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HISTORY OF  
**St. Mary's Parish**  
1538—1912



Phoenix, Arizona

# History of St. Mary's Parish

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The honor of having discovered the territory comprising the State of Arizona and of planting the cross in the very heart of the American continent, more than a thousand miles from either ocean, the Mexican Gulf or Hudson Bay, is due to the zeal of a son of St. Francis.

Only forty-six years after Columbus discovered America, Fr. Marcos de Niza, a Franciscan friar, of the same order that have charge of St. Mary's Parish in Phoenix today, offered to explore these regions and preach the gospel to the natives. His offer was accepted by Viceroy Mendoza, of Mexico, who directed the Father to advance and penetrate into the interior. "If God, our Lord, is pleased," said the pious Mendoza in his instructions, "that you find any large town where it seems to you that there is a good opportunity for establishing a convent, and of sending religious to be employed in the conversion, you are to report by Indians, or to return in person to Culiacan.

"With all secrecy you are to give notice, that preparation be made without delay, because the service of our Lord and the good of the people of the land is the aim of the pacification of whatever is discovered."

The religious was duly authorized for his mission by letters of obedience from the Superior, dated at Mexico, August 27th, 1538. The document also states that Fray Marcos de Niza was a regular priest, pious, virtuous and devoted, a good theologian, and familiar with the sciences of cosmography and navigation.

Fr. Marcos and his followers marched northward, and for an entire year suffered the perils that ever in this day of railroads and highways and trails and developed water; men yearly lose their lives by thirst, to say nothing of the thousands that have been slain by the



RIGHT REV. HENRY GRANJON, D. D.,  
Bishop of the Diocese of Tientsin.

Indians, and returned to Mexico, where he presented what is now known to be indisputable proof of having been in the territories of what are now the States of Arizona and New Mexico.

Thus Fr. Marcos de Niza stands in history as the earliest of the priestly explorers, who, unarmed and on foot, penetrated into the heart of the country in advance of all Europeans, a barefooted friar effecting more, as Viceroy Mendoza wrote, than well armed parties of Spaniards had been able to accomplish, and who almost four centuries ago initiated a mission of the Franciscan Order, which was for years to spread Christian light over the interior of the continent long before the advance guard of Protestantism appeared in either Virginia or Massachusetts.

Fr. Marcos de Niza opened the way, but the mission was not effectively begun till many zealous Franciscans had laid down their lives in the centuries that have followed since Prior Marcos took possession of this region in the name of the king, and named the country "El Nuevo Reino de San Francisco—The New Kingdom of St. Francis."

As we have seen, the first white man to enter Arizona was the Franciscan Father Marcos de Niza, who crossed the territory from southwest to northeast in 1539. He again passed through the same territory with Coronado on his march to the Seven Cities in the year following, and from this time forward hundreds of the Franciscan Fathers followed in the path of Fr. Marcos de Niza, and suffered hardships, privations and peril, insults and slander greater than any other men have undergone in the history of the world. Few of them but what gave their lives as a sacrifice to savage fury, hunger, thirst, or the political intrigues of Godless men in the early days. These Soldiers of the Cross are the martyrs of American history. But the fruit of their labor and martyrdom were the salvation of souls, and the peaceful, industrious and christian lives of the descendants of the original natives of this country today.

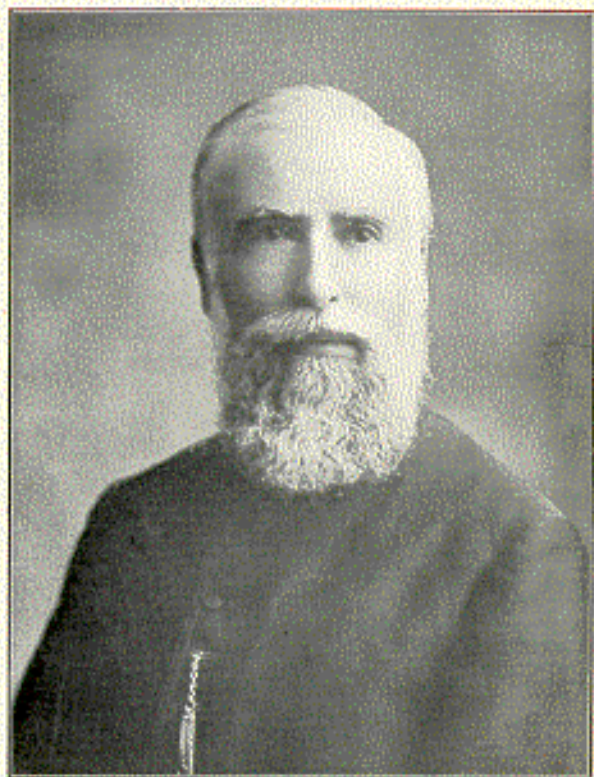
The history of St. Mary's Parish begins properly with the time the little adobe church was erected here in 1881; but prior to this time there is no doubt that the early Franciscan Fathers converted and baptized the Indians in or near what is now the city of Phoenix, while Father Ed Gerard conducted religious services here at intervals some years before the adobe church was built, coming here from the Parish in Florence for that purpose.

The congregation of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, composed of Mexican and English speaking Catholics,



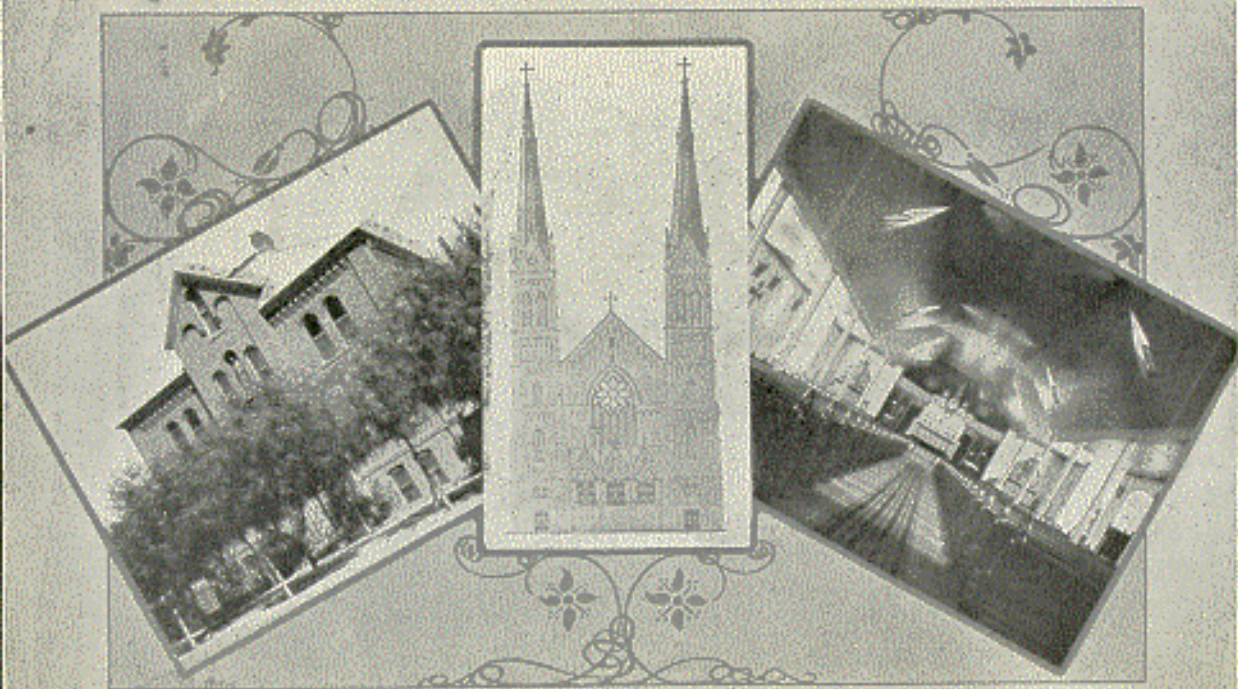
THE OLD ADOBE CHURCH. BUILT 1881.

was founded in 1881. The first church was erected in the same year under the direction of Rev. Ed. Gerard, the parish priest of Florence. The new structure was blessed on June 24th of the same year by the Rt. Rev. J. B. Salpointe, Vicar Apostolic of Arizona, assisted by Reverends Fr. Gerard Deraches, of Prescott, and A. Jouvenceau, of Tucson. Before the advent of the Franciscans, St. Mary's was in charge of Rev. Gerard from its foundation to 1883; Rev. Joseph Bloise from 1883 to 1886; and Rev. F. X. Jouvenceau from 1886 to 1893. The latter had as assistants the Rev. P. Timmermans, and from 1892 to 1895, the Rev. M. Vandermaesen.



REV. ED. GERARD, O. F. M.

Soon after the arrival of the Fathers in 1896 the old adobe church proved much too small and unsuitable for its purpose. Under the direction of Brother Adrian Wiewer, the provincial architect, and at the hands of Brothers Eugene and Ildefons the old structure before



THE MONASTERY. THE CHURCH OF THE IMC. CONCEPTION WHEN COMPLETED. THE INTERIOR OF THE BASEMENT OF THE CHURCH.

long assumed quite a different and more agreeable appearance. A new brick foundation gave the building solidity, and a new sacristy supplied a long-felt want. The dwelling which received the Fathers on their arrival consisted of two small adobe buildings, besides a small brick house containing two rooms. Early in 1897 a Monastery for the community was erected, according to plans prepared by Brother Adrian. Adrian.

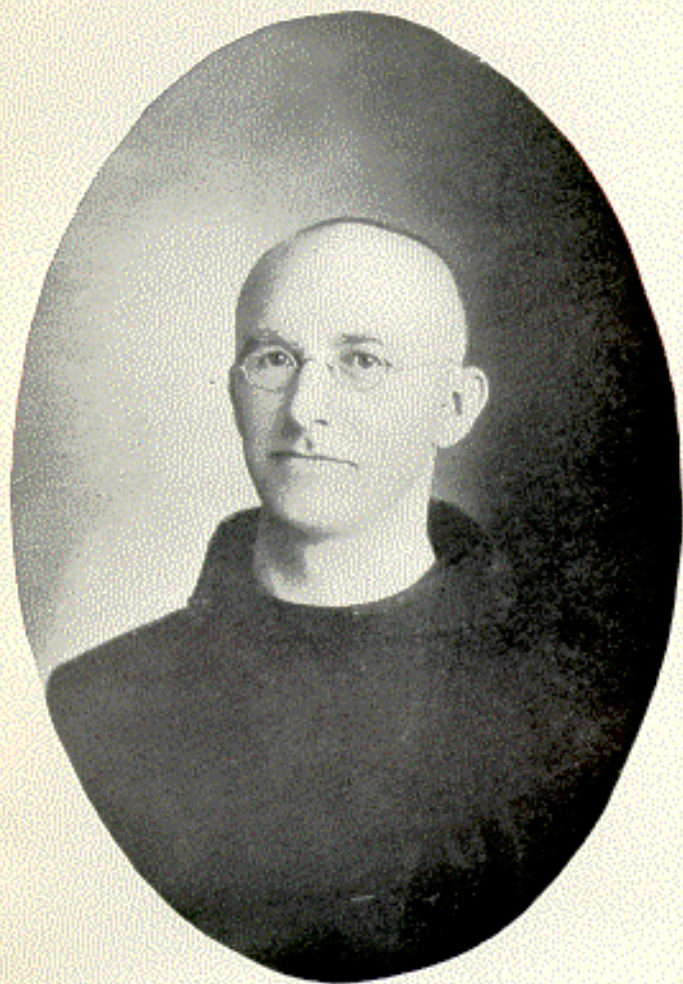
A new school house of brick for the Mexican children completed the material work of the Fathers at Phoenix for the year 1897. The erection of this school building was one of the greatest needs of the parish of St. Mary's.



REV. F. X. JOUVENCEAU, O. F. M.

In July, 1896, Rev. Seraphin Lampe was transferred to Pajaro, Calif., when Rev. Novatus Benzing succeeded to the office of superior and rector of the parish. On account of age and ill health the Rev. Jose Godyol, assistant, returned to California, and was succeeded by

Rev. Severin Westhoff, of St. Louis, Mo. In October of the same year Rev. Alban Schwarze, of St. Louis, was also stationed at Phoenix. Towards the end of November, 1896, the Very Rev. Commissary Provincial



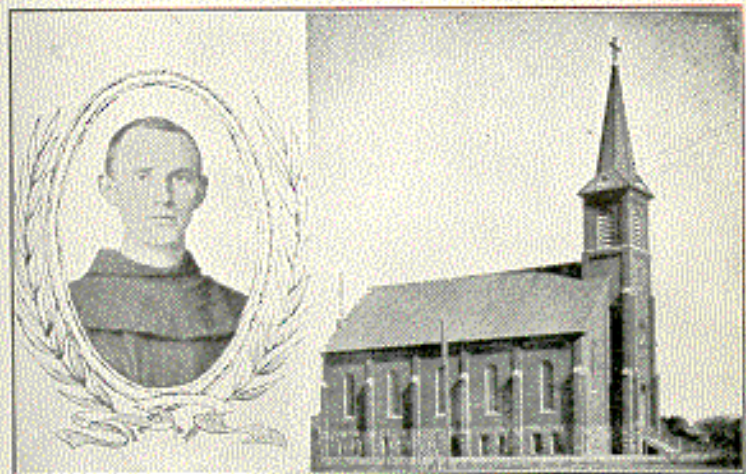
REV. NOVATUS BENZING, O. F. M.

for California, Rev. Clementin Deymann, arrived at St. Mary's in the hope of recovering his health, but he expired a few days later, a victim to Bright's disease. His remains were sent to Santa Barbara, Calif.

The Sisters's Academy, on Monroe and Fourth Streets, having been built originally by and for the parish under the direction of the

secular priests preceding the Franciscans, was utilized by the Sisters of Mercy until the summer of 1898, when it was again turned over to the Parish. The congregation of St. Mary's shouldered the debts and gave the Sisters two building lots situated on Monroe and Fourth Streets towards the east.

The Fathers practically have charge of Maricopa County, in which besides Phoenix, they attend Tempe, Mesa, Buckeye, Gila Bend, Wickenburg, Santa Domingo, and Fort McDowell, together with the various Indian tribes of Pimas, Papagos, and Maricopas. These tribes have been visited by the Fathers more than a century ago, as may be seen from the preceding pages.



REV. SEVERIN WESTHOFF, O. F. M. ST. MARY'S CHURCH, TEMPE.

The Rev. Severin Westhoff, O. F. M., the pastor at Tempe from 1896 to 1906, had charge of these missions, and visited them at regular intervals until 1900, when he had to give up the Indian work to take care of the largely increasing membership of his own church and the upbuilding of the work in Tempe, which included a fine brick church and school house, also the church at Wickenburg. Father Severin was noted for the hard and earnest work he performed in this section, and was immensely liked, especially by the Mexicans.

In June, 1899, this parish began the erection of a school house for the Indians at Gila Crossing, the building was completed in De-



REV. ALBAN SCHWARZE, O. F. M.  
Pastor of St. Mary's Church.

was ordained to the priesthood November 17, 1895, by Most Rev. J. J. Kain, D. D., Archbishop of St. Louis, Mo. He first came to Phoenix, Arizona, October, 1895, as assistant. He succeeded Rev. Father Westhoff, O. F. M., as pastor September 1, 1911.

ember of that year, and school opened. This school has filled a much needed educational influence in the lives of the Indians of this section.

Father Justin succeeded Father Severin in the Indian work, coming here in 1900. He had had long experience in this kind of work at Harbor Springs, Michigan, and the success he has attained in the education and care of the Indians in this part of Arizona, has created a reputation for the Father of being one of the best Indian educators in America.

At St. John's Mission, Gila Crossing, he has built a complete village, which is a model of industrial and educational development. Over two hundred Indian children are being taught domestic, mental and moral usefulness there.

Father Justin is not under the jurisdiction of this Parish, but the influence he lends to the moral support of the Catholic interests here is such as to render an account of his great work as a fitting adjunct to our history.

Of especial importance to this Diocese was the consecration of their new Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Henry Granjon, in the cathedral at Baltimore on June 17, 1900, by Cardinal Gibbons. Bishop Granjon possesses a splendid personality and is a man of rare tact and ability together with a deep pious and religious nature. Such a combination could not have been otherwise than an inspiring influence in its leadership and direction of the great spiritual and material growth of this Diocese.

Father Novatus Benzing was transferred to Santa Barbara Sept. 10th, 1903, and Father Mathias Rechsteiner, of Santa Barbara, came here as Pastor.

On August 6th, 1904, the Rev. Mathias Rechsteiner and Fr. Novatus Benzing again changed places, the former going to St. Anthony's College, Santa Barbara, California, to act as sub-rector, the latter returning to Phoenix in the capacity of Superior and Pastor. It can truthfully be said of Fr. Novatus that during the years of his Pastorate of St. Mary's Parish, he not only gained the love and respect of his own people, but was held in great esteem by the non-Catholics of this city. He was an indefatigable worker, and the credit for the fine educational institutions and the growth and development of St. Joseph's Hospital into one of the very leading healing sanatoriums of America is largely due to his unceasing efforts in their behalf.

The Rev. Mathias Rechsteiner returned the latter part of 1905 to act as a missionary to the Pima Indians. Father Mathias went



REV. REMY BERENDT, O. F. M., ASSISTANT.

was ordained on the 24th of June, 1895, by Most Rev. J. J. Kain, D. D., Archbishop of St. Louis, Mo. He came to Phoenix April 7, 1911, as first assistant pastor.

into this work with an energy and determination that has wrought wonderful results among the Pimas. He was one of the very few men that have mastered their language, and he utilized his knowledge to write a dictionary in the original Pima. Father Mathias, as the result of overwork, was taken ill and succumbed under an operation July 20, 1911, and is buried in this city.

Father Alban Schwarze, the present Pastor of St. Mary's Parish, came here originally in October, 1896, as one of the assistant pastors, staying here four years and was then transferred to California, returning again six years later, on the 24th of March, 1906, as assistant to Father Novatus Benzing, and has been stationed here continuously since.

The Rev. Novatus Benzing left here March 10th, 1910, to take charge of the Santa Barbara Mission in California, and was succeeded by the Rev. Severin Westhoff, who stayed until August 30th, 1911, being transferred to Oakland, California.

Father Alban Schwarze was installed on August 30th, 1911, in the position of Superior of the Phoenix Franciscan Community, and was duly appointed as Pastor of St. Mary's Parish on the 19th of September, 1911.

Because of Father Schwarze long and intimate acquaintance with the conditions here he was particularly acceptable to the members of the Parish. Being a man of exceptional force of character, a sturdy advocate of God's truths, and possessing a deep and abiding faith in the ultimate regeneration of all mankind, he has been and will be a tower of strength in the religious life of this community.

The Rev. Lucius Zittier, O. F. M., came to Phoenix as assistant pastor to succeed Father Alban Schwarze, who went to California in 1900.

Father Zittier was transferred to Santa Barbara in 1901, and came back again in 1906, and became Pastor of the church at Tempe, and has charge of the Mission stations at Wickenburg, Buckeye, Guadalupe and Mesa. In the three latter places he has built churches.

The Rev. George Wemeyer, O. F. M., was assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Parish from 1907 to 1908. During his brief stay he became very popular with the members of the Parish. He was succeeded by the Rev. Dominic Gallardo, O. F. M., the present assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Parish. Father Dominic is a young man of integrity and business capacity; a talented preacher, possessed of a gracious

manner that has won the confidence and love of every member of the Parish.

Rev. Remy Berendt, O. F. M., came to Phoenix to act as assistant pastor, from Ashland, Wisconsin, April 6th, 1911. He still occupies the same place under Fr. Alban Schwarze, the Pastor.

Father Remy, for it is by this name he is universally known in the parish, is endowed with a richly sympathetic nature. He emanates sunshine and cheer, and on account of these delightful qualities, the work has been assigned to him of visiting the sick and unfortunate, at St. Joseph's Hospital, the County Poor Farm, and the Insane Asylum, as well as all other places in the city from whence comes the cry of those that may need sympathy, help, and religious consolation.

The Rev. Berard Zehnle, O. F. M., came to Phoenix as one of the assistant Pastors, Sept 7th, 1911, and although he has been here but a short time, his work has been very effective and of much good to the Parish.



The above is a picture of Mrs. Elizabeth Gilson, taken about the time she came here twenty-nine years ago. Mrs. Gilson was the first white woman member of St. Mary's parish.

The foundation of the new church of the Immaculate Conception, begun here by Father Novatus, being erected on the identical location of the old adobe church, and to be built from architectural drawings made by Brother Leonard, when completed will be one of the most imposing and beautiful cathedrals in the west.

The basement completed and covered with a temporary roof is used for religious services. The completion of this handsome structure is the most important work now before the members of this Parish. Plans are rapidly materializing to this end, and the ultimate consummation of this project should be a matter of early realization.

The history of St. Mary's Parish is one that every member is proud of. The work that has been accomplished here speaks for itself. Every visitor in Phoenix should see the splendid buildings erected here by this Parish to God's glory in the cause of religion, education and healing.

It was only possible to briefly relate here the great work that has been done, but it is hoped these narratives may be an inspiration to even greater work in the future.



ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL RESIDENCE OF THE SISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

# Sisters' Convent

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Conducted by the Sisters of the Precious Blood

The Sisters' Convent was founded in August, 1892, by Mother Paul, sister superior of the Sisters of Mercy, in the Diocese of Tucson.

In response to the earnest and oft-repeated invitation of Rev. Francis Jouvenceau, pastor at that time of St. Mary's Church, Phoenix, Mother Paul came with Sisters M. Peter, Berchmans, Xavier and Benignus, to take possession of the two-story brick building comprising the convent and schools which had been erected for them on Monroe street. The sisters assumed responsibility for the debt incurred in the erection of the building and opened select boarding and day schools for English-speaking children, and a separate school for Spanish-speaking children. The attendance increased so rapidly that new classrooms had to be provided for and more teachers sent from the Mother House in Tucson from time to time, to take care of the additional work.

In 1899 a new convent, with select boarding and day schools, was built by the sisters, the older building having to be divided into classrooms.

Three years after the arrival of the Sisters, in the midst of constantly increasing school work, the good pastor, ever attentive to the wants of the sick and suffering, again importuned Mother Paul for a few more Sisters to open a hospital, where the ills of the body and soul could be attended to. This was a perplexing problem to the good Mother, whose zealous charity led her to the assistance of the sick on one side, while prudence on the other made her fear to undertake so many rapidly growing good works and not be able to give to each a sufficient staff to carry on the work.

Mother Paul finally consented, when citizens, and especially local physicians, joined their voices to that of the pastor. With the growth of the hospital, Mother Paul's fears were verified that the work would

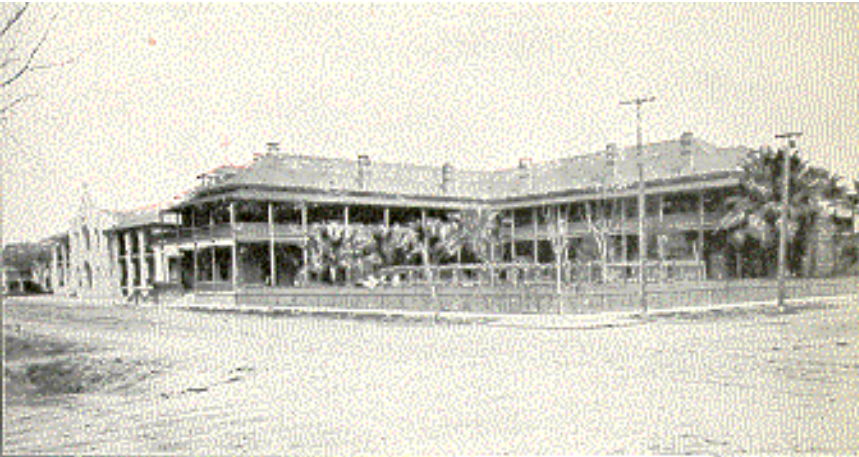
be altogether too much for the number of Sisters here. It was at this critical crisis that the situation was solved by the Sisters of the Precious Blood coming here from the Mother House at Maria Stein, Ohio, and being given entire charge of the convent and schools, while the Sisters of Mercy now devoted their entire energy to the hospital.

The success of the convent schools here was assured from its inception and enjoys a wide reputation for the ability of its teachers. The work of the Sisters in St. Mary's parish has fully sustained this reputation for efficiency. The education given in the convent is of the most practical character, the course of study pursued through the primary and grammar school grades being almost identical with that followed in the public schools. Every attention is given to the moral and religious training of the pupils, and their general deportment is equally of unremitting care.

Vocal and instrumental music—piano, guitar, mandolin and violin, are taught according to the most approved methods, while plain and ornamental sewing, a great auxiliary in the cultivation of taste, is also a specialty in the school.

In this age of infidelity and indifference in religion a Catholic education is a necessity. Catholic parents are obliged to send their children to Catholic schools in order that the child, through example and precept, may be brought up a practical Catholic. It is our duty then to encourage, both by word and work, this worthy undertaking so much calculated to bring souls to God.

The convent opens in the latter part of September and closes in June. Accommodations have been made for a limited number of boarders. Rates may be had on application to Sister Superior Mary Electa, at the school. Several medals and other prizes are awarded to the successful pupils in general excellency, Christine doctrine, needle work and other subjects at the end of each term.



## St. Joseph's Hospital

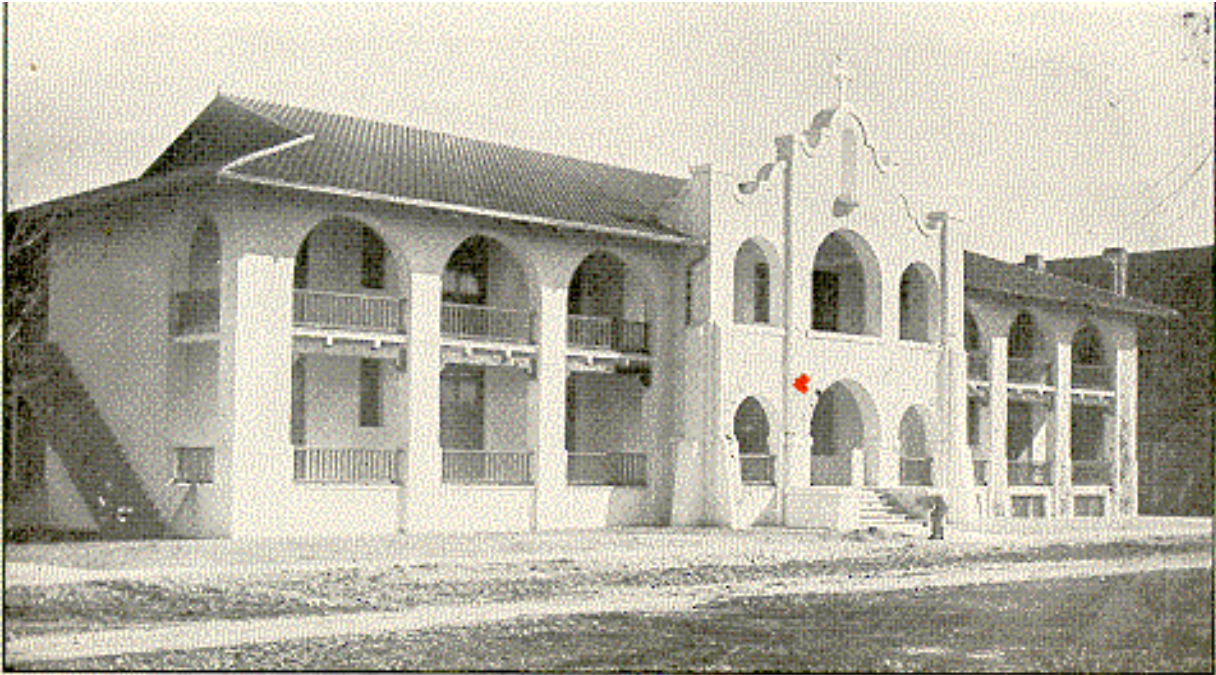
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Conducted by the Sisters of Mercy

St. Joseph's Hospital was founded in the year of 1895. A small, six-room house on Polk Street was used for hospital purposes during this year, while the first part of the present hospital building was being erected. This hospital, founded and conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, whose privilege it is to imitate their Divine Master in giving their lives to the work of ministering to His suffering children, is well and widely known, especially in Arizona and New Mexico.

This institution veritably resembles the "mustard seed" of the Gospel. Less than twenty years ago, a small adobe building affording accommodations to about half a dozen patients, took the place of the two magnificent buildings known as St. Joseph's Hospital and Annex.

St. Joseph's Hospital, the first building, commenced a few months after the Sisters purchased the little adobe building, was built in three sections at intervals of four years, growing as it were with the growth of the city. This two story building of red brick, with its wide verandas running all around and its large sunny rooms, does not, however,



ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL ANNEX.

present the architectural beauty of the Annex, which was erected about a year ago at a cost of \$32,000.

The hospital proper consists of fifty private rooms, with two large operating rooms, consulting rooms, reception rooms, parlors, baths, etc.

The operating room, with its thorough and modern equipment and efficient service, and especially its admirable technique, is second to none in the United States and this is something that a new and fast-growing little city has reason to be proud of.

The Annex, which was completed about a year ago, is a splendid example of Old Mission architecture. Its twenty-two elegantly furnished suites combine the comforts of home with the thorough sanitation requisite in the sick room. Its beautiful parlors afford luxuriant lounging places for the convalescent. This building, as well as the hospital proper, is equipped with every convenience and modern appliance necessary in a first class hospital.

The hospital grounds in this semi-tropical country of luxuriant vegetation display the beauty which generous nature, aided and enhanced by art, can produce.

The clientele of the hospital is general, separate departments being maintained for medical, surgical and contagious cases. There is no resident physician—the patients are free to have the physician of their choice, as the hospital is open to all the local doctors.

It is the aim of the Sisters and nurses employed to carry out with conscientious exactitude the directions of the physicians and all rules for the well being of the sick.

The great progress of St. Joseph's Hospital is due to work done by the humble Sisters of Mercy, under the direction of Mother Paul, whose business capability, supported and directed by deep piety and a warm hearted, generous disposition, is admired by all who are fortunate enough to claim her acquaintance. The work done by the Sisters at St. Joseph's Hospital for the uplifting of humanity and the healing of souls is one of the great blessings God bestows upon us.

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

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Monroe Street, between Third and Fourth.

Rev. Alban Schwarze, O. F. M. .... Pastor.  
Rev. Remy Berendt, O. F. M. .... Assistant Pastor.  
Rev. Berard Zehnle, O. F. M. .... Assistant Pastor.  
Rev. Dominic Gallardo, O. F. M. .... Assistant Pastor.

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## PARISH REGULATIONS.

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### Order of Services.

#### Sundays:

7:00 a.m. Low Mass—English Sermon.  
8:30 a.m. Low Mass—Spanish Sermon.  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School.  
10:15 a.m. High Mass—English Sermon.  
7:30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction.

#### Holidays:

6:00 a.m. Low Mass.  
8:30 a.m. Low Mass—Spanish Sermon.  
10:15 a.m. High Mass—English Sermon.

#### Week Days:

Daily Masses at 5:30 and 8:15 a.m.  
Holy Communion at 7:00 a.m.  
Fridays: 3:00 p.m.—Way of the Cross.

#### Confessions:

Saturdays, Vigils of Feast Days, and of First Fridays, from 3:30 to 6:00, and from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Children's Confessions every Friday at 3:30 p.m.

#### Baptisms:

English at 2:15 p. m., Sundays and Wednesdays; Spanish at 3:00 p. m., Sundays and Wednesdays.

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## PARISH SOCIETIES.

Every well organized parish has a number of organizations adapted to the spiritual and social needs of the congregation.

Without these societies stagnation will set in and the spiritual

life as well as the cordial relationship that should be cultivated among the members of the congregation will soon retrograde. It is therefore the duty of every member of the parish to join one of these societies, that they may become more closely united with their fellow Catholics in the bonds of spiritual and social fraternity.

### **Third Order of St. Francis.**

Meeting on second Sunday of the month, at 4:00 p.m. Mrs. John Baggione, Prefect.

### **Knights of Columbus.**

Meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8:00 p.m. Mr. J. T. Whitney, Grand Knight; Mr. Jos' Geare, Secretary.

### **Senior Holy Name Sodality.**

Meeting on second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, at 8:00 p.m., in St. Anthony's Hall. Mr. Peter Block, President.

### **Junior Holy Name Sodality.**

Meeting every Monday evening at 7:30 in St. Anthony's Hall. Master James Ryan, President; Master Elmer Vaseu, Secretary; Master Victor Benenato, Treasurer.

### **Ladies Aid and Altar Society.**

Meets on second and fourth Thursdays of the month, at 2:30 p.m., in St. Mary's Hall. Mrs. Edith B. DeSouza, President; Mrs. Maude Anderson, Secretary; Mrs. M. A. Coles, Treasurer.

### **Sen. Div. of Children of Mary.**

Meets on fourth Sunday of the month, at 3:00 p.m., in St. Mary's Hall. Miss Henrietta Hurst, President; Miss Ursula Weber, Secretary; Miss Naomi Young, Treasurer.

### **Jun. Div. of Children of Mary.**

Meeting on first Sunday of the month, at 3:00 p.m. Miss Louise Gass, President; Miss Concha de la Lama, Secretary; Miss Helen O'Malley, Treasurer.

### **Hijas de Maria.**

Spanish branch of the Children of Mary. Meeting every third Sunday of the month, at 3:00 p. m. Miss Teresa Cordova, President; Miss Maria Manjare, Secretary; Miss Ysabel Gay, Treasurer.

## To be Prepared for a Sick Call.

- 1.—A table with a clean white cover.
- 2.—A crucifix between two blessed wax candles.
- 3.—Some holy water.
- 4.—A clean napkin for the sick person.
- 5.—A small quantity of absorbent cotton.
- 6.—A glass of fresh water and a teaspoon.

**Note.**—When the priest arrives, if carrying the Blessed Sacrament, he should be met at the door with a lighted candle and conducted to the bedside of the sick. All unnecessary talking should be avoided. Those present should kneel and pray for the sick person during the administration of the last Sacraments.

In case there is a member of the family who through prolonged sickness or old age, is unable to attend church, the pastor should be notified in order that the person may receive Holy Communion at least every three months.

## Funerals.

As soon as a member of your household has died, have the pastor informed at once, so that he may arrange matters for the funeral. Funerals should take place with Requiem Mass. Avoid useless expense for flowers, for they are not desired; rather have masses said for the soul of the departed one.

## Rules Regarding Pew Rent.

As the income for defraying the various expenses of the parish depends greatly upon the pew rent, it is the duty of everyone who wishes to be considered a practical Catholic to have a seat in the church. Every Catholic is obliged in conscience to contribute to the support of his parish church, and the pews are rented for this purpose. The pew rent is to be paid quarterly.

## Rules to be Observed in Church.

- 1.—Talking and laughing and all disrespectful behavior in all cases strictly forbidden.
- 2.—Spitting on floor of church cannot be tolerated.
- 3.—People should not leave their seats before the priest has left the sanctuary.

4.—All are most earnestly requested to be polite to strangers, and to each other as well.

5.—When the sodalities are receiving Holy Communion do not approach the altar rail till they are through.

#### New Comers.

Strangers, on coming to the parish, should call on the Pastor to make themselves known and give their address. Many complain that they are not made welcome in the parish, but it is generally their own fault, for they do not make the acquaintance of the pastor or his assistants. Next they should join one of the various societies in order to become acquainted with their fellow Catholics.

#### Days of Abstinence.

In which we are not allowed to eat flesh meat. All Fridays of Lent and all fasting days of obligation throughout the year, excepting those on which the use of flesh meat is expressly allowed by the proper authority.

#### Fast Days.

By fast day is meant a day on which but one full meal is allowed. This does not exclude a collation, i. e., a rather light meal at night and cup of coffee or tea with a piece of bread in the morning.

- 1.—All the week days of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday.
2. The Ember days, falling four times a year.
- 3.—The following Vigils: Pentecost, Assumption, All Saints,

#### Christmas.

The observance of these fasting days is binding on every Catholic who has reached the age of 21 years and is not lawfully excused on account of hard manual labor, sickness, convalescence, etc.

#### Holy Days of Obligation.

- 1.—The Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8.
- 2.—The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas), Dec. 25.
- 3.—The Circumcision, Jan. 1.
- 4.—The Ascension of Our Lord.
- 5.—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Aug. 15.
- 6.—All Saints, Nov. 1.



J. T. WHITNEY, GRAND KNIGHT.

## HISTORY OF MARCOS DE NIZA COUNCIL K. OF C., PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

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In the winter of 1905 a number of Knights visiting in Phoenix consulted with Father Novatus and decided to organize a Council here. They were not encouraged very much by the parishioners and were told they could not possibly secure enough candidates to get a charter. But by hard work they succeeded.

On January 20, 1906, K. of C. teams arrived in the city from Prescott, Globe and Bisbee and treated the forty-two candidates to an initiation in three degrees that none of them will ever forget. They left forty-two enthusiastic Knights when they returned home, as was evidenced a month later when thirty-eight from Phoenix journeyed to Tucson to assist in initiating a Council in that city.

Eugene B. O'Neill was elected first Grand Knight and Frank De Souza Deputy Grand Knight, and to these two men the Phoenix Council owe their very existence. The first two years following the organization of this Council they called the hall above St. Mary's school their

home. During these three years the struggle to keep the Council in existence was one never to be forgotten by the "Old Guard," as the men who actually did the work of holding the Council together were called. At this time several members, who could see no bright future ahead and were getting no immediate benefits themselves, left the ship, but the best remained and now see all their hopes and aspirations realized in the present success and the promise of a brilliant future.

In March, 1909, the Council moved to the I. O. O. F. Hall, corner of Washington Street and First Avenue, where they remained until the first of March, 1912.

When Mr. O'Neill retired from the Grand Knight position, Frank De Souza was selected as his successor, and served until January 1, 1911. During this period the Council grew wonderfully in membership.

Mr. M. J. Foley was the next Grand Knight, and he saw a considerable growth in members. During this period the Council formed a building association and purchased a hundred foot frontage on North Second Avenue, near the new government building now being constructed.

Mr. J. T. Whitney, our present Grand Knight, took the chair in January, 1912, and immediately began to look for new quarters. On March 1st we moved into the K. of P. Hall, in the very heart of the city one of the finest lodge rooms to be had in Phoenix. Our present membership is nearly two hundred and a campaign for members is now in progress, so that January 1, 1913, will probably show a membership of three hundred, at which time building is to commence on our new home on North Second Avenue.

The Knights of Columbus as a national organization has been a powerful force in the upbuilding of the church in America, and is considered one of the most valuable assets of the church in this country. The work of the order in this parish has demonstrated the fact that the organization is a true help to the church and can always be depended upon to come to its aid when the occasion requires it.



MR. PETER BLOCK, PRESIDENT.

### THE SENIOR HOLY NAME SODALITY.

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This sodality was organized in the parish the 30th of April, 1911. The primary object of this sodality is to impress upon the young men the duties they owe to their religion, and by banding them together in a mutual cause, keep them regular in the reception of the sacraments.

The social features that characterize an organization of this kind are not neglected by any means. On the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month the members gather at 8:00 in the evening at St. Anthony's Hall for social and spiritual advancement.

Membership is open to every male member of the parish over sixteen years of age. The present membership of the sodality is one hundred, which is largely due to the vigorous efforts of the President, Mr. Peter Block, and it is confidently expected this membership will be largely augmented as the spirit and fellowship of the organization become duly recognized.

The officers of the Senior Holy Name Sodality are: Rev. Remy Berendt, O. F. M., Director; Peter J. Block, President; Mr. Geare, Secretary, and Victor Steinegger, Treasurer.



MASTER JAMES RYAN, PRESIDENT

## THE JUNIOR HOLY NAME SODALITY.

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The Junior Holy Name Sodality was founded in the parish in 1910, by the Rev. Severin Westhoff, O. F. M.

The object of this sodality is one deserving of the greatest praise for the simple reason that it is intended to safeguard and promote the observance of the Second Commandment.

The boys who join this sodality pledge themselves to abstain from profane and indecent language, and from abusing holy names in general; moreover they also promise to do their utmost to promote the glory of God and His Holy Name by exhorting others to abstain from such sinful and degrading use of the tongue.

The sodality has an enrollment of thirty members at the present time. These members approach the Holy Table in a body once a month, viz., on the second Sunday of each month.

The first President of the Juniors was Master Victor Benenato, assisted by Thomas Scully as Secretary, and James Ryan as Treas-

urer. In the elections of 1911 the same members were re-elected to the selfsame offices.

The fact that Victor Benenato was re-elected as President undoubtedly shows that he was found not only capable to fill the office, but also faithful in the discharge of his duties.

At the elections held in January, 1912, on the refusal of V. Benenato to accept the Presidency for the third term, the following members were chosen to fill the various offices: Masters James Ryan, President; Elmer Vasen, Secretary; and Victor Benenato, Treasurer.

At the present time the Juniors are beginning to show greater zeal in the interest of their sodality, and if the members persevere in this spirit and zeal, there is no doubt whatever but that the Junior Holy Name Sodality will soon figure as one of the leading societies in St. Mary's Parish.

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## YOUR DUTY

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As a Catholic, you are, ordinarily, a member of a certain parish, which in this country is designated district, assigned by the bishop to a church and to the spiritual care of a pastor. When Catholics move into a new parish, let it be their first duty to notify the pastor of their residence, and, if impossible, to call in person, to send a card with their address, so that the priest may call upon them in case of sickness, or send them the regular church notices when the same are being distributed.

They will thereby enable both the pastor and themselves to know their mutual obligations and save themselves possible inconveniences which often arise in parishes through the presence of families unknown to the priests.

The pastor will then also be able to better attend to their wants, and to visit them in their hour of sickness and sorrow.

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## ALTAR SOCIETY.

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It is the duty of every member of the congregation to belong to this society.

That the furnishings of the sanctuary and sacristy are kept in order is the object of the society, which requires a large amount of work and expense.

The co-operation of all the parishioners is required in this work.



MRS. FRANK DE SOUZA, PRESIDENT.

## THE LADIES AID AND ALTAR SOCIETY.

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The Ladies Aid and Altar Society is an old organization, but as the members fell away one by one, some leaving the city, etc., it was deemed necessary to re-organize.

On the second of March, 1911, Rev. Father Severin Westhoff called a meeting and re-organized the members. Mrs. Coles was elected President, Mrs. Frank De Souza Vice-President, and Mrs. Maude Anderson Secretary. Rev. Father Severin Westhoff was to be adviser and Treasurer of the organization.

The ladies, consisting of about fifty members, enthusiastically set to work to raise funds to buy necessary articles for the Church, to visit the sick, and to do any sewing or mending for the Church that was needed. So well have they succeeded (although quite a number of those joining fell away, leaving a small number of faithful workers) that they decorated the altar for Easter of last year (1911), and just before Christmas they were able to buy vases for the altar, vestments for the priests, communion cloths and a number of other necessary articles that amounted to over two hundred (\$200) dollars. They have, moreover,

ordered two chalices from Germany since several were stolen from the Church just after Christmas. Besides, the ladies likewise paid for the decorating of the altar on Christmas. The ladies still have quite a bit over one hundred dollars in the treasury.

As Rev. Father Severin Westhoff was changed from this parish to another before the year was out, Rev. Father Remy was appointed Spiritual Director, but owing to the number of societies he had in charge it was deemed advisable to again change the Director, and Rev. Father Dominic was appointed.

An election of officers was held on February 29, 1912, for the new year. Mrs. Frank De Souza was elected President, Mrs. Maude Anderson was elected Secretary, Mrs. Coles was elected Treasurer, and Rev. Father Dominic Spiritual Director and Auditor.



MISS HENRIETTA HURST, PRESIDENT.

## THE CHILDREN OF MARY—SENIOR DIVISION.

The object of this sodality is to foster a great love and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and draw down upon the members the

protection of the most august Queen of Heaven.

The Sodality was organized by the beloved Father Novatus, December, 1908. The first officers were:

Miss Mary Boyle, Prefect.

Miss Anna Collins, Assistant.

Miss Hilda Steinegger, Secretary.

Miss Ursula Weber, Treasurer.

Miss Ellen Boyle, Sacristan.

Miss Viola Meehan, Miss Anna Hughes, Consultors.

The same officers were reappointed for the year 1910. The sodality was divided May, 1910, into the Senior and Junior divisions. In 1910 Rev. Father Severin became Spiritual Director, which office he held until September, 1911. The officers for the year 1911 were:

Miss Ellen Hughes, Prefect.

Miss Hilda Steinegger, Assistant.

Miss Ursula Weber, Secretary.

Miss Anna Hughes, Treasurer.

Miss Ellen Boyle, Sacristan.

Miss May Geare, Miss Julia Read, Miss Henrietta Hurst, Miss Lena Fiedler, Consultors.

Towards the end of August, 1911, Father left for the West, and Father Berard became his successor as Spiritual Director. The officers elected for 1912 are the following:

Miss Hilda Steinegger, First Assistant.

Miss Lena Fiedler, Second Assistant.

Miss Ursula Weber, Secretary.

Miss Naamah Young, Treasurer.

Miss Mary Killeen, Sacristan.

Miss Ellen Hughes, Miss Anna Hughes, Miss Mabel Hughes, Miss Helen Viault, Miss Anna Collins, Miss May Geare, Consultors.

Miss Ellen Hughes, Instructor of Candidates.

The sodality has its monthly Holy Communion meeting every fourth Sunday of the month. New members are received twice a year, in May and December. At present there are about thirty-three members and eight candidates. Surely a small number for a Parish of this size! Undoubtedly, there are many more young ladies in the Parish than the given number. Every one should make it a point to be a child and imitator of Mary. May the sodality flourish!



MISS LOUISE GASS, PRESIDENT.

## SODALITY OF THE CHILDREN OF MARY.

### (Junior Division.)

The Sodality of the Children of Mary was established in St. Mary's parish in 1908 by the Rev. Novatus Benzing, O. F. M., at that time pastor of St. Mary's. The first members of the Children of Mary received the blue ribbon and medal on the 8th of December, 1908. During the first year or so of its existence no distinction was made in regard to the age of those desiring to become members of the Sodality, but as time went on it was deemed advisable for sundry and weighty reasons to separate the younger from the older members. This was accomplished by the Spiritual Director in the month of May, 1910. All those members under 16 years of age were taken to form the so called "Junior Division" of the Children of Mary. Elections were held at which the following officers were elected: Miss May Read was voted in as Prefect, Miss Amanda Morrison as Assistant Prefect, Miss Frances Geare as Treasurer; a Secretary and three Consultors were also elected. The aforesaid officers remained in office until the 1st of January, 1911. On the same date new elections were held and Miss Concha de la Lama

was chosen Prefect, Miss Louise Gass Secretary, Miss Bertha Hughes Treasurer, Miss Helen O'Malley Sacristan and the Misses Myrtle Fisher, Mary O'Connell and Loretta Heyne Consultors.

Under these valiant little workers the Junior Sodality made wonderful progress, both spiritually and numerically. The members likewise showed a laudable zeal in the observance of the rules, as well as great interest in working for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Sodality. The fact that, during this period, the Junior Sodality increased its membership from 35 to 50 sodalists, plainly testifies to their untiring efforts in working for the upbuilding of the Junior Sodality.

A beautiful testimonial of the fervent love and devotion of the Junior Sodalists toward their Heavenly Queen lies in the fact that they have already ordered a banner of exquisite beauty and design that will undoubtedly be a source of pride for St. Mary's parish, as also a powerful means to preserve their present glowing fervor, and to induce others to consecrate themselves to the love and service of Mary.

At the regular monthly meeting in January, 1912, the annual elections took place, and the following members were chosen to fill the various offices: Miss Louise Gass was elected Prefect, Miss Bertha Hughes Assistant Prefect, Miss Concha de la Lama Secretary, Miss Helen O'Malley Treasurer, and Miss Mary Pepper was appointed Sacristan of the Junior Sodality.

We earnestly hope that the new officers will zealously follow in the footsteps of their predecessors, and that all the members will continue, by word and example, to promote love and veneration to our Blessed Lady, and thus bring down upon themselves and parish the especial love and protection of Mary, Our Mother.

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## THE GUARDIAN ANGEL SODALITY.

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The Guardian Angel Sodality was organized in this parish in 1907. It is a very praiseworthy organization in that it purposes to make the children of our parochial schools acquainted with the inner workings of church societies and society work in general.

Besides teaching to honor and venerate their heavenly Guardian Angel, it also teaches them the great value and necessity of throwing their mite into the church fund, and thus help along in defraying the expenses of the parish.

This Sodality is principally intended for the younger members of the parish, especially for the school children, who take a deep interest in it, as it appeals greatly to their dear little hearts. Practically all the school children belong to this excellent Sodality.

The G. A. Sodality has no fixed set of officers, but in each classroom two children are appointed, whose duty it is to collect the monthly fee from the various members of the respective room. The money thus collected is presented to the Rev. Pastor once a year, at Christmas time, for the use of the parish. The sum thus collected generally passes the hundred mark.

The Sodality has a beautiful banner that is used on their Patron Feast and likewise at all the religious processions held in St. Mary's Church.

The G. A. Sodality is under the spiritual guidance of Sister M. Hildebertha.



MISS TERESA CORDOVA, PRESIDENT.

### THE SODALITY OF THE HIJAS DE MARIE,

The Spanish branch of the Children of Mary was established by Father Novatus in 1900. Miss Teresa Cordova was elected its first President. The fact that she has held this position until now shows her popularity and the implicit confidence the sodalists have placed in her.

The sodality is doing very nicely, as is shown by the regular reception of the sacraments of its members. They are in possession of a beautiful banner.

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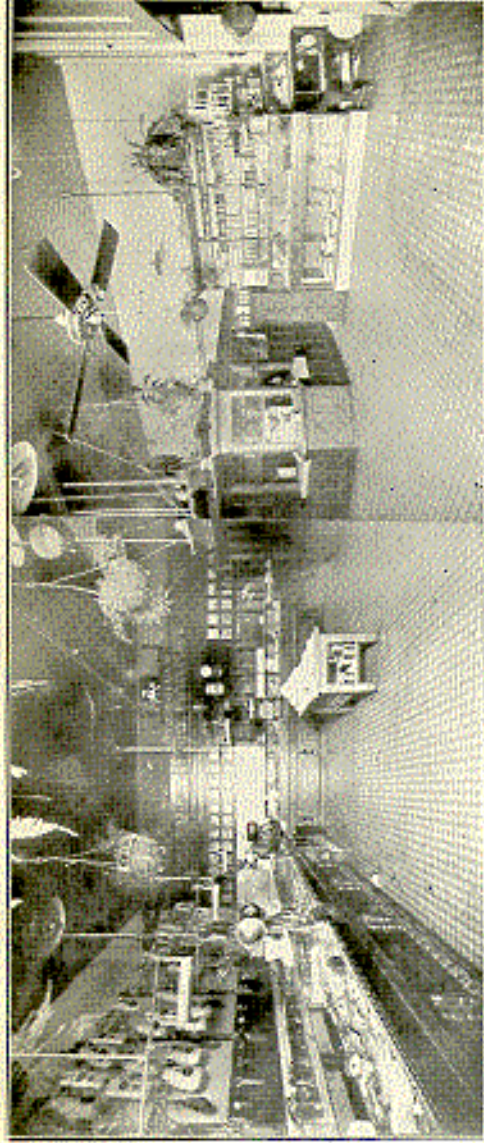
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