Roman Catholic Parishes in Manhattan, New York

by Gerard C. Karcher

This is the what will hopefully be the first in a series of articles discussing the Roman Catholic Parishes of New York City and its environs. The reason for this is threefold. The first and foremost is genealogical in nature. Most churches kept baptismal these are of marriage records enormous value to the genealogist. The second reason is that hopefully by learning more about your family's parish(s), you better understand how they lived, both socially and religiously. Finally, many of the older Catholic Parishes in the inner cities are in desperate need of help and so perhaps a bond to your family's parish will be renewed.

It is important to understand the following before you begin researching your family's parish. First, you need to know where your family lived in terms of a street address. Keep in mind that families moved a lot, just within New York City. There are several ways to get your family's address(s). The first would be to look them up in the old New York City Directories, available at the Main Branch of the New York City Public Library on 5th Avenue at 42nd Street or at the Municipal Archives at 31 Chambers Street, also in New York City. Addresses can additionally be gleaned from legal documents such as birth, marriage or death certificates. Wills, Deeds and even Naturalization Records also contain addresses. The United States Government Censuses 1870 onwards give street addresses (the 1870 census has addresses in the second enumeration, there were two that year).

Some researchers know a family member lived in New York City and will try writing to any and all Catholic Parishes. This is a waste of your time and the church's as well. The older records usually are not indexed (yet!) and thus many pages have to be read by a very busy parish secretary. Hopefully, by using the map and list of parishes provided herein, your task will not be so overwhelming. Keep one thing in mind. Many parishes back in the 1800's and even up into our own times were very ethnic. There were German, Irish, French, Italian and Hungarian parishes as well as many others. Within the Catholic Church, there were many different religious orders. For example, the Paulists and the Jesuits were very popular with the Irish. However, I found my Sullivan cousin in St. Boniface Parish, a German parish, so don't rule out the other ethnic parishes when all else fails.

Sometimes a parish would move because the particular ethnic group it was serving had moved in large numbers to other neighborhoods. usually further uptown. (Manhattan was settled from south to north). In later years, as New York City continued to grow, quite a few church buildings were dismantled to make way for mammoth projects such as the Queens-Midtown Tunnel, the Lincoln Tunnel or the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel. Entire neighborhoods were reshaped by these and other projects.

If one studies the old New York City Directories, it might seem at times that certain churches moved a few blocks down their respective streets, but oftentimes the streets were simply renumbered. When I encountered this, I just gave the present day address. As long as a particular parish stayed in the same neighborhood, this is all that one really needs to know.

Most early marriage records give the bride's and the groom's names, the date, the priest, and the witnesses. The witnesses quite often were relatives, such as siblings or cousins. This is also true of baptismal sponsors. This will often help bring in other branches of the family. Baptismal records also give the child's name, date of birth, baptismal date, parents, the priest and later records give the address of the family. Today, marriage records also give the church of baptism. In other words, the record keeping is getting more sophisticated.

When using the map and list, take some time and study everything for a while. In the early years, when there were fewer parishes, people often went great distances to get to church. Also, when a couple married, they did so usually in the bride's parish church.

Finally, when writing to a church for information, keep your request brief. If you ask a parish secretary to give you all the O'Brien's baptized over a fifty year period, he or she probably will not be able to accomodate you. When you request a record, give as much supporting data as you can. For baptismal records, give the parents names and the date of birth, if known, in addition to the child's name. The census records can be helpful in getting the approximate ages of people, but of course, census information is notorious for giving ages that are a few years off. When requesting a marriage record, it is helpful to give the bride's maiden name, if known.

Many Roman Catholic Parishes do not charge for their research time. Enclosing a contribution is the decent thing to do, giving between \$5.00 and \$10.00 for each record isn't unreasonable. Other parishes do charge for their time. If it seems too expensive and you are looking for several records, do not be afraid to bargain with the parish. In the end, everyone benefits. Send a stamped-self addressed envelope to facilitate a response.

Manhattan Parishes

The information contained on the maps was taken from old New York City Directories as well as from research done at the Parish level. Hopefully this information will prove to be valuable as a research tool. Erin Go Braugh!

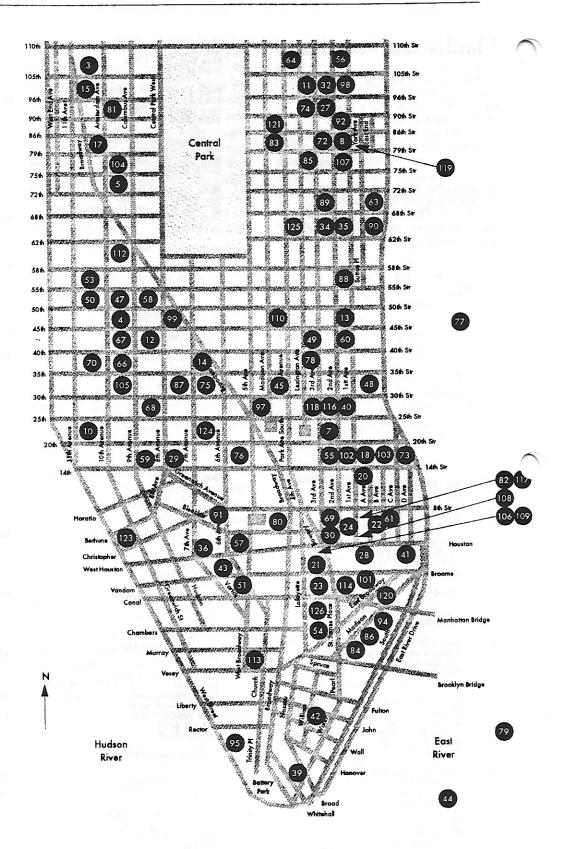
Each number represents one parish. Always check the date a parish was established. Don't be afraid to widen your search area. Again, study the map and all possible parishes.

- 1 All Saints (est. 1860) 47th East 129th Street New York, NY 10035 212 534.3535
- 2 Annunciation (est. 1853) 88 Convent Avenue New York, NY 10027 212 234.1919
- 3 Ascension (est. 1895) 221 West 107th Street New York, NY 10025 212 222.0666
- 4 Assumption (est. 1887)
 (Originally German)
 (Was located at 427 West 49th Street,
 NY, NY)
 (Records at Sacred Heart of Jesus #47)
- 5 Blessed Sacrament (est. 1887) 152 West 71st Street New York, NY 10023 212 877.3111
- 6 Corpus Christi (est. 1906) 529 West 121 Street New York, NY 10027 212 666.9350
- 7 Epiphany (est. 1868) 239 East 21st Street New York, NY 10010 212 475.1966
- 8 Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Hungarian-Byzantine Rite) 323 East 82nd Street New York 10028 212 737.1159
- 9 Good Shepherd (est. 1912)
 (Paulist)
 608 Isham Street
 (B'way & 211 Street)
 New York, NY 10034
 212 567.1300
- 10 Guardian Angel (est. 1888) 193 Tenth Ave New York, NY 10011 212 929.5966
- 11 Holy Agony. Our Lady
 of the Miraculous Medal
 (est. 1926, 1930)
 (Vincentian-Fathers. American Spanish
 Branch,
 Madrid Spain)
 1834 Third Ave
 New York, NY 10029
 212 289.5589

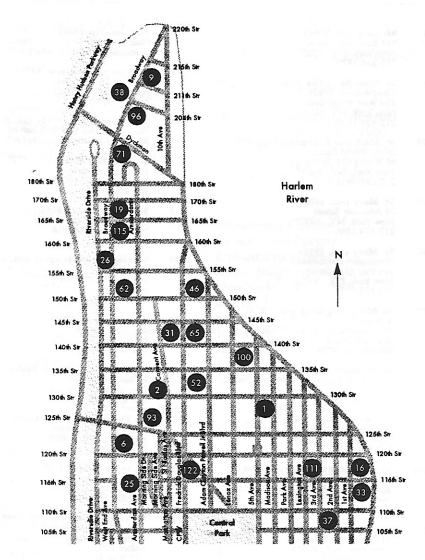
- Holy Cross (est. 1852) 329 West 42nd Street New York, NY 10036 212 246.4732
- 13 Holy Family (est. 1924) 315 East 47th Street New York, NY 10017 212 753.3401-2
- 14 Holy Innocents (est.1866) 128 West 37th Street New York, NY 10018 212 279.5861
- 15 Holy Name of Jesus (est. 1868) 207 West 96th Street (Amsterdam Ave) New York, NY 10025 212 749.0276
- 16 Holy Rosary (est. 1884) (Augustiman) 444 East 119th Street New York, New York 10035 212 534.0740
- 17 Holy Trinity (est. 1898) 213 West 82nd Street New York, NY 10024 212 787.0634
- 18 Immaculate Conception (est. 1855) 414 East 14th Street New York, NY 10009 212 254.0200
- 19 Incarnation (est. 1908) 1290 St. Nicholas Ave New York, NY 10033 212 927.7474
- 20 Mary Help of Christians (est. 1908) (Salesians of Don Bosco) 440 East 12th Street New York, NY 10009 212 254.0058
- 21 Most Holy Crucifix (est. 1925) 378 Broome Street New York, NY 10013 212 226.2556
- 22 Most Holy Redeemer
 (est. 1844)
 (Originally German)
 (Redemptorist Fathers & Brothers)
 173 East 3rd Street
 New York, NY 10009
 212 673.4224
- 23 Most Precious Blood (est. 1891) (Italian) (Franciscan) 109 Mulberry Street New York, NY 10013 212 226.6427 212 226.6435
- 24 Nativity (est. 1842) (Jesuit) 44 Second Ave New York, NY 10003 212 674.5590
- 25 Notre Dame (est. 1910) 405 West 114th Street New York, NY 10025 212 866.1500
- 26 Our Lady of Esperanza (est.1912) 624 West 156th Street New York, NY 10032 212 283.4340

- 27 Our Lady of Good Counsel (est.1886) 230 East 90th Street New York, NY 10128 212 289.1742
- Our Lady of Grace (est.1907)
 (Italo-Greek)
 (Originally located on Stanton Street)
 (Records at the Church of the Nativity
 #24)
- 29 Our Lady of Guadalupe (est.1902) (Assumptionists) 229 West 14th Street New York, NY 10011 212 243.5317
- 30 Our Lady of Loreto (est. 1891)
 303 Elizabeth Street
 New York, NY 10012
 212 431,9840
- 31 Our Lady of Lourdes (est. 1901) 472 West 142nd Street New York, NY 10031 212 862.4380
- 32 Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (est. 1926) (See #11)
- 33 Our Lady of Mount Carmel (est. 1884) (Pallottine) 448 East 116th Street New York, NY 10029 212 534,0681
- 34 Our Lady of Peace (est. 1918) 237 East 62nd Street New York, NY 10021 212 838,3189
- 35 Our Lady of Perpetual Help (est.1887) 323 East 61st Street New York, NY 10021 212 838.1324-5
- 36 Our Lady of Pompeii (est. 1892) (Society of St. Charles) 25 Carmine Street New York, NY 10014 212 989.6805
- Our Lady Queen of Angels Church and Friary (est. 1886) 226 East 113th Street New York, NY 10029 212 534.6218
- 38 Our Lady Queen of Martyrs (est. 1927) 91 Arden Street New York, NY 10040 212 567.2637
- 39 Our Lady of the Rosary (est. 1883) (Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton) 7-8 State Street New York, NY 10004 212 269.6865
- 40 Our Lady of the Scapular (est. 1889)
 (Spanish)
 (Carmelite Friars of the
 New York Province)
 (Was located at 339 East 28th Street)
 (See St. Stephen #117)
- 41 Our Lady of Sorrows Church and Friary (est. 1867) (Capuchin-Franciscan Province of St. Mary) New York-New England) 213 Stanton Street New York, NY 10002 212 673.0900-1

- 42 Our Lady of Victory (est. 1944) 60 William Street New York, NY 10005 212 422.5535
- 43 Our Lady of Vilnius (est.1905) (Lithuanian) 570 Broome Street New York, NY 10013
- Our Lady Star of the Sea Chapel (est.) (Governors Island) New York, NY 10004 212 668.7336
- 45 Our Saviour (est. 1955) 59 Park Avenue New York, NY 10016 212 679.8166
- 46 Resurrection (est.1907) 276 West 151th Street New York, NY 10039 212 690.7555
- 47 Sacred Heart of Jesus (est. 1876) 457 West 51st Street New York, NY 10019 212 265.5020
- 48 Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (est: 1914) 307 East 33rd Street New York, NY 10016 212 889.2133
- 49 St. Agnes (est. 1873) 143 East 43rd Street New York, NY 10017 212 682.5722
- 50 St. Albert (est. 1916) (Was located in the West 50's) (Records at Sacred Hearts of Jesus #47)
- 51 St. Alphonsus (est. 1847)
 (German)
 (Was located at Thompson Street near
 Canal Street)
 (Records at St. Anthony of Padua #57)
- 52 St. Aloysius (est. 1899) 219 West 132nd Street New York, NY 10027 212 234.2848
- 53 St. Ambrose (Centro Maria)
 (est. 1897)
 (Was located at 517 West 54th Street)
 (Records at Sacred Heart of Jesus #47)
- 54 St. Andrew (est. 1842) 20 Cardinal Hayes Place New York, NY 10007 212 962.3972
- 55 St. Ann (est. 1852) American National Shrine (Armenian Catholic Cathedral) (St. Ann had an Irish population in its early years) 110 East 12th Street New York, NY 10003-5395 212 477.2030
- 56 St. Ann (est.1911) 312 East 110 Street New York, NY 10029 212 534.3856
- 57 St. Anthony of Padua (est. 1866) (Franciscan) 154 Sullivan Street New York, NY 10012 212 777.2755



Lower Manhattan



Hudson

River

58

Upper Manhattan

62

St. Benedict the Moor (est. 1883) (Franciscan) St. Catherine of Genoa (est. 1887) 506 West 153rd Street New York, NY 10031 340 West 53rd Street New York, NY 10019 212 862.6130 212 586.8462 63 St. Catherine of Siena (est. 1897) (Was originally located at 210 Bleecker Street, moved to present address around 1898) (Dominican) 411 East 68th Street New York, NY 10021 212 988.8300 59 St. Bernard (est. 1868) 64 St. Cecilia (est. 1873) 328 West 14th Street New York, NY 10014 (Redemptorist) 125 East 105th Street 212 243.0265 New York, NY 10029 212 534.1350 60 St. Boniface (est. 1858) St. Charles Borromeo (est. 1888) 211 West 141st Street New York, NY 10030 65 (German) (Was located at 882 Second Avenue, in the East 40's) (Records located at 212 281.2100 Holy Family #13) 66 St. Clare (est. 1903) (Italian) (Was located on West 36th Street) (Records located at Sts. Cyril and 61 St. Brigid (est. 1848) 119 Avenue B New York, NY 10009 212 228.5400 Methodius #70)

- St. Clemens Mary (est. 1909) (Was located on West 40th, Polish, Italian) (Records located at Holy Cross #12) 67
- St. Columba (est. 1845) 343 West 25th Street New York, NY 10001 68 212 807.8876
- 69 St. Cyril (est. 1916) (Franciscan)(Slovenian) 62 St. Mark's Place New York, NY 10003 212 674.3442
- 70 Sts. Cyril and Methodius (est.1913) and St. Raphael (est. 1886) (Croatian Franciscan Fathers) (St. Raphael originally a separate parish, 502 West 41st Street New York, NY 10036 212 563.3395
- 71 St. Elizabeth (est.1869) 268 Wadsworth Avenue New York, NY 10033 212 568.8803
- 72 St. Elizabeth of Hungary (est. 1891) 211 East 83rd Street New York, NY 10028 212 734.5747 (Was orig. located at 345 East 4th Street, NY, NY)
- 73 St. Emeric's (est. 1949) 185 Avenue D New York, NY 10009 212 228.4494
- St. Francis De Sales (est. 1894) 135 East 96th Street New York, NY 10128 74 212 289.0425
- 75 St. Francis of Assisi (est. 1844) (Franciscan)(Originally German) 135 West 31st Street New York, NY 10001 212 736.8500
- 76 St. Francis Xavier (est. 1847) (Jesuit) 55 West 15th Street New York, NY 10011 212 627.2100
- St. Francis Xavier Cabrini (est. 1873) 555 Main Street 77 Roosevelt Island, New York, NY 10044 212 832.6778
- St. Gabriel (est. 1867) (Was originally located at 179 East 36th 78 Street) (Records at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary #48)
- St. George (est. 1890) (Melkite Greek) (Records located at Byzantine Church of 79 the Virgin Mary, 216 8th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215, 718 788,5454)
- St. George (est. 1906) (Basilian Fathers)(Byzantine Rite, 80 Ukrainian) 33 East 7th Street New York, NY 10003 212 674.1615
- St. Gregory the Great (est. 1907) 144 West 90th Street New York, NY 10024 81 212 724.9766

St. Hedwig (est. 1934)(Polish) (Records located at St. Stanislaus #117) St. Lucy (est. 1900) 344 East 104th Street New York, NY 10029 212 534.1470 82 98 St. Rose (est. 1868) (Was located at 42 Cannon Street) (Records located at St. Mary #101) 114 St. Ignatius Loyola (est. 1851) 83 115 St. Rose of Lima (est. 1901) (Jesuit) 980 Park Avenue St. Malachy's (The Actor's Chapel)(est. 1902) 99 510 West 165th Street New York, NY 10032 212 568.0091 New York, NY 10028 212 288.3588 239 West 49th Street New York, NY 10019 212 489.1340-1 116 St. Sebastian (est. 1915)(Pol. & Ital.) 84 St. James (est. 1827) (Was located on East 26th Street) 23 Oliver Street New York, NY 10038 212 233.0161 100 St. Mark the Evangelist (est. 1907) (Records located at Epiphany #7) (Holy Ghost Fathers) 65 West 138th Street New York, NY 10037 212 281.4931 117 St. Stanislaus B.M. (est. 1872) 101 East 7th Street New York, NY 10009 212 475.4576 85 St. Jean Baptiste (est. 1882) (French) (Blessed Sacrament Fathers & Brothers) 101 St. Mary (est. 1826) 184 East 76th Street New York, NY 10021 212 288.5082 28 Attorney Street New York, NY 10002 212 674.3266 St. Stephen (est. 1848) 142 East 29th Street New York, NY 10016 212 683.1675 118 86 St. Joachim (est. 1888) (Orig. near Monroe & Catherine Sts.) (Records at St. Joseph #94) 102 St. Mary (est. 1912) (Byzantine-Ruthenian) 119 St. Stephen of Hungary (est. 1902) 246 East 15th Street New York, NY 10003 212 677.0516 (Franciscan) 414 East 82nd Street St. John Baptist Church and Friary 87 New York, NY 10028 212 861.8500 (Capuchin Province of St. Mary-New York-New England) St. Mary Magdalen (est. 1873) 103 (German) (Was located at 527 East 17th Street) (Records located at Immaculate St. Teresa (est. 1863) 141 Henry Street New York, NY 10002 212 233.0233 120 210 West 31st Street New York, NY 10001 212 564.9070 Conception #18) 104 St. Matthew (est 1902) St. Thomas More (est. 1950) 65 East 89th Street 121 St. John the Evangelist (est. 1840) (Originally located at West 71st Street) (Records located at Blessed Sacrament #5) 88 348 East 55th Street New York, NY 10022 New York, NY 10128 212 876.7718 212 753.8418 105 St. Michael (est. 1857) St. Thomas the Apostle (est. 1889) 262 West 118th Street New York, NY 10026 122 St. John the Martyr (est. 1903) 259 East 71st Street New York, NY 10021 89 424 West 34th Street New York, NY 10001 212 563.2575 212 662.2693 212 744.4880-1 106 St. Michael's Chapel (est. 1936) 123 St. Veronica (est. 1887) St. John Nepomucene (est. 1895) 411 East 66th Street New York, NY 10021 212 734.4613; 4370 90 (Byzantine-Russian) 657 Washington Street New York, NY 10014 212 924.5628 263 Mulberry Street New York, NY 10012 212 226.8075 124 St. Vincent De Paul (est. 1840) St. Joseph-Greenwich Village (est. 1829) 371 Sixth Avenue 91 St. Monica (est. 1879) 413 East 79th Street New York, NY 10021 107 (Originally French) (Originally located at 26 Canal Street, before 1860) New York, NY 10014 212 741.1274-7 116 West 24th Street New York, NY 10011 212 288.6250-1 108 St. Nicholas (est. 1833) 212 243.4727 92 St. Joseph (est. 1873) 404 East 87th Street New York, NY 10128 (German) (Was located at 125 East 2nd Street) 125 St. Vincent Ferrer (est. 1867) (Records located at Most Holy Redeemer #22) (Dominican Friars) 212 289.6030 869 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10021-6657 212 744.2080 93 St. Joseph of the Holy Family (est. 1860) (Originally German) 109 St. Patrick's Old Cathedral (est. 1809) 263 Mulberry Street New York, NY 10012 212 226.8075 126 Transfiguration (est. 1827) 405 West 125th Street New York, NY 10027 212 662.9125 29 Mott Street New York, NY 10013 212 962.5157 110 St. Patrick's New Cathedral 94 St. Joseph (est. 1924) (Italian) (Society of St. Charles) (Scalabrini Fathers) 460 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022 212 753.2261 5 Monroe Street New York, NY 10002 212 267.8376 111 St. Paul (est. 1834) 113 East 117th Street St. Joseph's Chapel Gateway Piaza 500 New York, NY 10280 95 New York, NY 10035 212 534,4422 212 466.0131 112 St. Paul the Apostle (est. 1858) (Paulist) 96 St. Jude (est. 1949) 415 West 59th Street 431 West 204th Street New York, NY 10034 New York, NY 10019 212 265,3209 212 569.3000 St. Peter (est. 1785) 16 Barclay Street New York, NY 10007 113 St. Leo (est. 1880) (Was located at 11 East 28th Street) (Records located at St. Stephen #117) 212 233.8355