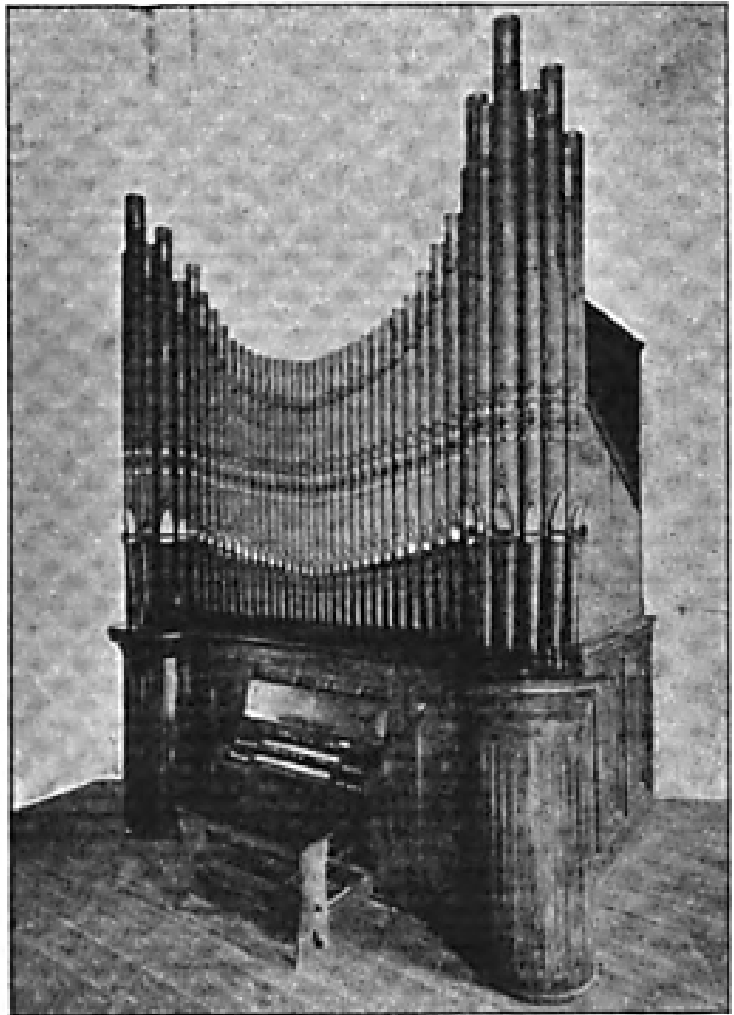
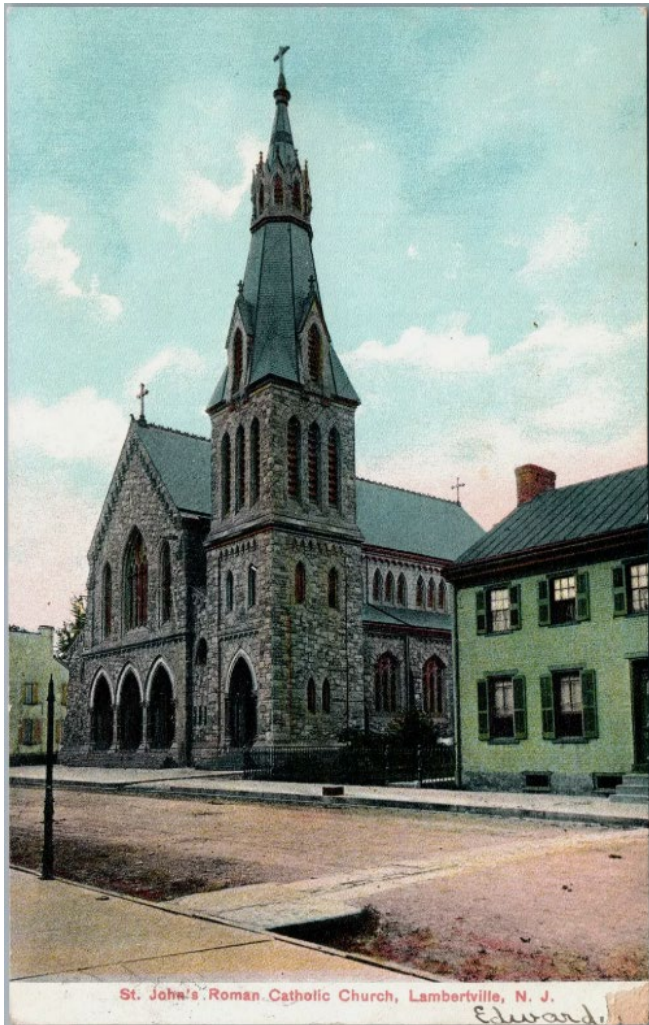


J.B. DIDINGER & CO. (1893); dedicated with the building, Sunday, October 29, 1893

St. John the Evangelist, R.C., Church of (Rev. William J. Fitzgerald, Rector)
Bridge Street
Lambertville, New Jersey



“St. John’s Church,” *The Lambertville (N.J.) Beacon* 48, no. 2,080 (Friday, October 6, 1893): 3; hereafter *LB*.

St. John’s Church.

A visit to the new St. John’s R. C. Church, this city, finds the carpenters at work. A handsome new floor has been laid and now the stairways, altar railings, brackets, gallery, &c., &c., are receiving attention. Peter S. Parker & Son are the contractors to do this work and they are doing it with a rush and in a satisfactory manner. It is interesting to watch the men at work, all being experienced hands, and the force is composed of genial Joe Charaker, good-natured Jim Bellis and jovial Johny Blackwell, and the two Parkers, Peter S. and Fred, while directing the work and keeping a watchful eye on its progress, lend a helping hand and do a full day’s work with the other men.

"Blessing of St. John's Church," *LB* 48, no. 2,080 (Friday, October 6, 1893): 3.

Blessing of St. John's R. C. Church.
The new Church of St. John the Evangelist, this city, will be blessed on Sunday, October 29th, and on the same day will be celebrated the semi-centennial of the parish. The Most Rev. Mgr. F. Satolli, Apostolic Delegate of His Holiness, has graciously condescended to pontificate.
There will no doubt be a large attendance at this double celebration. A special train will leave Trenton at 10:40 A. M., connecting with trains from New York, Philadelphia and Camden.

"Satolli Officiated. / Many Church Dignitaries at the Dedication of a Handsome New House of Worship," *The Philadelphia (Pa.) Inquirer* 129, no. 122 (Monday, October 30, 1893): 3.

SATOLLI OFFICIATED.
Many Church Dignitaries at the Dedication of a Handsome New House of Worship.
Special to The Inquirer.
LAMBERTVILLE, Oct. 29.—The new St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, of this city, was dedicated to-day with impressive ceremonies. Among the Catholic clergymen present were Mgr. Satolli, apostolic delegate to this country; Right Rev. Mgr. Moran, Princeton; Very Rev. P. J. Corrigan, vice-rector Catholic University, Washington; Very Rev. Dr. Hagar, spiritual director of University, Washington; Rev. Dr. Thomas O'Gorman, professor of church history; Very Rev. Deans Fitzsimmin, O'Grady and Burke, Archbishop Ryan, Philadelphia; Bishop Keane, Washington, and many priests from distant and neighboring parishes.
Right Rev. M. J. O'Farrel, Bishop of Trenton, dedicated the church, and

Mgr. Satolli officiated at the pontifical mass. The sermon was preached by Rev. William O'Brien, rector of St. Francis Xavier's, New York city. Bishop O'Farrel also delivered an address at the mass. The Papal benediction was pronounced by Mgr. Satolli.
The altar was tastefully decorated, and the rectory and convent adjoining the church were profusely decorated with the Stars and Stripes and tri-color. An excellent musical program was furnished by the choir of the church, assisted by vocalists from Philadelphia, Trenton and elsewhere, under the direction of Professor J. Prescott Eckman, of Mount Holly, N. J.
The church, when completed, will be one of the finest in the State. Ground was broken for its erection early in the spring of 1892, and the corner-stone laid on Memorial Day of the same year by Bishop O'Farrel.
The edifice is of Indiana limestone, 111 feet in depth by 59 feet in width, and has a seating capacity of 1000. The interior is finished in Gothic style, in

quartered oak. The windows are of stained glass and there is a new pine organ which cost about \$3500. The total cost is about \$60,000.
The rector is William J. Fitzgerald. The semi-centennial of the parish was also celebrated to-day.

"Dedication of St. John's Church," *LB* 48, no. 2084 (Friday, November 3, 1893): 3.

Dedication of St. John's Church.

The imposing ceremonies of dedicating the handsome new St. John's R. C. Church in this city took place on Sunday last. The weather was raw, damp and cold, but this did not hinder a large crowd from gathering and many people stood in front of the edifice from early in the morning until the close of the services late in the afternoon.

The church, rectory and residence of the Sisters of Mercy were very prettily decorated with tri-colors and the stars and stripes, presenting a gay appearance.

The Most Rev. Mgr. Satolli, Apostolic Delegate to America, arrived in this city on the 5:32 P. M. train Saturday evening and was conveyed in a cab to the rectory.

The 8:45 down train Sunday morning brought a number of visitors and a special train from Trenton brought a big crowd, including many prominent clergymen.

It was almost noon before the dedicatory services commenced. A procession of the clergy was formed in front of the rectory, headed by Bishop O'Farrell, and after passing around the church entered the building by the front door and a processional followed in the building. After the clergy had been seated the Most Rev. Mgr. Satolli entered and took a seat at the right of the altar.

The Rt. Rev. M. J. O'Farrell, Bishop, dedicated the church and the Most Rev. Apostolic Delegate sang the Pontifical Mass. The sermon was preached by the Rev. William O'Brien Pardow, S. J., Rector of St. Francis Xavier's, New York City, and was an able and very interesting discourse. Bishop O'Farrell also made a brief address. The Papal Benediction was pronounced by Mgr. Satolli.

An excellent musical programme was rendered by the choir of the church, assisted by vocalists from Trenton and elsewhere, all under the direction of Prof. J. Prescott Eckman, of Mount Holly, N. J.

The church was filled to overflowing and it was impossible for everybody to gain admission. Many who were anxious to see and listen were compelled to turn away disappointed.

The clergy partook of dinner in the rectory, at which there were about one hundred guests.

Among the clergy were Most Rev. Mgr. Satolli, Bishop O'Farrell, Vicar General McFaul, Dr. Loughlin, Chancellor of Philadelphia Diocese; Dr. Hogan and Dr. O'Gorman, of the Catholic University, Washington, D. C.; Deans Fitzsimmons and O'Grady, Mgr. Moran, Rev. W. O. B. Pardow, Rev. W. A. Fletcher, Rev. T. Hogan, Rev. J. J. Denver, Rev. Markee, Rev. B. Mulligan, Rev. William J. O'Farrell, Rev. H. Russi, Rev. J. J. Griffin, Rev. J. Brennan and others.

There was another large attendance at the evening services, when an excellent sermon was preached by Rev. William A. Fletcher and the choir rendered excellent music.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Father William J. Fitzgerald, a gentleman who has greatly endeared himself to his parishioners and who is highly respected by members of all denominations for his gentlemanly manners and uniform courtesy. It is a general comment, "Who ever saw Father Fitzgerald in a bad humor?" He is an active, energetic man, giving attention to all the work going on in the new edifice, in addition to attending to his numerous religious duties.

The new building is without doubt the handsomest church in Hunterdon county and one of the handsomest in the State. It is Gothic in style, built of Indiana lime stone, trimmed with Scotch granite. It has a depth of 111 feet and is 58 feet in width. When finished it will cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000. The windows, which are numerous and expensive, are of stained glass of American manufacture and contain figures of saints, shepherds, &c. The large and beautiful window in front alone cost \$600. The interior of the church is finished in a beautiful manner and does credit to the architect and contractors. The floors are of hard yellow pine, oiled. The pews are of oak and the numerous columns are finished in imitation of white marble. The altar and everything connected therewith presents a very pretty appearance. The chandeliers and other burners are so arranged as to either light the church by electricity or gas, or both. When lighted up the effect is grand. A large pipe organ, manufactured in Philadelphia, at a cost of \$3,500, occupies the greater part of the spacious gallery at

the front of the interior and is supplied with air by means of a water motor. The church is heated by steam. A tower and steeple, 150 feet from the sidewalk, is built at the southeast corner of the church, and a gilded cross, eight feet high, adorns the top of the steeple. Another gilded cross stands from the peak of the roof of the church, in the rear. A clear-toned bell hangs in the tower and in addition to its ringing for regular services and tolling at funerals it rings regularly every day at 6 A. M., 12 noon and 6 P. M. When a member of the parish dies the bell is immediately tolled, one tap for each year of the deceased's age.

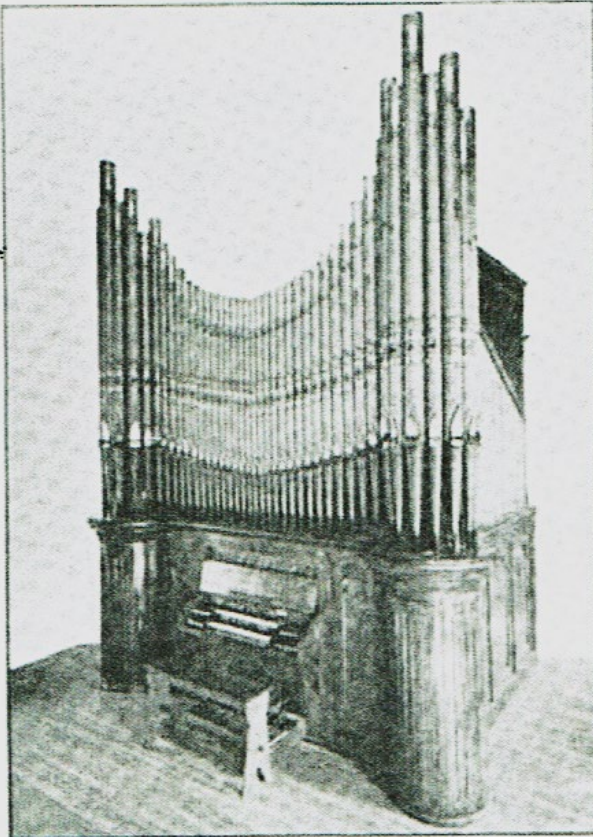
Although the work has been pushed night and day for some time, the building was not fully completed in time for the dedication. The massive front doors not arriving in time to be placed in position, the doorways were covered with American flags.

In front of the church is a pavement of Vulcanite crushed stone, 22 feet in width. An iron fence runs the entire length of the building on the east side, while on the west side is the rectory and lawn.

The building of the church was started in the Spring of 1892 and the cornerstone was laid on Memorial Day (May 30th) of the same year by Right Rev. Bishop O'Farrell, of Trenton.

On the same day of the dedication services the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of St. John's parish in this city occurred.

ADVERTISEMENTS.



J. B. DIDINGER & CO.,
Church Organ Manufacturers,
1022-28 Buttonwood St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Tubular Pneumatics a Specialty.

ST. JOHN'S RECTORY,
Lambertville, N. J.

January 10, '94

My dear Mr. Didinger:

It is a great pleasure for me to inform you that the organ you have completed for us gives perfect satisfaction. All the material used in its construction is strictly first class. In tone it is the *ne plus ultra* of the pipe organ, ranging from the sweetest strains, like to an Aeolian harp touched by a gentle zephyr, through the various gradations of each register, till finally bursting forth in the full organ to the grandeur and perfection of a complete grand orchestra. It is sweet, it is pathetic—vivacious and of great brilliancy. Its solo registers on both Swell and Great must be heard to be appreciated. His Excellency, Mgr. Satolli, the Apostolic Delegate, when present at the dedication of our church was charmed with it; and spent quite some time listening to each separate register and carefully examining the mechanism. He pronounced the soft registers "*heavenly*." The pneumatic action has done away with the labor of organ playing, and now after hours of practice—which are also hours of enjoyment—the player retires without the least physical exhaustion as formerly. After examining our organ I do not think any person will ever consent to have a tracker-action organ built. Whilst there are many larger organs in New Jersey, I am willing to assert that there is not one that, taken all in all, can equal ours. May you continue to give such satisfaction to all your patrons whom, I hope, may be very numerous. It shall always be a pleasure for me to allow free access to our organ to anyone contemplating purchasing an instrument from you.

I remain sincerely yours,

(Signed) WM. J. FITZGERALD,

Rector.

Lambertville Edifice Improved, Remodeling Work Completed

Interior of Already Attractive St. John's Church Greatly Enhanced Under Program Started by Father Mahoney

LAMBERTVILLE—After several months' work, the remodeling of the interior of the local Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Divine has been completed and the already beautiful and inspiring edifice has been greatly improved.

The need for repairs became apparent when it was found that the ceiling, after more than 40 years, was in danger of falling. This was attributed to the jar of the heavy traffic on Bridge Street.

It was decided that it was necessary to replace the ceiling at once. The scaffolding alone to work on the high interior cost more than \$1,000, and all of the original plastering was removed.

The new ceiling is a special process recently applied to such jobs and, in addition to being safe, it is attractive in its design and dignified in keeping with the rest of the edifice.

About the same time, it was found that the pipe organ, also installed in 1893, was worn out and it was taken down and removed to a Philadelphia factory for rebuilding. About all that remains of the old organ is a portion of the pipes. The instrument now has all electric action, with a system of stops and couplers that makes it one of the finest in this section. The full power of the organ has scarcely yet been tried, but it will be adequate to any needs the church may have. Although it is arranged for chimes, this feature has not been introduced as yet.

All new lighting fixtures have been placed in the auditorium, which, when turned on, give a pleasing diffused light that illuminates every point in the church.

Ever since the church was built there has been discontent from the fact that the large entrance doors opened immediately upon the church auditorium and in cold weather this made it difficult to heat the church comfortably. Now a vestibule has been built, with oak paneling, heater and leaded glass in the upper portion. Opposite each of the three sides is an arched entrance. This vestibule is in harmony with the architecture of the church and will shut out much of the cold in winter. The confessionals are also within the vestibule. To install this it was necessary to remove one row of seats, but the large capacity of the church can afford to do this.

In two large blank spaces at the



Rev. Joseph F. Mahoney

sides of the altar paintings representing angels in adoration have been placed. These were painted for the church by E. S. Panzironi, of New York City, and have been greatly admired since they were placed last week.

The work in all its branches has been supervised by the Rev. Joseph F. Mahoney, the pastor. The exact cost of the work has not been announced, but the parish is already contemplating methods of payment and the church authorities are confident that the loyalty of the congregation will continue.

At no time during the progress of the work of remodeling were the regular services of the church interfered with, although for many weeks the people worshipped under the scaffolding without a sight of the demolition overhead and then the reconstruction as the new ceiling was put in place.

Father Mahoney will announce a special time for the general public to inspect the remodeled church.

KILGORE BUILDING TO BE RENOVATED

FLEMINGTON—The Hunterdon County National Bank has purchased from the Flemington Building and Loan Association the brick mercantile building known as the Kilgore Building, adjoining the bank building on Main Street.

The bank will make extensive alterations to the structure, which will be connected with the bank building, covering the present