

PAST STILL PRESENT

CPPS ARCHIVES BULLETIN Issue 22, December 2015

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR EVENTFUL WINTERS

There is more to winter than Christmas, New Year, and Ground Hog's Day. In our Community's history, many important events have occurred in winter. This issue highlights events that took place in December, January, and February.

The months of **December** and **February** saw significant events in our foundation years:



DECEMBER 20, 1845
PERPETUAL ADORATION,
conducted silently, was
introduced in Steinerberg.



Ottmarsheim, Wikimedia Commons, public domain, modified

LATE IN DECEMBER 1847,
date unknown, a group of
ten Sisters **LEFT**
STEINERBERG TO SEEK A
NEW HOME in the Alsace in
France. Their destiny was
Blodelsheim but they
settled in **OTTMARSHEIM**.



DECEMBER 3, 1857 Six Sisters **LEFT FOR**
GURTWEIL to which they had been
assigned in response to Rev. Kessler's
request. There they opened a home for
orphans and neglected children.



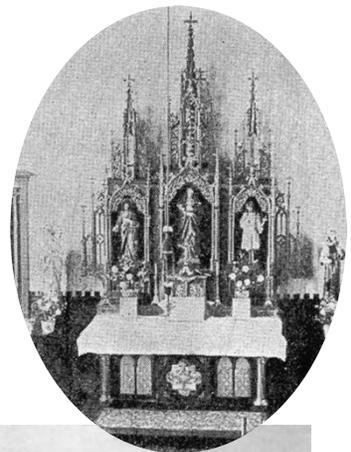
FEBRUARY 2, 1870 The **PIONEER GROUP OF NINE SISTERS**
left Gurtweil.

FEBRUARY 5, 1870 They embarked on the ship **HAMMONIA**
bound for America.

FEBRUARY 16, 1870 The nine pioneer Sisters arrived in New
York.

FEBRUARY 28, 1870 The Sisters arrived in Belle Prairie, IL,
their first home in America.

DECEMBER 25, 1869
Before Midnight Mass the
SISTERS IN GURTWEIL laid
aside their religious habits
in order to save their home
and to prove their loyalty
to the government. Just a
little more than a month
later, the sisters began the
emigration from Germany.



Photograph--16103HAMMONIA1866.tif --Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts. Used with permission



DECEMBER 15, 1871 **MOTHER AUGUSTA** received a copy of Bishop Baltes' conditions for our remaining in the Alton Diocese in Illinois. She could not agree to them and, appealing to the Vicar General **MSGR. HENRY MUEHLSIEPEN** for help, she applied for acceptance into the St. Louis Diocese.

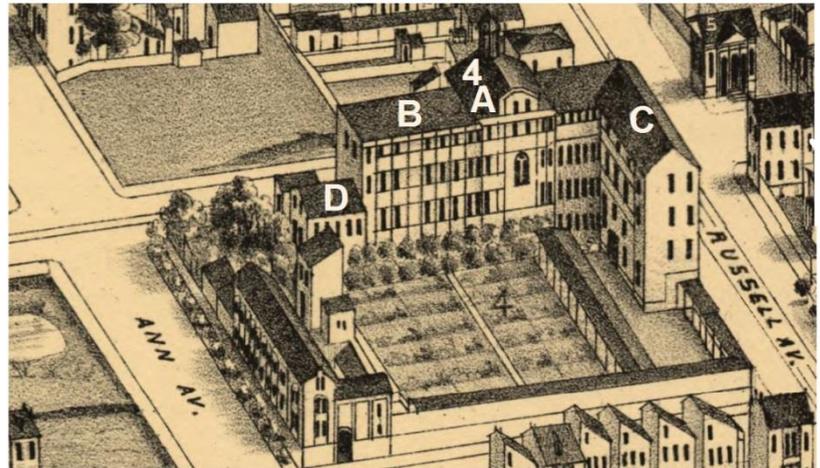


Msgr. Henry Muehlsiepen



Ursuline Convent/Academy, 12 & Russel

http://www.ursulinesl.org/class_story.php?userID=70&storyID=762

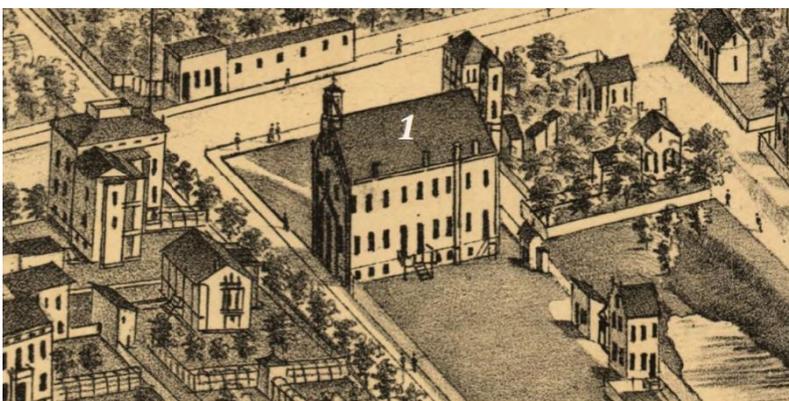


No. 4. Ursuline Convent and Academy.

(A) *Chapel.* (B) *Sisters' Residence.*
(C) *Academy.* (D) *Day School.*

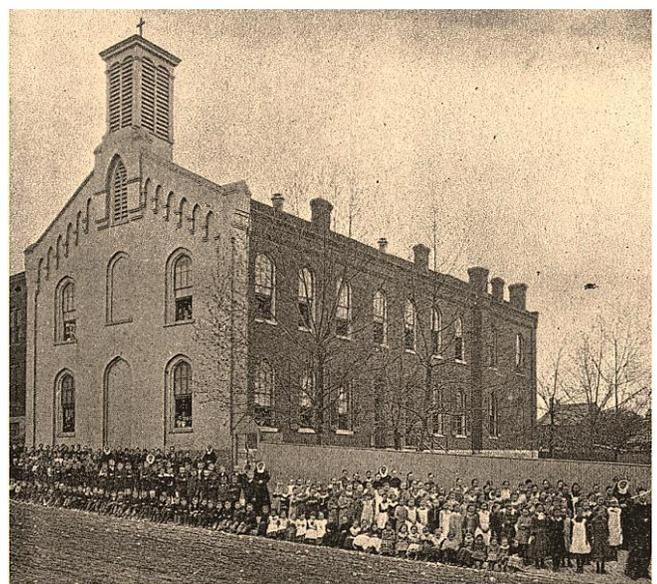
Enlarged from plate 28, Compton, Richard J. and Camille N. Dry. *Pictorial St. Louis, the great metropolis of the Mississippi Valley; a topographical survey drawn in perspective A.D 1875.* St. Louis, Compton & Co. 1876.

December 11, 1872 Fourteen Sisters, seven novices and one postulant **LIVED WITH THE URSULINES** at 12th and Russell in St. Louis for three months—until March, 1873. Mother Aloysia, Superior of the Ursulines, welcomed them and gave them a dining room, a community room, and a dormitory for their use.



No. 1. St. Agatha School cath.

Enlarged from plate 10, Compton, Richard J. and Camille N. Dry. *Pictorial St. Louis, the great metropolis of the Mississippi Valley; a topographical survey drawn in perspective A.D 1875.* St. Louis, Compton & Co. 1876.



St. Agatha Parish, St. Louis. First Church and School, c. 1873.



Fr. Hermann Leygraaff

February 11, 1873 The Sisters began moving to **ST. AGATHA PARISH** in St. Louis. The pastor, **FR. HERMANN LEYGRAAFF**, turned the rectory over to them while he lived with a family in the parish.

Later Fr. Leygraaff served as chaplain in O'Fallon, 1879-1881. He died January 30, 1881 and is buried in our cemetery, grave 13:6.



The last several years have been another time of **foundation i.e., the transition from Motherhouse to Villa Theresa. Significant events happened during the winter months:**

FEBRUARY 23, 2007 The Community was notified that the Leadership Team had signed a pre-development agreement with **McEAGLE PROPERTIES** to begin intensive work on a Master Plan for the O'Fallon property to be **MCEAGLE** completed by the end of 2007.



DECEMBER 21, 2007 Community received word that the application for **SENIOR HOUSING TAX CREDITS** has been approved by the Missouri Housing Department Commission.

JANUARY 7-11, 2008 During this week, six representatives from **ST. ANDREW'S MANAGEMENT SERVICES** initiated their Review of Services, e.g. dietary, maintenance, nursing, housekeeping, etc. St. Andrew's was very impressed by the dedication, openness, and cooperation of our staff. The review [which continued throughout the following two weeks] provided us with some recommendations of next steps we needed to take with St. Andrew's toward licensing our nursing care and St. Andrew's managing some of the services for which we were then directly responsible.



DECEMBER 31, 2008 SR. MARY WHITED SIGNED AGREEMENTS that place the Motherhouse buildings which will become independent senior living apartments and the associated property into the **PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ST. MARY'S INSTITUTE AND MCEAGLE PROPERTIES**. Agreements for the skilled care portion of the project will be signed later in January, 2009.



JANUARY 12, 2009. START OF CONSTRUCTION Abatement/Asbestos Removal began in the oldest buildings on the property, i.e., the north wing.



FEBRUARY 12, 2009 **GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF VILLAGE OF ST. MARY'S.** Sisters as well as O'Fallon public officials and representatives from various groups involved in this project attended.

Photo, Left to right: Chris McKee, Srs. Fran Raia, Marie Orf, Mary Whited, Carmen Schnyder, and Carol Boschert, and O'Fallon Mayor Donna Morrow.

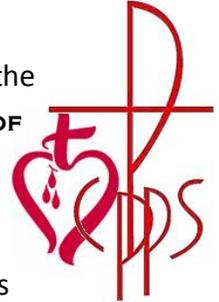
In our history, other events of note have occurred during the winter:



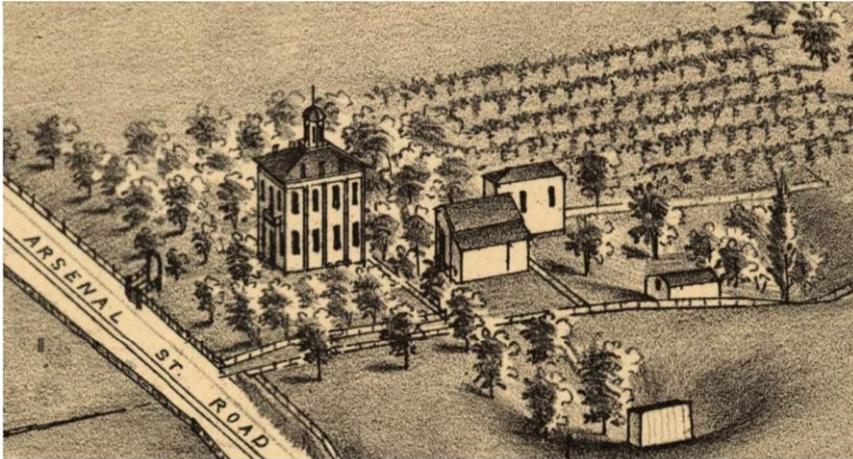
DECEMBER 4, 1980 Decision to open **ST. ELIZABETH ADULT DAY CARE CENTER.**
Sr. John Antonio Miller was appointed directress in April.



DECEMBER 15, 2004 CPPS LEADERSHIP TEAM met at the Motherhouse with **THE PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP TEAM OF THE ADORERS OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST**, 129 years after the separation into two distinct communities, to deepen connections.



JANUARY 1882 SCHILLER RESIDENCE purchased - first known as St. Elizabeth Institute, later as



SAINT ELIZABETH ACADEMY.



the Schiller mansion and surrounding property, 1875

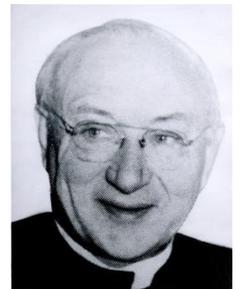
Enlarged from plate 59, Compton, Richard J. and Camille Dry. *Pictorial St. Louis, the great metropolis of the Mississippi Valley; a topographical survey drawn in perspective A.D. 1875.* St. Louis Compton & Co., 1876.

the Schiller mansion c. 1883, first home of St. Elizabeth Academy



JANUARY 18, 1954 **BISHOP DUBOURG HIGH SCHOOL** on Eichelberger was opened.

JANUARY, 1934 **DOM ERMIN VITRY, O.S.B.** of the Monastery of Maredsous in Belgium arrived in O'Fallon to conduct Sacred Chant until his death in 1960.



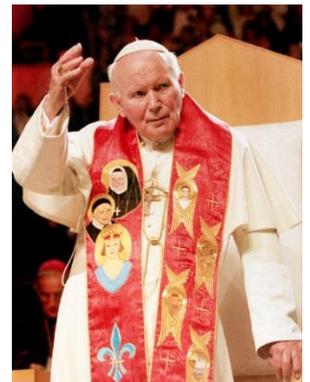
JANUARY 1973 **SOCIAL SECURITY** was introduced. Congregation entered Social Security Program (Retroactive to 1967).



JANUARY 25, 1982 Motherhouse **BROAD STAIRS** were removed

JANUARY 26-27, 1999 **POPE JOHN PAUL II** visited St. Louis.

He was given this stole made in our Ecclesiastical Art Department.



Events and dates were taken from the "Events Report," the chronology compiled by Sr. Virginia Volkerding and Sr. Mary Joan Dyer.