just remember at that time hogs were worth \$3.40 cwt. and wheat .72c. Yes, and I might add that you could get your teeth filled for .40c apiece. You see the people who contributed to the building of this church were in poor financial circumstances, consequently great sacrifices were necessitated.

Because of primitive ways of doing things, labor was always a struggle. The following ten years were trying times for the people of Lawler. In 1873 these brave souls experienced a very severe winter. The snow was piled in drifts ten to fifteen feet deep, and the thermometer registered 40 degrees below zero.

In 1877, 1879, and 1881, the Town suffered three bad fires which almost wiped it out, but the church was spared. Then to further discourage these brave people, the Chintz bugs came and destroyed the wheat crop in 1878. But, like most pioneers, failure to them was found only in the dictionary and what they lacked in material wealth, they made up for in determination and faith. Through all these hardships, they managed to support their beautiful house of worship, and they later added a sacristy to the Church, (24 ft. by 30 ft.), at a cost of \$2,000.00.

Father Farrelly was the pastor at this time, and it was he who gave our parish its name of "Mt. Carmel." The story is told that a swarm of honey bees settled in the roof of the church. This brought to his mind the Latin word "mel", or Carmel, and as the church stood high above the Town, he added "Mount" and thus the name, "Mt. Carmel" remains to this day.

During Father Farrelly's pastorate, he saw the Town celebrate its first fourth of July in 1874. This is not perhaps the time or the place to write a few words about that first fourth of July celebration in Lawler, but freedom then was a prized possession and not taken for granted as I fear it is today. Would you be interested in what they did on that first Fourth?

A great number of people walked many miles from all directions to help celebrate. It started early in the morning of the fourth, and ended on the morning of the fifth. Dinner was served in the woods near Bill Costigan's house. Refreshment stands sold lemonade, horehound, striped stick, crystal candy, and fruits which took the place of our hot dog—plus ice cream cones and candy bars. Ten and fifteen cents was quite an allowance. Gum was available and was considered quite a treat—but it wasn't bubble gum. Horse racing in front of Clet Murray's (formerly Jim Feeney's house) was always a drawing card.

Other attractions were the tug of war, foot races for the ladies, a ball game, and last but not least, the evening dance played by two fiddlers. It wasn't unusual to see the pioneers removing their shoes and stockings and walking home in the wee hours of the morning. Fr. Farrelly was my mother's first cousin.

In 1878, Father P. A. Byrne came to Lawler to take over Father Farrelly's duties as pastor. Father Byrne built a parochial school and also a rectory in 1881 and 1882 at a cost of \$5,000.00. The rectory was a large square frame building erected near the church to the right side. Fire destroyed this house in 1919 and many of the church's first records were burned.

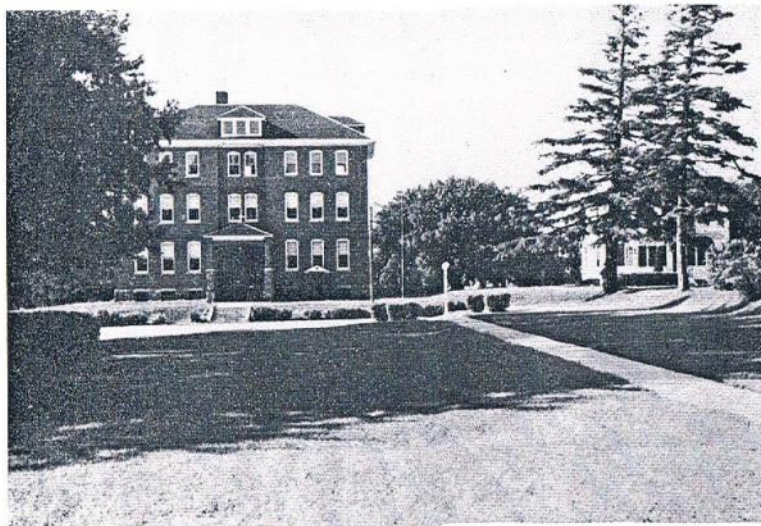
The parochial school stood in almost the center of our present school grounds. It was rather long, and consisted of two stories, with one room on each floor, but it had two teachers for each room. The younger children were taught downstairs and the older ones upstairs. This building cost \$1,200.00, without the fixtures, and was also a frame structure. It took in over one hundred pupils when it opened. Seats that were made for two held three, and it wasn't unusual to see someone sitting on the floor. Prior to this time, all the children attended the public school.

The census count taken in 1880 at Lawler showed the population to be 487 and 180 families were contributing to the support of our church. Father Byrne blessed this booming town and its inhabitants. In order to raise money to help pay the debt on the church and school, a Fair was organized in 1883. Some parishioners donated a wagon (a priceless possession) and votes were sold on it. The story is told of the wagon alone bringing in the sum of \$1,600.00.

In 1885 Father John Have came to Lawler. He remained here for twelve years and was known as the Miracle Worker. He often cured the physical ills of the people by the sign of the cross. At one time, the Church was moved from the foundation by a severe wind storm. Will Casey relates that the Sisters were prepared to take the children to the Church for protection but the storm approached so rapidly they were unable to do so. As a result, it was to an advantage as the school was left untouched.

Father Have enlarged our Church and gave it the shape of the cross. The seating capacity at present is 625. Will Boyle states that his father was assessed \$100.00 for this church improvement, which was a huge sum. He agreed to haul one hundred loads of rock, and almost every day all winter, Pat Boyle was seen hauling two loads of rock from near St. Rose.

Every winter the Parish bought an acre of wood. Then they had a bee to cut and haul it to the church grounds where it was stored. At one time, the Church had two wood furnaces.



OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL SCHOOL

In 1897, Father Peter Garrahan was assigned to Lawler. At this time, our school was over-crowded and some of the children were taught in the sacristy. A new school was inevitable, and in 1899, Father Garrahan built a brick and stone structure (64 ft. by 37 ft.) at a cost of \$6,000.00. The old school was moved to the Doyle lot. The church steeple and belfry were also built. Prior to this time, the bell hung in a tower which resembled a windmill tower near the right side of the church. This bell weighs 3,200 pounds and cost \$500.00. This bell has been the town crier for many years, announcing the rise of the sun, the noon day Angelus, and the dusk of day's end. It summons the laborers to mass on Sunday morning, and it saddens the hearts of its parishioners as it tolls for friends and loved ones on the day of death. This bell, which can be heard for several miles on a clear day, has a depth of meaning all its own. It is really a town symbol and man's reminder that it shall one day echo its sounds for him on that last day of his earthly journey.

Some of our former bell ringers were:

Francis Clarkin, who had the honor of being the first one. He ran a successful book store in Lawler for many years.

The O'Neil boys—John and Henry. John says they received \$100.00 a year for ringing the bell, sweeping the church, and taking care of the Priest's horse.

Others who followed through the years were George Siglin, Tom Gurnnett, Eiler, Bill Cutsforth, and Jack Meissen.

In 1899, a Cross was placed on the church steeple which still remains today. It rises 125 feet skyward and can be seen for many miles. Next time you chance to admire our Church cross, breathe a prayer for Louis Cooney, one of our modest Octogenarian parishioners—as he gave that cross its first five coats of paint. Seems Father Garrohan gave the contract to John Hand to do the work—but when it came to getting up there John would always get the shakes so he hired Louis for \$1.00 per day and board. The first two coats of paint weren't in accord with the contract so he had to give it three more coats. In 1898 the frame structure was veneered.

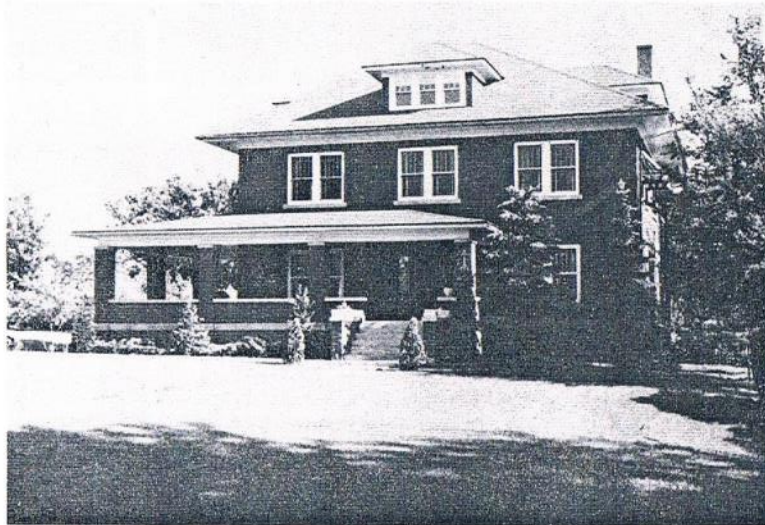
Father P. J. Leahy was assigned to Lawler after the death of Father Garrahan. He said his first mass here on September 4, 1904. He was a very brilliant man and taught at Columbia College in Dubuque for many years. The cold winter here was extremely hard on his health and after one year's residency in Lawler he felt he was better suited to the teaching profession and he returned to Dubuque.

In 1905, Father Patrick Ryan took over the duties of Father Leahy. During Father Ryan's time, the Church installed our present pipe organ. It is noted for its beautiful tone and quality and the Church can really be proud of it. The Town didn't have electricity as yet, and the bellows of this organ was run part time by a hand pump operated by young, willing hands. During Father Ryan's time, sidewalks were installed around the Church property. The parishioners hauled cinders, and over this was poured the cement. Mr. Will Costigan, who lived near the church, helped to plant the trees on the east side of the school at that time. Prior to this time, our cemetery was merely a burial ground. Father Ryan graded, divided and put it under perpetual care. He also installed our present day pews. He was noted for his beautiful driving horses and always enjoyed a drive through the country to visit his parishioners. Times were changing, and Lawler's population by 1915 had grown to 656. Cars were becoming popular and Father Ryan was the first priest in our parish to own a car—a Davis car. He was a great financier and owned several farms in this community, but suffered losses during the land boom of the twenties. He was transferred to Cresco in 1918.

Father Thomas O'Brien came to Lawler to take over the duties of this parish in 1918. It was during his pastorate that our parish witnessed its first and only ordination—that of one of our local boys, Father William Russell. Much planning and decorating, and preparation was required for this unusual event on December 20, 1919 by Archbishop James Keane of Dubuque. The first mass was said the following day.

Fire destroyed the upper floor of our school, and it was during Father O'Brien's pastorate that the present third floor was added. Card parties and dances and entertainment were held on this floor in former years. It is now divided and used as classrooms. The present number of pupils registered in Mt. Carmel is 203, and, with the reorganization of school districts, more are expected this year.

In 1919, our Parish house, which was located just west of the church burned. Father O'Brien was in the hospital in New Hampton at the time, and when he heard of the fire he didn't wait to be released—he simply left. Afterwards, the priest lived on the upper floor of our school until the present parish house was built.



OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL RECTORY

Father John J. Clune came to serve in Lawler in 1922 and it was under his jurisdiction that our present priest house was built. The contract and plans had been let by Father O'Brien, but Father Clune, in his six years, saw the house completed, furnished, and free of debt. He celebrated his silver jubilee here in Lawler in 1928.

In 1929, Rev. John O'Donnell came to serve Mt. Carmel. In accord with the progress of time, Highway No. 24 passed in front of our Church. The Church, being located on a high hill, Father O'Donnell saw that the grading, surfacing, and widening would give plenty of access to parked cars for the parishioners. The steps to the Church were installed—the hedges in front of the Convent and School were set out—the confessionals were changed and improved, and more fur-

nishings were added to the house. His health was beginning to fail, and he spent the last year of his life in St. Joseph's Hospital, where he died April 30, 1946. He is buried here in Lawler.

Father James F. Delay arrived in Lawler April 2, 1945. Because of the advanced age and ill health of our former pastor, our Church property was greatly in need of many things.

The first project was the enlarging of the church basement and a new heating system—a real necessity. The old furnace smoked and one secretly wished Church would soon be over so one could go down town to get warm. I'm sure that racing out of church after mass is a "hang over" from the old furnace system.

The Church walls were cleaned, a new altar added, and stokers were installed in the Church, Convent, School and Rectory. The Church was redecorated, new light fixtures, wiring and new flooring were added. The School grounds were graded, terraced, and fenced, and the grounds were beautified with shrubbery.

The School Auditorium was made into three additional classrooms.

The Convent took on a new look—the back room was added—new siding and windows. It was painted and many little necessities were added to make it more convenient and beautiful.

That old "eye sore" (which formerly housed the priest's horse and a few chickens) "The Barn", was replaced by a new double garage. In the past fifteen years, many artistic touches were added to help beautify all of our Church property and grounds. Just one look tells the story and I'm sure our parishioners can be proud of Mt. Carmel here in Lawler. Like the antiques of old, their value increases with age.

Father Delay possesses all of the characteristics which make men great—a pleasant personality, dynamic ambition and "know how!" His accomplishments here at Lawler will always be remembered.

Priests Who Served Mt. Carmel Congregation

Father Henry McCollow was the first priest to have said Mass in what is now known as the Town of Lawler. Mass was said in different homes—Peter O'Byrne's house being one of them. (where Connie Kuennens now live).

Father McCollow was born in Ireland and he numbered among some of the very first priests to have said mass in Iowa in the early fifties and sixties. He was the first resident priest at St. Rose, but had many other missions. Like all pioneer priests, he traveled from one settlement to another to attend to the spiritual needs of the people. Like Paul Revere of earlier years, communications were carried by horseback. The story is told of Peter O'Byrne riding horseback to McGregor to bring Father McCollow to pray over Mrs. Pat Colwell who was seriously ill. Father McCollow was a great uncle of Will Casey's.

The second priest that served the needs of the people of Lawler was Father P. F. Harrison who was also stationed at St. Rose in 1867. He served many missions in the surrounding communities. He served West Union, Fayette, Pinhook, New Hampton, Reilly Ridge and many other places. He started keeping records of baptisms, marriages, etc. These valuable records can still be found in Waucoma and would be the pride of any historical society. Mass was still being said in the homes of Kerby, Murphys, Galligans, and others. This was the nucleus of our parish, and it was through his efforts that our church was started.

Rev. Patrick Farrelly was born in Aughauis, Ireland in 1848. He came to the United States at the age of 17. He was ordained in Dubuque June 2, 1871. He served at Blairstown and came to Lawler in 1872. In 1876, he was transferred to Holy Cross. He later served at Sheldon, Carroll, and Emmetsburg. He became a Monsignor February 17, 1921. He died in 1924 at Emmetsburg and was buried at Denison, Iowa. He became Lawler's first resident priest.

Father P. A. Byrne came to Lawler in 1878. He built a rectory and parochial school. He blessed the town and its people. This old parochial school was later moved to the Doyle lot on Main street. He served at Holy Cross, Richardsville, Colesburg, and West Union.

Father John Hawe was ordained January 1, 1873. He was often considered the "Miracle Worker" as he cured many physical ills with the sign of the cross. He enlarged our Church and gave it the shape of the cross, as it remains today. He came to Lawler in 1885 and served twelve years. He previously served Decorah for nineteen years, ten years in Waukon, Placid, and eleven years at Coggon. He died on November 17, 1927 and was buried at Cedar Rapids.

Father Garrahan, born in Roscommon County, Ireland in 1848 received his early education in Ireland, his native land. He finished his training in Milwaukee, Wis., was ordained June 10, 1871. He endured the privations of frontier life to bring relief to burdened souls. He possessed a master mind—a natural gift. He always encouraged souls to a purer and better life through religion. He served twenty-two years in Decorah and Bluffton before coming to Lawler. He died here on August 1, 1904 at the age of 56.

Father P. J. Leahy was ordained August 15, 1877. He came to Lawler in September of 1904 and remained for one year. He previously served at St. Joseph's in New Hampton in 1881, Otter Creek in 1900, and Mercy Hospital in Dubuque. He was professor at Columbia College for many years and later at Lemont, Illinois.

Father Patrick Ryan was ordained May 28, 1882. He came to Lawler in 1905. He graded and divided the cemetery and put it under perpetual care. He served in Lawler thirteen years. He died in Cresco July 6, 1928. He also served at Ryan and Belmont.

Father Thomas F. O'Brien was ordained March 1880 and came to Lawler in 1918. He served at Eagle Grove, LaPorte City, Garwin, and Webster City. It was during his pastorate that we had the first ordination in our Church; that of Father William Russell who was ordained in 1919. He died November 17, 1930.

Father John J. Clune was born in Norwalk, Connecticut on January 11, 1878. He studied medicine before realizing that God had other plans for him. He was ordained December 19, 1903. He served at Postville for eleven years and eight years at Rockwell. He celebrated his silver jubilee here in Lawler in 1928. He built the present parish house. He came to Lawler in 1922 and served six years. He died April 30, 1946 at Coggon, Iowa.

Rev. J. O'Donnell was born in Limerick, Ireland on September 24, 1874. He came to Dubuque in June 19, 1898. He served at Columkille's parish in Dubuque until 1902. He went to Lamont where he served until 1909. He then served at Monti until 1929 when he came to Lawler. He is buried here in Lawler beside his brother, Father Ed O'Donnell.

In front of our church to the right, under a fir tree, stands a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. The passing of time may dim our memory, but may our future generation be inspired to pause in the shadows of this statue and breathe a prayer to Father O'Donnell, its donor.

Rev. James F. Delay, was born in the Castle Grove Community near Monticello, the son of James F. and Agnes Hogan Delay. He received his early education in our rural schools, attended St. Berchman's Preparatory School for boys at Marion, Loras Academy and Loras College at Dubuque, receiving his B.A. Degree in 1926. He entered St. Paul's Seminary and was ordained on June 9, 1929, said his first mass June 16, 1929 at Castle Grove. He served as pastor at Vinton, Dysart, Stone City; was Chaplain at Mercy Hospital at Anamosa and Assistant Pastor of St. Martin's, Cascade, and at Van Horne, Iowa. He came to Lawler from St. Philomena's parish in Dubuque in April of 1945—celebrating his Silver Jubilee here in Lawler May 9, 1954. After serving here in Lawler 24 years, he was transferred to St. Patricks Church in Clear Lake July 1, 1969.

MT. CARMEL CEMETERY

On a hillside, on the east side of our church, lies the remains of our parishioners, Mt. Carmel Cemetery. This cemetery was the object of a heated controversy in past years. The town was being incorporated in the year of 1870 and the dispute that arose was that the dead could not be buried inside of the Corporation. No one was going to move the dead, so the end of this solution was quickly solved by simply not having any of the church property in the Corporation, which still holds to this day.

At one time, our cemetery was divided by a white picket fence. The east half consisted of trees, stumps, hazel brush, etc. This was known as "Potter's Field." The word, "Potter's Field" dates back to the Bible and was used as a burial ground in Jerusalem for strangers, criminals, paupers, and unknown persons. Today, the Catholics have

no "Potter's Field." In the church, man does not judge man—that is strictly for God.

In early days this east part of the cemetery served as pasture for the priest's horse. The congregation or parishioners furnished hay, oats, and corn for its care during the winter months.

Father Patrick Ryan and some of the parishioners cleared, cleaned, graded, and divided the cemetery and put it under perpetual care.

The first burial in our cemetery was Mrs. Jimmy Grimes. No stone marks her grave. The funeral was delayed so that she might rest in consecrated grounds.

Because some of our first records were burned, it is difficult to give the very earliest dates, but on the stones in the cemetery we find 1870 as the first burial; a child of Hugh and Mary Carr. Others discovered were as follows: John Conners, 1877; Edward Murphy, 1878. The first recorded funeral date found was 1881 which was that of John Donovan, and in 1882 that of Ellen Mullen.

The next time you pass through the cemetery, please note the bronze Crucifixion Scene given by Peter O'Byrne in memory of his wife in 1915.

Any time you get a superior feeling that the world can't get along without you—and that you are indispensable, just take a walk through our cemetery. No doubt, the people whose names you see inscribed on the tombstones felt the same way at one time. Just remember—time is passing—and regardless of the size of the tombstone, they are remembered only occasionally. Remember, "Man Thou art Dust and Unto Dust Thou Shalt Return."

Native Sons In Religious Life

The following sons of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish entered the Priesthood: As of today, four had the honor of becoming Monsignors.

The first to enter was Rev. John Burns. He lived on a farm about two miles east of Lawler. He was baptized in St. Rose and received his early education in our rural schools. He was ordained in June, 1878, said his first Mass in Lawler. Following that first mass, the Peter O'Brynes served breakfast at their home. He joined the New Mellory Monastery where he was buried.

Rev. Patrick Tierney (deceased) was born on a farm just a short distance east of the Arnold Blong farm February 24, 1855. He was ordained June 24, 1879. He served in Ossian for eleven years and built the first school there in 1883. He also served in Dubuque and Centralia, Iowa. He was noted for being a distinguished lecturer and orator. He died January 4, 1918. He is buried in New Hampton, Iowa.

Msgr. Rev. Louis Kerby was born on a farm north of Lawler (now the Jim Slindee farm). This house still stands where he was born on July 22, 1865. He moved with his parents to Lawler in 1869. His father, being very prominent in the early history of Lawler, organized the first bank in Lawler in 1875, one of the first three in the County. Prior to that, the father was a prominent merchant and had the honor of being the first Town Treasurer. At that time, we didn't boast a Sister's School, and as Mrs. Sullivan taught the first school in 1870, no doubt Louis was one of those first pupils. Mrs. Frank Fletcher succeeded her the second year. Following his early education in Lawler, he attended St. Joseph's College in Dubuque and finished at Montreal, Canada. He said his first mass here in Lawler March 1, 1888. His first parish was at Greene, Iowa and later transferred to the Sioux City Diocese. He became a Monsignor—died in Washington, D.C. (where he went to visit his brother), and was buried in Sioux City.

Msgr. Rev. William Kerby was born in Lawler on February 29, 1870, (brother of Fr. Louis Kerby), the son of D. R. Kerby and Kelly Kerby. The story is told of his being the first boy born in Lawler. He attended that first two-room school in Lawler, with Sister Vincent being one of his teachers. He attended Columbia College in Dubuque, St. Francis Seminary, Berlin Germany, and at Belgium, he did graduate study. He taught Sociology at the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and was honored by the Pope with a Domestic Prelacy. He died in 1935.

Another native son was Rev. James McKeegan. He was born in Canada in 1868 and came with his parents to Lawler in 1869. He was ordained in 1892, serving four years at Gilbert, and Clinton Iowa. He died at the age of 36, being brought back to Lawler for burial in 1904. Father Garrahan celebrated the Solemn Mass and Father Slattery, of New Hampton, preached the sermon, who was formerly his instructor at St. Joseph's College.

Rev. Joe Curley was born on a farm south and west of Lawler in 1879. He was the son of Hugh and Catherine Caffery Curley; attended country school here and said his first Mass here in Lawler. The parish presented him with a gold chalice—he preached the sermon at Father Kelly's first mass in 1925; taught at St. Viateurs, Kankakee College, and at Chamberlain, South Dakota. He later became a parish priest in South Dakota. Deceased.

Msgr. Rev. William Russell, son of Mike and Nora Kerby Russell was born August 3, 1895 at Mitchell, South Dakota. He came to Lawler at the age of five years and made his home with the Burns family, he received his early education here in Lawler. He was the first and only priest to ever be ordained here in our Parish on December 20, 1919—said his first Mass the following day. He taught at Loras College until 1926 when he was sent to Washington, D.C. where he was head of the Department of Religion for 27 years. He also served as retreat Master and Chaplain of Trinity College, published many books—he died July 2, 1953—was a nephew of the two Father Kerby's.

Msgr. Rev. Emmett Kelly (Msgr.) V.F.M.A. was born on a farm near Lawler on October 3, 1898, the son of Michael and Bridget Smith Kelly. He received his early education in Lawler and attended school in Dubuque. He was ordained June 14, 1925 at St. Paul. He said his first Mass in Lawler June 16, 1925. He studied music at Marielach Monastery in Europe and was head of the Music Department at Loras for many years. He served as pastor of St. Joseph's in New Hampton, where he celebrated his 25th anniversary on April 26, 1950. He became a Domestic Prelate by His Holiness Pope Pious XII on August 1, 1954. He died in New Hampton on January 4, 1956.

Rev. William Curran was born October 19, 1898 in Lawler. He is the son of Jim and Jennie O'Brien Curran. He received his early education in Lawler and later studied in Dubuque. He was ordained in St. Paul in 1926—said his first Mass here in Lawler. He left our Diocese and served at Townsend, Montana. At present he is Chaplain at St. Ann's Hospital at Anaconda, Montana.

Rev. Lowell Shekleton was born at Lawler, Iowa in December, 1919. He is the son of Emmett and Florence Lynch Shekleton. He later moved with his parents to Greene, Iowa; was ordained in Dubuque on June 11, 1946. He said his first Mass in Greene and his second mass in Lawler. He is now serving the Guttenberg Parish.

Rev. Charles Shekleton, the son of John and Grace Commerford, was born in Lawler on November 29, 1915 and later moved with his parents to Chicago. He received part of his education in Chicago and later was transferred to Rome, Italy, where he was ordained on November 5, 1939. He also said his first mass there the following day on November 6th. He belongs to the Order of Servite Missionaries at Hillside, Illinois.

Rev. Joe Griffin, the son of Frank and Baptista Shekleton Griffin, was born in Lawler on September 15, 1923. He graduated from the Lawler High School and attended school at Loras in Dubuque, and Seminary in Cincinnati. He was ordained December 21, 1947, in Dubuque—said his first mass here in Lawler on December 28th, 1947. He served as Assistant priest at Holy Ghost and St. Patrick's in Dubuque, Immaculate Conception in Cedar Rapids. He served as pastor at Gilbert and Jewell, and is now at Stacyville.

Rev. John Shaughnessy was born on a farm north of Lawler, the son of Tom and Mary Shaughnessy. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Murray are his God Parents. The family moved to Chicago where he received his education. He was ordained June 12, 1949 in Chicago and is a Vincentian Father.

Father Delbert Francis Blong was born at Lawler, Iowa on March 15, 1926, the son of Leo and Margaret Schmitt Blong. He attended school in Lawler; later the family moved to Dubuque where he attended St. Paul's Mission House and Junior College at St. Mary's Seminary, Techy, Illinois, and Loras College, Dubuque. He was ordained June 7, 1952 and he said first mass in Dubuque on June 8th at St. Patrick's. He said his second mass here in Lawler. He was ordained for the Pueblo Diocese. He is stationed at LaJunta, Colorado.

James Ball, son of John and Agnes Shekleton Ball, was born on a farm near Lawler, January 1927. He later moved to near New Hampton where he attended school. He then served in the Armed Forces and later joined the Missionary Brotherhood of the Society of the Divine Word at Techy, Illinois, where he took his vows on May 1, 1960. He will be known in the religious life as Brother Richard. After completing his training, he will accept an assignment for service at home, or in the Foreign Missions.

Father Michael Lynch was born at Lawler in 1877—died March of 1960. Couldn't find any history—as these people left Lawler many years ago.

FIRST BAPTISM

Because some of our first records were burned in the fire that razed the priest's house in 1919, it is difficult to give the very earliest dates. The first recorded baptism found was that of Joseph Russell, in June 1872. The parents were Pat and Mary (Gilmartin) Russell, and the sponsors were James Dillan and Mary Carroll. The baptism was performed by Rev. P. J. Farrelly.

FIRST MARRIAGES

In June, 1876, John Hand and Kate Canty were married by Rev. P. J. Farrelly. Mike Noon and Maria Canty were witnesses.

On October 18, 1876, Thomas Goheen and Mary McCarthy were united in marriage by the Rev. Farrelly. Witnesses were Mike Goheen and Mary Smith.

Organizations

Although we have no early records, we know that every Church, from the beginning, had some organizations, namely:—The Rosary and Altar Society, Holy Name Society. The Rosary was always said before Mass every Sunday for years.

The first record of any organization we find in our parish was the Alcoholic Society, which was started in 1872. John McHugh, who was City Recorder at the time, was one of its first prominent members. It meant taking a pledge and total abstinence.

Our booming Town boasted fourteen regular saloons and twenty-one on special occasions. This was about the time the W.C.T.U. (Women's Christian Temperance Union) was making headlines and this was a good time to fall in line.

Catholic Daughters of America

The first meeting of the Catholic Daughters of Isabella was held in the conservatory of Mt. Carmel School, on Feb. 17, 1919 for the purpose of electing officers Pro tem.

Mrs. Solon acted as Chairman, and Mrs. Curran and Mrs. Sullivan were appointed tellers. It was moved and seconded that Susie McKone act as Grand Regent, and Mrs. Siglin act as Vice Grand Regent. Mrs. Curran acted as Prophetess, Mrs. Brannigan as Financial Secretary,

Theora Clary as Historian, Mrs. Schnetz as Monitor and Mrs. R. I. Landon as Sentinel. The Trustees were Gabriella Eickhoff, Mrs. M. Murray, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Paul Martin, Mrs. Goheen and Marion Clary. Mary Siglin was nominated organist and Mrs. Henry Lynch was nominated Treasurer.

The second meeting was held April 22, 1919 and arrangements were made for the Initiation. Waterloo Catholic Daughters were to have charge of the Initiation. The name of the Court was chosen as Court Mt. Carmel, No. 354. Entertainment program and refreshment and decorating committees were chosen.

Father O'Brien was the first Chaplain. The first Initiation and Installation of Officers took place on May 11, 1919 with forty-four members present. The motion was made that the regular meetings be held on the third Monday of each month— which to this day still holds. The motion was made to send Susie McKone to represent us at the first State Convention.

Like all organizations that lived through the depression, the Catholic Daughters suffered financially, but not spiritually, and some members found it necessary to withdraw their memberships during the 'thirties.'

Today the Catholic Daughters are proud to list their membership at 192 members.

Present Officers for 1960-62

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Chaplain | Rev. James F. Delay |
| Grand Regent | Margaret Blazek |
| Vice Grand Regent | Magdalen Kurtenbach |
| Monitor | Tresa Boeding |
| Prophetess | Bethal Balk |
| Historian | Dorothy Murray |
| Financial Secretary | Helen Boyle |
| Treasurer | Leona Croell |
| Lecturer | Hilda Huber |
| Sentinel | Vera Kuennen |
| Organist | Shirley Blazek |

Foresters

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Court 1096 of Lawler, Iowa was instituted as St. Mary's Court 1096 on September 4, 1901 with 28 Charter members. Our records indicate none of them are now living. The charter members were:

Roster:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Andrew J. Shea | 15. Michael W. Murray |
| 2. Michael J. O'Byrne | 16. Edward Griffin |
| 3. Michael J. Fitzpatrick | 17. Owen E. Reilly |
| 4. Thomas E. Kelly | 18. James Riley |
| 5. John W. McKone | 19. William Rochford |
| 6. Daniel P. O'Connor | 20. William P. Goss |
| 7. Michael J. Connors | 21. James J. Egan |
| 8. James O'Connor | 22. Bernard F. Sloan |
| 9. Albert M. Russell | 23. Edward J. Clary |
| 10. James Curran | 24. Patrick H. Murphy |
| 11. Timothy O'Connor | 25. Martin H. O'Neil |
| 12. Charles H. McKone | 26. Charles F. McNevin |
| 13. Edward J. Burns | 27. Eugene F. Canty |
| 14. Peter F. O'Byrne | 28. Mathew E. Keegan |

Like all organizations that survived the depression, they had years when membership was at low ebb. However, in recent years memberships have increased and this is the most active mens society in our parish totaling 125 members.

The present officers are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Rev. James F. Delay | Spiritual Director |
| Clem A. Boeding | Chief Ranger |
| Ronald W. Kuennen | Recording Secretary |
| Francis Junko | Financial Secretary |
| Roger Croell | Treasurer |
| Conrad Kuennen | Speaker |
| Arnold Bodensteiner | Juvenile Director |

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Organization and DevelopmentMrs. Ed Blazek
Spiritual DevelopmentMrs. Cletus Murray
Foreign ReliefMrs. Henry Denner
Civil DefenseMrs. Clem Boeding
Rural LifeMrs. Clem Finnegan (Deanery)
Public RelationsMrs. Lester Bergeson
Libraries and LiteratureMrs. Norman Speltz
YouthMrs. Elmer Reihle
Home and SchoolMrs. Ed McGreevy
LegislationMrs. Frank O'Byrne
Parent EducatorMrs. Frank Murray
Committee Cooperation with Confraternity of Christian
DoctrineMrs. Joseph Galligan
Committee Cooperating with Family and Parent Edu-
cationMrs. Arnold Bodensteiner

CHURCH TRUSTEES

Our church trustees were Harry Kane and Arnold Blong.

Since 1911 the following served as trustees: Owen F. Burns, William P. Goss, J. J. Goheen, Paul Martin, J. W. Murray, D. V. Murphy, Harry Kane and Arnold Blong.

CHURCH PROPERTY

In order that there will be no dispute as to where our parish property originated, you will find the following Deeds and prices paid: in the Court House in New Hampton, Iowa.

In the Record Book No. 27, page 423, you will find the Deed for the school property.

Know all men by these presents that We, John McHugh and Margaret, his wife, of the County of Howard and State of Iowa, for the consideration of the sum of \$800 in hand paid by the Rt. Rev. John Hennessey of Dubuque County, State of Iowa do hereby sell and convey unto the said Rt. Rev. John Hennessey and to heirs and assign the following described premises, to-wit:

Eighteen (18 rds. square the S. W. Corner of the East half of the S. E. quarter of the S. W. Quarter, Section No. 4 in township 95 North of Range No. 11, West of the 5th Prime Meridian containing in all 2 acres and 4 rds. And we do hereby covenant with the said Rt. Rev. J. Hennessey that we lawfully seized of said premises that they

are free from incumbrances, that we have good right and lawful authority to sell and convey the same and we do hereby covenant to warrant and defend the said premises against the lawful claims of all persons, whomsoever, and the said Margaret McHugh and hereby relinquishes her rights of dower to the premises here in before conveyed signed the 16 day of February, A. D. 1882.

State of Iowa

Howard County

On this 18th day of Feb., 1882, before me, Carl K. Berg, a Notary Public in and for said Co. personally came John McHugh and Margaret McHugh his wife, to me personally known to be the identical persons whose names are affixed to the above deed as grantors and acknowledged the execution of the same to be their voluntary act and deed.

Witness my hand seal the day and year above given.

Filed: A. E. Night Recorder

Carl K. Berg, Notary Public

In the Record Book No. 26 on Page 597, you will find the deed to the Church property.

March 4, 1878 from Lettie L. Kennedy and Peter Kennedy deeded to Rt. Rev. John Hennessey. (Bishop of Dubuque)

4 acres of land out of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 9, Township Ninety-five, range 11, west of the fifth principal meridian and described as follows: Beginning one rod west of the North Quarter part of Section Nine and thence West on the Section line 37 rods, Thence, south 23/2137 rods thence east 37 rods, parallel with the section line, thence north 23/2137 rods to the place of beginning except however one acre heretofore sold to said John Hennessey by Bernard Kirby for a church lot and to be used for Catholic Church.

Know All Men by these presents, that: We Lottie L. Kennedy and Peter Kennedy of Chickasaw County, State of Iowa, in consideration of the sum of \$500 in hand paid by Rt. Rev. John Hennessey of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa. State of Iowa do hereby sell and convey unto the said Rt. Rev. John Hennessey do to his heirs and assign the following described property.

C. Seeber

Notary Public

Native Daughters In Religious Life

In the past 77 years, our parish has earned its own honor in the 52 daughters that have answered the call for a religious life. Following is a list of these nuns who have gone forth to serve God:

1. Sr. Mary Agatha Murphy: Mary Jane, Deceased
Daughter of James and Catherine McKeegan Murphy
Entered the Presentation Order July 12, 1883.
Was the first girl to enter the convent from Lawler and return here later and taught school.
2. Sister Mary Anthony Casey: Nell, Deceased
Daughter of John and Ann Moore Casey
Entered Mercy Order August 15, 1894
3. Sr. Mary Claver Casey: Bee, Deceased
Daughter of John and Ann Moore Casey
Entered Mercy Order at Cedar Rapids January 3, 1896
4. Sr. Mary Huberta Burns: Genevieve, Deceased
Daughter of Jim and Kate Casey Burns
Entered Mercy Order at Cedar Rapids August 15, 1896
5. Sr. Mary DeSales Grimes: Rose, Deceased, 1956
Daughter of James and Ellen Connery Grimes
Entered Sr. of Mercy Convent September 8, 1898
6. Sr. Mary Fidelis Martin: Catherine, "Kit", Deceased
Daughter of Pat and Mary O'Donnell Martin
Entered Presentation Order November 21, 1899
7. Sr. Mary Rosalia Murphy: Elizabeth, Deceased
Daughter of James and Catherine McKeegan Murphy
Entered Visitation Order in 1902
8. Sr. Mary Philomena Corrigan: Elizabeth, Deceased
Daughter of Edward and Mary O'Brien Corrigan
Entered Visitation Convent in 1902
9. Sr. Mary Calasactius Kelly: Marguerite
Daughter of Mike and Bridget Smith Kelly
Entered Presentation Order March 19, 1902
10. Sr. Mary de Passi Burns: Mabel, Deceased January of 1958
Daughter of Owen and Ellen Russell Burns
Entered Mercy Convent April 20, 1903
11. Sr. Mary Camilla Burns: Loretta, Deceased 1918
Daughter of Jim and Kate Casey Burns
Entered Franciscan Order in 1905
12. Sr. Mary Olivetta Taylor: Stella, Deceased 1918
Daughter of Oliver and Ellen Noon Taylor
Entered Franciscan Order in 1905
13. Sr. Mary Jerome Griffin: Etta, Deceased
Daughter of Tom and Mary Kelly Griffin
Entered the Mercy Order in 1906
14. Sr. Mary Clarice O'Connor: Katherine, Deceased 1963
Daughter of Tim and Ellen Curran O'Connor
Entered Convent of B.V.M., December 8, 1907
15. Sr. Mary Fabian Martin: Cora, Deceased 1932
Daughter of Patrick and Mary O'Donnell Martin
Entered the Presentation Order May, 1908
16. Sr. Mary Fidelis Cooney: Leanore
Daughter of John and Annie Smith Cooney
Entered Presentation Order August 1909
17. Sr. Mary Isidore Leonard: Rose
Daughter of Phil and Margaret Hanlon Leonard
Entered Presentation Order October 3, 1909
18. Sr. Mary deLourdes Burns: Estella, Deceased 1957
Daughter of Owen and Ellen Russell Burns
Entered Mercy Order February 23, 1910
19. Sr. Mary deSales LaValle: Grace
Daughter of Mike and Mary Boyle LaValle
Entered Mercy Convent in 1910
20. Sr. Mary Muriel Sullivan: Maggie
Daughter of John and Ann Kelly Sullivan
Entered Mercy Order at Cedar Rapids August 12, 1910
21. Sr. Mary Antionette Walsh: Nora (Deceased)
Entered the Presentation Order October 25, 1911
22. Sr. Mary Marcella Kelly: Marcella
Daughter of Mike and Bridget Smith Kelly
Entered Presentation Order April 16, 1911
23. Sr. Mary Charlotte Leonard: Angeline (Deceased)
Daughter of Phil and Margaret Hanlon Leonard
Entered Mercy Order in 1911
24. Sr. Mary Alanzo Shekleton: Marie (Deceased 1915)
Daughter of Thomas and Ann Galligan Shekleton
Entered the Dominican Order August 15, 1912
25. Sr. Mary Paula Griffin: Margaret (Deceased)
Daughter of Tom and Mary Kelly Griffin
Entered Mercy Order at Cedar Rapids 1914
26. Sr. Mary Carmelita Galligan: Mary, Deceased
Daughter of Patrick W. and Elizabeth Hunter Galligan
Entered Presentation Order August 13, 1914
27. Sr. Mary Leona Marie Corrigan: Mollie
Daughter of Edward and Mary O'Brien Corrigan
Entered the Holy Name of Jesus Convent July 16, 1916

28. Sr. Mary Nathaniel Shekleton: Genevieve,
Daughter of Frank and Margaret Lynch Shekleton
Entered the Dominican Order August 15, 1917
29. Sr. Mary Antonio Brannon: Anna
Daughter of Tom and Bridget Malloy Brannon
Entered the Mercy Order in 1918
30. Sr. Margaret Teresa Malloy: Genevieve
Daughter of Will and Bridget Corrigan Malloy
Entered the Holy Name of Jesus Convent March 14, 1920
31. Sr. Mary Annunciata Kelly: Esther, Deceased
Daughter of Mike and Bridget Smith Kelly
Entered Mercy Order in September 1920
32. Sr. Mary Patrice Galligan: Mary
Daughter of Patrick and Mary Trout Galligan
Entered the Presentation Order September 8, 1920
33. Sr. Mary Charline Shekleton: Margaret Ann
Daughter of John and Grace Commerford Shekleton
Entered the Order of Sisters of the Divine Saviour in Feb. 1932
34. Sr. Mary Borgia O'Byrne: Lucian (Deceased)
Daughter of Mike and Tresa Rooney O'Byrne
Entered Ursuline Convent 1933
35. Sr. Mary Dominica Schuman: Beatrice
Daughter of Frank and Cleo Sloan Schumann
Entered Presentation Order 1934
36. Sr. Mary Basil Taylor: Mary
Daughter of Oliver and Rose Rink Taylor
Entered Presentation Order 1934
37. Sr. Mary Alberta: Lynch
Daughter of Frank and Lucy Brannon Lynch
Entered Presentation Order in 1934
38. Sr. Mary Genevieve Canty: Leona, Deceased
Daughter of Eugene and Rose Ann O'Byrne Canty
Entered the Little Co. of Mary in September, 1935
39. Sr. Mary Calasanctius Carlin: Irene
Daughter of Mike and Bessie McCarten Carlin
Entered Franciscan Order in August 1935
40. Sr. Mary Loyola Murray: Helen
Daughter of Mike and Genevieve Burns Murray
Entered the Mercy Order October 31, 1937
41. Sr. Mary Helen Marie Feeney: Helen Marie
Daughter of James and Josie Galligan Feeney
Entered Presentation Order 1938

42. Sr. Mary Charlotte Morris: Arlene
Daughter of Charles and Etta McEnaney Morris
Entered Presentation Order in September 1940
43. Sr. Mary Eugene Goss: Margaret Mary
Daughter of Ambrose and Florence Canty Goss
Entered Presentation Order in September 1941
44. Sr. Mary Emiliana Meissen: Marie
Daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Hornisch Meissen
Entered Mt. St. Francis in 1941
45. Sr. Mary Bernard Marie Arens:
Daughter of John and Agnes Hauptman Arens
Entered the Franciscan Convent August 1942
46. Sr. Mary Irene Burns: Estella
Daughter of Edwin and Irene Meyer Burns
Entered the Mercy Order on January 23, 1950
47. Sr. Mary Cephas Wichman: Catherine
Daughter of Joe and Huberta McAlleer Wichman
Entered the Mercy Order August 1950
48. Sr. Mary Jovanne Arens: Dorothy
Daughter of John and Agnes Hauptman Arens
Entered Franciscan Order in August 1950
49. Sr. Mary Paula Kuennen: Genevieve
Daughter of Ed and Emma Bucheit Kuennen
Entered Presentation Order in August 1950
50. Sr. Mary Jacqueline Quillin: Maxine
Daughter of Leonard and Kate Scally Quillin
Entered Presentation Order September 1, 1952
51. Sr. Mary de Lourdes Burns: Joellen
Daughter of Frank and Mattie McMahon Burns
Entered Mercy Order in August 1957
52. Sr. Mary Lucy Rosauer: Lucy
Daughter of Carl and Rita Baltes Rosauer
Entered the Little Company of Mary in August 1959
53. Sr. Mary Clarissa Schaufenbuel
Daughter of Joseph and Alma Wieling Schaufenbuel
Entered Franciscan Order in 1960
54. Sr. Mary Eileen Croell
Daughter of Richard and Leona Schalk Croell
Entered Presentation Order August 27, 1965
55. Sr. Donna Marie Mihm
Daughter of Charles and Ila Mae Binek Mihm
Entered Presentation Order August 27, 1965

Our Lady Of Mt. Carmel School Lawler, Iowa

The following is the list of members of the first graduating class of Mt. Carmel School. It was held in 1897 in the old Opera House, which was located above what is known today as Millie's Beauty Shop. The top floor was removed several years ago.

First High School Graduating Class—1897

Sr. Mary Agatha Murphy—teacher

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Regina Cooney (Brady) ..Deceased | 6. Ambrose MurphyDeceased |
| 2. Etta Kelly (Burke)Deceased | 7. Henry O'NeillDeceased |
| 3. Nean Larson (Conley)Living | 8. Thomas GoheenLiving |
| 4. Charles LeonardDeceased | 9. Martha Corrigan (Allman) |
| 5. Susie McKoneDeceased | 10. Maude Taylor (Conely) ..Deceased |

The Class of 1898 (Second High School Graduating Class)

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Anne Caffery | 2. Imelda Mullen |
|-----------------|------------------|



BACK TOP ROW—Joe Farrell, Gertrude Larson (Russell), Gertrude McKone (Solou), Elizabeth Corrigan (Sr. M. Philomena).
 SECOND ROW — Jack Goheen, Rita Cooney (Sullivan), Margaret Egan (Sweeney), Leona Leonard, Margaret Kelly (Sr. M. Calasactius).
 FIRST ROW — Nell Marshall (Casey), Elizabeth Murphy (Sr. M. Rosalia)
 Third High School Graduating Class 1899.

The Class of 1899 (Third High School Graduating Class)

Sr. Mary Presentation—teacher

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Rita Cooney (Sullivan) | 7. Elizabeth Murphy (Sr. M. Rosalia) Visitation Order entered 1902 |
| 2. Leona Leonard | 8. Margaret Kelly (Sr. M. Calasactius) Presentation entered 1902 |
| 3. Nell Marshall (Casey) | 9. Margaret Egan (Sweeney) |
| 4. Gertrude McKone (Solou) | 10. Joseph Farrell |
| 5. Gertrude Larson (Russell) | 11. John Goheen |
| 6. Elizabeth Corrigan (Sr. M. Philomena) Visitation Order entered 1902 | |

CLOSING EXERCISES OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL SCHOOL AT THE OPERA HALL, LAWLER, JUNE 21-22, 8 o'clock—1899

Entrance March:

Played by Helen O'Neil and Helen V. Miller

Choruses Welcome:

Pupils

Recitation:—A Guilty Child
Maggie Sullivan

Scarf Fantasies:

Nine Little Misses

Disarte Movements:—Jesus Lover
of My Soul

B Class

Songs—French Air:

Boys

Salutatory:

Joe Farrell

Essay:—“We See But Through
Mists”

Nellie B. Marshall

Essay:—Self Culture:

Margueritta Kelly

Violin Duet:—My Darling Polka
Leo Saltzman and Mathi Miller

Piano Duet:—Golden Spray
Mae Lewis and Anna Eickhoff

Drama:—I'm Uncle Sam the
Yankee

Jerome Kelly, J. McKone and Frank
Eickhoff

May Pole Dance:—
The Juniors

Opening Chorus:

Piano Solo:—May Breezes
Katie O'Connor

Song:—The Bridge
J. J. Goheen and Will Casey

Violin:—The Harp
Lew Heiberger

OUR NATION'S PROGRESS

Series I

Margueritta Cooney

Series II:—Our American Galaxy
John J. Goheen

Violin Solo:

Stella Burns

Vocal:—Come Away Elves

M. Kelly, G. Larson, L. Corrigan, G.
McKone, and J. J. Goheen

Essay:—Poetry of Nature
Elizabeth M. Murphy

Essay:—“Where Lies the Land to
Which our Barouche Must Go”
Gertrude McKone

Quartet:—Happy are We Tonight
Class

Piano Solo—Song of the Alps
Miss Drewelow

Piano Solo:—Rocked in the Cradle
of the Deep

Miss B. Burns

Series III:—Our Inventions and
Discoveries

Leona Leonard

Essay:—The Woman of Today

Marguiretta Eagen

Schottische:—Bells of the West

Mandolin, E. Kelly; Banjo, J. Goheen; Piano, L. Murphy

Essay:—Education

Gertrude Larson

Valedictory:

Elizabeth Corrigan

Song and Chorus:

Graduates

Class Colors:

Gold and White

Conferring of Honors:

Rev. Garrahan

Class Motto:

Knowledge and Virtue United

Class Flower:

Emblem Rose

Class Roll:

Gertrude McKone, Gertrude Larson, Leona Leonard, Elizabeth Murphy, Nellie B. Marshall, Marguiretta Egan, Marguiretta Kelly, Marguiretta M. Cooney, Elizabeth V. Corrigan, Joseph Farrell and John J. Goheen.

Three out of this class became nuns:

Elizabeth Corrigan (Sr. M. Philomena) Visitation Order, entered in 1902

Elizabeth Murphy (Sr. M. Rosalia) Visitation Order, entered in 1902

Margaret Kelly (Sr. M. Calasactius) Presentation Order, entered in 1902

Sister Mary Presentation, teacher of 1899

LAST SISTER'S HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS—1919

1. Helen Lambert (Mrs. Chas. Jungblut, Dubuque, Iowa)
2. Mary Galligan (Sister Mary Patrice, Presentation Order, entered 1920)
3. Miss Gertrude Commerford, (Bellingham, Washington)
4. Mary Murray (Mrs. Clarence Springer, Walla Walla, Washington)
5. Mary Burns (Mrs. Joe Ryan, Chicago, Ill.)
6. Grace Shannon (Mrs. Mike Gauzer, Chicago, Ill.)
7. Alice Kelly (Mrs. Phil Collins, Pine Island, Minn.)
8. Colletta McBride (Henry Carolan, St. Paul, Minn.)
9. Viola Siglin (Mrs. James Curley, Rockwell, Iowa)
10. Lena Farrell (Mrs. Leo McEunaney, Lawler, Iowa)

The following is the last graduating class of the Lawler High School, May 18, 1960. Next year's class will be known as Turkey Valley High School.

Class of 1960

William Busta, Lyle Franzen Margaret Mary Blazek, Thomas Britt, Jerry Hart, Teresa Croell, Loretta Gebel, Jerome Kuennen, Margie Halbur, Mary Junko, James Martin, Paul Kuennen, Mike Leonard, Charles Murray, Sandra Heaney, and Robert Patrick Sheridan.

Motto“Find a Way or Make one”!

Class ColorsGreen and White

Class FlowerPink Rose

Class Officers:

PresidentMargaret Mary Blazek

Vice PresidentJames Martin

SecretaryTeresa Croell

TreasurerJerome Kuennen

ValedictorianJames Martin

SalutatorianMary Junko

Eighth Grade Graduates

Wendell Tank, Lawler Public, Alice Mae Busta, Charlotta Ann Meyer, Utica No. 7, Duane Panos, Gary E. Panos, Utica No. 6.

Lawler Public School Commencement Exercises

High School Auditorium, May 18, 1960

8:00 P. M.

ProcessionalSharalee Baumler

InvocationRev. Ludwig Urbanek

Salutatory addressMary Junko

Valedictory addressJames Martin

SongGlee Club

Class HistoryMargaret Mary Blazek

Class WillJerome Kuennen

Class ProphecyRobert Patrick Sheridan

Tribute to MothersClass of 1960

Commencement addressRev. James F. Delay

Presentation of Class.....Principal Patrick Kramer

Presentation of DiplomasPresident Donald Leonard

Eighth Grade Graduates ..Superintendent Edward McGreevey

Eighth Grade DiplomasCo. Superintendent A. S. Morse

Special AwardCounty Bar Association

BenedictionRev. Ludwig Urbanek

RecessionalSharalee Baumler

Honor Guards:

Lloyd Schaufenbuel

Mary Ann Kipp

Announcer:

George Timlin

Flower Girls:

Paulette Tupy

Dianne Svendsen

Programs:

Anne Reissner

Carole Reihle

Ushers:

Thomas Denner

Roger Kuennen

Robert Kuennen

Patrick Murray

Accompanist:

Carlene Kuehner

Glee Club Director:

Carole Reihle

Faculty

Edward McGreevey, Patrick Kramer, Ronald Kovacic, Mrs. Leo Honkomp, Mrs. Edward McGreevey, Mrs. Henry Hauth, Miss Alice Costigan, Mrs. Mattie Burns, Mrs. Ray Cooney, Mrs. Madonna Kaehner, Utica No. 6, Mrs. Estella Bergeson, Utica No. 7.

Board of Education:

Donald LeonardPresident
Eugene TimlinSecretary
Vincent KellyTreasurer

Directors:

Louis Einck, Ray Cooney, Ardie Lovick, and Frank Murray



OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL CONVENT

PRESENTATION SISTERS

In 1874, the Presentation Sisters left Ireland and came to America. Like all pioneers of the day, they were heading West, and so they came to Dubuque to set up thir first Mother House in this country. Eight years later, in 1882, they began to teach at Mt. Carmel Parish in Lawler.

Sister Mary Vincent Donnelly was in charge when the school opened, and those who accompanied her to Lawler were Sister Mary

Baptiste Hussey, Sister Mary Cecilia Malloy, and Sister Mary de Sales Weibel, the music teacher. The Rev. Byrne was the pastor here at that time.

Their arrival was a God-send and we were blessed in a very special way. One year after the nuns began teaching, a Lawler girl joined the religious life. She was Agatha Murphy, who entered on July 12, 1883. Already the good works and teachings of these nuns were leaving their mark.

Many wonderful things could be said of our Presentation Order—all the good deeds they've done—and all their accomplishments. As in most groups, some achieve special honors, but they all had one thing in common—the thing most important to them—their sacred vows of Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience. The vow of Poverty was a big word then. The nuns had next to nothing, and the people of the parish handn't much more. But what little they had, they gladly shared with these brave women who were devoting their time and efforts tirelessly to develop the faith and character of the pioneer children. Every fall, members of the parish made the rounds of the countryside collecting potatoes, meats, vegetables, lard, wood, money—if there was any to be spared, and anything else available that would help to insure the safety and survival of the Sisters. Many settlers had

nothing to begin with, save their hands, health and courage. That old saying that "only the hardy survived," was so true. It certainly took a lot of courage to live. We had hy-brids even back then, only the people of this area had never heard the word. Remember! kerosene lamps were a necessity, and corn meal mush and oatmeal were standard. The menu never varied too much and you couldn't afford to be choosy. The nuns may have had a cake for their feast day—but rest assured. it was not a "Betty Crocker" cake.

The old custom still holds and every fall around Presentation Day in November, the parish people send some fruits of the harvest to the Convent.

So from a very humble beginning which started seventy-eight years ago, when the first four Presentation Sisters arrived in Lawler, much has been accomplished. Fifty-five girls have joined the religious life, and fifteen men have gone forth to become priests. The good influence of the nuns left its mark on our young people.

A four-room cottage on the southwest corner of Mt. Carmel grounds served as the first convent in the Town. Later a Mr. Barrett moved it to the northeast part of town. A portion of it still stands as the home of Merle Cutsforth.

Remnants of three generations can look back through the years and remember with gratitude all the good works and compassionate labors of the nuns. Permit me to mention a few—Many hours were dedicated to the training of boys to serve at the altar for Mass, and to the training of many young children for the reception of the sacraments of Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, and Penance. They also devote much time to the care of the Altars. Each year, the music teacher works with the Choirs, practicing with them and perfecting their music.

I found the following in the files of the New Hampton Courier of January 2, 1896:

“The new Mass rendered by the choir of the Catholic Church on Christmas was beautiful. Much credit is due to the Presentation Sisters for the Choirs’ excellent training.”

Boys and girls learned from the nuns to play the piano and other instruments for the enjoyment of themselves and others. Every spring, the parents and friends flocked to hear the promising young artists as they paraded their talents in well planned recitals.

So the diligence and love in all the works of our wonderful nuns is self-evident. Thanks really seems such a small word. Times were hard, and often things looked bleak, but prayer and faith helped, and like Christ, these sisters have taken up their crosses and followed.

“A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever”—and the same is true of our Church. Through the years, many of our parishioners donated material gifts to add to the beauty of our Church and no mention of names is necessary. These gifts included statues, altars, tabernacle, a loud speaker, large crucifix, candlesticks, vestments, stations and many other gifts. Time and man may have worn the limestone threshold of our Church, but stately and proudly it stands through all these years. Let no man judge his Church by the height of its steeples, the depth of its carpet, or size of its chandeliers. Man’s heart is not moved to greater prayer or piety in the cathedrals of our Country. In fact, sometimes the very opposite is true. I shall never forget that limestone church in Mexico that had no kneelers, and no floor except that of old “Mother Earth”—but its sanctuary light burned just as bright—in fact I never felt so close to God, and couldn’t help but think God did not choose to be born in all the beauty and grandeur that could have been His on this earth—but instead He chose a stable of the poorest furnishings.

Our stained glass windows haven’t lost any of their beauty and our statues’ inspirational value remain the same. The Blessed Virgin.



INTERIOR OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH

St. Joseph, St. Anthony, the Christ Child and the others tell the same story, they told hundreds of years ago and they are still the hope and peace and joy of the world.

Our parish produced a long line of famous intellectuals—which included four Monsignors, many priests, nuns, lawyers, doctors, bank presidents and a District Judge—and yet like every other Town we had scads of native sons who got rich or poorer, and moved to distant Towns and places. Our loss of these people was a gain to others—as they contributed a good amount of Catholicity to the world.

Remember that our parish property wasn’t built only of brick and stone, and glass and material things. Man’s love, labors, sweat, tempers, and sounding tongues—all contributed to its making. These people built their dreams around the simple joys of old. The very things that didn’t seem very important when they happened years ago, are really the pages of our past history. May God bless them.

May I say in closing, that had I been able to combine the history that I couldn’t find—with the tales that are buried with our pioneers—it would have made cherished reading.

"Fellow Citizens, we cannot escape history. We—will be remembered in spite of ourselves. The fiery trail through which we pass will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation."
(Abraham Lincoln, 1861-1865)

We cannot live on the glories of the past, so let us ever strive to go forward—to keep on making history that we can be proud of, not only for our Church, but for our Nation as well. Because in these times—as in the past— one without the other cannot survive. If we have no freedom, we will have no Church.

M. C. B.

TIME MARCHES ON

1960 - 1970

Man divides life into three categories — the present — the past — and the future. After all, they are very closely related. The present quickly disappears into the past and in a real sense the future never comes. What was news today is history tomorrow.

In this present day when man's mind is so filled with the War in Vietnam, racial problems, pollution, trips to the moon and everything else, let's take a look at the happenings of our parish in the last ten years.

1960 - 1961

We find Pope John XXIII as our Pope.

Rev. Leo Binz DD, Archbishop of Dubuque and the Rev. George J. Biskup DD, Auxiliary Bishop of Dubuque and also our Archdiocesan Supt. of School.

Rev. James F. Delay, Pastor of Mt. Carmel here in Lawler.

Trustees were Harry Kane and Arnold Blong.

Our parochial school opened in August of 1960 with 225 children registering. This represented 95 families.

The faculty for the year were: Principal, Sister Mary Rogers; Sister Mary Delores, Sister Mary Frederick and Sister Mary Bernard. Mrs. Mattie Burns joined the faculty in the fall of 1960 and remained for nine years.

Thirty-seven children received First Holy Communion on October 30, 1960. Twenty-eight pupils graduated from eighth grade. Twenty-five from our parish attended retreats in Cedar Falls. Father Trzil held a one day retreat for the high school students.

The Catholic Daughters sponsored the first Holy Hour until midnight on Holy Thursday.

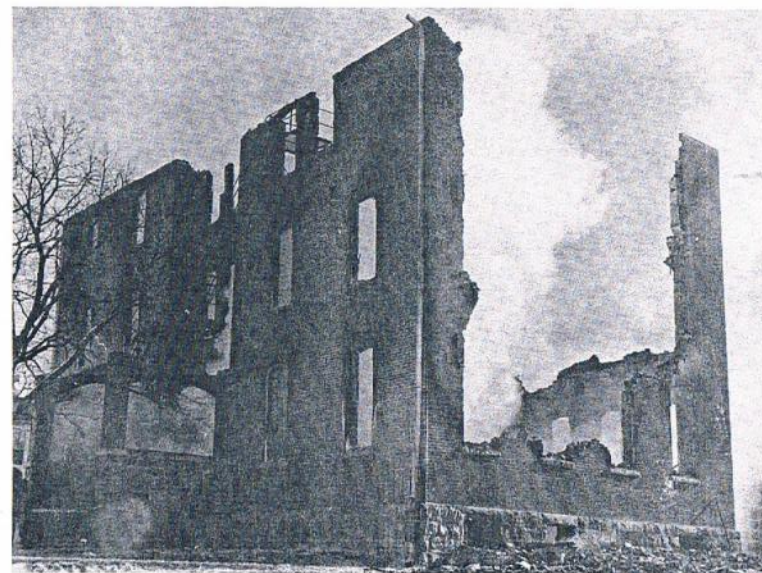
On account of a misunderstanding our parochial children were denied their hot lunch program and it was discontinued.

Bonnie Murray crowned the Blessed Virgin on May 26, 1961 and her attendant was Margaret Kout.

In the fall of 1961 Alice Costigan joined the teaching force and remained for one year — then she joined the Turkey Valley faculty. She was replaced by Stella Bergeson who remained until the school closed in 1969.

The church floors were sanded and revarnished in September of 1961 and the interior of the church was painted in October of the same year.

The old church was struck by lightning the same year in 1961. No damage was done.



FIRE DESTROYS MT. CARMEL SCHOOL — 1963

MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL DESTROYED BY FIRE

Within a few hours Saturday morning, December 21, 1963, fire destroyed Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School. Firemen from Lawler, New Hampton, and Waucoma were summoned but had difficulty in fighting the fire due to extreme cold temperatures (25° below) and the dense smoke. No one was in the building at the time of the fire.

About the only thing the firemen were able to save were most of the school records which were on the second floor in a fire proof file.

The fire was discovered at 8:30 by the school janitor, Jack Meissen, of Lawler. Mr. Meissen had checked the furnace at 7:15 and then returned at 8:30 for another check and noticed the fire.

By 10:30 the roof of the building had fallen in, taking one of the walls with it. At 11:00 o'clock, the building was completely destroyed. The fire went completely out of control about an hour after the alarm had been turned in. It was believed to have started in the furnace room located in the basement. The building was heated by a coal stoker. The three story brick structure was constructed in 1899 during the time Father Peter Garrahan was pastor.

Firemen saved the convent located just east of the school. They kept the fire from the structure by wetting it down.

After the fire the parish purchased the old Lawler Public School Building vacated since May, 1963 for \$6000.00. The men and women of the parish immediately cleaned and repaired the building and school was resumed January 6, 1964.

The faculty included six nuns and two lay teachers. The grade school pupils continued their education at this location until May, 1969 when the school was officially closed by the Archdiocesan School Board.

In the fall of 1964 the hot lunch program was resumed with Mrs. Betty Boeding and Mrs. Jack Meissen serving as cooks. Other cooks who assisted Mrs. Boeding were Mrs. Arnold Blong and Mrs. Merle Costigan. The program continued until the close of school in 1969.

After the closing of the old public school and the discontinuance of the Sisters' school the property was sold on September 30, 1969. Ray McDermott was auctioneer and Shirley Blazek was clerk. The contents brought \$2108.80. Many parishioners were pleased at the opportunity to buy memento's of their old Alma Mater.

FRANK EICKHOFF DONATES CHURCH TO LAWLER

On December 9, 1962, our town's only millionaire, Frank Eickhoff, a retired Hardware Store manager, died, leaving \$500,000 to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish for the building of a sole church. It had to be started within two years. Trustees of the will concerning the church property were Rev. James Delay, Chairman; Ed Donohue, Attorney for the Estate; Donald Leonard, Herb Kipp and James Blazek. Later a building committee was added. Members of the parish building committee were James J. Byrne, Archbishop of Dubuque, Chairman; George Biskup, Auxiliary Bishop; Rev. James F. Delay, Harry Kane, Arnold Blong, Eugene Timlin, Henry Fencl, Norbert Reicks and Frank Murray.

On August 10, 1963, five acres were purchased from Louis Cooney for the sum of \$10,000.00 and three acres from Herb and Adella Kipp for \$7,500.00 which was to be the site of the new church.

The land was cleared on November 11, 1963 by the Fencl Construction Company and on November 20th the building plans were presented to the members of the parish.

Ground breaking ceremony was held after Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Lawler, Sunday, August 2, 1964. Actual construction began on August 18, 1964.

Flad-Smith & Associates of Winona, Minnesota were the architects. The general contract for the new church was let to the Nelson Construction company of Caledonia, Minnesota for \$241,800.00. Other low bidders were: Pjiffner Electric Company, Dewar, Iowa; and Broadwater Company of Harmony, Minnesota, for plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church is another example of the current trend in church architecture to form a worshipping community out of the congregation.

The total area of our new church, including the basement and balcony, covers 21,700 square feet. The structure measures 116 feet long and 132 feet wide and is of a triangular shape. The roof is sprayed fiberglass with plastic dome skylights and the exterior walls are of Winona Travertine stone. The windows are epoxy faceted glass, set in cut stone frames, each depicting a religious theme. The main window measures 28 feet by 38 feet and features Our Lady of Mount Carmel, patron of the church.

The other four large facet glass windows depict the seven sacraments, Calvary, and the triumph of Christ. Windows in the body of the church carry symbols from the Old and New Testament. They were

made by the Conway Universal Studios of Winona, Minnesota, and designed by Gene Margroff.

The interior of the church contains 14 rows of pews in the nave with a seating capacity of 600. Also on the main floor are the priest

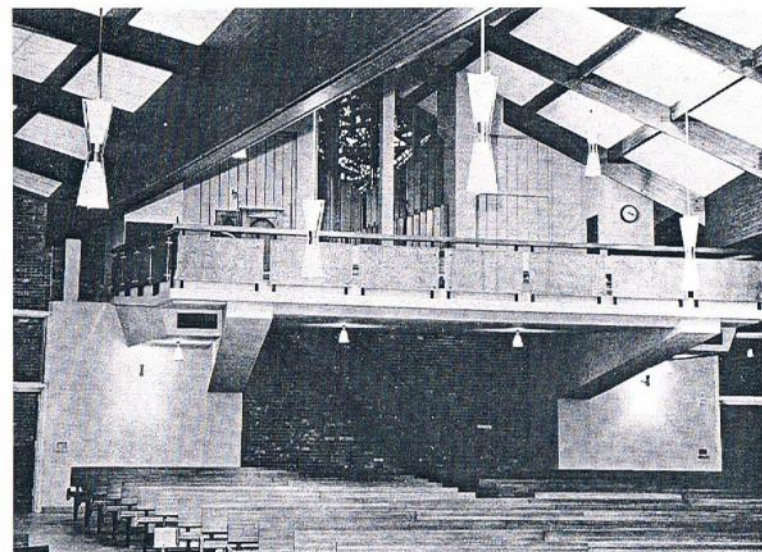


sacristy, work sacristy, boys' sacristy, four public entrances and vestibules, narthex and baptistry. The choir area and organ are in the balcony.

The interior walls are of brick and plaster thermo insulated construction and the floor of the nave is cast in place epoxy. The nave framing is laminated wood beams and perlins, supporting compressed wood fiber ceiling. The largest beam is 138 feet long, six feet thick, and weighs 13 ton; there are nine beams.

The foundation walls are cast concrete and the building is completely air conditioned and the parking lot adjoining the church can accommodate 160 cars.

The free-standing balcony has a seating capacity of 60 and houses the \$30,000.00 pipe organ. Some of the wooden pipes can be seen exposed in the center and the metal pipes are behind the louvers on either side of the balcony.



In the basement are the dining room, kitchen, lobby, rest rooms, storage rooms, mechanical equipment rooms and the boiler room.

Everything, with the exception of the plumbing and wiring, was designed specifically for the church. The statues were hand carved of wood in Switzerland, the Stations of the Cross are of copper and were designed by Ted Glubka of Winona, Minnesota.

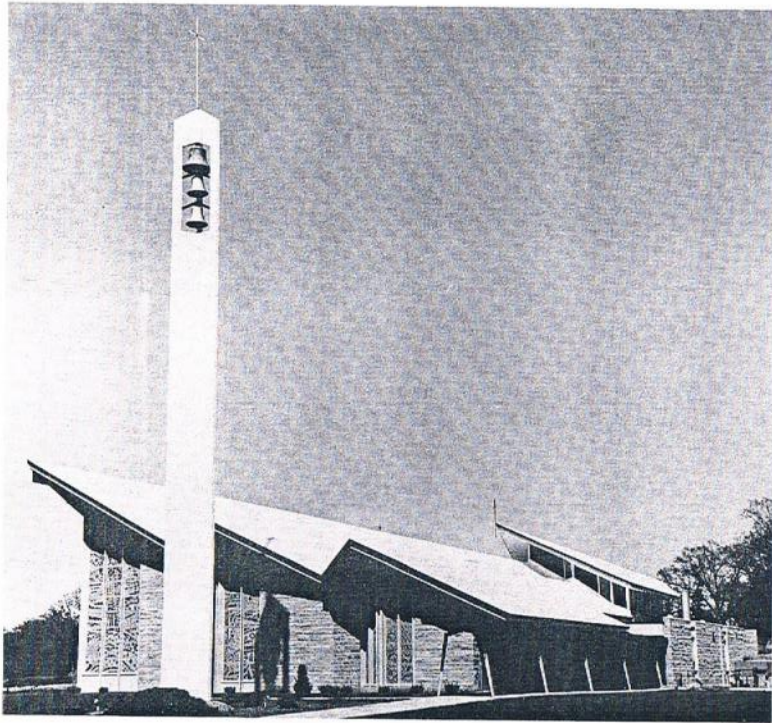
The statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, in front of the church, was hand carved in Italy of Carrara marble. The altar, baptismal font, cornerstone, and holy water fonts at each door are all made of the same marble.

The bell tower is of precast concrete, 80 feet high and contains the original bell from the old church, plus two bell shells — all on automatic time clock control. The overall height, including the cross, is 95 feet. The bell from the old church was cast in St. Louis in 1879 with the inscription, "Cast For Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Lawler, Iowa".

FORMAL DEDICATION OF MOUNT CARMEL

The formal dedication of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church took place on Sunday, April 30, 1967, at 4:00 P.M. His Excellency, James J. Byrne, Archbishop of Dubuque, officiated.

Following the blessing of the cornerstone, church walls, and consecration of the altar, the Votive Mass of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was offered. The sermon was preached by Father Joseph F. Griffin, a native of Lawler.



Many priests and nuns, former teachers of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and nuns from the parish, attended the dedication and banquet held in the Gold Room.

The cornerstone with the bronze cross and the wording about Frank Eickhoff giving the church in memory of the Eickhoff family was erected in the Vestibule. In the copper box inside the cornerstone is a copy of the Eickhoff Will, issue of the Witness, names of building committee, Kennedy half dollar, Church History of the first 90 years,

name of the pastor, the Mayor, Governor of Iowa, and President of the United States at that time.

On December 17, 1968 Anna Eickhoff, Sister of the late Frank Eickhoff died and left an additional \$2000 to our church. In 1970 the money was used to install a new acoustic ceiling in the Gold Room.

THE BELL

The last time the church bell rang in the old church belfrey was Wednesday morning, November 10, 1965 by our faithful janitor, Jack Meissen. It was taken down that day by the Fenel Construction Company and moved to the tower of the new church. The first time the bell rang in its new abode was April 2, 1966.

Let us pause and give credit to a humble servant, Jack Meissen. Jack rang that bell three times every day for six years. If there was a funeral, it probably was rung five times and if there were evening devotions, you might add one more. His other duties included shoveling all the walks, firing four coal furnaces, mowing lawns, caring for the cemetery and digging of graves, trimming of the hedges, cleaning and sweeping the school, painting and washing windows, etc. — you name it. He deserves a heap of thanks from the parishioners for a job well done. The same can be said of Will Cutsforth and all our previous janitors.

LAST CEREMONY AT MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

The entire student body of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School participated in the May Crowning ceremony in the old Mount Carmel Church for the last time on May 27, 1966.

The eighth grade students were the guard of honor. The girls wore pastel colored formals, while the boys were attired in suits. Robert Fisher crowned the Blessed Virgin. Ronald Reicks was crown bearer.

Following the rosary and benediction, awards were presented by Rev. James F. Delay.

LAST MASS OFFERED IN OLD CHURCH

The last mass offered in the old church was held June 3, 1966. The first mass offered in the new church was the same day but in the evening for the eighth grade graduating class.

Rev. James Delay presented the following graduates with diplomas: Joan Bodensteiner, John Brinks, Tom Carolan, Barbara Dostal, Robert Fisher, Michael Freidman, Kenneth Hemesath, William Goss, Judith

Kipp, Linda Mettner, Margaret Murray, Ronald Reicks, Ruth Reicks, Edna Tieskotter, Marcella Tieskotter and Jane Walz.

OTHER HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH
IN THE LAST TEN YEARS

The last wedding held in the old church occurred May 19, 1966 — Mary Ann Kipp and Patrick Leonard Hoey of Waucoma.

The last baptism in the old church was Jacqueline Lu Sheridan, daughter of Patrick and Barbara Carter Sheridan, May 22, 1966.

The first wedding held in the new church was James Einck of Lawler and Kay Huetter of New Hampton, August 20, 1966.

The first baptisms held in the new church were: Thomas Edward Britt, son of Bernice Panos and Thomas Britt June 5, 1966 and Julia Mae Kuennen, daughter of Gertrude Hageman and Paul Kuennen, June 5, 1966. They were held the same day.

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Mrs. Rose Kehoe of Waterloo came to assume the duties of housekeeper for Father Delay in March of 1962.

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Mrs. Vera McGrane assumes the duties of housekeeper for Father John Moran.

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On August 8, 1965 the parish collected \$3,360.00 for a new car for the nuns. They purchased a Custom 500 Ford and presented the keys to Sister Mary Rogers.

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In 1966, the Presentation sisters had a drive for their new Mother House in Dubuque. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel parish collected \$17,940 toward its building fund.

In July of 1969 the parish presented the nuns \$1600.00 as a gift and also the contents of the Convent.

Money is a small token for all the labors the nuns did for our parish in the 81 years they served in Lawler. Poverty was a byword for wages. Like every one else, they certainly had many trials and tribulations and they endured without words or complaints. The religious training of our children alone couldn't be bought or replaced. They will long be remembered in the hearts of our people here in Lawler. May they be repaid one-hundred fold for their accomplishments.

STATISTICS RECORDED IN THE LAST 10 YEARS

| | <i>Baptisms</i> | <i>Marriages</i> | <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Confirmations</i> | <i>First Communion</i> s |
|------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1960 | 32 | 5 | 9 | 46 | 36 |
| 1961 | 32 | 3 | 8 | | 30 |
| 1962 | 26 | 9 | 11 | 67 | 36 |
| 1963 | 28 | 4 | 16 | | 31 |
| 1964 | 30 | 3 | 11 | 56 | |
| 1965 | 32 | 9 | 10 | | 28 |
| 1966 | 27 | 10 | 11 | | 37 |
| 1967 | 28 | 6 | 17 | 139 | 28 |
| 1968 | 24 | 5 | 9 | | 30 |
| 1969 | 25 | 15 | 9 | 93 | 28 |
| 1970 | 284 | 59 | 111 | 401 | 284 |

FAREWELL

Rev. James F. Delay, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church for 24 years, was honored at his 40th anniversary to the priesthood and a farewell party on Sunday, June 29, 1969.

The reception was held in the Gold Room of the church from 2 until 4 P.M. A huge cake — a replica of the new church — baked by Mrs. Jim Silhacek of Spillville — was part of the table decorations. The Forressters, Catholic Daughters, Rosary Society and Parish presented him with a purse of money.

WELCOME

A reception for Rev. John Moran was held Sunday, July 13, 1969, after both masses in the Gold Room, to give the parishioners an opportunity to meet the new pastor.

Rev. John Moran was born in Cascade, Iowa on April 8, 1927, son of W. J. and Margaret Drecker Moran. He attended St. Marys Cascade Grade and High School; Loras College 1944-47, St. Louis Kenrick Seminary Theology 1947 — and ordained May 3, 1951 by Rev. Leo Binz. Said first mass at St. Marys, Cascade — May 9th. He served as Assistant Pastor at St. Joseph's Dubuque, Immaculate Conception, Cedar Rapids; Elma, Oelwein, and Blessed Sacrament, Waterloo. He served as Pastor at St. Ansgar before coming to Lawler on July 8, 1969.

Mount Carmel is blessed and honored to have fallen heir to such a worthy pastor.

CCD Program

The CCD program was started in August 1968 under Rev. James Delay, pastor, and Sister William Marie, Principal. Carl Kuehner, Chairman; Robert Arens, Vice Chairman; Paul Galligan, Norman Speltz and Norbert Reicks, Members of the Board.

Religion class for pupils not attending the parochial school was held Tuesday nights from 4-5 o'clock and for High School pupils on Monday nights.

Formerly, all High School pupils attending public school had religious classes in the High School on a shared time basis.

The CCD program was continued in 1969-1970. Rev. John Moran became pastor in July of 1969. Mrs. Delores Cuvelier became executive coordinator; Shirley Blazek, Secy.-Treas., and Madonna O'Connell, Board Member.

CCD teachers receive \$60.00 a year and the coordinator is paid by the hour.

Grades 1-6 attended religion classes Saturday mornings in the Convent — two sessions, 8:30-9:30 and 10:30-11:30. Mass is offered between sessions at 9:45. Grades 7-8 religion classes are held in the Convent and High School classes in private homes on Monday night.

Much credit is due to all those that teach religion under the CCD program and many thanks to the families who opened their homes to have a place to hold classes. These are real acts of charity.

In recent years many parishioners helped the nuns at School — some as teachers, assembly room monitors, physical education teachers, coaches and referees of sports, etc.

Addition to Cemetery

For an addition to our cemetery, land just east of our present cemetery was donated by Cletus Murray and final arrangements were completed in April, 1970.

Entrances give access to the cemetery on the east and west side. The storm fence on the school grounds was transferred to the new cemetery.

Mount Carmel Centennial

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church celebrated its Centennial Sunday, June 7, 1970. The celebration opened by two masses being offered in the old church at 7:00 and 9:00 A.M.

The mass of Thanksgiving was offered in the new church at 4:00 P.M. by Archbishop James J. Byrne; assistants were the pastor, Rev. John Moran, Rev. James F. Delay, Rev. Joseph Griffin, Rev. William Michael, and Rev. Ambrose McAvoy. Homily was given by Rev. Lowell Shekleton.

Lector was Jack McKone. The gifts were brought up at the offertory by the two trustees, Frank Murray and Eugene Timlin.

Following the mass a social hour was held at the Rectory for all the visiting priests and nuns. This was followed by a banquet in the Gold Room. A ham and roast beef dinner was served by Mrs. Elois Nolte and Miss Rose Hackman, assisted by high school pupils as waitresses.

The program following the banquet consisted of:

Invocation by Archbishop Byrne

Toastmaster — Rev. John Moran

Address of Welcome — Mayor Cletus Murray

Reminiscing his 24 years in Lawler — Rev. James Delay

Life as a former assistant — Rev. Ambrose McAvoy

Comments and Benediction — Archbishop James Byrne

To remember the Centennial, plates commemorating the old and new church were sold — also a history of the first 100 years of our Parish.

Officers in charge of the preparations of the Centennial were the Rosary Officers — Mrs. Ray Kuennen, President, assisted by Mrs. Arnold Bodensteiner, Mrs. Al Seery, and Mrs. Eugene Timlin.

Centennial book was prepared by Mrs. Al Seery and Mrs. James Blazek. Mural painting and hall decorations were made by Mrs. Jack Blazek. Thanks to all who helped in any way to make our day a success.

History begins where yesterday ends:

This is the day which the Lord hath made;

Let us be glad and rejoice therein: Psalm 118:24

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PRINTING OF CENTENNIAL HISTORY

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PETE'S PLACE

CROELL REDI-MIX

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HISTORY OF



OUR LADY
OF
MT. CARMEL PARISH
LAWLER, IOWA