

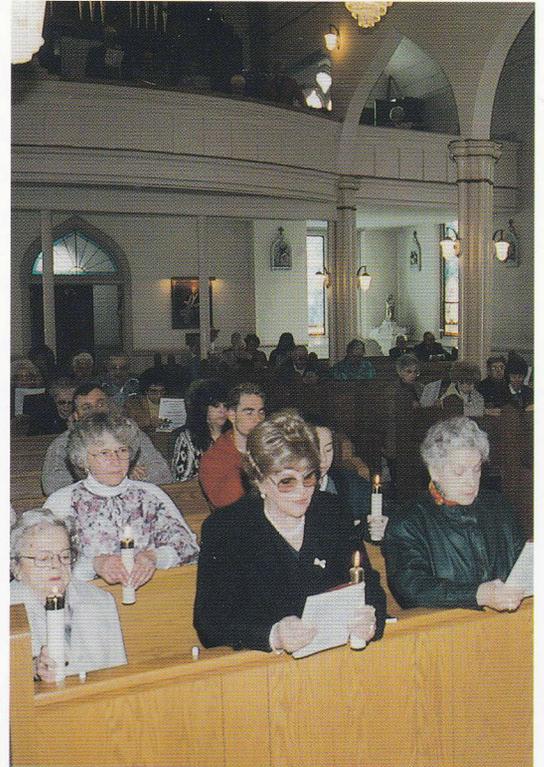
Holy Mother of the Rosary

*Polish National Catholic Church
Chicopee, Massachusetts
1897-1997*

Celebrating One Hundred Years



Rev. Walter W. Biedrawa
Pastor



In Prayer And Adoration



Going Forth To Serve



Remembering Our Loved Ones

Welcome to our Church Family

As we begin the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of our parish, Holy Mother of the Rosary, it is important to reflect on the foresight, sacrifice, dedication, and perseverance of our founders in establishing this independent Catholic church. Can you imagine their difficulties in the year 1897 in deciding to form a new parish against overwhelming odds of success and in an era lacking the facilities of communications, transportation, and technology which we enjoy in modern times? And yet, they stood fast, banded together, and under the dynamic spiritual leadership of their first pastor, Right Reverend Walenty Gawrychowski, eventually succeeded in becoming a member of the newly formed Polish National Catholic Church.

Throughout the next 100 years, Holy Mother of the Rosary has continued its quest for religious independence and governance by its members. Originally founded by our foreparents of Polish descent, it has opened its doors to citizens of various ethnic backgrounds who share the same religious beliefs and family traditions with their families. Our members are a proud family who continue to promote the various attributes of the Polish National Catholic Church and offer their support, both financially and otherwise, to carry on our mission with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a member of this church family, we are all expected to participate in religious services on a regular basis, to partake in the rites of confession and receiving the sacraments of Holy Communion, to teach and demonstrate our Christian values to our children, to serve on the Parish Council or its appointed committees, to meet our financial obligations to the church, to join its societies and organizations, and to foster the growth and perpetuity of the church into the 21st century.

It has been said by many leaders, both political, religious and community, that strong family values are the key to a homogeneous society, and the bible tells us "that which we sow, we will reap." In today's fast-moving high tech society, there are many individuals and families searching for direction in their lives and something to enrich their spiritual lives as well. While we cannot profess to be a "perfect" haven to solve everyone's wishes, we, nevertheless, can offer a welcome hand, a sympathetic ear, and a warm heart to those interested in embracing our religious family.

As we complete the celebration of our historic 100 years of togetherness as a church family, it is important for all of us to look ahead to the next century and to have the vision and determination to continue this tradition for the next 100 years. In honor of this significant

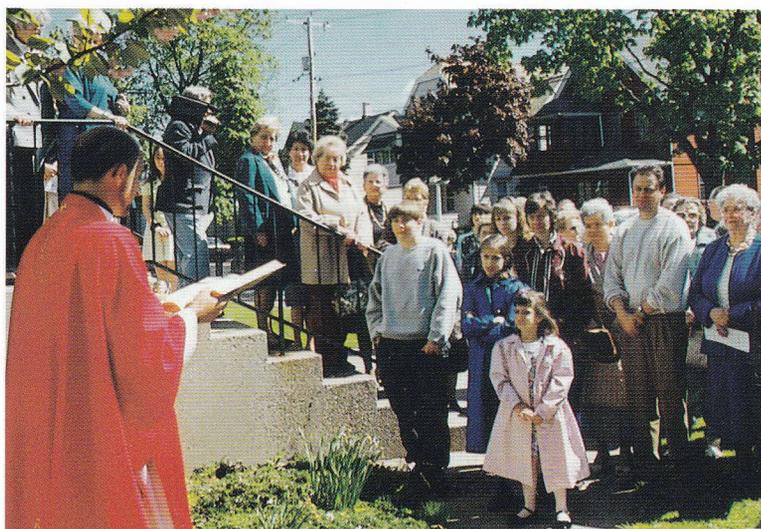
occasion, the members of our parish have voted to construct a handicap entrance to enable all members to have access to our church. The goal of \$50,000 to make this possible is not an easy task to attain, but if we all make that extra effort, it will become a reality. It is through efforts such as this that our heritage was established a century ago, and so it shall be our legacy to our children and grandchildren to carry on the proud tradition forged 100 years ago. Hopefully, we can all take pride in having enriched this tradition in some small way during our short tenure here on earth.

Enjoy this initial edition of our Holy Mother of the Rosary Church Pictorial Directory and please share it with your family and friends.

100th Anniversary Committee
Holy Mother of the Rosary Parish



Breaking Ground



Blessing For Our New Lift



Making it Possible

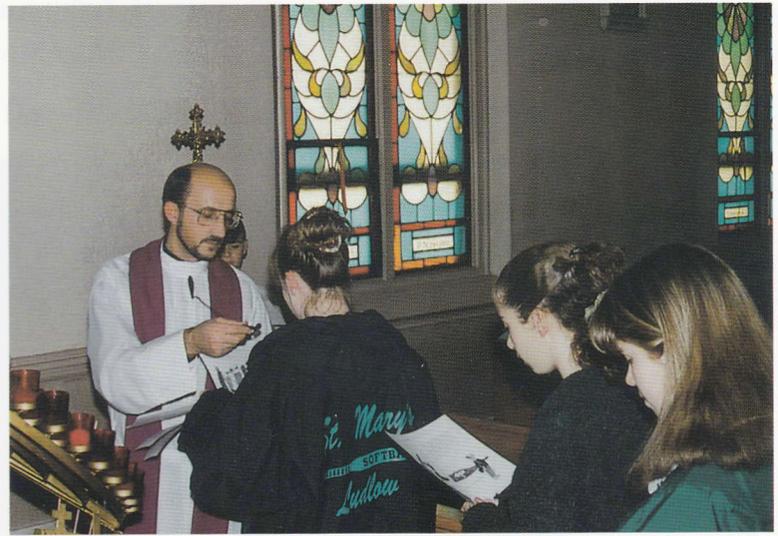
Through Reflection...



Glory to God in the Highest



Imposing of the Ashes



Observing the Stations of the Cross



Rejoicing with Palms



Liturgy of the Light

And Worship...



Blessing of the Easter Food



Resurrection Procession



Corpus Christi Celebration

*Through
The Sacraments...*



Two Shall Become One



Blessing of the Baptismal Water



Entering the Church through Baptism



First Communion



Confirming Our Faith

Through Service



Christmas Bazaar



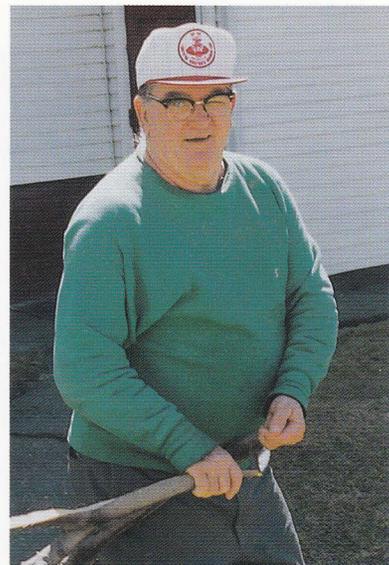
Parish Committee



100th Anniversary Committee



Parish Work Day



Faithful Eddie

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Society



Making Pierogi
Chicopee's Finest



The Society in 1997



We "Knead" Strong Hands



Preparing the Altar

Since 1935 the society continues their purpose to venerate the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar on holy days and special occasions by holding candles to remind all that Christ is the "Light of the World".

Their love and caring continues with the upkeep of our beautiful altars and their generosity toward all parish undertakings.

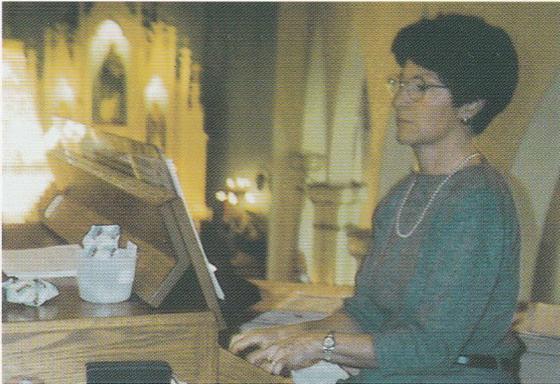


Thanks for Faithful Service

The Lutnia Choir



Frank "Prusso" Curylo, Choir Director



Bunny Curylo, Organist



100th Anniversary Concert



Checking Out the Pipes



Singing Praises to the Lord



We Have Fun, Too!

Organized in 1924, the society took the name of Queen Hedwig (Jadwiga), the only Polish queen, an advocate of peace and generosity to the poor of her country.

The society proudly continues their work with a variety of fund raisers to make donations toward parish projects, and especially for needs of the rectory.



The Society in 1997



Making Kapusta

Queen Hedwig Society



Lending a Helping Hand



Annual Tag Sale

School Of Christian Living



Delighting in Life

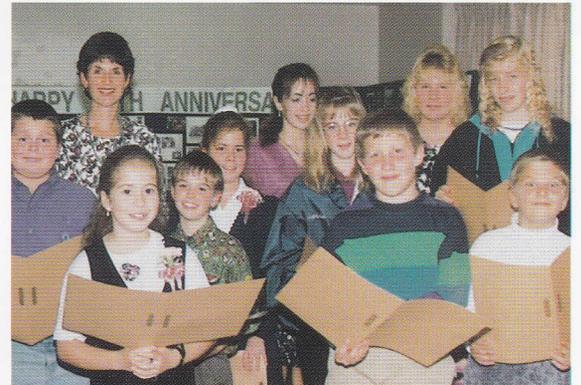


Sculpting Paschal Lambs in Butter



Reading God's Word

Parent-Teacher Organization



Preparing to Sing



Selling Flowers to Raise Funds



Collecting Food for the Hungry

Through the Years
Tyle lat



Truth Struggle
Work