

Walking Together on the Journey of Faith

Beginnings

To help meet the spiritual needs of Lakewood's expanding population St. Clement Church was founded by Bishop Joseph Schrembs on April 27, 1922. Under the leadership of the first pastor, Fr. Joseph J. Schmit, property was purchased for \$40,000 at the corner of Madison (frontage of 202 ft.) and Lincoln (250 ft.) and Marlowe (80 ft.). The property purchase included a six room brick residence which was remodeled immediately to become what still serves as the rectory today.

Ground was broken for the church on August 17, 1922. The contract for \$68,000 was given to the Schrader Construction Company. Many dedicated parishioners gave of their time, talent and treasure to help build the church.

Easter Sunday, April 1st, 1923 marked the official opening of the church and on May 27th of the same year 57 children received their First Holy Communion. The official dedication took place on September 16, 1923. Construction for a new school began in the spring of 1924 and the school was ready to receive 350 children for the first day of classes on September 8, 1924.

The Cleveland Sisters of St. Joseph staffed the school under the direction of Sr. Rita, the first principal.

Eight more classrooms and a gym were added in 1927. The rectory was also enlarged to accommodate two more assistants.

Growth

By 1931 the parish had tripled in size from the original 314 families, thus making it necessary to enlarge the church. A new sanctuary was added, increasing the seating capacity from 600 to 750. Completing the sanctuary were a new main altar, communion railings and pulpit, all of marble. All the wooden parts of the original structure were removed and replaced with stone. Permanent decorations were added, embodying many of the features of the Church of San Clemente in Rome. In 1947 a convent for 18 sisters was built on the property.

One more building was added to the complex in 1958. Expanding enrollment necessitated the addition of 6 classrooms which now comprise the junior high area. In 1965, more homes were purchased in order to provide additional parking.

Church Changes

In accord with the liturgical directives of Vatican II the church sanctuary was renovated in 1972. The communion railings were removed, a marble altar was added and a large mosaic of the risen Christ on the wall behind the altar of repose replaced the statue of St. Clement.

Parish Life

Ten years later, in 1982, the church hall was renovated. A gathering area was added along the west side of the church, together with new church entrances, including an entrance for the handicapped.

Throughout its 75 years St. Clement Parish has provided time and space for many educational, social and spiritual activities. As far back as January 29, 1923 a special meeting was held to establish an Altar and Rosary Society. Then, on April 20, 1932 the St. Vincent dePaul Society, which is still active, formed its first St. Clement Conference.

Organizations such as the Holy Name Society, Sacred Heart League, Legion of Mary, Altar and Rosary Society, Young Ladies Sodality and Clementines are no longer active, but other parish groups continue to refresh and renew the life of St. Clement Community. Lay people now take an active role in liturgical worship as lectors, greeters, ushers and eucharistic ministers.

Adoration Chapel

At the request of parishioners, a Perpetual Adoration Chapel was established on July 26, 1982. People from St. Clement and neighboring parishes continue to spend time in adoration of the Eucharist 24 hours a day.

Pastoral Council

The present pastoral council was implemented in 1990 at the request of Bishop Pilla to assist and advise the pastor.

Today

St. Clement School is now staffed by lay teachers and a lay principal. The last Sister of St. Joseph to function as principal, Sr. Mary Ann Lavelle, completed her term in June of 1992.

Since there are no longer any Sisters of St. Joseph living in the convent, it was leased to Freedom House in April of 1995. Freedom House offers help for women who have a willingness to move forward in recovery.

In June 1996, the parish made commitments to a Restoration and Development pledge campaign to raise \$600,000 over the next three years. Funds from this project will be used to replace the gutters, install a new phone system, repair the air conditioning system, paint the church and update the school's computer lab.

Lighting the pathways to God

Pastors . . .

Right Reverend Monsignor Joseph J. Schmit, Reverend Leo A. Warth, Right Reverend Monsignor Edward J. Seward, J.C.L., Reverend Joseph A. Sweeney

Associate Pastors . . .

Fr. Joseph Krispinsky, Fr. Francis J. McGlynn, Fr. John J. Reynolds, Fr. John J. Tivenan, Fr. Andrew A. Prokop, Fr. William A. Bachmann, Fr. James B. Thornton,



Fr. William J. Murney, Fr. J. Leo Brennan, Fr. Victor J. Cimperman, Fr. Walter A. Lechtenberg, Fr. Joseph C. Dempsey, Fr. Willard F. Wiesler, Fr. Allen F. Bruening, Fr. Paul W. Hackman, Fr. J. A. Walsh, Fr. James E. Hughes, Fr. William P. Lyons, Fr. James F. Whelan, Fr. Bernard A. Blatt, Fr. Ralph V. Coletta, Fr. James E. Fortman,

Fr. Edward J. Murray, Fr. Thomas G. Montavon, Fr. Charles F. Schirmer, Fr. Richard R. Schnurr, Fr. Joseph A. Rogers, Fr. John F. Anderson, Fr. T. Gerald Waldron, Fr. William H. Severt, Fr. John J. Gorski, Fr. David Fallon, Fr. Francis M. Bednar, Fr. John F. Wessel, Fr. Joseph S. Mecir, Fr. Stanley J. Klasinski, Fr. John Seabold

Sowing the seeds of Wisdom

Teachers . . .

The Sisters of St. Joseph who contributed their services to St. Clement School from 1924-1992 made it possible for children to receive a quality Catholic Christian education.

We thank them and we thank also all the dedicated lay teachers who served and continue to serve the children of St. Clement School in a spirit of generosity and self-sacrifice.

Principals . . .

Sr. Rita Kyser, Sr. Geraldine Walsh, Sr. Alma Brady, Sr. Agatha Keller,
Sr. Carmelita Haessly, Sr. Mary Lourdes Mills, Sr. Madonna Sonnhalter,
Sr. Jane Therese Stopp, Sr. Miriam Therese Ebenger, Sr. Mary Hough,
Sr. Mary Ann Lavelle

Sr. Marion Ahern	Sr. Evelyn Gerard (DeChantal)
Sr. Margaret Marie Albert (St. Margaret)	Sr. Leonard Gibbons
Sr. Aniceta Ambrose	Sr. Scholastica Gibbons
Sr. Teresa Margaret Bost	Sr. James Ginley
Sr. Sylvester Boylan	Sr. Dorothy Glosser (Andrew)
Sr. Catherine Brennan (Ann Therese)	Sr. Adele Golden
Sr. Barbara Cambron	Sr. Jane Frances Granfield
Sr. Antoinette Campanella (Concetta)	Sr. Hope Greener (Mary of the Angels)
Sr. Kathleen Carey (Mary Terrence)	Sr. William Gruettner
Sr. Clare Carney (Jean Paul)	Sr. Leonarda Haag
Sr. Jane Cavanaugh (Jane DeChantal)	Sr. Aloise Haas
Sr. Mary Margaret Cerne (Michaela)	Sr. Lucy Marie Hable
Sr. Judith Cole (St. Jude)	Sr. Kevin Haessly
Sr. Ignatia Costello	Sr. Jane Francis Hagan
Sr. Noreen Cusack	Sr. Mary Immaculate Halascsak
Sr. Yvonne Dachtler (Mary Anna)	Sr. Julia Haley
Sr. Francis Joseph Daly	Sr. June Hansen (Mary Clare)
Sr. Rita Marie Dee (Agnes DeSales)	Sr. Betty Herris (Mary Colman)
Sr. Patricia Dennis (Michelle)	Sr. Amelia Holliday
Sr. Damian Deppish	Sr. Aurelia Howard
Sr. Helen Marie DesForges	Sr. Mary Ellen Hoy
Sr. Rita Devine (Phyllis)	Sr. Marie Dolors Hoynes
Sr. Alfred Dooley	Sr. Ruth Hug (Thomasine)
Sr. Dolores Downey	Sr. Janet Huntley (Virginia Marie)
Sr. Mary Ellen Driscoll (Alma Marie)	Sr. Cletus Judge
Sr. Joanne Drosutis (Thomas Aquinas)	Sr. DeSales Kennedy
Sr. Mary Rose Durbin	Sr. Jean Thomas Kennedy
Sr. Eileen Durkin	Sr. Ann Kilbane (Jean Anthony)
Sr. Rose Ann Ebner	Sr. Winifred Kilp
Sr. Donna Emerson (Donald)	Sr. Alma Kleinhentz
Sr. Annunciata Farrell	Sr. Generose Kline
Sr. Virgileen Flechler (Marie Genevieve)	Sr. Marie Koeth
Sr. Dorothy Fouquette (Ursula)	Sr. Jean Antoinette Kolk
Sr. Margaret Mary Friel (Kilian)	Sr. Ruth Ann Lab
Sr. St. George Gardner	Sr. Marie Lammermeier (Madeline)

Teachers (nuns) Continued

Sr. Catherine Lee (Ellen Marie)	Sr. Francine Sansbury
Sr. Anna Marie Linehan	Sr. Priscilla Saxton (Mary Andre)
Sr. Mary Carmel Lombard	Sr. Imelda Scheetz
Sr. Lucy Macan	Sr. Jean Schenkelberg (Nora Marie)
Sr. St. Joseph Maher	Sr. Margaret Schuler (Benedict)
Sr. Anthony Mahon	Sr. Loretta Schulte (Mary Eileen)
Sr. Aline Malloy	Sr. Constance Shannon
Sr. Charlotte Markling	Sr. Mary Shannon
Sr. Mary Jane Masterson	Sr. Aquinas Shay
Sr. Eleanore McAdams	Sr. Louise Sheerin
Sr. Virginia McDonough	Sr. Anne Francis Shuster
(Margaret Marie)	Sr. Barbara Ann Simon
Sr. Venard McGuire	Sr. Bertrand Sloan
Sr. Victoria McQuaid	Sr. Ancilla Smyth
Sr. Barbara McQueen (Mary Shawn)	Sr. Patricia Ann Spath
Sr. Immaculata Meehan	Sr. Therese Specker (Maris Stella)
Sr. Anne Marie Miller	Sr. Blanche Stocker
Sr. Teresita Monschein	Sr. Alberta Stovik
Sr. Monica Marie Mooney	Sr. Mary Loretta Stuart
Sr. Virginia Moore	Sr. Mary Sheila Sweeney
Sr. Mary Clare Moran	Sr. Albert Teare
(John Vianney)	Sr. Henrietta Terwood
Sr. Dolores Moyer (Rosarie)	Sr. Ruth Toker
Sr. Gerard Murphy	Sr. Dorothy Turk
Sr. Margaret Mary Neary	Sr. Suzanne Turk
Sr. Celestine Panoch	Sr. Patricia Twohig
Sr. Patrice Patton	Sr. Marie Uline (Cecilia Ann)
Sr. Rose Therese Patton	Sr. Joan Vrabel
Sr. Gabriel Paul	Sr. Dorothy Wachs (Rita Marie)
Sr. Gervase Pfeiffer	Sr. Patricia Waina (Monica)
Sr. Jean Marie Plato	Sr. Letitia Walk
Sr. Agnes Marie Powers	Sr. Mary Therese Walsh
Sr. Josephine Pucci (Helen Therese)	Sr. Gertrude Marie Whalen
Sr. Marie Cecile Rainey	Sr. Mary Agnes Wheaton
Sr. Helene Randa	(Mary Sharon)
Sr. Agnes Rataj (Grace Ann)	Sr. Jeanette Wise
Sr. Assumpta Ray	Sr. Bertha Yeager
Sr. Rose Marie Ritter	Sr. St. Mark Zeiger
Sr. Donna Rock (Florita)	Sr. Gemma Zeitz
Sr. Edward Marie Ryan	Sr. Marie Estelle Zeitz
Sr. Eunice Ryan	
Sr. Louis Ryan	Sr. Gloria Auer, R.S.M.