

Celebrating Our Future



**St. Mary's Catholic Church
Shade Gap, Pa.
200 Years of Faith
1999**

A Brief History Of St. Mary's Catholic Church

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Nestled in the mountains of southern Huntingdon County, three miles south of Orbisonia on State Route 522, opposite the covered bridge across Shade Creek, is St. Mary's Catholic Church. This venerable, time-worn sanctuary, the original stone walls dating from 1848, is the focus of life and worship for seventy-five Catholic families in the surrounding area.

How this part of Huntingdon County came to bear the names Shady Valley and Shade Gap is hidden by the mists of time. An historical marker on Route 522, a country mile south of the church, offers this inscription: **"Shadow of Death" -- The name applied to this locality by Conrad Weiser, and other travelers on the Frankstown Path in the mid-18th century. Its local significance is now unknown.**

The first priest to serve the Catholics of Shade Gap was Fr. Matthias Manners, S.J., circa 1740. Fr. Manners, operating from the Jesuit plantation at Bohemia Manor, Maryland, had Anglicized his name from Sittensperger -- "sitten" being German for "manners."

On March 21, 1780 Hugh and Jane Logan purchased a farm encompassing what was known as the Turkey Hill region from William Winton of Dublin Township for the sum of 1,325 pounds. Sixty-eight years later the stone church would be built on a portion of that land, but in the intervening years Catholics would meet for services at the Logan house, which still stands a short distance north of the present church.

In 1796 Fr. Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, the Russian prince who emigrated to this country in 1792, who was ordained a priest by Archbishop Carroll of Baltimore, and who was destined to become the "Apostle of the Allghenies," whilst on

an early missionary journey, paused at the Shade Valley farm of Jacob and Margaret Hegie to water his horse. Margaret was ill and asked Fr. Gallitzin to pray for her healing, and she subsequently experienced a remarkable recovery. Jacob and Margaret petitioned baptism, and in 1798 Fr. Gallitzin received them into the Church, a landmark event remembered in the community's oral tradition as the actual founding of St. Mary's parish as an organized entity.

In 1816 Jane Logan was widowed, and in the disposition of her husband's property she directed that a section of the farm be set aside for the construction of a Catholic church, and for the establishment of the two cemeteries associated with the church. The deeds bear the names of the first and third bishops of Pittsburgh, Michael O'Connor and John Tuigg.

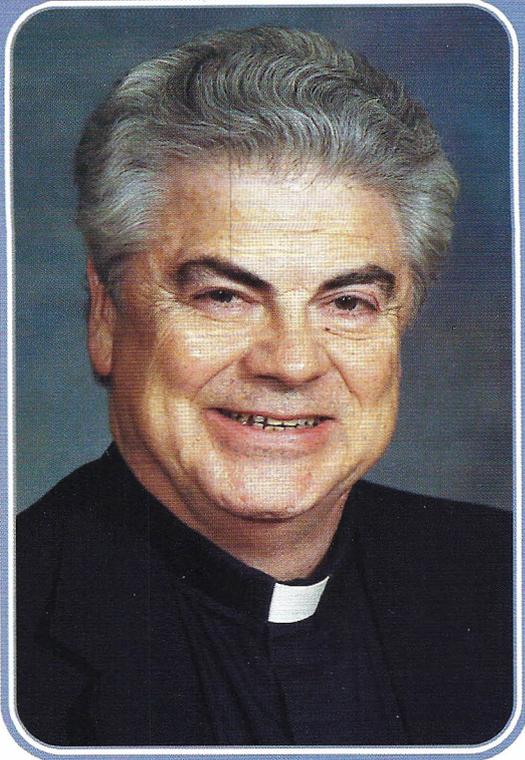
In 1847 Fr. Thomas Heyden, the founding "stone and mortar" pastor of St. Mary's, ministering to Shade Gap from Bedford, erected the limestone church at a cost of \$1,200.00.

The church was dedicated in 1848. Bishop Michael O'Connor, with a well-educated sense of beauty and relevance, dubbed it the "Mission Church of Our lady of Vallambrosa" (Latin for Shade Valley). The appellation, beautiful and melodious as it was, did not stick. The church would always be called, simply, St. Mary's.

In 1962 the parish, long a mission of Huntingdon and Mount Union, attained independent status, and Fr. John Halka was named the first resident pastor. In 1983 the church was renovated, the improvements made possible by a 1981 bequest of "255,000.00 by Philip Franklin "Pete" Oppel of Shippensburg.

Sunday services at St. Mary's (HC 62 Box 696, Shade Gap, PA 17255, (814) 447-3172) are at 8:00 and 10:30 A.M.; confessions before Mass. **Visitors welcome!**

Celebrations Of Our Church Family



Father David R. Becker, Pastor



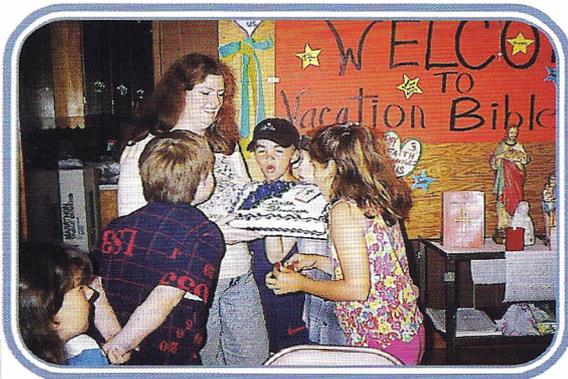
First Holy Communion 1999



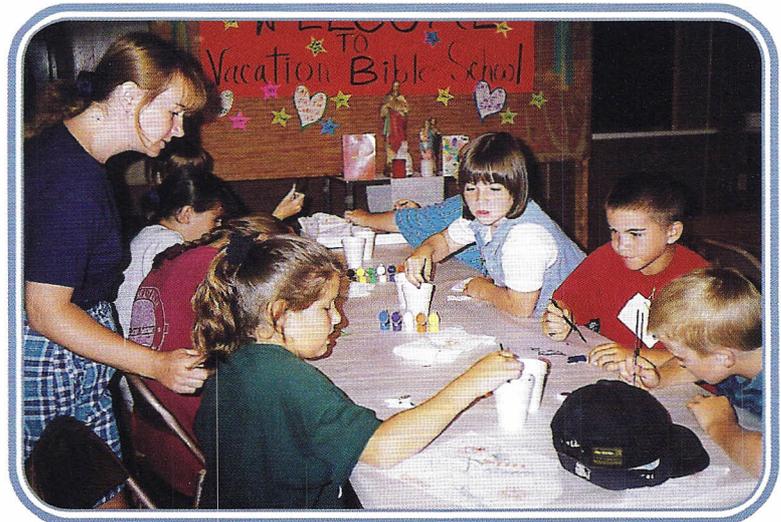
Baptism



Learning Together



Surprise!!



Sharing Ideas

Activities and Celebrations



First Holy Communion 1998



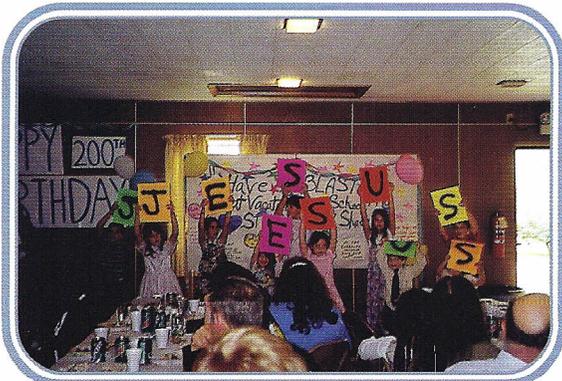
Being Creative



Children's Choir



Christmastime Fun



St. Mary's Bicentennial

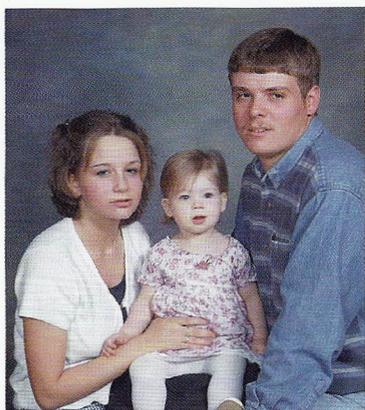


200th Birthday Party

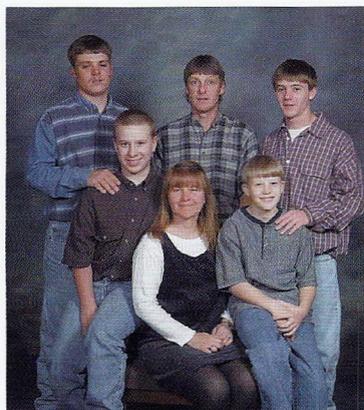
God's Church ...



... And His People



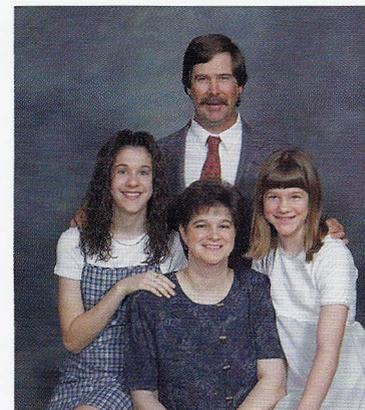
**ATHERTON, Randy & Nicole Detwiler
LaKendra**



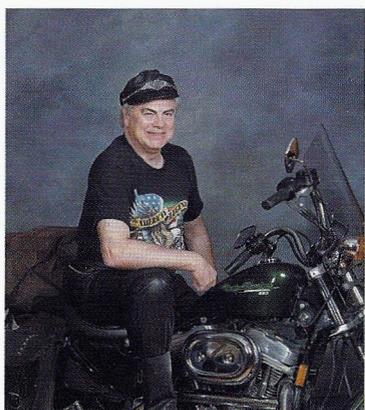
**ATHERTON, Stephen & Annette
Randy, Corey, Scott, Danny**



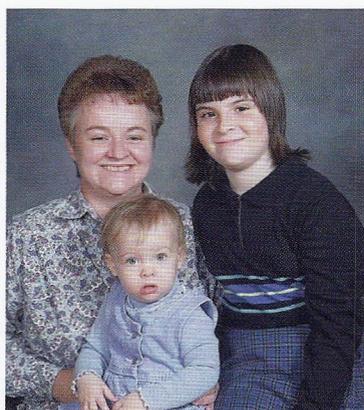
BAER, Max & Callista



**BAKER, Daniel & Susan
Miranda, Kendra**



BECKER, Rev. David



**BRIGGS, Polly
Lana, Maria**



**BROUSE, David & Mary Catherine
Luke**



CIARROCCA, Mary



**COLLINS, Wayne & Tammy
Derrick, Dylan**



**COOPER, James Edward Jr. & Vicki Michelle
Erica Renee, Scott Michael**



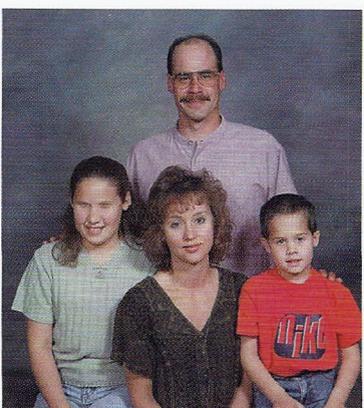
CROUSE, Augustus & Mildred



CROUSE, Gerald & Ann



CUPILLARI, Rita



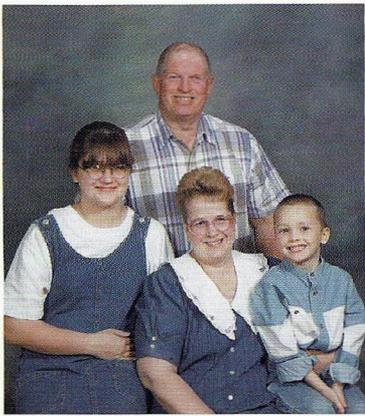
**DOYLE, Brian & Denise
Brianne, Lane**



**EICHENLAUB, Daniel & Christina
Matthew, Arlie, Carrie, Lula**



GOSHORN, Elizabeth



GOSHORN, John & Jennifer
Stephanie, Christopher



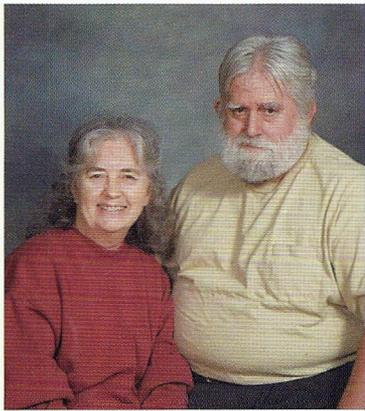
HERTZ, Vernon & Mona



JENKINS, Jim & Jacqueline



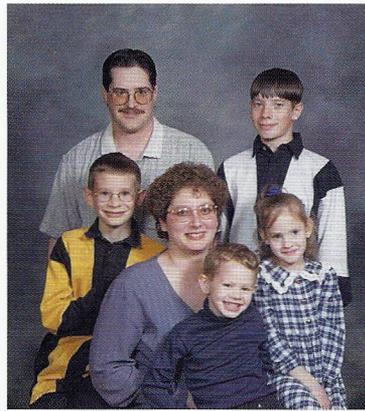
LA FRAMBOISE, Gerald & Tammy
Lisa, Ellen



LEONARD, Sheldon & Mary



LEONARD, Valerie
Clay



LETURGEY, Brian & Angela
Christopher, Steven, Sarah, Nicholas



LETURGEY, Gregory & Sonja



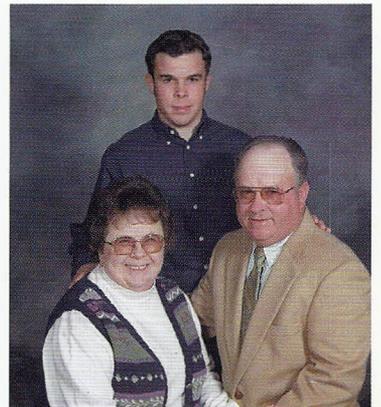
MC MATH, Bernice



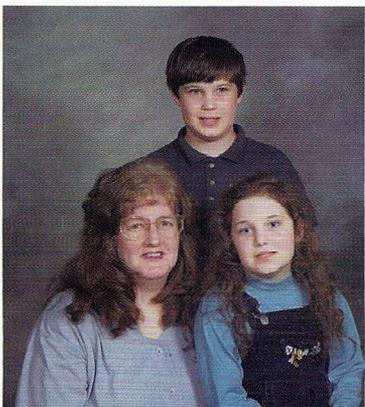
MC MATH, Camillus



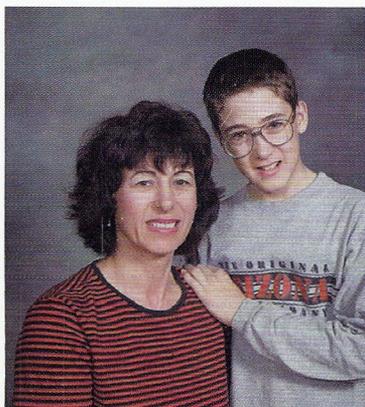
MC MATH, Clara



MC MATH, James & Barbara
Dustin



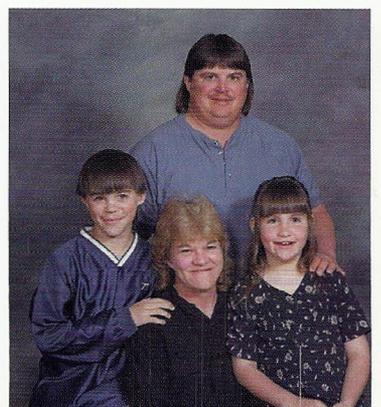
MILLER, Barbara
Luke, Rebecca



MILLER, Sarah
Philip



PHILLIPS, Robert & Grace



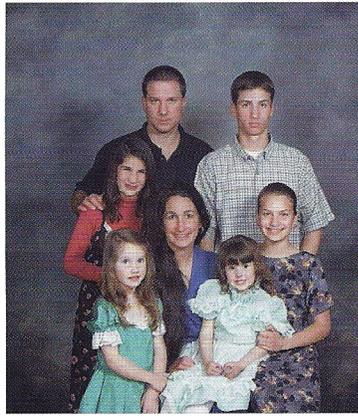
PRICE, Brian & Julie
Nicholas, Tiffany



PROKOPOVITCH, Billie Jo



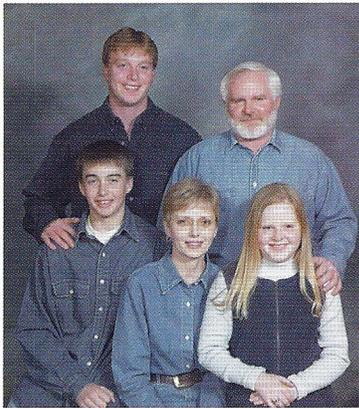
REGI, Sam & Eileen



REVERCOMB, Robert & Maria
Robert, Kristiana, Liana, Marie, Gabriella



SLATES, Leonard & Rosalie



STARR, James & Mary Ann
Nathan, Tyler, Betsy



STARR, Monty & Suzanne



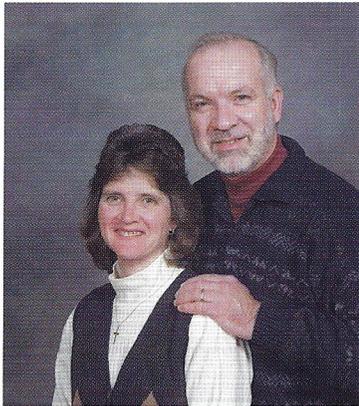
STARR, Paul & Nancy



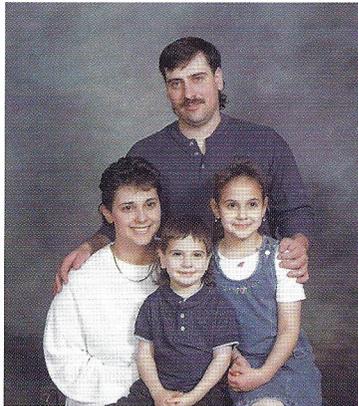
WATKINS, Clarence & Anna



YOHN, Mary Agnes



YOHN, Robert & Ivy



ZINOBILE, Thomas & Kathy
Amber, Thomas



‡CORNELL, Pat & Lena
Patrick, Skye, Crystal, Colt



‡GOSHORN, Larry & Barbara



‡GOSHORN, Travis & Marcia



‡HOCKENBERY, Diane
Bailey



‡HOLDEN, Laura



#KEEFER, Shelly
Chelsea



#ZINOBILE, Ramonda & Jake

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Shade Gap, Pennsylvania
1999

-A-

Atherton, Annette & Stephen
& Family
Three Springs

-B-

Baer, Max & Callista
& Family
Shade Gap

Baker, Susan & Daniel
& Family
Spring Run

Barnes, Amy & Andrew
& Family
Shade Gap

Briggs, Polly & William
& Family
Blairs Mills

Brouse, Mary Catherine & David
& Family
Blairs Mills

Brown, Janet & Dennis
& Family
Three Springs

-C-

Chapman, Valerie
Blairs Mills

Ciarrocca, Mary
Rockhill Furnace

Cisney, Jeff & Dana
Mapleton

Clark, Grace
Shade Gap

Collins, Tammy & Wayne
& Family
Saltillo

Coons, Keith & Sharon
& Family
Dry Run

Cooper, James & Vicki
& Family
Mount Union

Cornell, Patrick & Lena
& Family
Three Springs

Crouse, Augustus & Mildred
Mount Union

Crouse, Gerald & Ann
& Family
Shade Gap

Crouse, Perry & Christine &
Family
Shade Gap

Cupillari, Rita
Orbisonia

-D-

Devlin, John
Orbisonia

Doyle, Brian & Denise
& Family
Saltillo

-E-

Edgin, Anna & Ned
& Family
Three Springs

Eichenlaub, Daniel & Christina
& Family
Neelyton

Eichenlaub, Wayne & Judy
& Family
Blairs Mills

-F-

Fleming, Frank & Melissa
& Family
Shade Gap

-G-

Goshorn, Elizabeth
Orbisonia

Goshorn, John & Jennifer
& Family
Blairs Mills

Goshorn, Travis & Marcia
Spring Run

-H-

Hagie, Anne
Orbisonia

Hertz, Vernon & Mona
Orbisonia

Hiquet, Robert & Merri Ann
& Family
Mapleton

Huntsman, Christie & Clint
& Family
Blairs Mills

-J-

Jenkins, Jacqueline & Janvier
& Family
Three Springs

-K-

Kough, Thomas & Patricia
& Family
Saltillo

Kunf, Florence
Shade Gap

-L-

Laframboise, Gerald & Tammy
& Family
Hustontown

Leonard, Georgia
Orbisonia

Leonard, Sheldon & Mary
& Family
Mount Union

Leturgy, Brian & Angela
& Family
Rockhill Furnace

Leturgy, Greg & Sonja
Shirleysburg

-M-

McElrath, William & Mary
& Family
Orbisonia

McGarvey, Paul & Mildred
& Family
Shirleysburg

McMath, Bernard & Connie
Orbisonia

McMath, Bernice
Shade Gap

McMath, Camillus
Shirleysburg

McMath, Clara
Shade Gap

McMath, E. James & Barbara
& Family
Shirleysburg

McMath, Gerald & Darlene
& Family
Shade Gap

McMath, John & Ruth
& Family
Orbisonia

McMath, Paul
Orbisonia

McMath, Thomas & Linda
& Family
Shade Gap

Miller, Barbara & Luke
& Family
Robertsdale

Miller, Michael & Sarah
& Family
Blairs Mills

-O-

O'Donnell, Deanna & Terry
Saltillo

-P-

Pheasant, Helen & Wendell
& Family
Shade Gap

Philips, Robert & Grace
Shade Gap

Pia, Frank & Robin
& Family
Blairs Mills

Price, Julie & Brian
& Family
Saltillo

Prokopovitch, Billie Jo
& Family
Orbisonia

-R-

Rakocy, Helen
Three Springs

Regi, Eileen & Samuel
Shade Gap

Revercomb, Maria & Robert
& Family
Shade Gap

-S-

Scholl, Larry & Bonnie
& Family
Orbisonia

Shehan, Barbara & Ronald
& Family
Orbisonia

Slates, Rosalie & Leonard
Three Springs

Stanek, Ruth
Orbisonia

Starr, James & Maryann
& Family
Spring Run

Starr, Monty & Suzanne
& Family
Saltillo

Starr, Norby
& Family
Saltillo

Starr, Paul & Nancy
& Family
Saltillo

-T-

Thomas, John A.
Orbisonia

Topper, Gerald & Debbie
Neelyton

-V-

Varisano, Christie
& Family
Blairs Mills

-W-

Walker, Trudy & Brian Scott
& Family
Three Springs

Watkins, Ann & Clarence
Orbisonia

Weaver, Christopher & Shannon
Orbisonia

Weaver, Michael & Kathleen
& Family
Orbisonia

Weyandt, Mary K.
Orbisonia

Woodward, Nancy & Donald
Rockhill Furnace

Woodward, Terry & Karen
& Family
Orbisonia

-Y-

Yohn, Margarita
Orbisonia

Yohn, Mary Agnes
Shade Gap

Yohn, Philip & Jacqueline
& Family
Shade Gap

Yohn, Robert & Ivy Lee
& Family
Shade Gap

-Z-

Zinobile, Angela
McConnellsburg

Zinobile, Hubert
Mapleton Depot

Zinobile, Hugh & Lillian
Orbisonia

Zinobile, Hugh Joseph &
Bonnie Kay
Orbisonia

Zinobile, Jason & Ramonda
Orbisonia

Zinobile, Joseph & Vicki
& Family
Mapleton

Zinobile, Michael & Glenda
& Family
Mapleton Depot

Zinobile, Thomas & Kathy
& Family
Neelyton

NEW MEMBERS/UPDATES

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NEW MEMBERS/UPDATES

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