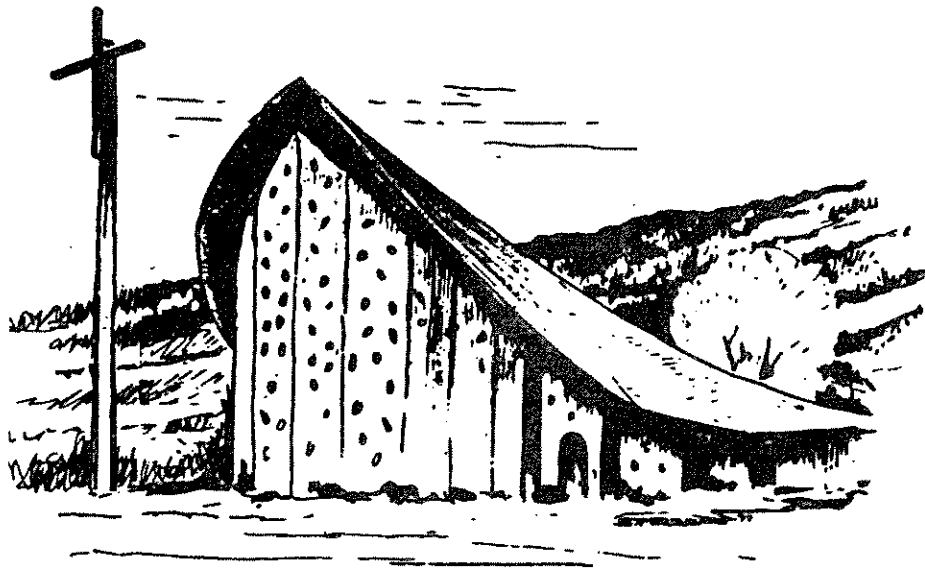


ST. JANUARIUS

*The 125th Anniversary Celebration
of the Dedication of
St. Januarius Parish*



Mass of Celebration on October 7, 2001 by

Bishop Matthew H. Clark

DEDICATION



Reverend Philip J. Billotte

In appreciation for his loving pastoral service, we dedicate this Historical to our friend, Father Phil. It was his wish that we celebrate the 125th of our parish in a special way as a great opportunity to share our strength and unity of faith. We will always remember Father Phil and the words of his favorite song: Have I Told you Lately That I Love You?



*St. Januarius Church
180 North Main St.
Naples, NY 14512*

October 7, 2001

Dear Sisters And Brothers of St. Januarius,

What a tremendous joy for me to join this community as you celebrate 125 years of grace here in Naples! I feel truly blessed to serve a community with such a long history of worship and witness.

The history compiled in the anniversary booklet gives a great survey of the pastoral leadership over the past 125 years. Likewise, it reviews the bricks and mortar developments here at St. Januarius. But how could one ever capture, even in a shelf full of books, the countless journeys of Faith, the warm and supportive relationships, the shared joys and sorrows of 125 years?

I know that in recent years, St. Januarius has experienced some painful circumstances, and is also weathering trying transitions. But through it all, the parish continues to thrive (and grow). Families continue to gather for worship, people faithfully serve both the parish and the community. In short, the ministry of Jesus has gone on with vigor. For me, that is a wonderful sign of the power of men and women living out their baptismal calling. You are an inspiration!

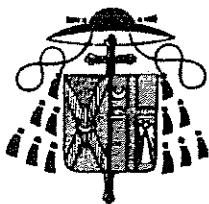
I pray in gratitude for the sign of God's love that this community has been, I pray in hope for all I believe this community can be, and I invite you to join me in thanking God who makes it all possible.

May God grant us years together to add to the history of St. Januarius!

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rev. Robert Ring". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Father Bob Ring



DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

1150 Buffalo Road · Rochester, NY 14624-1890

(716) 328-3210 · FAX (716) 328-3149

October 7, 2001

Bishop's Office

Reverend Robert Ring
St. Januarius Church
180 N. Main Street
Naples, New York 14512

Dear Father Ring and Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I extend to you my cordial greetings and kind regards as you gather to celebrate this historic 125th Anniversary of St. Januarius Parish.

The occasion invites us to call to mind our dedicated and hope-filled mothers and fathers in faith whose sacrifices and vision provided for the establishment of this wonderful parish. Their efforts gave life to the initial enterprise of laying the foundation, building the structure and sustaining this parish through the many years.

We recall too, the many generous pastoral ministers and priests who have served St. Januarius for 125 years. Their holiness, Christian service and spirit have reflected to us their love for Christ, the Church and the beautiful care of God for God's people.

For 125 years, the Gospel has been preached, the sacraments have been celebrated and the faithful have gathered for prayer and worship in this Parish; being nourished by the Eucharist and the Word; being strengthened by God and one another for the building up of God's Kingdom and the sharing of those good gifts that come to us from the deep kindness and love of God.

We remember in the quiet of our hearts, the bright moments of Baptisms, Confirmations and marriages; the healing moments of reconciliation and the sorrowful yet faith-filled moments of commending a loved one to our Loving God that we, our families and former generations have celebrated here in this parish.

I congratulate you and I join you in spirit and prayer as you joyfully and with grateful hearts celebrate 125 years of St. Januarius Parish. May God continue to bless you as you faithfully respond to the Holy Spirit and strive to live the Gospel life in your community.

Together let us speak of the goodness of God and place our trust in God's loving providence and care for us now and in all that the future holds.

With every best wish, I remain

Your brother in Christ,

†Matthew H. Clark

Bishop of Rochester

God's Love Endures Forever



3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008-3687

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No.11476.....

August 25, 2001

This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

Dear Father Mull:

As you celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of St. Januarius Parish, Naples, New York, it is my distinct privilege to convey to you and the entire parish community the heartfelt congratulations and prayerful good wishes of His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

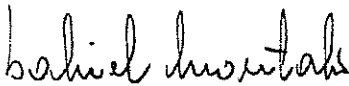
It is the hope of the Holy Father that this celebration will awaken in all members of your parish a renewed consciousness of their Christian dignity and mission and a recommitment to Catholic values as found in the Gospel and reaffirmed by the Magisterium of the Church.

His Holiness desires to unite with you and your parishioners in thanking God for the abundant blessings of the past twelve and a half decades, while entrusting the future into the loving hands of Mary, Mother of the Church.

As a sign of his spiritual esteem and solidarity, Pope John Paul II imparts to the parish his Apostolic Blessing, granted through the intercession of Mary Immaculate and Saint Januarius.

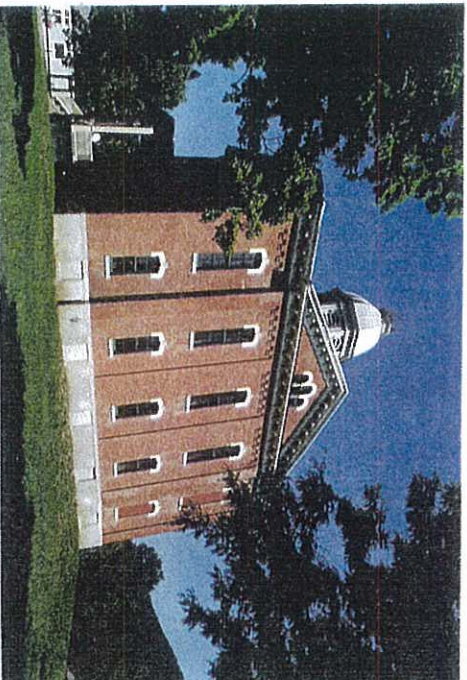
May I be allowed to join with the sentiments of the Holy Father and add my own prayerful best wishes.

Sincerely in Christ,

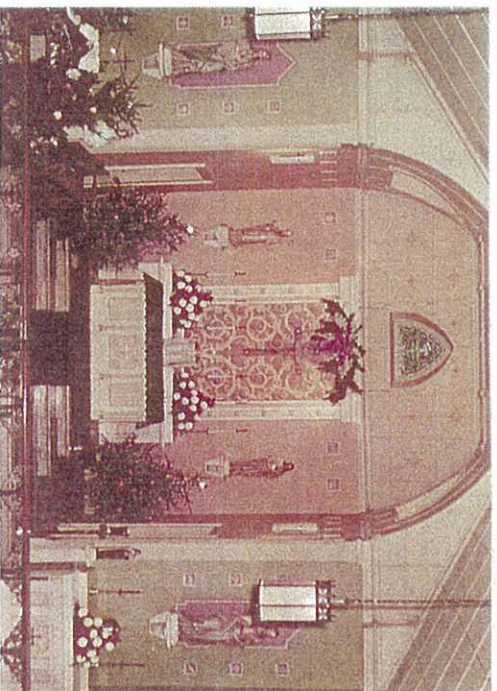
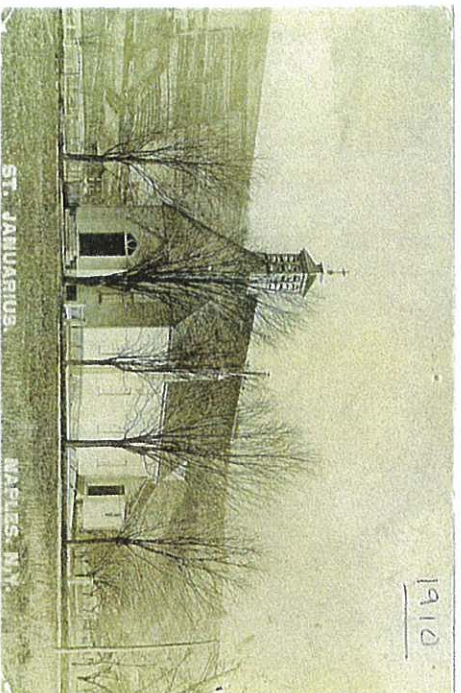
+ 
Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio

Reverend Thomas P. Mull, Administrator
St. Januarius Church
Naples, New York
October 6, 2001

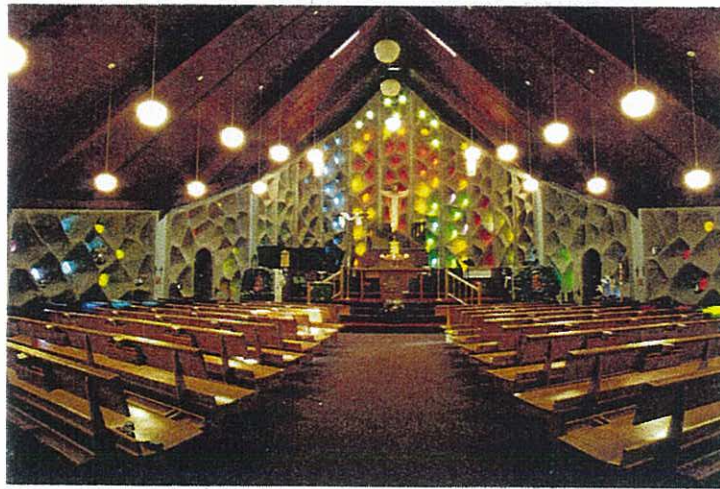
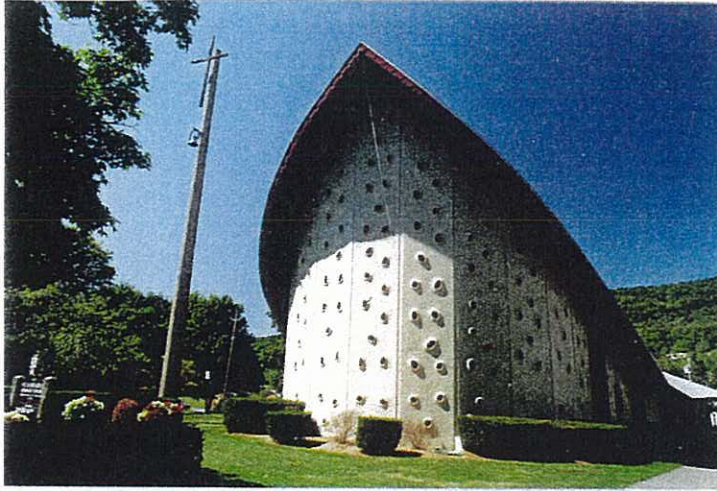
Pictorial History 1876 - 1968



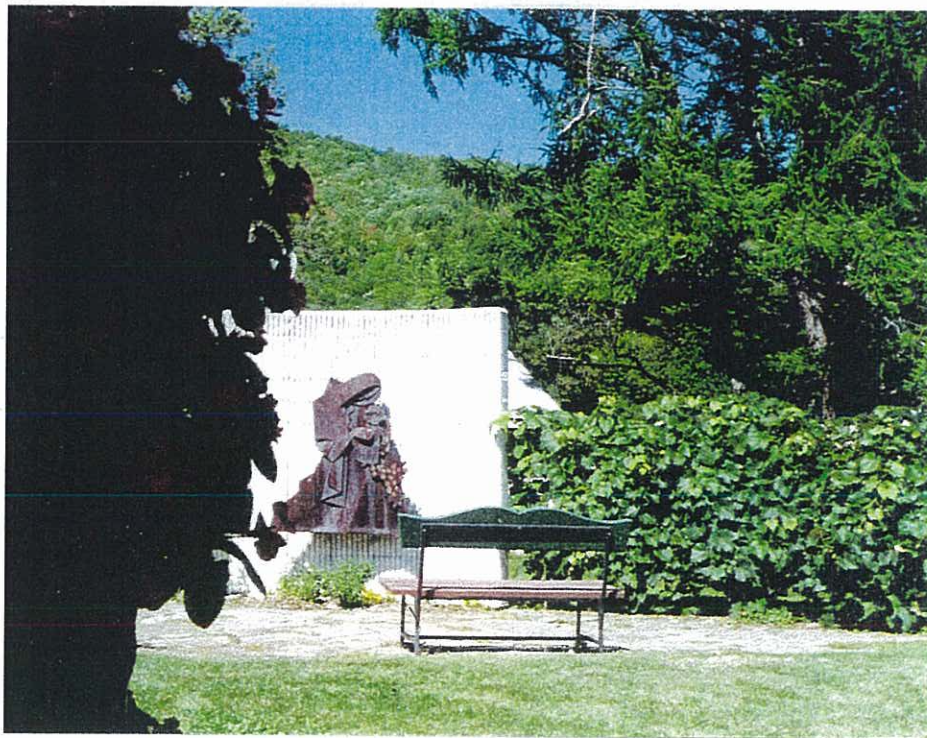
Naples Memorial Town Hall



Pictorial History – Current Church



History – Community Center and Shrine



A History of St. Januarius Parish 1876 - 2001

On October 4, 1876, the Catholic congregation of Naples officially incorporated as St. Januarius Roman Catholic Church of Naples, New York. The name was chosen in honor of the early Bishop and martyr who was the patron saint of Naples, Italy and whose feast day is September 19th. Trustees were the Right Reverend Bishop Bernard McQuaid, the Very Reverend McManus, Reverend Dietrich Laurenzis, Mr. Philip Dinzler and Mr. George Wagner.

Prior to the establishment of St. Januarius, the Catholic families of Naples attended St. Joseph's Church in Wayland and St. Pius Church in Cohocton. In 1875, Philip Dinzler approached the Bishop, asking for a priest for Naples.

Father Laurenzis first came to Naples on March 24, 1876. There were about 25 Catholic families in Naples, most of whom were German. He stayed for three days, saying Mass, instructing and hearing confessions in the house of George Wagner on Main Street. Subsequently, Father Laurenzis collected money to buy vestments and came to Naples every month. Mass was said in the Town Hall, first upstairs, then downstairs on an altar built for \$16.

After the incorporation of the parish, a \$400 lot was purchased on Tobey Street from Lyman Tobey for construction of a small wooden church, which seated 120 and cost \$2500. It was finally built in 1878. Naples Today, a publication of the Naples Historical Society, describes the first church as "a beautiful white frame building with slim Gothic windows." Money for the lot was collected by Father Laurenzis and Philip Dinzler and the mortgage for the building was paid off in October of 1878. The dedication occurred on May 19, 1879 and Father Matthias Hargather was named pastor. Various pastors and administrators found residence among the people, especially Mrs. Elizabeth Harrington, and the neighboring rectories.

In 1914, the parish bought the old Methodist Church in Atlanta, New York. After alterations, it was dedicated to St. Matthias as a mission parish served by St. Januarius. It burned and was replaced in 1936, then closed in 1972.

The Reverend William Frank was the first resident pastor, appointed in 1919. In 1927, during the pastorate of Father Frank, the parish bought the Dinzler house and property north of the church on Main Street for \$6500. After renovation and alteration costing about \$5000, it became the rectory.

A Church Hall was built off the northwest corner of the church in 1935, during the pastorate of Fr. Edward Scheid. A note, in the amount of \$850, for this construction was due to Maxfield Bank of Naples in 1936, as well as floating debts of \$903.07.

Thanks to the generosity of many parishioners, the windows throughout the church were replaced in 1942. The cut glass windows ranged in price from \$36 to \$110, depending on the size. These windows are currently displayed in the Church Hall, over the wall to the kitchen. In 1942, annual pew rentals cost \$45 for a whole pew, \$22.50 for half a pew and \$11.25 for a quarter pew.

In 1954, Frank Widmer gave St. Januarius the use of the land across from the church on Tobey Street for a parking lot. Eventually, ownership of this land was acquired by the parish. In the early days, the grey barn next to this lot was used to house the horses and carriages of parishioners while they attended Mass.

By 1964, the parish had grown to 98 families. At this time, the pastor, Rev. Bernard Kuchman, was inspired to establish a shrine to our Lady that would reflect the town's grape industry. A painting called the "Madonna of the Grapes" by the seventeenth-century French artist, Pierre Mignard, seemed appropriate because it featured the Madonna holding a bunch of grapes as well as the Child. Father Kuchman obtained a color print of this painting and installed it in an ornamental shrine in the wooden church.

In January of 1965, under the guidance of the pastor, Father Kuchman, \$47,200 was raised in cash and pledges for construction of a new church. According to the Naples Historical Society publication, Naples Today, the pastor recognized the need for a larger church and contracted with architects James Johnson and Peter Romeo, both of Rochester, to design and build a new church in a Swiss chalet style designed to fit the hilly Naples surroundings. Construction of the 300 seat church occurred during 1965 and 1966 and cost \$175,000. The floor plan of the church represents a grape leaf while the colored stained-glass windows represent the various types of grapes grown in the valley. The molded concrete panels represent grape vines and the outside roof resembles a Swiss chalet. The church was dedicated by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen on May 26, 1968.

The church altar was made by employees of the Gunlocke Chair Company and was donated by Howard Gunlocke of Wayland, then owner of the company. Two lamps from the old church were installed in the altar area of this new church. Initially, the wooden Stations of the Cross from the old church were also used, but were eventually replaced by more modern metal Stations designed by Darryl Abraham. A bronze crucifix was created by Fritz Wasser, a native of Naples who taught art in Canandaigua. The corpus is eight feet in length and was titled "Christ in Turmoil" because it realistically portrays the agony of the Living Christ on the Cross. Many parishioners considered this crucifix to be too stark so it was eventually replaced by the current version of the Risen Christ. The bronze crucifix was affixed to the outside of the church until the Community Center was built and is currently located in the parking lot of St. Januarius.

When the present church, with its grape window motif, was completed, the shrine still seemed appropriate so it was placed at the left of the new altar. Later, it

was replaced with a wooden carving of the Blessed Virgin with a grape cluster, designed to balance the carving of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the opposite side of the altar. The location of the Madonna picture is presently unknown.

In 1972, Father Robert Smith, who succeeded Father Kuchman, decided it would be even more fitting to have the shrine out-of-doors against the background of the vine-clad hills. He engaged John C. Menihan, a prominent Rochester artist, to undertake the creation of an original sculpture of the Madonna and Child. In 1975, the result, an "Our Lady of the Grapes" welded in weathered steel and attached to an ornamental screen of "fracture rib" cement blocks, was erected on the rectory lawn behind the church by Euclid St. Pierre of Naples. The shrine is flanked by two grape trellises, Concord grapes on one side and Delaware grapes on the other. The Shrine was formally dedicated by Bishop Joseph Hogan on September 26, 1976, a Sunday as close as possible to the October 4th that marked the centenary of the church's incorporation.

In 1992, fundraising was started for the existing Parish Community Center, which cost \$250,000 and was paid off in 1997. This addition of approximately 3900 square feet consists of classrooms for religious education, a chapel/meeting room and a basement for youth meetings and storage. On October 25, 1992, a "Time Capsule" was placed in the southeast corner of the basement of this building. The Center was dedicated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark on April 17, 1993. A wooden sculpture created by Darryl Abraham in memory of Mark Cook and titled "Fruit of the vine, work of human hands" has since been affixed over the south entrance to the Center. The work depicts the vineyards, lake and workers of the region.

In 1994, St. Patrick's Church in Prattsburg joined St. Januarius in sharing a priest, religious education programs and office staff. This consolidation movement was further expanded in July of 1999 when Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Community was formed from a union of six parishes, St. Januarius, St. Patrick's, St. Mary's of Rushville, St. Theresa's of Stanley, St. Michael's of Penn Yan and St. Andrew's of Dundee, as well as the campus ministry of Keuka College. During these last years, we have faced many struggles, but, with faith and the love of the Lord, we continue to move ahead in these changing times.

As of August, 2001, St. Januarius has 325 registered families.

This history has been researched, compiled, written and edited by Jane Farrell and Rosemary Luzum. Evelyn Adams rendered the pen and ink drawing on the cover.

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*PRIESTS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JANUARIUS
SINCE ITS FOUNDING*

1876	Rev. Dietrich Laurenzis
1877-(4 mo.)	Rev. J. A. Connolly
1877-1878	Rev. B. Arant C.S.S.R
1878-1879	Rev. Dietrich Laurenzis
1879-1880	Rev. Matthias J. Hargather
1880-1881(4 mo.)	Rev. F. Rippin
1881-1882	Rev. A. Weisteiner
1882-1883	Rev. Joseph Magin
1883-1888	Rev. J. E. Hartley
	Rev. J. J. Hartley-Van Ness
	Rev. Clune
1889-1892	Rev. John Ege
1892-1893	Rev. C. O. Loughlin
	Rev. J. Boppel
1893-1897	Rev. Joseph Miller,
	Rev. A. Breen,
	Rev. Fidelis Oberholzer
1897-1898(3 mo.)	Rev. M. Krischel
1898-1901	Rev. J. Boppel
1901-1907	Rev. S. Englerth
1907-1908	Rev. P. Erras
1908-1912	Rev. Edward Scheid
1912-1919	Rev. Vollmer C.S.S.R.
	Rev. Schneider C.S.S.R.
	Rev. Sraus C.S.S.R.
	Rev. Herbert Sturmer C.S.S.R.
	Rev. Blockel C.S.S.R.
	Rev. V. Lowecamp C.S.S.R.
	Rev. McFadden of Geneva
	Rev. John Gefell of Rochester
	Rev. Charles Riefer of Rochester
1919-1929	Rev. William Frank (First resident Pastor)
1930-1931	Rev. George Doud, Pastor
1931-1936	Rev. E. M. Scheid, Pastor
1936-1951	Rev. Herbert Sturmer, Pastor
1951-1964	Rev. Henry C. Blaier, Pastor
1964-1971	Rev. Bernard Kuchman, Pastor

1971-1978	Rev. Robert G. Smith, Pastor
1978-1987	Rev. Charles L. McCarthy, Pastor
1987-1993	Rev. Eugene G. Emo, Pastor
1993-1994	Rev. Philip J. Billotte, Administrator
1994-June, 2001	Rev. Philip J. Billotte, Pastor
2001, June-Sept.	Rev. Thomas P. Mull, Priest-in-charge
2001, Sept.	Rev. Robert P. Ring, Pastor

*Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Community
Pastoral Team*

Reverend Robert P. Ring
Reverend Timothy L. Niven
Reverend John Gathenya
Reverend Mr. Claude Curtin, Deacon
Reverend Mr. Michael McGuire, Deacon

Religious Vocations from St. Januarius

Sister Mary Frederica Konz
Sister Mary Anne Steinmetz
Brother John Paul McGuire L.C.