

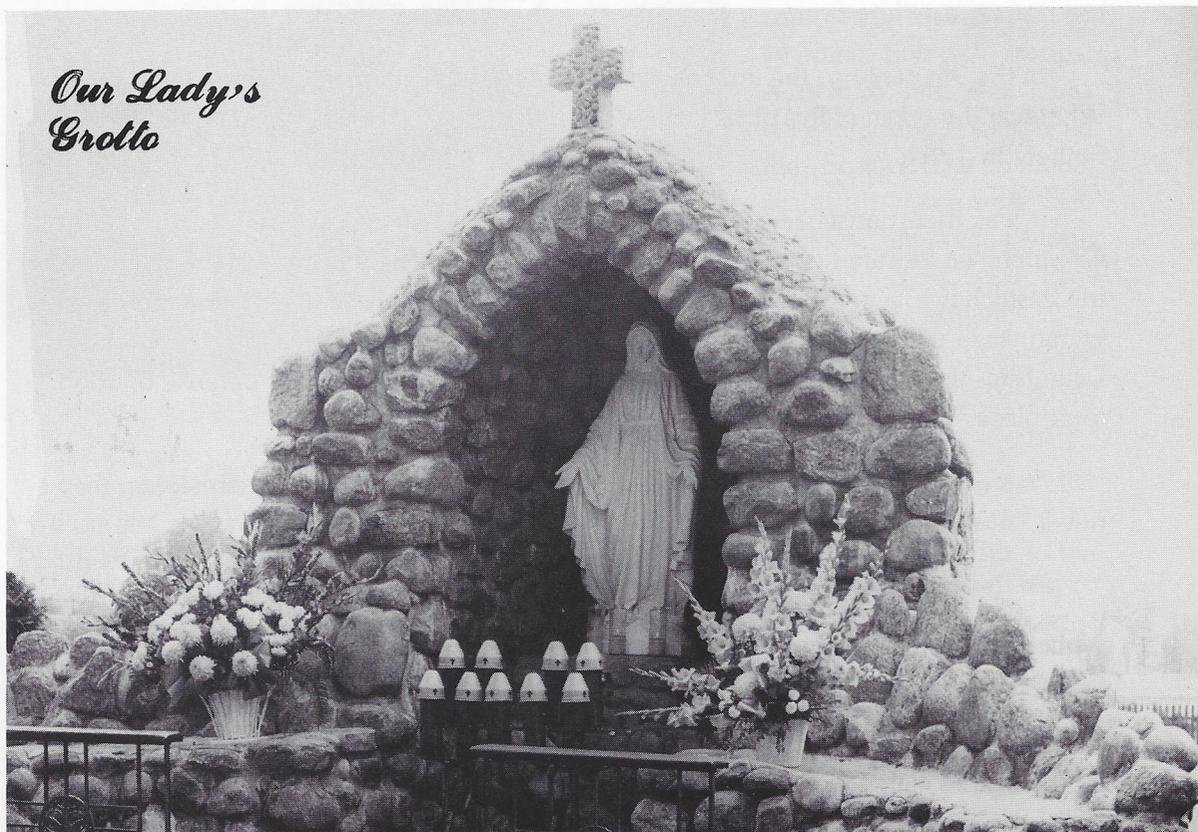
## Grota Matki Boskiej

Z inicjatywy Ks. Proboszcza Aleksandra Fijałkowskiego została zbudowana "GROTA MATKI BOSKIEJ" na upamiętnienie roku Maryjnego 1954.

Grote (kaplice) zaprojektował i podjął się jej wykonania O. Franciszek Marian Nowakowski O. Carm, jako wotum dziękczynne za jego ocalenie od śmierci z niemieckich obozów koncentracyjnych, gdzie przybywał pięć lat: w więzieniu na Monte Lupich w Krakowie, w Oświęcimiu i w Dachau. W tym ostatnim obozie śmierci w Dachau zginął brat księdza proboszcza, Ks. Adam Fijałkowski.

Przy budowie grotty wraz z O. Nowakowskim przez cały czas pracowali; Ks. Leopold Próźny (zbierał i dowoził kamienie) i parafianie Wincenty Kijowski i Franciszek Greczkowski. Od czasu do czasu byli także inni, którzy dowozili kamienie.

Statuę Matki Boskiej zakupiła Marysia Osika.



*Our Lady's  
Grotto*



● PRIESTS AND TRUSTEES ●

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● FINANCIAL COMMITTEE ●





== THE ALTAR SERVERS • GRAMMAR & HIGH SCHOOL ==



• R E N E W •



• L E C T O R S •

## PARISH COUNCIL

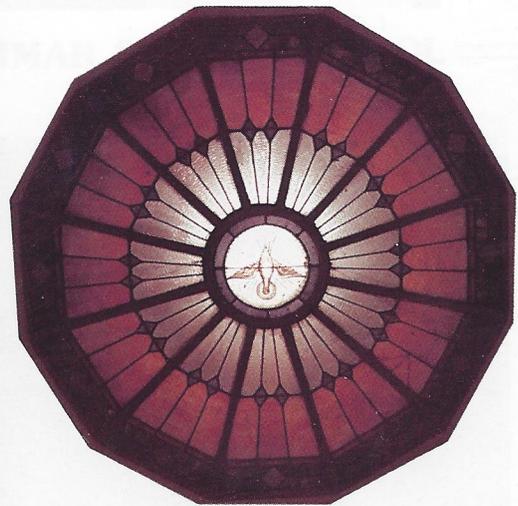
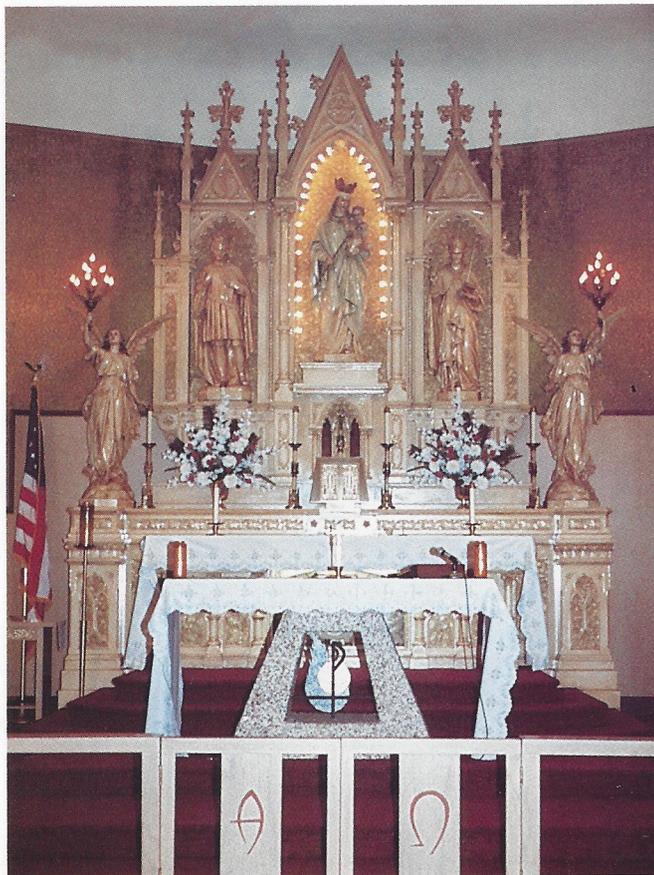
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In conformity with the recommendations of the Ecumenical Council on the Apostolate of the Laity, Art. 26, and following the recommendations of His Excellency Walter A. Foery, the Parish Council of St. Mary's was organized on December 15, 1966.

The Council is composed of the elected presidents of all the parish societies, lay trustees, Sister Superior, Pastor and all his associates.

Meetings take place four times a year or whenever necessary. At the first meeting, Thomas Sager was elected Head Chairman with Bertha Kupiec as Secretary.

The Parish Council advises the Pastor on matters of parochial concern and with the help of various committees, resolves the many problems that arise in parish life.



**SANCTUARY CEILING**  
**MAIN ALTAR**



## ST. STANISLAUS B. & M. SOCIETY

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The Polish immigrants settling in New York Mills in the early 1900's banded together in homes of neighbors for prayer services and traveled to Utica to attend Mass, especially for Christmas, Easter and Corpus Christi.

In 1905, a group already formed--led by Jan Smoła--were making plans to build a church where they could worship. At a meeting on June 26, 1905, an organization was formed and called "Crusaders of Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr under the Protection of Our Lady of Czestochowa". Officers were elected, namely:

President - Antoni Gondek; Vice President - Jan Roback; Recording Secretary - Jan Wentka; Financial Secretary - Józef Smoła; Comptrollers - Józef Nowicki and Stanley Solnica; Marshals - Bronisław Sliski and Sylvester Bartosz; Director of the Sick - Jan Sliski. It is imperative to note that these men were about 18 to 25 years of age.

They established the society to be of assistance to each other and to provide moral and financial help in sickness and death. They attended wakes and funerals for deceased members as a group and, when necessary, paid all the expenses for burial.

Fund-raising was planned to build a fund for the new church. On September 6, 1905, a raffle for a ton of coal (worth a dollar) realized a profit of \$10.30. Wages being only about \$3.00 a week, this was a goodly profit.

Within the village, they had prayer services in large rooms of buildings such as the dining hall for boarders at what are now the burned ruins of National Park, owned then by a John and Peter Kozaka. A grocery store known as the "Polish Workmen's Association Union Store" and operated by a Mr. Joseph Smoła also had a large room in the back of the building which was often used and occasionally Masses were offered by visiting priests. This store was located between what is now Upstate Office Equipment and the Mills Tavern. Another store operated by Mr. Marcin Pezdek was located on Main Street but did not specify a location. Numerous activities were held frequently to provide recreation and to raise funds.

In 1910 uniforms were ordered for "Cadets of the Polish Army". Members had to take care of the uniforms and wear them at special occasions. If uniforms were not worn at certain functions, members were fined.

In 1911, Father Alexander Fijalkowski became our Pastor. St. Stanislaus had ninety-nine members. The society purchased the main confessionals, society banner and American flag, uniforms, badges, and musical instruments. A loan of \$400.00 was also given to the church.

In May, 1912, the two confessionals costing \$178.00 were blessed in the presence of twenty-four members, after which they attended a party given by Jan Smoła.

Anticipating the future needs of the parish, they began to work towards the dire need of a cemetery of their own. Working with their brother society, Saint Casimir, they joined forces and in the middle of the Great Depression, they purchased land in 1932 for what is now our beautiful cemetery. It was a most unique accomplishment since there was great unemployment, no welfare, no unemployment insurance--only the generosity and unity of the church organizations and the parishioners with their meager savings.

In all endeavors, St. Stanislaus Society was a staunch and generous supporter. It also included scholastic and athletic awards as well as contributions to parochial events. A society that grew from a mere handful of dedicated men increased to ninety-nine in 1911 and, at its peak, reached about 192 members, according to available records. The toll of time has reduced the membership to seventy-four. All but three have been members for at least twenty-five years. Walter Furgał is the oldest member; Leon Augustyn, Joseph Bartoszek, Stanley Furgał--50 years or more; Joseph Łopata, Mathew Krol--49 years; John Nogas, John Prymas, Mathew Kaporaka--48 years; Michael Pikul, Joseph Kiebasa, Albert Romanowski--47 years. The longest serving president was Francis Furgał, over 25 years; Treasurer-Eugene Majka, over 25 years; Financial Secretary-Mathew Dudek, 21 years; Recording Secretary-John Prymas; Director of Sick-Michael Mikus, over 25 years; Trustee-John Misiak, 25 years.

## Towarzystwo Sw. Stanisława, Biskupa i Męczennika

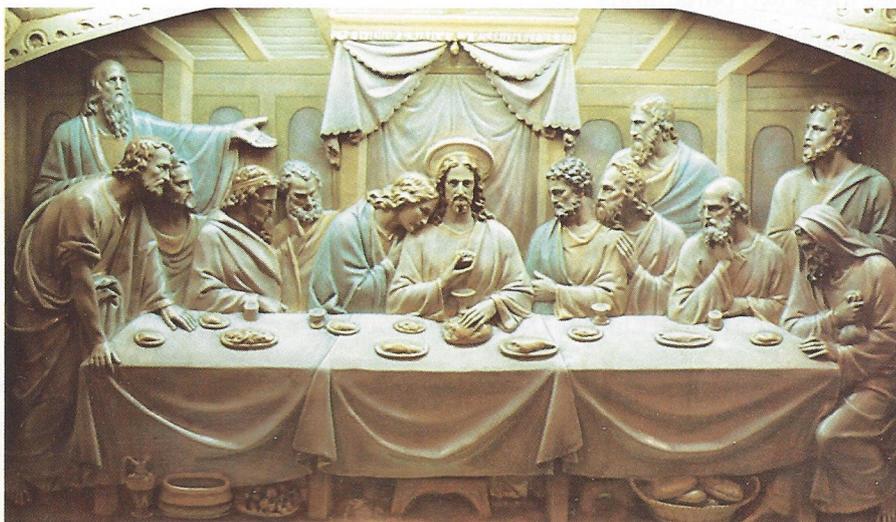
Za przewodnictwem Józefa Smoły, zorganizowało się towarzystwo dnia 25-go Czerwca 1905, pod opieką tego wielkiego patrona Polski--Św. Stanisława, B. i M. Pierwszym krazownikiem przy organizowaniu i budowie parafii było towarzystwo Św. Stanisława B. i M. Służyło całym sercem i duszą kościołowi świętemu. Celem jego: pomagać w wyzwoleniu Polski; pomagać w wyzwoleniu Polski; pomagać materialnie w chorobie członka; odwiedzać go i przychodzić z pomocą w nieszczęściu. Służąc w potrzebach materialnych parafii członkowie także zawsze brali czynny udział w sprawach parafjalnych.

W roku 1909 założono w towarzystwie drugi oddział wojskowy Kadetów przeważnie z młodzieży. Tow. Św. Stanisława zaczęło myśleć nad założeniem w tutejszej osadzie Polską parafię -- gdyż wszyscy Polacy musieli swoje obowiązki religijne spełniać w Utica w Kościele Św. Trójcy. Staranie i zabiegi towarzystwa były wynagrodzone bo w roku 1909 została założona parafia Matki Boskiej Częstochowskiej.

Ołtarz główny, konfesjonał, baldachim--to są ofiary towarzystwa i przy budowie kościoła, szkoły i klasztoru, datkami swymi również się w sprawie dobrej przysłużyło.

## Towarzystwo Sw. Kazimierza Krakusa

Tow. Św. Kazimierza Krakusa założone zostało w roku 1911, Członki praktykują czynnie miłość braterską niosąc członkom swoim pomoc w chorobie i w nieszczęściu. Ono zawsze było przywiązane do parafii. Towarzystwo zakupiło do kościoła przepiękny kryształowy pajak i także konfesjonał. Członkowie zawsze chętnie pomagają parafii.



## ST. CASIMIR SOCIETY

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In the year 1911, with the help of Gabriel Ruchwa and Joseph Wdowiak, St. Casimir Society was formed. The program was brief but complete--to practice faithfully brotherly love, solicitude for spiritual as well as material welfare of the members.

In accordance with the Constitution, with a charitable program in mind, the society grew as the days and years passed. Help in sickness, accident, and especially at time of death in a family is most welcome.

During the years, the society fulfilled these two paragraphs of their constitution with lightning speed.

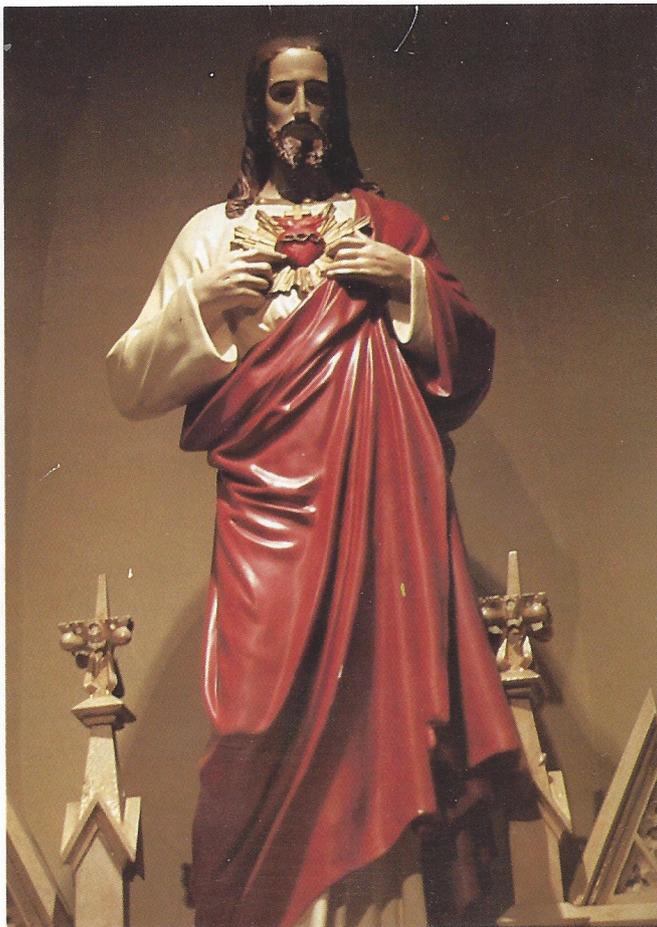
As with any charitable organization noted for good deeds, the doors were always open to the parishioners and the Pastor.

A token of devotion to the parish is the beautiful crystal chandelier. It has adorned the ceiling of the church for years, casting thousands of colorful lights in every direction thereby adding beauty and dignity to church celebrations. This chandelier is like a star blinking behind the Eternal Light.

The statue of St. Casimir at the main altar of the church is also a gift from the society.

The society is also co-owner of the St. Casimir and St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Woods Road, Whitesboro, New York.





## SACRED HEART OF JESUS & HOLY ROSARY SOCIETY

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When the parish of St. Mary's of Our Lady of Czestochowa was organized in New York Mills in August 1910, the first women's society to organize was the Rosary Society, whose first president was Sophie Trzepacz. Monthly meetings were held as well as devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The purpose of this society was devoted entirely for the betterment and improvement of St. Mary's parish. Respect and consideration were shown to the sick and deceased members

by gathering at funerals with candles and the banner of the Blessed Virgin of the Rosary Society being carried in the procession.

The following year, 1911, the Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, the second women's society, was organized under the direction of Caroline Pietruszka, the first president. Several men were members of this society as well. The members were so devoted to the Sacred heart of Jesus that money was saved and donated to purchase the statue of the Sacred Heart that stands today on the side altar to the right of the main altar of the church. Donations were sent to the orphans in Poland, to Czestochowa. The society also made donations for the monument of General Casimir Pulaski that stands on the Parkway in Utica.

As the years went by and the membership began to diminish, the two societies combined under the name of The Sacred Heart and Rosary Society of which Stephanie Mikuta is the present president. Membership now has greatly increased. Meetings are held regularly and devotions are held on the first Friday of each month.

The Society helps St. Mary's by raising funds for improvements and payment of the church debt. Members are active in functions such as during Lent and Advent, making pierogi and babki. The sale of these helps to contribute greatly towards reducing the parish debt and renovating the church.

New banners were purchased that are used in representing the society in processions at Forty Hours, Easter Resurrection Mass, as well as showing last respects to deceased members at whose funerals the members gather to escort the deceased to their final resting place.

## **HOLY NAME SOCIETY**

The Holy Name Society was organized in February 1959. The founding president was Albert Rosinski. The purpose of this men's club was respect and honor for the Holy Name of Jesus by personal sanctification in the reception of the sacraments.

The society assists the pastor in important decisions and it sponsors many fund-raising projects for the school. An annual golf tournament is held. This year, Joe Wilski was chairman of the 22nd Golf Tournament, and through the years, he was instrumental for the success of these tournaments. The society sponsors a turkey raffle. Their projects are always held for the benefit of the school.

Each Holy Thursday, members observe their Holy Hour.

## **TOW. NAJSWIETSZEJ RODZINY Z.P.R.K.**

Towarzystwo było założone w roku 1909. Jest asekuracyjne z przewodnią ideą nawiązującą do katolickiej Hasłu "Bóg i Ojczyzna" wiernym we wszystkich sprawach zostało. Od założenia mozolnie pracuje na niwie religijnej i narodowej. Spieszycie z pomocą w ojczyźnie. Chętnie składa ofiary na cele kościelne i świeckie.

## **ORCHARD LAKE LADIES' AUXILIARY**

On June 19, 1959, an organizational meeting was held at St. Mary's Parish for the purpose of supporting the seminary at Orchard Lake: by prayers that God bless its work, by fostering vocations to the priesthood, by encouraging students to enroll for study at Orchard Lake, and by providing financial aid for the seminary. On July 22, 1959, a meeting was held to elect officers. The chapter is known as the Greater Utica Chapter XIII.

## LEGION OF MARY

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Our Lady of Mercy Praesidium from St. Mary's Church of New York Mills was begun in August 1957 with just a handful of active members. Today, the 75th Jubilee Year of St. Mary's Church, there are ten active members, five of whom have been active since its inception—and two hundred twenty-five Auxiliary Members.

The work of the active members is that of Catholic action, working along with the priests of the parish to bring Christ to all men. Three members are also active in the Renew Program.

The Legion has taken upon itself the distribution of Catholic literature and articles. They make visitation calls to the sick in the hospitals and nursing homes. They also work at most of the parish functions and have taken school and parish census.

Our Lady of Mercy is also a member of the CURIA BODY which is composed of other Legion of Mary Praesidiums throughout the Utica and New Hartford area.

During this Jubilee Year, Our Lady of Mercy was the Host Praesidium for the annual Acies Services--a service which brings together ALL members of the Legion of Mary, both active and auxiliaries, from Utica and New Hartford to rededicate themselves to the Blessed Mother.



# CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS

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Mother's Club had its beginning on a Sunday afternoon in December of 1943. Eleven mothers decided to organize and attempt to raise funds to further improve the educational facilities at St. Mary's. Under the guidance of Sister Mary Eymard, Principal, election of officers was conducted.

The results were: Honorable President - Rev. Alexander Fijalkowski; President - Stella Furgal; Vice President - Sister Mary Eymard; Recording Secretary - Anna Juchniewicz; Treasurer - Michaline Malecki. Other members present were: Mary Kiersztyn, Helen Kobielski, Matilda Stolarczyk, Rosalia Snizek, Stella Marcinkiewicz, Sophie Bara, Wanda Krol, Jadwiga Wolkonowska.

With great determination, these eleven mothers aroused great interest in others. The organization grew to the great Confraternity of Christian Mothers with a membership that now totals over one hundred active members. On October 22, 1965, the Confraternity became incorporated as part of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers. The members have been an inspiration to the students of St. Mary's because of their great concern for quality education.

Since its organization, the Mother's Club sponsored many fund-raising activities to obtain tools necessary to give the youth of St. Mary's a quality education.

In September 1976, the Confraternity of Christian Mothers sponsored a weekly BINGO which annually raised \$16,000 for the school.

Another outstanding special project was the publishing of "Hilltop Treasures" cookbooks. Volume I was chaired by Pat Urban and Volume II by Virginia Killian.

Christmas parties, class parties, film and drama presentations--these are just a few of the many activities that are held to create a cheerful school spirit as well as to aid our students financially and to grow spiritually.

Our Lady of Sorrows is the Patroness of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers.

"Once a Christian Mother -  
Always a Christian Mother"



## **CHOIR**

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The Liturgy and celebrations are always enhanced by beautiful singing and interpretation of themes. St. Mary's Choir has proved this in its Special Christmas Recording of Christmas Liturgy--December 25, 1984, beginning the Diamond Jubilee Celebration.

It all began in 1911 when the Philharmonia Choir was organized with the title of St. Cecilia's Choir, singing and praising God in song. In 1921 the Philharmonia Choir not only sang in church at High Mass but it also presented concerts under the direction of Franciszek Narkon and won many trophies.

On January 30, 1936, another choir was founded by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kangiser and it was called the Halka Choir. They sang weekly at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. They, too, won many trophies. Professor Francis Narkon was their director.

Zygmunt Pilek came from Poland and assumed responsibilities of church music and choir. The choir sang on special occasions, presented concerts, and sang at all parochial special occasions, especially at the first Masses of native sons of St. Mary's who were ordained priests, the Silver Jubilee, confirmations, and now the Diamond Jubilee. Because Mr. Pilek wanted to dedicate his life completely to music, he left the parish and assumed responsibilities as organist in Massachusetts. Stephen Zielinski replaced him for a few years.

James Adamczyk then became organist and assumed all responsibilities associated with it. He has done a great job with the choir. Presently, the choir sings at High Mass at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday and all special occasions.

## **"GÓRĄ PIĘŚN" USHERS' CLUB**

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St. Mary's Ushers' Club was organized on February 9, 1952. At the first meeting, Father Fijalkowski spoke about the purpose of the club and its need to keep up with the progress of our growing parish. First officers elected were: Stephen Chrabaszcz, President; Joseph Mals, Vice President; Thomas Pobiegło, Secretary; and Michael Mikus, Treasurer.

Since its beginning, it has taken an active part in all parochial activities: bazaars, picnics, dances, parking, collections, and the drive for the convent.

## PIEROGI & BABKI LADIES

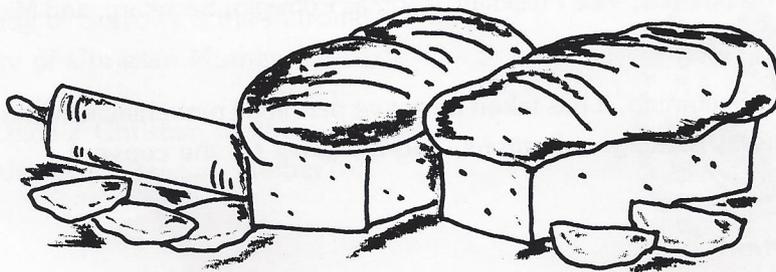
The idea for starting the project of making pierogi and babki at St. Mary's as a fund-raiser was initiated after Mrs. Sadie Mikuta, as a delegate, attended a meeting of another Sacred Heart-Rosary Society chapter. When that chapter reported how successful they were in the sale of babki and pierogi (\$3,000 a month), Mrs. Mikuta asked herself "Why can't we try?". Subsequently, in 1975, she and the late Estelle Jez organized the making of babki and pierogi. This continues to thrive each year during the three weeks before Christmas and three weeks during Lent as well as during the annual parish festival.

Originally, the active group for this project were members of the Sacred Heart-Rosary Society. The past few years, they are assisted by other women of the parish. At the beginning, Mrs. Mikuta and the late Sophie Przybyla made by hand the different stuffings (cabbage, potato with cheese, plain potato, plain cheese, blueberries, apples, prunes). Also, at first, the strenuous task of mixing and kneading the dough for babki was done manually by Mrs. Mikuta and Mrs. Catherine Bielaszka. As time went on, electric machines were purchased and the above tedious chores were alleviated by the use of these machines.

Although pierogi and babki may be purchased commercially, obviously the home-made variety is preferred as evidenced by the approximate \$45,000 that was realized during the past ten years. These funds are donated by the Society for reduction of the church debt and for improvements to church and school.

Due to illness, retirement or death, many of the women who started this venture are currently replaced by younger women of the parish. But when past and present workers get together, somehow the hard and time-consuming work associated with this fund-raising project seems to fade away. Apparently, the women prefer recalling the enjoyable parts such as the comradery, stories, jokes, and singing that eased the tasks and made the time go by faster.

God Bless these good women!





## *Parish Council*

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Council Chairman	-	Frank Emmerick
Vice Chairman	-	Mary Wilski
Secretary	-	Elizabeth Gubbins
Trustees	-	Stanley Zima
	-	Stephen Chrabaszcz
Liturgy	-	Rev. Joseph Zareski
Finances	-	Rev. Peter W. Gleba
School	-	Sister M. Francetta
Human Development	-	Jackie Terchowicz
Buildings & Grounds	-	Walter Strawinski
	-	Joseph Rzepka
C.Y.O.	-	Ray Crouse
Renew	-	Shirley Kozlowski



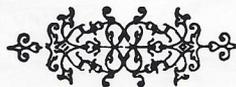


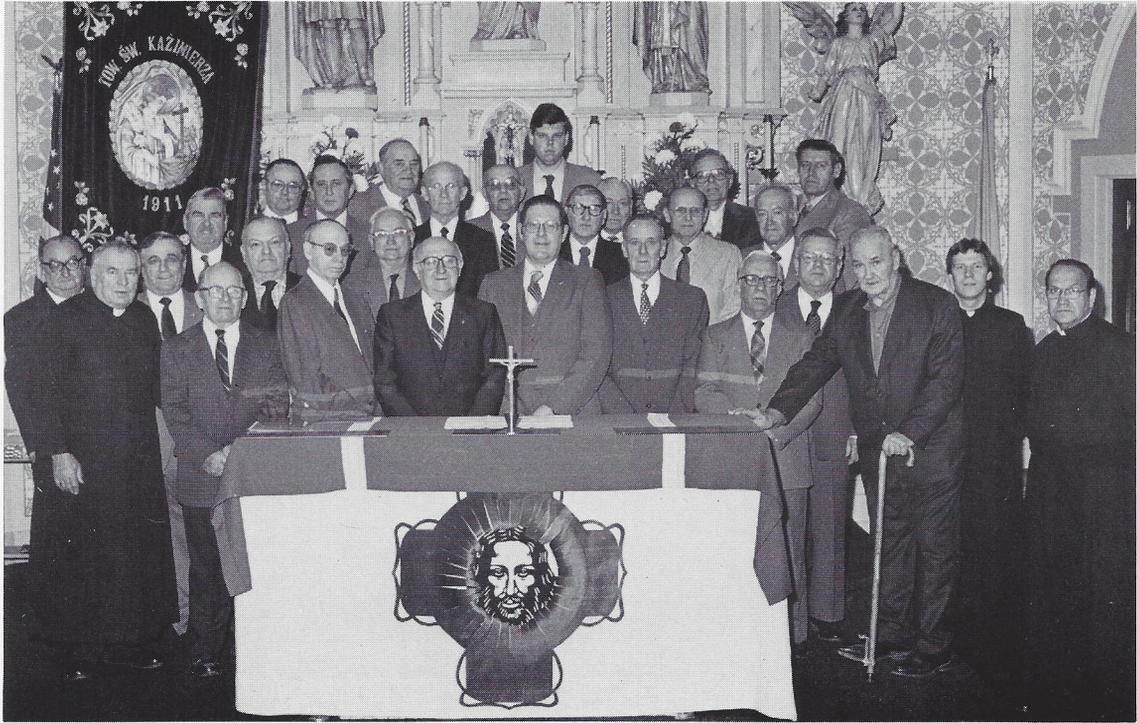
## ***St. Stanislaus Society***

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President	-	Francis F. Furgal
Vice President	-	Joseph Lopata
Recording Secretary	-	Joseph Urban
Treasurer	-	Mathew C. Dudek
Financial Secretary	-	Vincent Nogas





## ***St. Casimir Society***

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President	-	Stephen Chrabaszcz
Vice President	-	Patrick Gubbins
Recording Secretary	-	Rudolph Wojcik
Treasurer	-	Floyd Chomka
Financial Secretary	-	Felix Nogas
Directors of the Sick	-	Thaddeus Jarzombek
	-	Alex Hajdukiewicz
Banner Bearer	-	Alex Hajdukiewicz
Chaplain	-	Rev. Peter W. Gleba





## ***Sacred Heart-Rosary Society***

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President	-	Stephanie Mikuta
Vice President	-	Stella Karczewski
Recording Secretary	-	Stephanie Kodz
Financial Secretary	-	Stella Dudek
Treasurer	-	Emily Chrabaszcz
Chaplain	-	Rev. Peter W. Gleba





## *Holy Name Society*

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President	-	Gary Markowicz
Vice President	-	Joseph Rzepka
Secretary	-	Frank Emmerick
Treasurer	-	Paul Waszkiewicz
Chaplain	-	Rev. Joseph Zareski





## **Legion of Mary**

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President -

Joan Halat

Vice President -

Stella Piekieniak

Secretary -

Sadie Chrabaszcz

Treasurer -

Jessie Miga

### ACTIVE MEMBERS

Stella Dudek

Ann Perkowski

Louise Kantor

Adeline Swiatek

Julia Nikodem

Chris Gardner (Probationary)





CONGRATULATIONS

on Your

DIAMOND JUBILEE!

R C  
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POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

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President	-	John Nogas
Vice Pres.	-	John Zielinski
Fin. Secretary	-	Felix Nogas
Treasurer	-	John Kiersztyn



## ***Confraternity of Christian Mothers***

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1984 - 1985

Nancy Salecki

Marilyn Goetz

Pat Rava

Jacqueline Garncarz

PRESIDENT

VICE PRES.

SECRETARY

TREASURER

1985 - 1986

Marilyn Goetz

Carol Alsheimer

Barbara Kiszelewski

Pat Smith



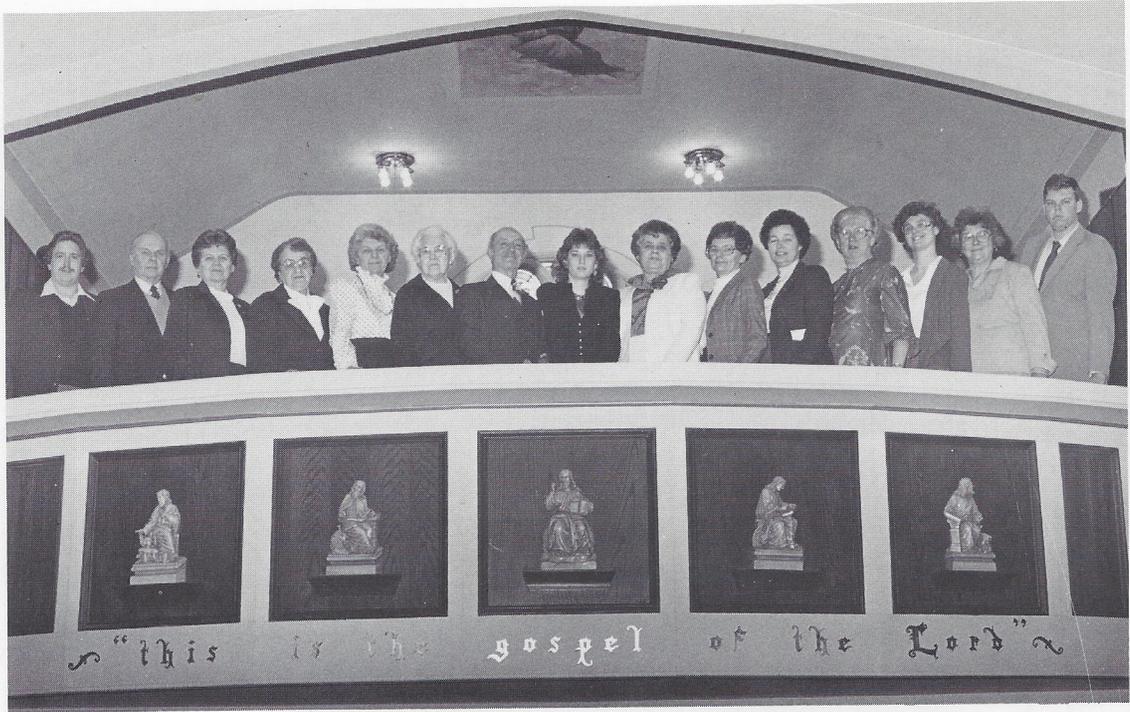


## ***Ushers Club***

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President - Stephen Chrabaszcz  
Vice President - Charles Cianciola  
Secretary-Treasurer - John Wilski



## ***St. Mary's Choirs***

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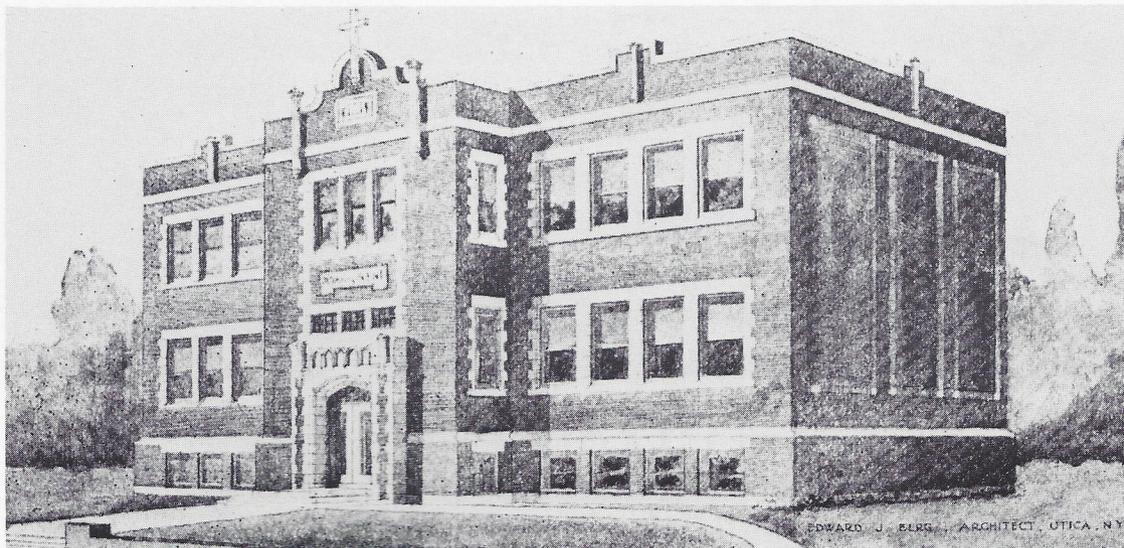




## ***Pierogi & Babki Ladies***

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Headquarters for the Pierogi-and-Babki-making operation is in the basement of the old St. Mary's School building.



## ***Hilltop Seniors at St. Mary's of New York Mills***

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Organized October 1983

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President	-	Irene Swirat
Vice President	-	Louis Bien
Secretary	-	Florence Warchalowski
Treasurer	-	Mania Kobielski
Spiritual Advisor	-	Rev. Peter W. Gleba

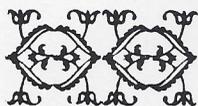
### Board of Directors

Frances Brykala	Joseph Lopata
Gladys Burak	Irene Kwiecinski
Stephen Chrabaszcz	Stanley Salecki
Barney Gadziala	Adeline Swiatek
Mathew Jordan	Joseph Wojcik
Paula Killian	Stanley Zima



## *Our Savior's Cross*

DONATED BY  
TOW. APOSTOLOW MODLITWY  
1928





## Saint Mary's School

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**Administrator:  
Rev. Peter W. Gleba**

## Faculty

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