



Barquilla de la Santa Maria

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May, 1: St. Jeremiah the Prophet

May, 2008



Rev. Jeremiah A. Murray (1844-1924)

Rev. Jeremiah Murray was one of the first priests ordained for the Diocese of Columbus. He contributed much during his few years of service here, but has remained long neglected, not even being listed in our *Ordo* as a former diocesan priest.

Early Years

Jeremiah or Jerry was born in Cumberland, Maryland, on October 6 or 7, 1844 and was baptized by Father B. Leonard Obermeyer on November 3.¹ His parents were Jeremiah and Ellen (Long) Murray, natives of Ireland. He was the seventh child and second son of the family of at least nine children. The older brother was John B. Murray who became a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. They also had a sister who became a

nun. While Jeremiah was still a lad, the family moved to Rochester, in Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

It is not known where Jeremiah received his early education, nor exactly how the two brothers came to attend Mt. St. Mary's of the West. The older brother entered St. Thomas Seminary near Bardstown in 1854 and Mt. St. Mary's of the West in 1858. Given that, and that the younger brother belonged initially to the Diocese of Columbus, one might infer that by 1858 the family had moved to the part of Ohio that in 1868 became the Diocese of Columbus. Jeremiah may have attended St. Joseph's College near Somerset. The 1860 census lists a student of that name, but aged 18 rather than 16 and born in Ohio rather than Maryland.² The *Catholic Telegraph* of January 25, 1872, noted that he was a

fellow student of Father William Bigelow, who was educated at the Seminary of St. Thomas, near Bardstown, and Mt. St. Mary's of the West.

Ordination and Service in Diocese of Columbus

Jeremiah, along with Joseph Jessing, received holy orders at the hands of Bishop Rosecrans in St. Patrick Pro-cathedral in Columbus, beginning on July 13, 1870. They were raised to the priesthood on the morning of Saturday, July 16. Present at the ceremony were V. Rev. J. B. Hemsteger, Vicar General, Rev. G. H. Ahrens, Chancellor, and Fathers F. X. Specht, N. A. Gallagher, J. A. Rotchford, O.P., John Conway, and J. B. Murray.³ Father Murray was the fifth or sixth priest ordained for this diocese, as far as we know today. These early diocesan priests had been a point of contention between Bishop Rosecrans and Archbishop Purcell, for the latter initially claimed for Cincinnati the seminarians from parishes within the new Diocese of Columbus.

Father Murray was assistant pastor at Columbus St. Patrick Parish from 1870 to 1872. During these years the young priest was instrumental in completing the construction of St. Joseph Cathedral. In his 1872 *Sketch of St. Joseph's Cathedral, Columbus, Ohio*, Bishop Rosecrans wrote:

Rev. J. A. Murray has been of much service, aiding the work untiringly as it went on. In fact he, more than any one else, entered into all the ideas of General Rosecrans, and carried them out with such modifications as the actual construction demonstrated to be necessary.⁴

To this Father Dennis A. Clarke added, "Being placed in the position of general supervisor, he brought to bear upon the work the business tact and shrewdness for which he was noted."⁵

Father Murray also attended St. Joseph's congregation while it gathered in Naughten Hall (on the east side of High Street, between State and Town), awaiting occupancy of the Cathedral. In addition, he attended the missions of the Columbus area and in 1871 had a frame chapel of St. Joseph

built at Jersey in Licking County, to replace an old log chapel, predecessor of the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown.⁶ Once the Cathedral was occupied in December, 1872, Father Murray was appointed Pastor of St. Patrick Parish.

By July of 1873 Father Murray was stationed in Steubenville. Very soon after that he returned to Columbus and was stationed at St. Joseph Cathedral. In 1876 he was sent to Steubenville again as pastor of St. Peter Parish. He was there only a short time. He was succeeded by Father Dues and then by Father Bernard Wismann.

Father Murray was active in assisting the other clergymen of the diocese and his brother across the boundary line in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. In December of 1870 he (Father Murray of Columbus), along with other priests, was "constantly engaged in preaching and hearing confessions" at a mission at St. Mary Parish, Chillicothe. He (Father Murray of Columbus) assisted at the funeral Mass of Father Bigelow in Steubenville in January, 1872. In July of 1873 he (Father Murray of Steubenville) was subdeacon at the Mass in Logan celebrating the forty-fifth anniversary of the ordination of Father Emmanuel Thienpont, after which he delivered "a very suitable instruction" to those in attendance. He attended the second Diocesan Synod at the Cathedral in August, 1873. In December, 1874, he (Rev. Jer. Murray of Steubenville) was Master of Ceremonies for the funeral of Father Tuomey, in Steubenville.⁷

Service in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

The services of Father Murray were lost to the diocese in January of 1877. In November of 1876 Father Murray's health broke down and he came back from Steubenville to live with Bishop Rosecrans. The bishop wrote to his brother that the death of Father Murray would pose a serious loss to him. Nevertheless, because of his great desire to promote Murray's happiness, the bishop allowed him to go and live with his brother.⁸ On January 19 the bishop gave him official permission to live with his brother in Chillicothe or to transfer to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, both of which he did.⁹

Father Jeremiah Murray's health recovered under the watchful eye of his brother, Father John B. Murray, Pastor of St. Mary Parish in Chillicothe. John was pastor there until June, 1883. Jeremiah assisted him until at least December of 1881.¹⁰

Early in 1883 Archbishop Elder assigned Father Murray to the pastorate of St. Colman Parish in Washington Court House (in the Diocese of Columbus since 1944). His service there is described in detail in the St. Colman Parish photo directory of 1978, written by Father David Petry. Father Murray's predecessor, Father O'Donoghoe, had quite a time working against lay trusteeism, but had begun the effort to raise funds for a new church building. Father Murray began the construction project and by early September, 1885, the building was under roof. Father Murray went to Cincinnati on the 7th of that month to check on the windows for the new church and returned on September 9 to find the new building a ruin, with only the tower standing. A cyclone had struck the town the previous night, killing six and destroying many houses. The old parish church, in the present cemetery, also was destroyed, leaving the parish of sixty families with no church and a large debt. Even the large halls in the town were destroyed, leaving no place for temporary use as a church. With financial assistance from across the Archdiocese and beyond, the church was rebuilt and by December of 1885 was in use, but it still was not quite finished nine months later. It was dedicated on September 26, 1888.

Late in 1887 Father Murray was transferred to Cincinnati and appointed Pastor of Atonement Parish. The parish church was on Third Street, opposite the Central Union Station, and had been dedicated in 1873. It was unusual in that it had been built by the Sisters of Mercy and had their motherhouse attached. These Sisters had been brought from Kinsale, Ireland by Mrs. Sarah Peter in 1858. The Sisters had their own choir, side chapel, cloister, and sacristy attached to the stone church. The parish had 150 families in the 1890s. Father Murray remained at that position for twenty-five years, finally retiring in 1912. He then made his home at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati where he

kept busy as chaplain.

Bishop Hartley's 1918 *The History of Fifty Years* gives us a glimpse of him: "Rev. J. A. Murray is still living—making his home at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati. He was always a most welcome visitor to Steubenville. The old people flocked around him with their warmest greetings—always grateful for his labors amongst them."¹¹

Father Murray seems to have led a very quiet, retired life at the hospital. The *Catholic Telegraph* made no mention of the golden jubilee of his ordination in July, 1920. Three months later, the account of his brother's funeral listed all the clergy who took part and all of those in attendance, but did not mention him.¹²

Father Murray died at the hospital on April 14, 1924, at the age of 79. A funeral was held in the hospital chapel, with Archbishop Moeller officiating, and burial was next to his brother in the new St. Joseph cemetery.

It is unfortunate that no kind words about the spirit or personality of Father Murray were written. We know only that as a young man he had tact and shrewdness; he was devoted to his priesthood and to his brother; he was noted as a theologian; and the people appreciated his labors for them. Perhaps that is enough.

NOTES

- 1) Lamott, *History of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati*, gives his birth date as October 6, 1845. *Catholic Churches of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio* (1896) says October 6, 1846. The baptismal record has October 7, 1844, as listed in Richard T. Koch and Phyllis I. Davidson, *Western Maryland Catholics, 1819-1851*; Baltimore: Clearfield, 1998
- 2) The census records are notoriously inaccurate. The 1870 census also lists Ohio as his birthplace. No Jeremiah Murray born in Ohio about 1842 is to be found in the 1850 or 1880 censuses.
- 3) *Der Wahrheits-Freund* of July 20, 1870. A copy of the news article on the ordination and a long letter in the same newspaper concerning Father Jessing's first Mass in Hamilton, O., were

provided by Peter Veracka, librarian at the Pontifical College Josephinum. The ordination date is confirmed in Lamott and in the *Catholic Churches of Cincinnati*.

4) *CRS Bulletin*, August, 1977

5) Alfred E. Lee, *History of the City of Columbus*, p. 650; repeated in Hartley, *The History of Fifty Years*, 149.

6) *CRS Bulletin*, March, 1979. See N. N. Hill, *History of Licking County, Ohio*, 1881, p. 486 and Hartley, 1918, p. 298.

7) *Catholic Telegraph* Dec. 15, 1870, Feb. 1, 1872, July 10, 1873, and Jan. 1, 1874; and *The Hocking Sentinel*, July 3, 1873

8) UCLA Research Library, Special Collections

Number 663, General Rosecrans' Papers, Box 66, folders 93 and 95, letters from Bishop Rosecrans to General Rosecrans dated Nov. 10, 1876 and Jan. 17, 1877

9) 1877, Jan. 19, Columbus University of Notre Dame Archives #8397 (now II-5-f -A.D.S.)

10) It is not clear where he was stationed in 1882. His name does not appear in the parish registers, but the annual *Catholic Directory* still lists him in Chillicothe in 1882. His obituary in the *Catholic Telegraph* of April 17, 1924 places him there until 1883.

11) Bishop Hartley's 1918 *The History of Fifty Years*, p. 258

12) *Catholic Telegraph*, October 7, 1920

Abstracts from the *Catholic Telegraph*

(Continued, from Vol. XXXIV, No. 4)

August 16, 1856

[Communicated.

On Friday, 1st of August, the Most Rev. Archbishop held Ordinations in St. Joseph's Church, Perry county, at which thirteen of the Dominican students of Theology received clerical tonsure and the four minor Orders. They are: Messrs. J. B. McGovern, J. A. Sheuerman, P. M. Ralph, J. A. Rotchford, J. Heaney, A. Ogborne, P. V. Keogh, Stephen Burne, F. J. Dunn, M. D. Lilly, F. M. McGrath, D. Sheehy, and J. T. Nealis. On Saturday the last named seven were ordained Subdeacons, and on Sunday, Deacons. On Monday, the Feast of St. Dominic, the same rev. gentlemen were promoted to the Priesthood. On the same day five young men were solemnly received to the habit of St. Dominic. The Archbishop preached the Panegyric of the Saint.

Confirmation was administered in St. Joseph's Church to twenty-seven on Sunday, and in the evening of the same day to sixty in Holy Trinity Church, Somerset. After Confirmation the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of a fine new church in Somerset was performed. The Archbishop preached on the occasion; also the Rev. W. Underthiner, O.S.F., to a large congregation of Germans.

August 23, 1856

Episcopal Visitation.

On the 11th August the Archbishop offered the Holy Sacrifice at the house of the aged and venerable Mr. William Mattingly, where several devout Catholics received the Holy Communion. The zealous Catholic gave five thousand dollars towards the erection of the Church of St. Thomas Aquinas, Zanesville—a fact which is commemorated by a white marble tablet in the sacristy of that church. He is now engaged, with the aid of his patriarchal family and Catholic neighbors, in building a church on a beautiful site given by one of his nephews, in the above named settlement, ten miles from Zanesville. The foundations are built, the brick burnt, and the work contracted for to be under roof, God willing, this fall. It will cost about five or six thousand dollars.

On Tuesday, 12th, Church was held at St. Ann's, Will's Creek. There were twenty-seven confirmed. On Wednesday, the new chapel of Sts. Mary and Elizabeth, Kilbuck, Coshocton county, was dedicated and six persons confirmed. On Thursday, 13th August, two persons were confirmed at St. Matthew's church, Dresden. There are very many most excellent Catholics at Dresden, Coshocton,

Wills Creek, and Kilbuck, but they have no pastor, receiving only monthly, or less frequent, hurried visits from Zanesville and Newark which need all the time and care of their respective pastors. "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send laboreres into his vineyard."

NEWARK.

On the 15th August the Very Rev. James Whelan, Provincial of the Order of St. Dominic, preached in the church of St. Francis de Sales, Newark, a sound practical discourse, on the Festival of the Assumption, in the forenoon; and in the afternoon fifty-four persons were confirmed. A clock worth three hundred dollars has been presented to this church and is now in the steeple; and a school house, two stories high, thirty-six by twenty-six feet, is advancing to completion.

While here, we were much consoled by the repentance and fervor of the widow of Mr. John McCarthy, who had been a generous benefactor of the church of Newark. This lady, after her husband's death, was persuaded to relapse into the errors of Episcopalianism, in which she unfortunately persisted for several years. But God did not lose sight of her. Having been recently struck with a severe illness, she thought of the judgments and mercies of her God, whose only true Church she had forsaken, and earnestly prayed to be readmitted to its fold. We need not say with what joy this charitable office of his ministry was performed in her behalf by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Bender. The Archbishop visited her during his brief sojourn in Newark, and had cause to bless God for his great mercy to an erring, but now repentant, child, and was deeply affected by the tears which she shed for her fall and promised forgiveness!

On the 16th August there were sixteen confirmed in St. Joseph's church, or chapel, Jersey Settlement.

There were a few converts in some of the places where Confirmation was administered during the visitation.

September 13, 1856

We much regretted the loss of Rev. Mr. Deiters...spoken of as he deserves, in the subjoined article. He was a zealous and beloved priest of this

diocese when he was selected as the only and likely one to heal the schism of the St. Louis church, Buffalo. [The fruits of his work are related in the article that follows, taken from the *Buffalo Catholic Sentinel*.]

Third quarter subscriptions, Name, Location, Issue date:

J. R. Pirney, Piketon [state?], Aug. 30
Theodore Tong, Lancaster, Sept. 20
Morand Bushue, Somerset, Aug. 9
Fred. Creter, Canal Dover, Aug. 2
Philip Haffey, Zanesville, Aug. 30
William O'Driscoll, Columbus, Aug. 2
Hugh Reilly, Portsmouth, Sept. 13
St. Joseph's College, Somerset, Aug. 23
Joseph Ward, Columbus, July 26

October 11, 1856

Ordination.

On Sunday, 28th Sept., the Archbishop of Cincinnati, with the permission of the Most Rev. Archbishop of Baltimore, celebrated solemn High Mass in the old Mountain Church, near Emmittsburg, and conferred the clerical tonsure on Mr. Joseph Fitzgerald; the four minor Orders on Mr. David Walker, and Deaconship on Rev. Edward Fitzgerald....

October 25, 1856

Died, on Monday, 20th October, at the residence of Rev. Mr. Howard, Springfield, after having devoutly received the holy sacraments, Rev. JOSEPH O'MALLY, in, we believe, his 47th year.

Deceased was born in Limerick, Ireland. He came young to this country, and was successively a student of Mount St. Mary's, Emmittsburg, Cincinnati, and Propaganda, Rome. During the 18 years of his priesthood he occupied various situations in this diocese, and was for a few years also in Pittsburgh. His remains are interred near those of his parents, and his Rev. brother, Patrick O'Mally, in the Catholic cemetery near Dayton....

(To be continued)

Mt. Calvary Cemetery, New Straitsville
Lot Owners (to 1971) and Tombstones

(Continued, from Vol. XXXIV, No. 4)

Section 10 (Continued)

Lot 11 - McAloon

HARKLESS: Clarence 1892-1987 [Jan. 16,
New Port Richey, Fla.]

Catherine 1893-1977

McALOON: Patrick 1867-1947

John 1903-1931 Son

Thomas A. McAloon 1876-1963

Lot 12 - John Beck

BECK: William A. 1902-1989

Loretto Z. 1900-[blank]

John J. Beck OHIO WAGR SVP CO 148

INF WORLD WAR I Apr 21 1895 Feb
8 1970

BECK: John J. 1857-1935

Mary A. 1871-1958

Lot 12A - Thomas Lynch

EDDY: Ross E. 1891-1962

Anna V. 1884-1968

footstone: Ross E. Eddy W VA CPL 71 INF
WORLD WAR I Dec 24 1891 June 23
1962

LYNCH: Thomas F. 1886-1943

Kathryn M. 1897-1966

footstone: Thomas F. Lynch OHIO PVT 1ST
CLASS 28 INF 1ST DIV died May 20,
1945

Lot 13 - Mrs. McGrath

McGRATH: John father

Margaret mother

Children: Mary

Margaret

Maurice

Terrence McCaffrey

Lot 14 - Mrs. N. Fox (no stones)

Lot 15 - John Begley

Mary M. Anderson Mother 1920-1969

BEGLEY: Myrtle A. 1889-1960

John W. 1886-1959

John Robert Begley Oct. 29, 1917-Mar. 12,
1918

Lot 16 - James Begley

John Bernard Begley PVT CO I 112 INF
REGT Sep 8 1928 Oct 4 1965

Mary Joyce Begley 1925-1970

BEGLEY: James 1884-[blank]

Bridget 1888-1963

James son Sept. 8, 1928-Nov. 22, 1928

Lot 16A - Carl Miller (no stones)

Section 11

Lot 17 - William Call

Mary Margaret McIlhatton 1907-1970

Anna wife of W. M. Call 1878-1911

Lot 18 - M. Murday

MURDAY [surname only]

Lot 19 - John Holleran

Kathleen Holleran 1905-1987 [Jan. 20, Col's]

Zita Holleran 1912-1968

HOLLERAN: John 1873-1937

Anna 1882-1921

Lot 20 - James Corbett

Leo V. Corbett 1895-1950

Laura J. Corbett 1899-1978

Lot 20A - Adam Spires

Ellen Spires May 19, 1914-Apr. 3, 1999

Sister

Clarence G. Spires June 10, 1900-Apr. 20,
1983

Daniel T. Spires OHIO PVT US ARMY

WORLD WAR II May 17 1903 Oct 10
1972

SPIRES: Adam 1872-1948

Ellen 1877-1969

Lot 21 - Wm. McIlhatten

William McIlhatton 1904-1933

John McIlhatton 1905-1965

McILHATTON: William 1838-1908

Sarah his wife 1836-1909

Lot 22 - Ed Daugherty

William Phillip Daugherty SEA 2 US NAVY
WORLD WAR I 1890-1978

Frank Daugherty OHIO PVT 333 INF
 WORLD WAR I Oct 3 1888 Feb 9,
 1959
 DAUGHERTY: Edward father 1849-1918
 Mary mother 1853-1936
 DAUGHERTY: Cecilia 1879-1913
 Catherine Koon 1883-1914
 Daughters [of Edward & Mary]
 Lot 23 - Mrs. Flowers
 Hazel A. Blosser Mother of Dolores &
 Leonard
 Mary Dolores Lanning Dec. 17, 1922-Jan. 9,
 2001
 Lawrence M. Lanning PFC US ARMY
 WORLD WAR II May 6 1920 Apr. 23
 1986
 FLOWERS: Albert H. 1866-1917
 Frances 1865-1923
 Lot 24 - Sarah Murphy
 MURPHY FAMILY
 (See adjacent lot 28, below.)
 Lot 24A - Robert Hannah (no stones)

Section 12

Lot 25 - P. Harrington
 John P. Harrington 1893-1954
 Johanna Harrington 1859-1920 Mother
 Rt. Rev. Msgr Thomas P. Harrington, D.D.
 1891-1926 Ordained 1918
 Lot 26 - H. Saulbeamer (no stones)
 Lot 27 - George Gaus
 GAUS: George O. 1881-1948
 Mary T. 1882-1934
 Lot 28 - Sarah Murphy
 MURPHY: John C. 1883-1972
 Michael 1885-1957
 MURPHY: John 1843-1922
 Sarah 1862-1922
 Charles 1900-1932
 Lot 29 - Joe Reid
 William H. Reid 1910-1965
 REID: Joseph E. 1869-1941
 Mary F. 1887-1968
 Anna Reid 1908-1995
 Lot 30 - Peter Waldie (by monument circle)

WALDIE: Peter A. 1882-1938
 Gertrude J. 1880-1950
 Lot 31 - J. Terrell
 John O'Brien 1863-1946
 James E. North OHIO TEC 5 CO A 220
 ARMED ENGR BN WORLD WAR II
 May 14 1917 Oct 23 1970
 Clara V. North 1887-1962
 Charles O. North 1887-1927
 TERRELL: James J. 1849-1938
 Mary E. 1857-1936
 Anna Terrell Walsh 1881-1911
 Lot 32 - James Grady
 Edward F. Grady 1919-1922
 CALL: Dennis F. 1862-1937
 Mary 1872-1941
 Francis Call OHIO SGT 1587 QM BN AVN
 WORLD WAR II Apr 1 1904 Jun 6 1962
 Lot 33 - John Crowe
 CROWE: John T. 1878-1945
 Delta G. 1884-[blank]

Section 13

Lot 34 - Dan Callahan
 CALLAHAN:
 Daniel died Jan. 9, 1910 aged 89 Yrs
 Rose died Mar. 3, 1909 aged 85 Yrs
 SWEENEY: Charles D. 1860-1917
 Catherine 1862-1916
 Lot 35 - Dennis Keefe
 John F. O'Keefe 1888-1918
 John McAllister 1856-1932
 Patrick McAllister 1846-1913
 Thomas A. O'Keefe 1882-1943
 Dennis Albert Keefe PVT 1 CL 362 INF Oct
 18 1932
 O'KEEFE: Dennis 1849-1928
 Sarah 1851-1910
 Lot 36 - Mrs. O'Neil
 O'NEILL: James J. 1875-1916
 Ellen T. 1880-1958
 Lot 37 - Harry Douglas
 DOUGLAS: Harry 1904-1969
 Mary C. 1902-1946
 Lot 38 - George Edley (no stones)

Lot 39 - James McAleer
Francis J. Daugherty SGT US ARMY AIR
CORPS WORLD WAR II Feb 22 1913
Dec 9 1992
DAUGHERTY: Daniel B. 1879-1957
Mary J. 1884-1942

Lot 40 - J. Donoghue
{James Donoghue 1856-1930
{Mary Donoghue 1859 - [blank]
{Mary Ellen Green 1889-1934
[James V. Donoghue 3-20-57]
[Fred Kineer 75 yrs 5-31-60]
[Catherine E. Kineer 74 yrs 1-31-72]

Lot 41 - Walter Begley
David A. Begley March 10, 1955
BEGLEY: Walter Edward 1910-1961
Kathleen 1920-1974
footstone: Walter Edward Begley OHIO MM
3 US NAVY WORLD WAR II Apr 4
1910 May 13 1961
John R. Begley 1943-1959 Jackie

Section 14

Lot 42 - P. Stewart
STEWART: Patrick J. 1858-1910
Sarah A. 1868-1931
James Stewart 1904-1957

Thomas Joseph Stewart OHIO PVT 1 CL
114 INF 29 DIV Jan. 17, 1941 [old
reading, not found in 2007]

Elizabeth C. Dawson 1902-1967

Lot 43 - Peter McQuade
Walter F. McQuade OHIO SM 2 US NAVY
WORLD WAR I Oct 30 1890 Jan 1
1970

Albert P. McQuade 1892-1986 PVT US
ARMY WORLD WAR I [Feb. 18]

McQUADE: Peter 1860-1934
Anna T. 1867-1950

Peter McQuade 1827-1910

Lot 44 - I. Yarger
Clarence Dennis Yarger OHIO PVT 1 CL 29
ENGRS June 21 1936

Joseph J. Yarger 1902-1974

YARGER: Israel 1858-1932

Susan 1860-1943

John Yarger 1887-1914

Mary Yarger 1893-1971

Lot 45 - Kochey

KOCHIE: Joseph 1866-1931

Mary his wife 1870-1934

Mary daughter 1904-1927

(To be continued)