

The next Pastor, Father Richard Foley looked after the spiritual needs of Greenport, though it seems he lived both at Southold and Greenport. Father Foley continued the register of Fr. McKenna, as well as his spiritual work. He is still remembered by some of the old people (written in 1955). One elderly woman remembers him taking breakfast in her home after Mass, and remembers her mother Mrs. Mouhot waiting on him. Those were still pioneer days, and it was difficult to keep the temporary church heated, so confessions were heard in the Costello home. Just as our gratitude is owed to Father McCarthy who built the first little place of worship, and to Father Brunemann for calling it after St. Agnes, so too our gratitude is owed to Fr. Foley for building the present church. It was built around 1883 and 1884, at a cost of \$6,000...a large amount then. No doubt the accumulated dues marked in the register helped to build it. It was well built and is practically the same building that is our parish church today. The bell tower, sacristy and Baptistry were added later.

We have an authentic and interesting account of the dedication of the church in a clipping taken from the *Catholic Review of Brooklyn* dated October 4, 1884. "The new Church at Greenport, L.I." "Last Sunday, the Bishop (John Loughlin) blessed and opened the new Church of St. Agnes, which Father Foley has built at Greenport, L.I. The Solemn Mass was sung by Father McNamara of Our Lady of Mercy, Brooklyn, assisted by Father John McKenna of Flushing as Deacon and Rev. P. McKenna of Southold, L.I. as Subdeacon. Rev. Father Richard Foley was master of ceremonies. The Bishop preached a pointed discourse of great simplicity of language and full of practical instruction." As far as we can calculate back, this ceremony took place on Sunday, September 28, 1884.

For about two years, Father Brennan lived in the house on Sixth St. used by the Catholic War Veterans (1955). In the meantime the new rectory was being built. Father Brennan occupied it some time in 1888. It is the present rectory, and except for a few alterations and additions, it is the same staunch comfortable home it was when first occupied nearly seventy years ago.

From now on the parish registers of baptisms and marriages were kept at St. Agnes instead of at Patrick's, Southold. We have before us the first parochial register. It is an ordinary account book and contains all the Baptisms in the parish between 1886 and 1892. Also a number of marriages are recorded in the same book. Almost all these entries were made by Father Brennan himself, rather too briefly, in neat small handwriting. There were during those six years 94 Baptisms and 13 marriages. The first name recorded in the Baptismal Register is Ellen Elizabeth Shafer. She was baptized August 15, 1886. Her godfather was Charles Thornhill. The first to be entered in the marriage register, married Nov. 17, 1886, are James Heaney and Mary O'Brian.

The years that followed were spent by Father Brennan in organizing the previous mission conditions along parish lines. (In 1955: he is still remembered by some of the old people. They recall him riding on horse

back through his extensive parish territory. They also remember the children's Christmas entertainment he provided for them and their parents).

A large, and better arranged (than previous records) register records the baptisms and marriages from 1891 until 1926, a period of 34 years. Immediately succeeding Father Brennan, who returned to Brooklyn to become pastor of St. Malachy's Church in 1892, we find the name of Fr. A.J. O'Rourke. On February 8, 1893 we find the name of the Rev. Peter Donohue. His name continues all through 1893, but there are a number of entries under the name of the Rev. Joseph McGinley in the early part of 1895. Father Donohue's last entry was a baptism on Nov. 10, 1895, after which he was the well-known Monsignor Donohue, who died pastor of St. Teresa's Church in Brooklyn, July 2, 1933. Fr. O'Rourke must be given the credit of adopting the record system much as we have today (1955) grouping income according to collections. The parish registers of baptisms and marriages were also arranged in a book specially made for that purpose, instead of the former ledger.

We have before us an old account book from 1892 to 1899. We must say that the income was pitifully small, especially during the winter months. Then, it was seldom over \$10 a Sunday. On one Sunday, Feb. 18, 1894, the collection was \$2.32. In the summer months, due to visitors from the city, it was much better, but even then \$50 was the average. It must not be thought that the people living here were ungenerous. They were few in number. One old member of the Parish has told me that there were usually about 200 worshippers at Mass on Sunday, and this included children. Wages in those days were quite low, and most of the families were large. Perhaps one compensation was the fact that expenses also were low by present standards. Yet at times it must have caused real anxiety to the priests and it must also have occasioned some real hardship and self denial on their parts, especially since there was still a debt to be paid for the building of the Church and rectory. A new pastor came in November, 1896, and he was to remain for six years. This new pastor was Fr. Patrick Farrelly. No one before, and perhaps, no one since, put his personal stamp on the Parish as he did. It was he who took the Parish out of its pioneer condition.

Father Patrick Farrelly, who became Pastor in 1896, faithfully attended to the spiritual needs of his flock at the time, and he also looked forward to the needs of the future. One of these needs was a cemetery. Formerly, Catholics were buried in the Catholic Cemeteries of Southold or Sag Harbor. In any case, this was inconvenient, particularly during the winter months when the roads were often blocked with snow.

On August 28, 1898, Father Farrelly signed the deed which made the Parish the owner of twelve acres near Sterling Creek; close to the present hospital. This property was to be St. Agnes' Cemetery. On July 23, 1899, it was formally blessed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick McNamara, then Vicar-General of the Diocese. The first to be buried in the new cemetery was an infant, Antonio Mazzo, buried September 1, 1898. Besides this property,

Farther Farrelly bought a number of lots in back of the Church and rectory, thus giving the parish sufficient room for future buildings. The cost of the cemetery property was \$1,500.