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New Jersey Catholic Records Newsletter

VOLUME VII NO. 3

AUTUMN 1988



Left to right, Most Reverend Michael J. Dudick, second bishop of Passaic; Most Reverend Emil Mahalick, first bishop of Parma, Ohio; and Most Reverend Stephen J. Kocisko, first bishop of Passaic, now Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh.

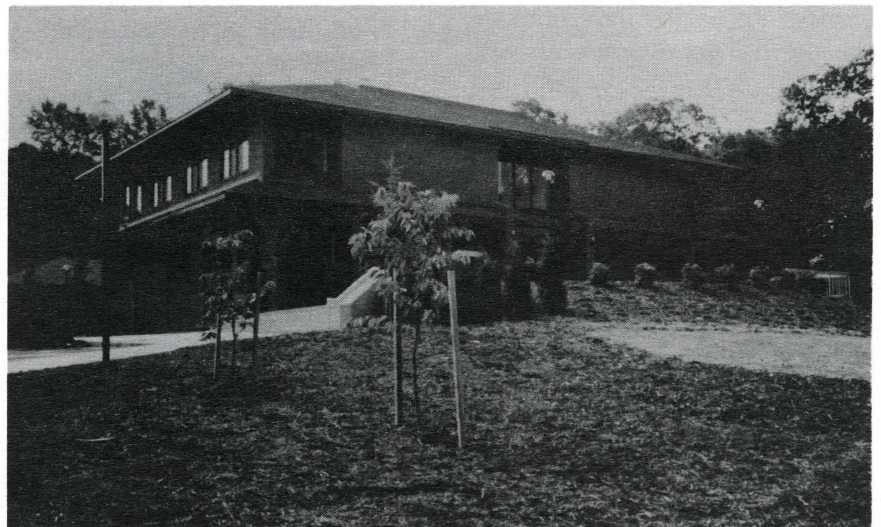
Eparchy of Passaic celebrates silver jubilee

July 6, 1988 marked the 25th anniversary of the establishment by Pope Paul VI of the Eparchy of Passaic, the diocese which embraces all Byzantine-Ruthenian Rite Catholics in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, the eastern half of Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia. The new diocese was created because of the rapid growth taking place among Ruthenian Catholics in the eastern United States and the increasing difficulty of adequately serving their needs from the earlier-established Apostolic Exarchate of Pittsburgh. Thus, in July, 1963, the Pope divided the territory of the Exarchate and designated Passaic as a new diocesan see.

The diocese of Passaic grew from the migration of Ruthenians, which began to be noticeable around 1870 and swelled in numbers from approximately 1880 until World War I disrupted all emigration from Europe. The people came from the areas bordering the Carpathian Mountains in east central Europe — a territory then divided between the German, Austro-Hungarian and Russian empires — and were counted by the immigration services as Germans, Austro-Hungarians or Russians. Therefore, the total number of immigrants is clouded, but undoubtedly it reached several hundred thousand.

The initial immigrants settled mostly in the coal mining areas of Pennsylvania where the "Molly Maguire" incidents of the 1870s led the mine owners to foster this new

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View of the new diocesan headquarters in Passaic, New Jersey.



Bishop Dudick and his classmates celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the anniversary of their ordination.

group in order to be rid of the disruptive Irish. But as the flow of Ruthenian immigrants steadily swelled in the years after 1880, the newcomers settled much more widely along the Atlantic shore, although the heaviest concentration remained in Pennsylvania, with substantial numbers in New York and New Jersey.

Within the group there was substantial cultural difference between the Ukrainians and the "sub-Carpathian" Ruthenians. This difference was exacerbated by differing senses of nationality and national interest. Another principal difference was the adherence of those from Russia and Bukovina to the Greek Orthodox Church, while those from Galicia and Hungary followed the Byzantine-Ruthenian rite in union with the Papacy. In many respects, however, the unity of the group was stronger than the divisive tendencies, and Americans generally perceived the unity rather than the diversity.

At first many of the Ruthenians found it convenient to use the services of Roman Catholic clergy, particularly those of Polish background, for their religious life, but this was an inadequate solution. Liturgical language, practice and atmosphere differed radically from what they were accustomed to. Then, in 1885 the Reverend Ivan Volanski, a priest of the diocese of Lemberg in the old Austro-Hungarian empire, arrived to take up work among the Ruthenian immigrants.

In the following year the first Ruthenian parish, St. Michael the Archangel, was founded in Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, and within the next three years five more churches were added, including the first Ruthenian parish in New Jersey, at Jersey City.

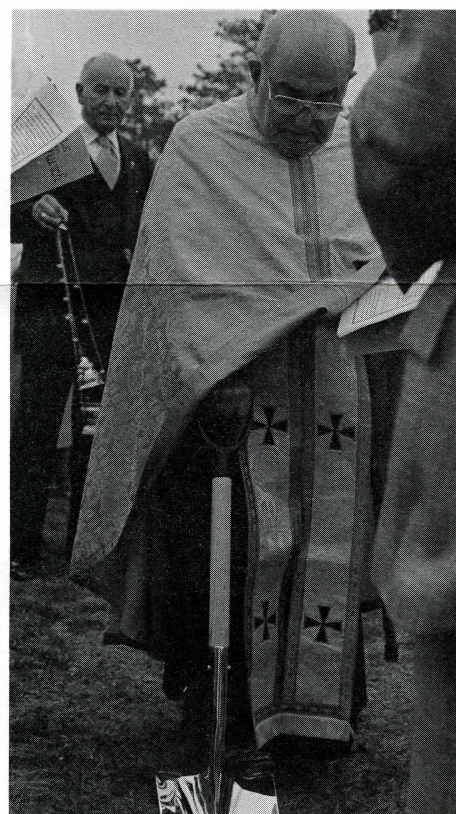
As the numbers of clergy and laity increased, some difficulties arose with the Roman rite episcopate. For one thing, many of the Ruthenian clergy considered that they were responsible only to their own ordinaries in Europe and were reluctant to come under the jurisdiction of the Roman rite bishops in America. Moreover, the differences in liturgy and popular religious practice worried some American bishops as possible causes of scandal or division. Most notable was the practice in the Ruthenian rite of having a married clergy. While Roman and Ruthenian rite Catholics lived cheek-by-jowl in eastern Europe without difficulty, in the latter 19th century almost all American Catholics were unfamiliar with that situation. The American bishops, already struggling to meet the needs of hundreds of thousands of new immigrants, feared a disruption of Catholic life from the introduction of a new rite. Despite the difficulties, Ruthenian Catholics grew rapidly in numbers, and by 1909 there were 10 Ruthenian parishes in New Jersey, while Pennsylvania, still the center of Ruthenian migration, had over 80.

Early in this century Rome recognized the growth of Ruthenian Catholics in the United States by the establishment of two separate dioceses — one for the Ukrainians centered in Philadelphia and one for the Ruthenians with its headquarters in Pittsburgh. Continued growth, especially after World War II, resulted in the division of the Pittsburgh Eparchy and the creation of the Eparchy (diocese) of Passaic in 1963.

The Passaic eparchy's first bishop was the Most Reverend Stephen J. Kocisko who directed its activities for five years, until he was transferred to the diocese of Munhall, Pennsylvania. In 1969 he became the first Metropolitan Archbishop of the newly created Metropolitan Province, the title of which was changed from Munhall to Pittsburgh in 1977.

Bishop Kocisko was succeeded at Passaic by the Most Reverend Michael J. Dudick, who has led the diocese since 1968. Born in St. Clair, Pennsylvania, Michael Dudick

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Monsignor John A. Stim, V.F., breaks ground for the new church in Toms River, New Jersey.

studied in local schools, then at St. Procopius Seminary, Lisle, Illinois and was ordained to the priesthood in 1945. Having served briefly as pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church, Struthers, Ohio, he was appointed in 1946 to the chancery staff and served there until 1955. When the diocese of Passaic was established, Father Dudick became chancellor and pastor of St. George Church in Newark, New Jersey, and upon the transfer of Bishop Kocisko to Pittsburgh, was designated his successor and ordained bishop on October 24, 1968 at the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel in Passaic.

The growth of the diocese has been rapid during his tenure. It now embraces 26 churches in New Jersey, 42 in Pennsylvania and others spread from Massachusetts to Florida. In addition, the diocese contains a monastery of the Basilian Fathers and one of the Carmelite nuns. Since 1965 the diocese has published a bi-weekly newspaper, *Eastern Catholic Life*.



Left to right, *Bishop Andrew Pataki of Parma, Ohio; Bishop Dudick; and Archbishop Kocisko with Pope John Paul II in Rome.*

Recent acquisitions now available in Seton Hall's archives

The following items recently became available to researchers in the archives at Seton Hall University:

Papers of Monsignor John P. Weigand (1920-1985). Monsignor Weigand graduated from Seton Hall College in 1916 and was ordained in 1920. The collection includes recent correspondence, photo albums of the 50th anniversary of his ordination (1970) and photos of the 1916 and 1920 graduating classes of the college and the seminary.

St. Mary of the Assumption, Elizabeth (1864-1975). This collection includes the minute books of the board of trustees (1864-1918, 1919-1975), the Holy Name Society (1897-1908), Young Men's Catholic Association (1879-1880) and financial records (1872-1915). Also included is some correspondence and a number of copperplate negatives probably used for book publication.

St. Patrick's Church, Elizabeth (1906-1924). One scrapbook of newspaper clippings about the parish, its priests and other prominent Catholics in Elizabeth. The scrapbook also contains meeting announcements and minutes, correspondence, and transcripts of published and unpublished Irish-Catholic diaries and letters.

Addition to Walsh Papers (1915-1943). Most of this material was generated personally by Archbishop Walsh. It includes scrapbooks of clippings (1918-1943), photo albums of Trenton parishes and other institutional buildings (1918-1928), and photos of his installation as Newark's bishop in 1928.

For further information, researchers can contact the archivist, Barbara Geller, at (201) 761-9476.

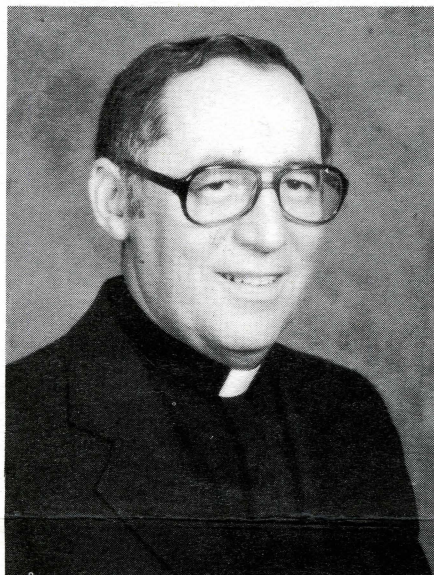
Wister accepts new assignment

Reverend Robert J. Wister, H.E.D., associate professor of church history at Immaculate Conception Seminary and a member of the Commission since 1976, has recently assumed the post of executive director of the seminary division of the National Catholic Education Association at its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Father Wister's new duties require his residence in the nation's capital and he has thus, to our regret, resigned from the Commission.

Father Wister's numerous contributions, especially on the publications committee, have greatly furthered the Commission's work. We regret his departure, but wish him every success in his new endeavors.

Meet the Commission



Monsignor Charles J. Giglio.

Monsignor Charles J. Giglio was born to Charles and Elizabeth Mugnano Giglio in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He did his undergraduate work at Manhattan College, taking his BA in political science, and then studied theology at Christ

the King Seminary, St. Bonaventure, New York. Ordained a priest for the Diocese of Camden on May 31, 1958, Monsignor Giglio obtained the Licentiate in philosophy at the Angelicum in Rome, his Doctorate in philosophy from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and an M.A. in educational administration from Villanova University.

Monsignor Giglio has served as associate pastor of Holy Spirit Church in Atlantic City and of Our Lady Queen of Peace in Pitman, New Jersey. He has also been principal of St. James High School in Carney's Point, New Jersey and of Camden Catholic High School in Cherry Hill. In addition, he was the founding president of the New Jersey Association of Catholic Secondary School Principals. Monsignor Giglio has served the Diocese of Camden as director of the Diocesan Office of Communications and director of the Office of Evangelization and as vice chairman of the Diocesan Pastoral Council. In connection with this last

position, Monsignor Giglio became the founding president of the National Pastoral Planning Conference.

Currently, he is executive editor of the Camden diocesan newspaper, *The Catholic Star-Herald*, and also holds the offices of diocesan historian and diocesan archivist. On the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Diocese of Camden, he published *Building God's Kingdom*, a history of the Diocese. He also serves as chairman of the diocesan Committee on Evangelization and as executive director of the diocesan Office of Black Ministry.

Monsignor Giglio's service to the Church in New Jersey follows a family tradition. For over 40 years, his uncle, Monsignor Pasquale Mugnano, was pastor of St. Mary of Mt. Virgin Church in New Brunswick. And his aunt, Sr. Carmelina Mugnano, M.P.F., was the founding principal of Villa Victoria Academy in Trenton. She also served as the first vicar of the England-Ireland province of the Religious Teachers Filippini.

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