

Holy Eucharist. This Sacrament is symbolized by the bread and fish. It is one of the oldest symbols in the Church and has its origin from the Gospel account of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, a miracle which foreshadowed the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist in which the faithful are nourished with the Body and Blood of Our Lord. The fish is also a symbol of Christ and represented here, pierced by a cross, refers to Christ's immolation on Calvary. In ancient times Christians frequently used the fish as a mark of their identification or followers of Christ. The letters of the Greek word for fish—I C H T H U S signify Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour. The loaves of bread, of course, refer to the bread used by Our Lord at the Last Supper at which this Sacrament was instituted.

Confirmation. This Sacrament is symbolized by a representation of the earth, redeemed by the Cross, and encircled with the bond of Christ's love that had its origin in the Cross. Surmounting the earth are the seven fiery tongues, emanating from the earth, and referring to the seven gifts of the Holy Ghost received in this Sacrament. These gifts should set us on fire spiritually so that we will bring light and warmth to others as soldiers of Christ.

Penance. Here we have portrayed a crown of thorns, a scourge and the word "Pax." Pax is the Latin word for peace. This picture reminds us that we cannot gain the peace of Christ except we join Him in His suffering. There is no loop-hole out of the crown of thorns and there is no easy way into it. But this Sacrament of Penance must be understood properly. Even though the penance which the priest imposes on us may be a light one, we must realize we owe more than that to Our God. Even after we have received absolution for our sins and performed our penance, the after effects or temporal punishment of sin remains with us and we can eliminate them only by prayer, penance and mortification. Hence the scourge in the picture—a symbol of mortifying ourselves.

Extreme Unction. Pictured here is a jar of oil with a cross on its front, a lamp and the stars shining in the blue heavens. These stars remind us of heaven, our eternal home, for which this Sacrament prepares us. The jar, of course, symbolizes the oil of the sick used in administering this Sacrament and the lamp recalls for us the parable of the wise and foolish virgins in which Christ reminds us to be always prepared for the coming of the Bridegroom Himself. The wise virgins kept their lamps trimmed (MATTHEW 25:1-12) symbolizing the light of Sanctifying Grace which must burn in our soul at the coming of the Bridegroom.

Holy Orders. Portrayed for this Sacrament are the stole, the book and the chalice and host. By these symbols the principal functions of a priest are illustrated. The stole has reference to his teaching and sanctifying powers since it is used in preaching and in the administration of the Sacraments. The chalice and host symbolize the priest's office in the Sacrifice of the Mass where bread and wine is changed into Christ's Body and Blood. The book represents the intercessory function of the priest for through him the church officially offers her prayers to God.

Matrimony. Christ elevated marriage in His Church to the dignity of a Sacrament. It is contracted under the sign of the cross and is enriched with special graces to enable the spouses to carry out the duties of their state of life. In the symbol portrayed here the burning lamps represent the spouses. The two entwining rings signify not only the close union of the two spouses brought about through the Sacrament, but also the indissolubility of Christian marriage. The cross surmounting the spouses indicates the interest of Christ in this sacramental union, while the waves at the bottom symbolize the graces of the Sacrament.

Financial Report

Donors and Donations

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH — BLENCOE

1941 to 1945

Architect	\$ 915.76
General contract and additions	20,941.46
Heating contract	1,579.40
Plumbing contract	352.32
Electrical contract	455.71
Builders Risk Insurance	173.14
Waterproofing and decorating	1,318.44
Light fixtures	288.68
Landscaping and walks	375.14
Altar and candleholders	1,408.65
Stained glass windows	2,690.00
Parish hall furnishings	393.04
Pews	1,060.00
Floor tile, carpeting, and chairs	1,040.63
Statues and Communion railing	450.48
	\$33,442.85