



Barquilla de la Santa Maria

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Nov. 4: St. Lorcan Ua Tuathail

November, A.D. 2003



*St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Caledonia
(photographed by the late Msgr. Bennett Applegate in the early 1960s)*

St. Lawrence O'Toole Mission Caledonia, Marion County, 1868-1995

Following the Civil War, Archbishop Purcell founded several parishes and missions in the northern parts of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for the Irish railroad laborers who had come to settle there, some over a decade earlier.

Among these were St. Aloysius Mission in Lewis Center, Delaware County, where the church lot was purchased in 1864; St. Peter in Marysville, now Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, its first lot purchased in 1866; St. Joseph in Cardington,

now represented by Sacred Hearts Parish, its lot purchased in 1868; St. Colmille Parish in LaRue, now St. Joseph, its church blessed 1869 for 20 families of railroaders; Immaculate Conception Parish in Dennison, founded in 1870 for Irish laborers at the railroad shops; and St. Lawrence O'Toole in Caledonia in northeastern Marion County, blessed 1869 for the use of 15 families of railroaders. These parishes are still flourishing. Of the two missions, St. Aloysius was closed in the 1920s and St. Lawrence, the

subject of this sketch, continued to serve the small Catholic community at Caledonia until 1995.

The town of Caledonia was founded on the banks of the Whetstone River in 1834 but did not truly flourish until after the railroads arrived in the 1850s, their two adjacent lines running east and west; to the north of the original town plat. These, in time the C.C.C. & St. L. and Erie lines, connected the town with Marion and Bellefontaine on the west, and thence with points north, west, and south. To the east the main and intersecting lines connected with Cleveland, eastern and southern Ohio, and the eastern states. Caledonia soon expanded north of the tracks and, near Water and Liberty streets, three small churches were built. The Catholic church, with about fifteen families, was built at the southwest corner; the Universalist church, organized with twelve members, was built on the northeast corner; and the Presbyterian church, with eleven members, was within a block to the southwest.

St. Mary congregation in Marion was a mission of Bellefontaine as early as 1854. Father John M. Mackey was sent as its first resident pastor in 1866. He began improving the situation of the Church in the county, including the purchase of new property and completing the church in Marion and founding the missions in Caledonia in the northeast and LaRue in the west of the county. He arranged for the purchase of lot 7 in Cressinger's Addition to Caledonia by Archbishop Purcell, at the price of \$150, which was consummated on December 14, 1868. The frame church of St. Lawrence O'Toole, measuring about twenty by thirty feet (or a little less), was built there at a cost of \$800.

On Sunday, September 26 Archbishop Purcell visited the new church in Marion, confirmed sixty-five, and spoke in the courthouse that evening. On Monday he dedicated the new

church at LaRue and confirmed thirty. On Tuesday, accompanied by Father Mackey, he traveled on the railroad by hand-car to Caledonia, where he blessed St. Lawrence Church and confirmed twenty-four.

The pastors attending Caledonia over the next thirteen decades were from Marion and LaRue. Fathers Philip O'Donoghue, Francis and Joseph Quatman, and William M. Carey, pastors at Marion, attended Caledonia until 1883. That year Caledonia became a mission of LaRue, where the pastor was Father Michael B. Brown. He was succeeded by Fathers A. J. Burns, Joseph Stoppelman, John J. Cunningham, and William C. Conway. Beginning about 1890 LaRue no longer had a resident pastor. Father Conway lived at Bellefontaine that year, while maintaining LaRue and Caledonia as missions via the railroad. The priests at Marion then took over the job, maintaining the records of both Caledonia and LaRue at the latter location. These were Fathers James A. Burns, Thomas F. Walsh, Joseph Denning, James J. Molloy and Edward Ryan. At the end of 1903 the pastorate was restored at LaRue and the priests at that post attended Caledonia until 1949. From then until 1995 the pastors and assistant pastors from Marion attended Caledonia.

The Catholic congregation at St. Lawrence never was very large. There are indications in the annual Catholic Directory that it consisted of about a dozen families in the 1890s. In the early 1900s the descendants of the Gladhart family seem to have been among the leading laity of the mission. James Gladhart, the patriarch, a convert to the Faith, had married Catherine Dowling, member of one of the early Irish families of the mission.

In 1960 the October Count found an average of fifty-four attending weekly Mass there. By 1970 this had declined to twenty-five. In 1980 the count was twenty-three, attending the Saturday

evening Mass, the smallest number in the diocese. At this time there were about thirty-five families, but some of these no doubt found it more convenient to attend Mass on Sunday in Marion. In 1990 the average attendance was thirty-three.

In 1994 the Mass at St. Lawrence was cut to only one Saturday per month, and only twelve attended that Mass. By the next year Mass was no longer being offered there regularly. After Mass on November 18, 1995, as an outcome of the vicariate planning process, it was announced that, for many reasons, the mission would be closed. The response, according to the report to Bishop Griffin, was muted. The people accepted that the closing was necessary, the priests were very busy, and in fact St. Lawrence probably should have been closed some time earlier.

A Closing Mass was offered on the evening of December 16, 1995, followed by a dinner. The mission was officially suppressed by the Bishop on December 12, 1996, and the property was sold for \$12,500 in November, 1997. The proceeds were placed in the St. Mary Parish building fund.

SOURCES

The Catholic Telegraph, September 29, 1869
The Catholic Times, March 11, 1994
Romine, Trella H., editor, *Marion County 1979 History*; Marion: The Marion County Historical Society, 1979; p. 94
The History of Marion County; Chicago: Leggett, Conaway & Co., 1883; pp 702-707.
Marion County Deed Record 37/35
Records in the Archives, Diocese of Columbus

Caledonia St. Lawrence O'Toole Baptisms, 1870-1900

Recorded at Marion St. Mary:
Dec. 18, 1870, Alice, daughter of Martin

Murray and Mary Finn, born Dec. 15, 1870; spons. Patrick Finn and Mrs. Charles Moriarity. P. McMahan

Feb. 19, 1871, Mary, daughter of James Ballinger and Johanna Doolen, born Jan. 14, 1871; spons. Thomas Doolen and Catherine Sproohan. P. McMahan

same day, John, son of Michael Fitzgerald and Mary Morris, born Jan. 30, 1871; spons. Michael Doolen and Mary Doolen. P. McMahan

[The next records, by Rev. Philip O'Donoghue, do not list places. Then there is a gap from September, 1873 until January, 1890.]

Other early Caledonia births noted at St. Mary's:
On Sept. 16, 1894 was baptized a child of Richard Augustine Burke, who was a native of Caledonia

On July 16, 1895 was baptized a child of [blank] Watson; the mother, Mary, born Murray; was a native of Caledonia

Recorded at LaRue:

Jan. 3, 1883 Carl Ballinger, born at Caledonia Dec. 25, 1883, son of Jacob Ballinger and Johanna Dowling; spons. Thomas McMahan and Catherine Brown. M. B. Brown

July 6, 1884 Maria Nina O'Donnell, born at Caledonia May 14, 1884, daughter of John O'Donnell and Ann Morris; spons. William O'Donnell and Helen Morris. M. B. Brown

Aug. 20, 1884 Thomas Hanley, born at Caledonia July 13, 1884, son of John Hanley and Julia Breen; spons. Michael O'Connell and Mary Mulcahy. A. J. Burns

Apr. 18, 1886 Helen McMahan, born at Caledonia on April 9, 1886, daughter of Thomas McMahan and Catherine O'Connell; sons. Martin Coughlin and Mary Coughlin. Joseph Stoppelman

Oct. 16, 1886 George Glathart, born at Caldeonia on Sept. 20, 1886, son of James Glathart and Catherine Dowling; spons.

John Hanley and Catherine Dowling.
Joseph Stoppelman
Feb. 20, 1887 Martin Brown, born at
Caledonia on Jan. 15, 1887, son of Daniel
Brown and Catherine Madden; spon.
Daniel Brown and Mary Brown. Joseph
Stoppelman
May 15, 1887 Cornelius Francis Hanley, born
at Caledonia on Apr. 30, 1887, son of John
Hanley and Julia Breen; spon. Thomas
McMahon and Catherine McMahon John J.
Cunningham
Jan. 15, 1888 Elizabeth O'Donnell, born at
Caledonia Dec. 27, 1887, daughter of John
O'Donnell and Anna Morris; spon. Daniel
Brown and Johanna Ballinger. William C.
Conway
Feb. 19, 1888 John William Ryan, born at
Caledonia Jan. 25, 1888, son of Edward
Ryan and Catherine Erhardt; spon. Michael
O'Connell and Mary Leahy. William C.
Conway
Apr. 22, 1888 Johanna Catherine Brown, born
at Caledonia Feb. 19, daughter of Daniel
Brown and Mary Moriarty; spon. James
Brown and Johanna Moriarty. William C.
Conway
Feb. 28, 1889 Rachel Glathart, born at
Caledonia Feb. 19, daughter of James
Glathart and Catherine Dowling; spon.
Edward Ryan and Johanna Ballinger.
William C. Conway
[Records of 1889 to early 1891 may be at
Bellefontaine.]
May 23, 1891 Catherine Winifred Glathart,
born at Caledonia Mar. 8, 1891, daughter of
James Glathart and Catherine Dowling;
spon. Henry McCabe and Ann O'Donnell.
Thomas F. Walsh
Aug. 23, 1891 Catherine Fortney, born June
22, 1876, daughter of John "Sam." Fortney
and Mary Wina Shaughnessy spon. John
Hanley and Julia Hanley. Thomas F. Walsh
Nov. 2, 1891 Helen Gertrude O'Donnell, born
Oct. 25, daughter of John O'Donnell and

Nina Morris; spon. John McLaughlin and
Margaret O'Donnell. Thomas F. Walsh
May 25, 1894 Aloysius Norbert Hanley, born
Feb. 25, son of John Hanley and Julia
Breen; spon. Martin Coughlin and Mary
Coughlin. Joseph Denning
Oct. 28, 1894 Thomas Glathart, born Oct. 25,
son of James Glathart and Catherine
Dowling; spon. Thomas McMahon and
Catherine McMahon. J. Molloy [of Marion
St. Mary]
Dec. 30, 1894 Mary McCabe, born Dec. 9,
daughter of Henry McCabe and Rachel
Gladhart; spon. John Hanley and Julia
Hanley. J. Molloy [of Marion St. Mary]
[Caledonia was attended from St. Mary's c.
1894-1898; but baptismal records at Marion in
this era do not list locations.]

Recorded at LaRue:

Nov. 27, 1898 Rose McCabe, born Nov. 3,
daughter of Henry McCabe and Rachel
Gladhart; spon. Cornelius McMahon and
Catherine McCabe. Edward Ryan
same day Mabel Ann Maloney, born Nov. 16,
1898, daughter of John Maloney and Mary
McCabe; spon. Matthew McCabe and
Honora Spurlock. Edward Ryan
Feb. 25, 1900 Alice Josephine Gladhardt, born
Feb. 4, daughter of James Gladhardt and
Catherine Dowling; spon. Cornelius Hanley
and Ann Hanley. Edward Ryan

First Communions, 1887-1945

Recorded at LaRue:

Oct. 14, 1887, at Caledonia: Cornelius
McMahon, age 14; John Moriarty, age 13;
Henry Brown, age 13; James Brown, age 11

June 14, 1906: Mary McCabe, Alice Hanley,
and Winifred Gladhart

1908 George Tedro

1910 Bernard Hanley

1911 Alice J. Gladhart and Ellen McCabe

1913 Cornelius William Berridge
1916 Lawrence McCabe and Ann M.
Anderson
1945 Herbert Mulvaine and Kenneth Wetzel,
with others at LaRue

Marriages, 1886-1919

Recorded at LaRue:

Oct. 7, 1886 Edward Ryan of Caledonia to
Catherine S. Erhardt of same. Joseph
Stoppelmann

Recorded at Marion:

May or June, 1901, Agnes McMahan,
daughter of Thomas and Catherine
(O'Connell) McMahan, of Caledonia, to
Henry F. Faulkner of Galion.
June, 1904, Stella Margraff, daughter of
Gustav and Ann Margraff, from Caledonia,
to Edmund Molloy of Marion.

Recorded at LaRue:

Sept. 10, 1913 Cornelius William Berridge to
Catherine Tedrow of Caledonia Edward
Ryan
Oct. 14, 1919 Royal Stone to Margaret
Gladhart John J. Brinker

Deaths, 1889-1987

Recorded at Marion:

1889, Patrick Dwyer, age 80, buried in Marion
Oct. 24, 1895, Margaret McMahan, age 12,
buried in Caledonia
Nov. 20, 1899, Rose McCabe, age 1 year,
buried in Marion
May 5, 1899, Catherine McCabe, age 19,
buried in Marion
Feb. 23, 1901, Catherine Gladhart, age 40,
buried in Marion
May 9, 1911, Henry McCabe, age 46, buried in
St. Mary Cemetery
Oct. 5, 1914, John William Ryan, age 74,
buried in St. Mary Cemetery

Recorded at LaRue:

Jan. 27, 1922, Frank Vogel, son of Frank and
Theresa (Hawke) Vogel, husband of Rose
Marg. Haas, age 69, born in Austria in
1853; buried Jan. 30 at St. Mary's Cemetery
Apr. 4, 1923, Johanna Ballinger, daughter of
John and Bridget Dowling, wife of James
Ballinger, age 71, born in Ireland; buried
Apr. 6, at St. Mary's Cemetery
Jan. 7, 1925, Edward Ryan, born in the Parish
of Cuffle? White, Co. Tipperary, widower
of Catherine Erhart, age 98 [or 78?]; buried
Jan. 9 at St. Mary's Cemetery

Recorded at Marion:

May 20, 1931, Charles Seckel, son of Andrew
and Mary (Hutchinson) Seckel, husband of
Phoebe, age 67; buried at Caledonia
Cemetery on May 23
Dec. 29, 1932, Bertha Chapman, daughter of
Mr. and Helen Mischovich, wife of Ross
Chapman, age 48; buried at St. Mary
Cemetery on Jan. 2, 1933
Jan. 8, 1937, James Glathart, husband of
Catherine Dowling, age 82; buried at St.
Mary Cemetery on Jan. 11.

[From the 1940s until 1961, residences of
deceased persons are not listed in the records at
Marion.]

March 1, 1952, Charles F. Ballinger, born
Wyandotte County in 1882, of James
Ballinger and Johanna Dowling, died at St.
Anthony Hospital in Columbus; buried at
Caledonia Cemetery on March 4.
Nov. 11, 1961, Clyde A. Worcester Jr.,
residence east of Caledonia, age 28, services
in the funeral home in Caledonia, burial at
Caledonia Cemetery.
July 13, 1965, Florence Mae Gleespen, age 78,
funeral at St. Lawrence, burial at St. Mary
Cemetery
Jan. 21, 1966, May Glathart, age 72, residence
at Caledonia and Bowling Green, funeral at
St. Lawrence, burial at St. Mary Cemetery
Dec. 23, 1968, Lester Gleespen, service at
funeral home, burial at St. Mary Cemetery

Jan. 11, 1969, Margaret Stone, daughter of James Glathart, age 86, buried in St. Mary Cemetery

Dec. 23, 1971, Rosella Weisz, age 81, buried in St. Mary Cemetery

Sept. 3, 1980, Catherine E. Dunn, age 85, residence Marion-Mt. Gilead Road, buried in St. Mary Cemetery

Dec. 3, 1983, Dorothy Ellen Yates, age 65, residence 224 N. Water st., Caledonia, cremains to Reynoldsburg

June 3, 1987, Bernadette M. (Schultz) Jogecse, age 70, residence Columbus-Sandusky Road North, buried in St. Mary Cemetery

[Beginning in 1988 the new record book does not list residences.]

Abstracts from *The Catholic Telegraph*

(Continued, from Vol. XXVIII, No. 9)

Continuation of the description of the episcopal visitation, from the issue of December 18, 1852:

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Little Muskingum, Mr. Josue Poulton, Mr. William Shepperd and wife, and sister Hannah Shepperd, Mary Sullivan [were confirmed]; all these with one or two exceptions, were the fruit of the two missions preached in the course of the last six months in those congregations by Rev. Mr. Hengehold.

There were eighteen confirmed in St. Michaels, Archer's Settlement.

The Church of the Immaculate Conception [Fulda] was blessed on the First Sunday of December. It is of brick, 60 by 40 feet, and is in Noble county, three and a half miles from St. Michael's. There were thirty confirmed. In SS. Peter and Paul's there were twenty-eight confirmed, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. On 9th December the Archbishop and Rev. Mr. Hengehold offered the Holy Sacrifice at the residence of Mrs. Judge, near Brownsville, Monroe county. This elderly lady has been many years in Ohio, but was converted to the true Faith by Rev. Dr. Matynon and Rev. Mr. Chevereux, afterwards Bishop of Boston, in 1806. Though living far away from the Church, she has steadily resisted ever since all the artifices resorted to by the enemy of Souls to make her join a false Church; and brought up her children in the Faith of Christ. Three or four weeks ago,

her two surviving sons, on their return from Arkansas, whither they had gone to bring home a deceased brother's child, a very interesting little boy of nine years, and thus preserve him from an irreligious or anti-Catholic education, were attacked with cholera at Louisville, Kentucky, of which the elder died, but happily, not without the consolations of Religion. The "only son" of the aged "widow" was confirmed, her little grandson baptised and herself fed with the Bread of Life by the Archbishop--a happiness of which she had been deprived for the last four or five years. Nothing could exceed the spiritual consolation which this visit afforded the afflicted lady and her son, who had been so long strangers to the joy which the Visit of Jesus Christ in the Holy Sacraments can impart to those poor whom all earthly happiness seemed to have fled from. Their joy was shared by their good Catholic, though distant neighbors, Messrs. Doherty and McMananny [McMannamy], who attended the Missionaries at St. Peter and Paul's to the river, at Cochransville.

An article tells of the burning of the Catholic church at Massillon, suspected of being a case of arson.

Subscriptions: John Cornyn, Zanesville; John Powlton and J. W. Hilliard, Graysville; William Mullen, Antioch, O.; Stephen Dougherty, Woodsfield.

December 25, 1852

Marietta (Dec. 13th, 1852)

There were sixty-six persons, several of whom were converts, or parents and children who long had been astray from the Church, confirmed in St. Mary's, Marietta, on last Sunday, 12th Dec. The congregation has greatly increased within the last two years, and there is a prospect of a much larger increase from the construction of the Rail-Roads in progress in its vicinity. The present church, or rather chapel, is entirely too small, and it is hoped that the Catholics of this fine old town, several of whom yield to none in liberality and spirit, will second the efforts of their faithful Pastor in the erection of a new church. There is ample room for the purpose on the church lot, and the chapel might then be converted into a Boarding, or Day School, with ample playground adjoining. The town and neighborhood are considered quite healthy and the want of a school is urgent.

On Sunday evening the court-house was crowded to hear the Archbishop preach--as announced--but a fire which broke out as he was going to commence, led to a precipitate flight of the assistants. They rallied in about an hour, after extinguishing the fire, but it was then too late and the occurrence of another fire (the fourth which took place that afternoon and evening) scattered any that still lingered in the Court-room.

There are seventy-five families residing in Union Township, Muskingum co., but at the other side of the river from Marietta, who are often prevented by the ice and detention at the ferry, from attending church; nor can the Priest always reach them in time of sickness. Permission was therefore given by the Archbishop for the building of a church, near a Catholic graveyard already opened there; and the worthy brothers, McDermott, have devoted a suitable piece of land for these objects. It is thus that new congregations are continually formed in places where Catholics were hardly known to exist, and new wants are created for devoted pastors and laborers whom may the Great Master

of the harvest provide for and send into His Vineyard!

Died, near Somerset, Perry county, Ohio, on the 11th Dec., fortified with the last sacraments, which he received with the most edifying piety, Mr. MANDY MCCORMICK, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, father of Mr. D. McCormick, of this city, in the 78th year of his age. May he rest in peace!

Subscriptions: Laur. Wearr and Hugh Rielly, Portsmouth

January 1, 1853

The Irish Catholic congregation of Columbus contributed the sum of \$367 on Christmas day towards the purchasing of a bell for their new church. This bell is engaged from Messrs. A. Meneely & Sons, of West Troy, who have given a contribution to the church. The city of Columbus runs north and south, and all the Irish congregation are residing in the north end.

The church-lot contains 182 square feet, affording ample space for a school-house and a Pastor's residence. It is situated on a rising ground, in the north-east end, between seventh and north streets. This end of the city affords the unsettled portion of our congregation a fair opportunity of purchasing a cheap and wholesome building ground, on very convenient terms. Six of the vacant lots in the neighborhood of the church are already bought up by Irishmen who, perhaps otherwise, would not think of settling down for a long time. On one of these lots a very handsome brick house is already built, and the owners of the other five will build early in the Spring. The church is a fine handsome building, with two square towers in front, which give a magnificent appearance to the entire structure. The plan was drawn by Thos. West, the architect of the State House, and reflects much credit on that eminent artist. The church was commenced in last September, and is being built by two Irish mechanics, it is now enclosed

with a firm, substantial roof, and exceedingly handsome windows, the floor is also laid down.

The cut stone in the towers has cost \$280, and the sum of \$3,800 is already paid down. We expect to have the entire building completed in Spring, and ready for the ceremony of consecration on the 24th of June.

FLOOD IN SOUTHERN OHIO.--The rains of last week were pretty heavy in this section, though slight compared with Central and Southern Ohio. The deluge was very general. At Steubenville on Friday the river rose at the rate of nearly one foot per hour. The Herald says, "Island Creek was impassable by the river road; persons came by the hills yesterday. Extensive damages to the Railroad..."

At Columbus the Scioto got very high. The bottoms were flooded, and loss of property very large. Wm. Neil lost between 60 and 100 acres of corn in the shock. J. L. Gill, some \$400 worth. All the farmers along the Olentangy and Scioto lost fences, corn, &c. Franklinton was nearly submerged, and the manufactories on the flats were partially flooded. The Scioto has seldom been so high.

Subscription: John Conahan, Columbus, O.

100 Men Wanted Immediately,
And 2000 next Spring, on the line of the Marietta and Cincinnati Rail Road, between Marietta and Charleston, (a point twenty-four miles east from Chillicothe), for which good wages will be

paid and two years' employment given.

FRENCH, DODGE, & CO.,
Office, Athens, Ohio

January 8, 1853

The second annual seminary report includes donations from: Church of the Holy Cross, Columbus, \$66; St. Mary's Church, Chillicothe, \$37; St. Mary's Church, Lancaster, \$80; St. Pius' Church, Steubenville, \$23; St. Mary's Church, Marietta, \$5; St. James's Church, Meigs Creek, \$8 (of which \$5 were contributed by Mr. Benedict Lowe, a convert to the Church); St. Joseph's Church, Somerset, \$28; St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville, \$16; Church at Miltonsburg, \$8. Archdiocesan total collection was \$1,179.11.

Subscriptions: Conrad Snider, Somerset; T.J. Rielly, Jacksontown, O.; Rev. C. P. Montgomery and William Mattingly, Zanesville; Rev. J. Brent, Mt. Vernon; William McNanara [sic], Danville; Bdmd [Edmund?] Smith, Circleville.

(To be continued)



Correction

In the printing process, the pictures of St. Francis and St. Peter churches in the October *Bulletin* were switched. The drawing is of St. Peter, the photograph is of St. Francis. We will have some corrected copies made for binding.