



120 Academy Street, Trenton, N.J. 08608
609-392-7188 * www.trentonlib.org

Collection 610 St. Joachim's Church Collection

**By Susan Sancinito
January 2024**

History

St. Joachim's was founded in 1901 when Bishop James McFaul established the parish to serve the needs of the thousands of Italian immigrants who settled here and worked in the City's steel mills and rubber and pottery factories. He named Father Aloysius Pozzi to serve as its first pastor. Services originally were held in Centennial Hall on the corner of Hudson and Genesee streets. Through the efforts of Father Pozzi, property was purchased at 20 Butler Street in Chambersburg and two years later on Aug. 15, 1903, the cornerstone for a new church was laid. The first Mass was celebrated there on July 16, 1904. At its height, there were about 3,500 families in the parish.

Monsignor Pozzi went to Rome to secure sisters to teach (Maestre Pie Filippini) and St. Joachim's Elementary School was opened in 1910.

The Parish of Our Lady of the Angels was created in 2005 after a merger between St. Joachim and Immaculate Conception Church, both located in the Chambersburg section of Trenton.

Scope and Content Notes

This collection consists of commemorative publications on special anniversaries of the church and school. There are also two publications covering church renovations and the church's debt cancellation campaign. The collection is divided into three series: I. Church Improvement/Financial Publications; II. Church Anniversary/Special Occasion Publications; and III. School Anniversary Publications.

Series Description

Series I. Church Improvement/Financial Publications

The first series consists of two publications. The first, *St. Joachim's Church Capital Improvements Campaign, 1987-1991*, details the renovations and donations made to the church from various parishioners. It is illustrated with black-and-white photographs and lists the donors. The second publication, *Debt Cancellation Campaign, September 17-October 15, 1944, St. Joachim's Church, Trenton, New Jersey*, details the raising of \$50,000 for the church, with a full list of donors.

Series II. Church Anniversary/Special Occasion Publications

The second series consists of two copies each of three publications. The first, *St. Joachim's Parish, Trenton, New Jersey, in Commemoration of the Solemn Blessing of the Renovated Church, February Tenth, Nineteen Hundred Fifty-Seven*, details the Mass held on the occasion and is illustrated with black-and-white photographs of clergy, Sisters, school students, church interior, school exterior, events, and parish organizations. Donors and advertisers are shown in the back.

The second publication, *75th Anniversary of St. Joachim's Church, Trenton, N.J., Sunday, September 26 to October 3, 1976*, gives a history of the church, lists clergy and Executive Board, and is illustrated with black-and-white and color photographs of clergy, Sisters, societies, and events. Donors and advertisers are shown in the back.

The third publication, *1901-2001, A Century of Faithful Witness: A History of the Parish of Saint Joachim, Trenton, New Jersey*, contains a history of the parish through the pastorates of its various priests. It is illustrated with black-and-white and color photographs of clergy, Sisters, staff, and events

Series III. School Anniversary/Special Occasion Publications

The third series consists of two copies each of three publications. The first, *A Half Century of Dedication: Fiftieth Anniversary of the Coming of the Maestre Pie Filippini to America and the Opening of St. Joachim's School*, contains an article entitled "A Hymn of Thanksgiving: A Tribute to the Maestre Pie Filippini" by Very Rev. Msgr. William F. Furlong about the order of nuns who came to the United States to teach at St. Joachim's School. There is also a history of the school, "Looking Back at St. Joachim's School after 50 Years" by Rev. Dominic A. Turtora. The publication is illustrated throughout with black-and-white photographs of clergy, Sisters, students, and events. Donors and advertisers are shown in the back.

The second publication, *70th Anniversary, St. Joachim's School, 1910-1980*, lists all students of the school from 1910 to 1980. It also contains a number of black-and-white and color

photographs of clergy, nuns, and students. A list of students by class year, and donors' names appears at the back.

The third publication, *In Commemoration of the Ninety-Fifth Anniversary of the Coming of the Maestre Pie Filippini to America and the Opening of St. Joachim's School, Trenton N.J., 1910-2005*, includes an article entitled "The History of the Beginning of the Maestre Pie Filippini's Mission in the United States" by Carlo Benedetti. This hardcover book is illustrated with black-and-white and color photographs of clergy, faculty (Sisters), school classes, students, reunions, activities, clubs, and a sports team (basketball). PTA presidents and donors are listed in the back.

Container List

Box / Folder / Folder Title

Series I. Church improvement/Financial Publications

1 / 1 / *St. Joachim's Church Capital Improvements Campaign, 1987-1991*

1 / 2 / *Debt Cancellation Campaign, September 17-October 15, 1944*

Series II. Church Anniversary/Special Occasion Publications

1 / 3 / *St. Joachim's Parish, Trenton, New Jersey, in Commemoration of the Solemn Blessing of the Renovated Church, February Tenth, Nineteen Hundred Fifty-Seven*

1 / 4 / *75th Anniversary of St. Joachim's Church, Trenton, N.J., Sunday, September 26 to October 3, 1976*

1 / 5 / *1901-2001, A Century of Faithful Witness: A History of the Parish of Saint Joachim, Trenton, New Jersey*

Series III. School Anniversary/Special Occasion Publications

1 / 6 / *A Half Century of Dedication: Fiftieth Anniversary of the Coming of the Maestre Pie Filippini to America and the Opening of St. Joachim's School*

1 / 7 / *70th Anniversary, St. Joachim's School, 1910-1980*

1 / 8 / *In Commemoration of the Ninety-Fifth Anniversary of the Coming of the Maestre Pie Filippini to America and the Opening of St. Joachim's School, Trenton N.J., 1910-2005*

Bibliography

"St. Joachim's Celebrating 100 Years" by Tony Persichilli, *The Trentonian*, September 30, 2001