

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish

No. 47 of a Series on Our Parish's First 100 Years

Seventeen eighth graders graduated from St. Charles School in exercises held on Thursday, June 6, 1946. The graduating class is shown in the following photo.



CLASS OF 1946

Row 1 (l to r): James Shanahan, Patricia Trimberger, Mary Ann Muller, Rita Bauman, Catherine Trimberger, and Kenneth Warren.

Row 2: Rev. Hugh Wish, Ronald Stallman, Grace Runzler, Hildegard Block, Margaret Block, Mary Kayser, Fred Eisenbart, and Rev. Charles Myers.

Row 3: Joseph Lackas, Roger Luetten, Roman Block, Ronald Schiller, and Gerald Richter.

Rev. Cyril Spiegelhoff was the speaker of the evening as the St. Charles Alumni Association held its 29th annual reunion on Sunday, June 16, in the church hall. Father Spiegelhoff spoke of humorous experiences during his service as chaplain in the armed forces traveling through Europe, and emphasized the importance of danger in bringing religion more strongly into men's souls.

Joan Bennett welcomed the class of 1946 into the alumni ranks and Gardie Block delivered the response for her class. The program also included the introduction of couples married since the previous year's reunion and the awarding of the Sister Mary Hermana trophy to the class of 1938. During the business meeting it was decided that an association historian should be appointed, that future meetings should not be held on Sundays, and that certain changes should be made in the by-laws concerning the election of officers.

At its annual district meeting in June, held at St. Mary's church in Dover, the women of the parishes in district ten of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women re-elected Mrs. Norma Degen, of St. Charles, president for another year. The vice president, Mrs. Mary Jane Massey of St. Joseph's, Lyons, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. A. F. Glass of St. Francis de Sales, Lake Geneva, were also re-elected for another year. The desire for closer social contacts between the women of the district resulted in plans for a purely social gathering once a year, besides the annual business meeting. Tentative plans were made for a dessert luncheon and afternoon bridge in Burlington for some time in July or August.

At the semi-annual meeting of the St. Ann's Society in July, president Mrs. Marie Spiegelhoff reported the addition of forty-five new members since January 1. Mrs. Hilda Lois was membership chairman. At the society's December meeting, Mrs. Evelyn Block was elected secretary and Mrs. Agnes Wisnefski was elected treasurer. Mrs. Spiegelhoff was re-elected president.

St. Charles grade school, which had been cleaned and repainted, had registration for the 1946-1947 school year on August 29 and began class work on Wednesday, September 4, with 140 students. There were three new faculty members. The new superior, and 7th and 8th grade teacher, was Sister M. Geraldine, who had come from Assumption Grotto School at Detroit, Michigan. She replaced Sister M. Sebastian, who was transferred to Plain. The new 5th and 6th grade teacher was Sister M. Thaddeus. She took the place of Sister M. Gerard, who was transferred to Mineral Point. The new music instructor was Sister M. Seraphica, who replaced Sister M. Rosanne with whom she exchanged her position at St. Albertus School of Music in Racine. The continuing members of the teaching staff were Sister M. Dolores, who taught the 3rd and 4th grades, and Sister M. Eulalia, who taught 1st and 2nd grades.

As a token of thanksgiving for peace, two silk flags, the Stars and Stripes and the Papal flag, were placed at the side altars in St. Charles in November. The American flag was placed beside the Blessed Virgin's altar to indicate that the Catholic Church in America had been put under the special patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The white and yellow Papal flag was placed beside the altar of St. Joseph, patron of the universal Church.

As had become the parish's custom, celebration of the feast of the Nativity at St. Charles began at 11:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve with the choir singing Christmas hymns. The last hymn, "Silent Night, Holy Night," was the prelude to the solemn midnight high Mass, celebrated by Rev. Charles Myers. Christmas day Masses were celebrated at 6, 7:30, 9, and 11 o'clock. The 9 o'clock Mass was a high Mass, preceded by fifteen minutes of Christmas hymns by the children's choir.

In February 1947, it was reported that John Maloy, a retired bachelor farmer who had died in January, had made liberal bequests to St. Charles and St. Mary's congregations and to Burlington Memorial Hospital in his will. From his total estate, which was estimated at \$80,000, Mr. Maloy bequeathed \$500 to St. Charles for Masses for members of his family; \$5,000 to St. Charles for the education of priests, and \$8,000 to St. Charles to be used as the trustees decided. He then made bequests to several members of his family and to friends, which totaled in the neighborhood of \$35,000. The balance of the estate was to be divided equally in three parts between St. Charles, St. Mary's, and Burlington Memorial Hospital to be used by those organizations as they saw fit.

The thirteenth annual Catholic Charities Campaign in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, with a goal of \$300,000, was formally opened on Sunday, March 16. Leo Warren, of St. Charles, was vice chairman of the drive in the archdiocese and Frank Langley, of St. Mary's, had charge of the drive in district one. L. Reinhard Mangold was St. Charles' parish chairman. Twenty-one charitable institutions in the archdiocese were to benefit from the charities drive. They included orphanages, hospitals, homes for the indigent, the handicapped, the aged, and the underprivileged.

When the drive closed on Sunday, March 30, Frank Langley announced that both Burlington parishes had surpassed their quotas. In the archdiocese, the collection totaled more than \$320,000, surpassing the \$300,000 goal.

Several piano students of the St. Charles studio played in the national piano playing auditions in Milwaukee on April 25. Bret Sears, pianist and teacher, was the examiner. Joan Bennett achieved high honors in her presentation of five technical phases and ten memorized pieces. She received the high school diploma award. National winner certificates were awarded to Claudette Busher, Mary Lou Eaton, Suzanne Longley, Darlene Robers, Sally Warner, Suzanne Wilson, and Carol Uebele for programs of ten memorized pieces. State winner certificates went to Janet Bauman, Joan Bauman, Barbara Bennett, Mary Hrobsky, Ruth Ann Kayser, Carol Markofski, and Marianne Wilson for programs of seven memorized pieces. Mary Edith Orth, Nancy Runkel, Jane Sherman, Mary Jane Tenwinkel, and Annette Trimberger received district winner certificates for programs of four memorized pieces; and local winner certificates went to Lyndell Moore and June Uebele for programs of two memorized pieces.

Eight of the musicians also did well at a district competitive music festival in Whitewater on May 3 where the students were graded according to their performance of a required and choice piano solo. The students and their grades were: Joan Bauman, excellent; Claudette Busher, superior (piano and voice); Mary Lou Eaton, superior; Suzanne Longley, superior; Darlene Robers, superior; Carol Uebele, excellent; Sally Warner, superior; and Suzanne Wilson, superior.

On May 4 the following class of young people made their first Communion at St. Charles church:

Andrew Adam	Bernard Beuthling	Katherine Kayser	Richard Schiller
Patricia Alby	Elizabeth Brehm	Diane Keough	Mary Ann Schmaling
Dolores Bauman	William Brehm	Roger Kerkman	Willim Spiegelhoff
Elaine Bauman	Norene David	Ruth Ketterhagen	Lawrence Trimberger
Gerald Bauman	James Dunn	Richard Koenen	Marcia Van Bolhuis
Marie Bauman	Karen Eckert	Gary Langdon	Donald Vande Sand
Richard Bauman	William Fonk	Clare Lohaus	Donald Warren
Elizabeth Beuthling	James Forbes	Lois Martin	

St. Charles lost its long-time parish treasurer on May 14 when L. Reinhard Mangold died at his home from a heart ailment that had bothered him for some time but had become serious only a week before. His death took one of Burlington's leading citizens – a man always interested and willing to give freely of his time and counsel to every move that had to do with the welfare of his city, its activities, his church, and his friends.

In addition to his carpentry and contracting business, Mr. Mangold served several terms as alderman and eight years on the county board of supervisors. He was treasurer of St. Charles for twenty years and was a member of the Holy Name Society, the Third Order of St. Francis, the Usher's Society, and the Knights of Columbus. He had served in World War I and was a member of the American Legion. He was also a director of the Memorial Hospital Association and treasurer of the Burlington Savings and Loan Association.



L. Reinhard Mangold
(Photo about 1925)

Grade school days were over on June 5 for twelve St. Charles students who would assume the status of high school freshmen in the fall. Those receiving their diplomas in exercises conducted by Rev. Charles Myers in St. Charles church are shown in the photo on the next page.



CLASS OF 1947

Row 1 (l to r): David Isferding, Robert Bauman, Josephine Hetzel, William McCarthy, Joan Lois, and James Peterson.

Row 2: Rev. Hugh Wish, Mary Jane Tenwinkel, Joseph Brook, Rita Vos, Dennis Boyle, Jane Luetten, Joyce Warren, and Rev. Charles Myers.

Following Benediction in St. Charles church on Thursday, June 12, Rev. Charles Myers gave the prayer which opened the thirtieth annual reunion of the St. Charles Alumni Association. About 200 members attended the banquet prepared and served by the St. Ann's Society in the church hall.

At a short business meeting, presided over by president John Moe, the following officers were elected for the coming year: James Pihringer president, Roman Eckert vice president elect, Eileen David vice president, Evelyn Block secretary, and Luella Schiller treasurer. The class of 1941 with nine out of sixteen members present won the Sr. M. Hermana attendance trophy.

Msgr. Philipp Dries of Sheboygan, former pastor of St. Charles and under whose pastorate the association was formed, offered a few words of congratulation and encouragement on the thirtieth anniversary of the association's founding. The names of the previous year's newlyweds were read by toastmaster Dr. Donald Ketterhagen, after which he introduced Rosemary Krueger who extended greetings to the class of 1947. Miss Krueger reminded the graduates of the new door that would be opened to them and stated that the education received in St. Charles school would stand them in good stead through their schooling which was to follow. Dennis Boyle, representing the graduating class, responded. Eileen David, accompanied by Don Albright at the piano, sang two vocal selections.

The address of the evening entitled, "A Call to Action," was given by Rev. J. Russell Beix, of the class of 1923. Father Beix spoke of the society in which the people of 1947 lived. "It is predominantly pagan," he said, "and people no longer wish to admit or be reminded of the existence of God. Although they will not deny God's presence, they give His principles and doctrines the 'silent treatment.'" He added "Our forms of literature and theatre today are wholly independent of Christ and are working to push Him out of His universe. We are all becoming more worldly and less Christ-like due to the anti-Christian influences which are taking such a firm hold in today's mode of living."

"This is the time where we as Catholics must take hold of the situation. In the face of present day affairs the Pope has issued a call to Catholic action in the laity, under the help and guidance of Catholic clergy. Each man must be his own apostle in seeing that Christ be brought

back into His world in factory, school, and business," he appealed. Rev. Beix said, "Christian living must be extraordinary in order to accomplish the goal which is before us as Catholics, and we must bear in mind that the salvation of the soul, and not the reaping of earthly riches is our purpose in life."

Father Myers, spiritual director of the alumni association, gave the closing remarks followed by a prayer by Rev. Hugh Wish.

A panel discussion, "Know Your Council," conducted by women of five parishes, highlighted the annual spring meeting of the tenth district of the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women held at St. Joseph's church in Lyons on June 26. Taking part in the panel discussion were Mrs. Art Hrobsky of Lyons, Mrs. Isabel Springel of Whitewater, Mrs. Dorothy Gardner of Burlington, Mrs. Walter J. Schweiger of Sharon, and Mrs. Melvin Spence of Williams Bay.

With an attendance of 135 women from ten parishes, the meeting opened with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 1 o'clock. A dessert luncheon was then served by the ladies of St. Joseph's parish. Rev. Francis Tenpenny gave the opening prayer and welcome to his parish. Greetings from the Archdiocesan council were given by the council's vice president, Mrs. Andrew S. Pfeiffer of Milwaukee.

Mrs. Mary Jane Massey of Lyons was elected president of district ten. Other officers elected were Agnes Moran of Delavan, vice president; Mrs. Norma Degen of St. Charles, outgoing president, second vice president; and Mrs. Helen Bedessem of Lyons, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Clara Porter of St. Charles was re-elected district director.

A roll call of the ten affiliated parish organizations was made, with the president of each giving a brief report on an outstanding activity. Mrs. Ralph Spiegelhoff and Mrs. George Uhlenhake, presidents of the ladies organizations of their respective parishes, represented St. Charles and St. Mary's.

The Brown's Lake golf course was the site of a P.G.A. golf tournament on Wednesday, July 16, when the Priests Golfers Association held its annual tournament. Thirty-eight local and visiting priests participated for small prizes and in blind bogey had medal play. Rev. Joseph Niglis won the medalists prize with a 77 with Rev. Cletus Uhen second with an 80. Rev. Cyril Spiegelhoff won the longest drive prize with his drive on the sixth hole. The tournament was followed by dinner at the Colonial Club.

A Catholic softball league was organized for the summer of 1947 with teams representing St. Mary's and St. Charles parishes in Burlington, St. Thomas of Waterford, and St. Alphonsus of New Munster. A five round schedule was arranged with games at New Munster every Monday evening and at Athletic Park in Burlington every Thursday evening.

Rev. Albert Kretschmer, S.V.D., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kretschmer of New Munster, read his first solemn high Mass at St. Alphonsus on Sunday, August 17. He was the second young man of that parish to become a priest since the parish's founding in 1852. The parish's first priest-son had been the late Rev. Mathias Zerfas, who was ordained in 1934 and had died aboard a Japanese prison ship in the Second World War.

Among those assisting Father Kretschmer at his first solemn Mass were two of his brothers, Henry and Edmund, as acolytes. The thurifers were Charles Toelle and Claude Robers. The little bride was Lillian Epping, a cousin of Father Kretschmer. Her two attendants were Mary Jane Kretschmer and June Kerkman.

(to be continued)