

PAST STILL PRESENT

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PASCHAL LAMB – CHERISHED SYMBOL

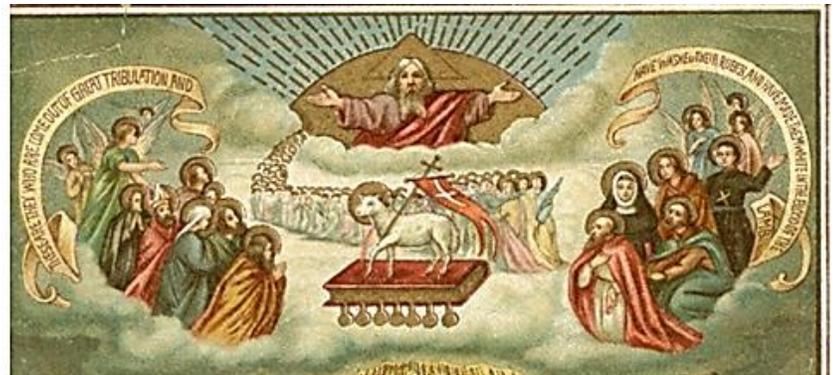
IT SEEMS FITTING THAT IN THIS EASTER SEASON WE WOULD EXPLORE THE USE OF THE SYMBOL OF THE PASCHAL LAMB IN OUR PRECIOUS BLOOD HISTORY AND PRESENT TIME.



Early in our history our Precious Blood spirituality was represented visually with the drops of blood. In the beginning, the sisters wore an **embroidered red cross with seven drops of blood on the left side of the pelerine** [short cape]. In 1860 they adopted the habit worn by the Sisters Adorers in Rome. Especially significant was the **gold heart with the three drops of blood incised on it** which our sisters wore until 1935 when it was replaced by the cross we wear now.

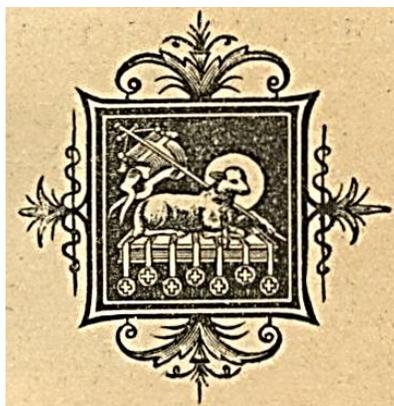


But the image of the **Paschal Lamb** was not unknown in those early days. Here is a holy card with the "Eternal Father" prayer in German. At the very top is



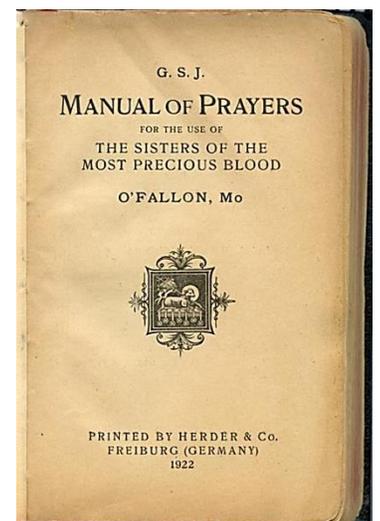
the image of the Lamb, surrounded by worshippers. In the group at the right one can recognize Maria de Mattias and Casper del Bufalo. Curiously, the text inscribed on the ribbons is in English. "THESE ARE THEY WHO HAVE COME OUT OF GREAT TRIBULATION AND HAVE WASHED THEIR ROBES AND HAVE MADE THEM WHITE IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB."

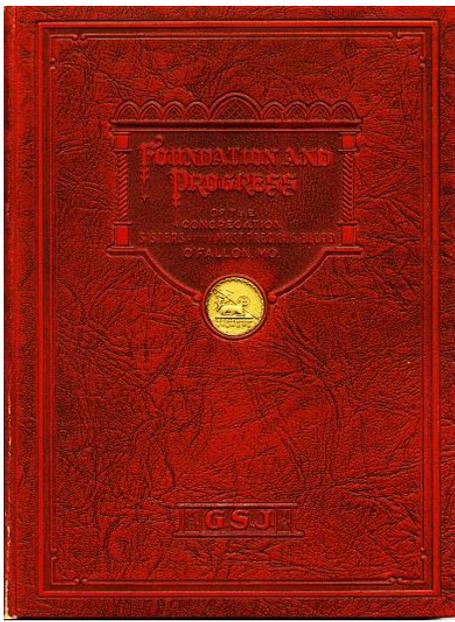
„Ewiger Vater! Ich opfere Dir auf das kostbare Blut Jesu Christi zur Genugtuung für meine Sünden und für die Anliegen der heiligen Kirche".
(100 Tage Ablab.)
Stenak Jachur



From the 1920s on the symbol of the Paschal Lamb appears with increasing frequency.

In the **MANUAL OF PRAYERS** dated 1922, the little graphic on the title page is the **Paschal Lamb**,





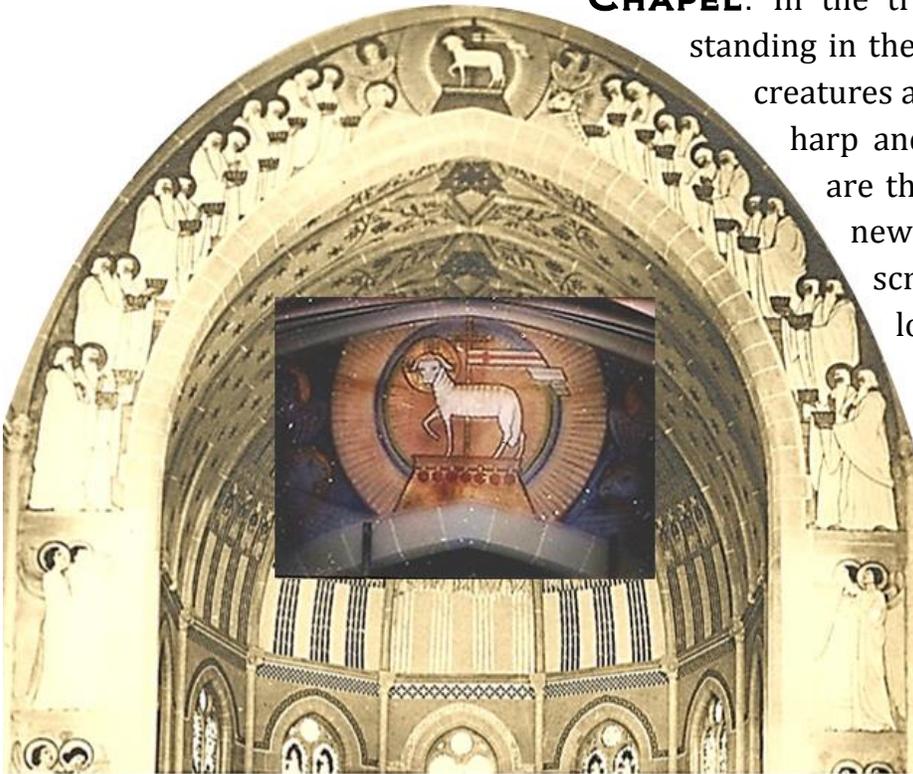
Our history,
**FOUNDATION
 AND
 PROGRESS**
 marking 50 years
 of service
 in the United States
 [1875-1925],
 written in 1925,
 has on the cover
 a Lamb embossed in gold.



In 1928 Gottfried Schiller began frescoing **ST. JOSEPH CHAPEL**. In the triumphal arch are seen the “the Lamb

standing in the midst of the throne and the four living creatures and the elders.... Each of the elders held a harp and gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of the holy ones. They sang a new hymn: “Worthy are you to receive the scroll and to break open its seals....” I

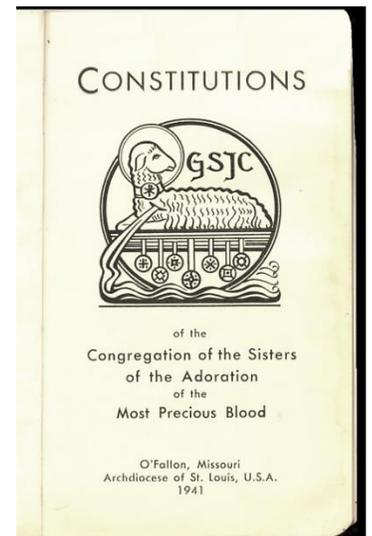
looked again and heard the voices of many angels who surrounded the throne and the living creatures and the elders. They ... cried out in a loud voice: **“WORTHY IS THE LAMB THAT WAS SLAIN TO RECEIVE POWER AND RICHES, WISDOM AND STRENGTH, HONOR AND GLORY AND BLESSING.”** *Revelations. 5:6-12*



...realizing that you were delivered from your futile way of life your fathers handed on to you, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the **Precious Blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished Lamb.**

1 Peter 1:18-19

The **CONSTITUTIONS** of 1941 show the Lamb on the title page





To the left is the frontispiece of the **CENTENNIAL** book commemorating our first hundred years, **1845-1945**.

On the page facing the frontispiece is this inscription:

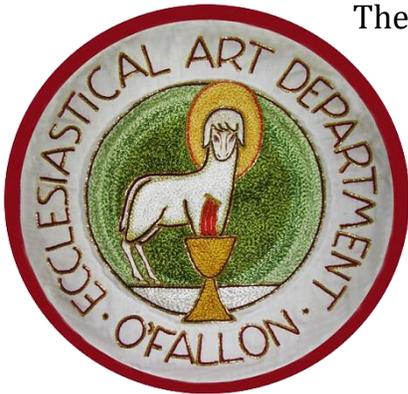
TO THE LAMB
 THAT WAS SLAIN AND IS WORTHY
 TO RECEIVE POWER AND DIVINITY AND WISDOM
 AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND
 GLORY AND BENEDICTION
 AND
 TO THOSE WHO FOLLOW THE LAMB
 THIS BOOK IS GRATEFULLY DEDICATED



The Lamb appears again on the twelfth page and on that page and the facing page is the quotation from Revelations 5: 7-10; 7: 12.

The Lamb has been an often-used symbol in the **ECCLESIASTICAL ART DEPARTMENT.**

Some examples:



Hand-embroidered vestment,
 date unknown



Hand-embroidered vestment,
 c. late 1950's



Silk-screen banner, date unknown

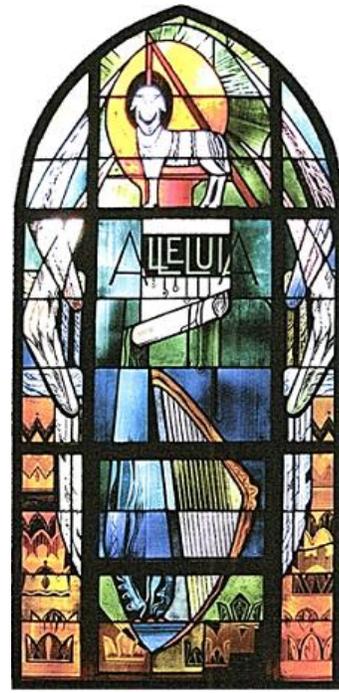
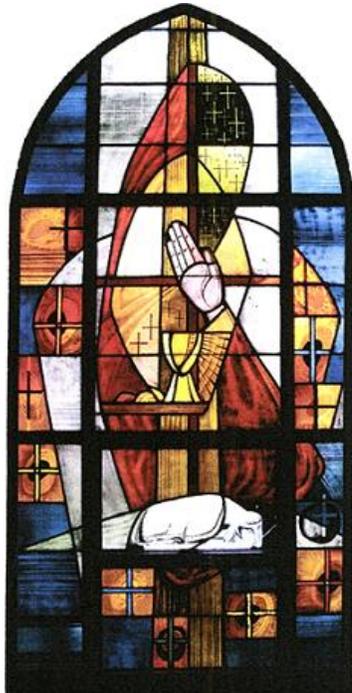
The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun, and his bride is prepared to welcome him.

Revelations 19:7

The Lamb has been portrayed in many media: paint, glass, thread, pen & ink, enamel.

ST. JOSEPH CHAPEL, STAINED GLASS WINDOWS BY SR. HILTRUDIS POWERS, 1964

Left to right:



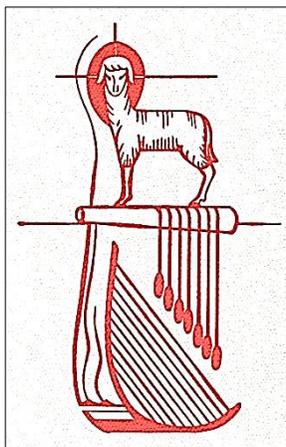
MOSES AND THE EXODUS: ... The lamb is to be slaughtered the door posts signed with the blood of the Lamb... [See Exodus 12: 6-7]

HOLY THURSDAY AND THE EUCHARIST Paschal Lamb is slain; the crosses represent the apostles; the bread behind each cross represents the Eucharist.

THE APOCALYPTIC SCENE OF THE WORSHIP IN HEAVEN: The Lamb is enthroned. [See Revelations 5]



This representation is painted on the right side of the arch framing the 1964 altar.



The lamb has graced many a booklet or program cover. Here is one example, the cover of the **Morning and Evening Prayer** booklet for the feast of the **Most Precious Blood**, July 1.

COPPER ENAMEL TRIPTYCH executed by Sr. Loretta Marie Greifzu: "The Spiritual Life of a Precious Blood Sister." In the lower right corner is the **Lamb**, "God's loving guidance is symbolized by the Lamb of God, Christ, who sacrificed himself for us, offering strength to follow him" [Sr. LMG]



*At the Lamb's high feast we sing, Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from his pierced side.*