

FORMER CHURCHES OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

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On March 10, 1951, the four easternmost counties that until then had comprised the Diocese of Pittsburgh were detached to form the newly constituted Diocese of Greensburg pursuant to the papal bull *Ex Supremi Apostolatus*. These counties – Armstrong, Fayette, Indiana, and Westmoreland – have witnessed the development of the Catholic faith in Western Pennsylvania since colonial times. Reflecting the ebbs and flows of immigration, population growth and decline, and the rise and fall of farming as well as manufacturing and mining enterprises – Catholic churches were opened (many as canonical parishes and some as missions attached to larger churches) and 103



parishes and missions were later closed: 19 in Armstrong County, 34 in Fayette County (and one was transferred to an Eastern Rite eparchy), 20 in Indiana County, and 30 in Westmoreland County.

To preserve that part of Greensburg diocesan history, a complete list of the closed churches has been compiled, which includes identification of the current successor parishes. This exhaustive list will prove particularly valuable for those undertaking genealogical research (baptismal, marriage, and death records) or searching for parish historical roots.

ARMSTRONG COUNTY				
Town	Parish Name	Founded	Closed	Successor Parish
Brady's Bend	St. Mary	1863	1886	St. Patrick, Brady's Bend
Buffalo Creek (Worthington Station)	St. Francis	1937	1971	St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Kittanning
Cowansville	St. Francis	1954	1956	
Ford City	Holy Trinity (Slovak)	1900-1901	2002	Christ, Prince of Peace, Ford City
	St. Francis of Paola (Polish)	1900	2002	
	St. Mary	1888	2002	
Johnetta	St. Rose	1923	1997	St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Kittanning
Leechburg	Assumption (Hungarian)	1918	1999	Christ the King, Leechburg
	St. Catherine of Alexandria	1887	1999	
	St. Martha (Slovak)	1911	1999	
Madison Township	Rimer Mission ¹	1858 (or 1932)	1941	St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Kittanning
Margaret	St. Ann	1943	1964	St. Mary, Mother of God, Yatesboro
Nicholson's Run	Guardian Angels	1872	1994	St. Lawrence, Cadogan
Nu Mine	St. Gabriel	1927	1988	St. Mary, Mother of God, Yatesboro
Parker's Landing	St. Mary, Our Lady of Snows	1869	2008	St. Patrick, Brady's Bend
Queenstown	SS. Peter and Paul	1847 (or before)	1866	
Schenley	St. Mary	1940	1971	Christ the King, Leechburg
Seminole	SS. Cosmas and Damian ²	1914	1996	St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Kittanning
Sugar Creek (Buffalo Creek)	St. Patrick	1801-1806	2008	St. Patrick, Brady's Bend



Former Churches in the Diocese of Greensburg

Source: Archives of Diocese of Greensburg

FAYETTE COUNTY				
Allison	St. Theresa	1953	1976	St. Peter, Brownsville
Brier Hill	St. Hedwig	1906	1977	St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis
Brownsville	Sacred Heart (Hungarian)	1926	1968	Immaculate Conception, Connellsville
	St. Mary	1906	2005	St. Peter, Brownsville
Cardale	St. Mary, Madonna of Czestochowa	1908	2013	St. Francis of Assisi, Western Fayette County
Connellsville	Holy Trinity (Polish)	1903	2008	Immaculate Conception, Connellsville
	Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Italian)	1901	1913	St. Rita, Connellsville
	St. Emory (Hungarian)	1903	1970	Immaculate Conception, Connellsville
Dawson	Sacred Heart	1898	2007	
Derry	Mount Carmel Chapel	1822	1898	St. Martin, New Derry
Elliottsville	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	1900	1962	St. Joan of Arc, Farmington
Fayette City	Holy Spirit	1964	2008	St. Sebastian, Belle Vernon
	St. Edward	1902	1964	
	St. Eusebius	1911	1964	
Footdale	St. Thomas	1901	2013	St. Francis of Assisi, Western Fayette County
Gates Mine	St. Mary	1906	1985	
Isabella	St. Julian	1925	2008	St. Peter, Brownsville
Keisterville	St. Casimir	1906	2001	St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis
Leckrone (McClellandtown)	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	1902	2013	St. Francis of Assisi, Western Fayette County
Leisenring	St. Vincent de Paul	1888	2008	St. Aloysius, Dunbar
Lemont Furnace	St. Cecilia	1883	2006	St. Mary (Nativity), Uniontown
Masontown	All Saints	1908	2013	St. Francis of Assisi, Western Fayette County
Maxwell	St. James	1936	2008	St. Peter, Brownsville
McClellandtown	St. Francis de Sales	1908	2008	St. Francis of Assisi, Western Fayette County
New Salem	St. Procopius	1905	2013	
Newell	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	1937	1996	St. Peter, Brownsville

FAYETTE COUNTY (cont.)				
Palmer	St. Albert	1922	2008	St. Francis of Assisi, Western Fayette County
Republic	Holy Rosary (Slovak)	1915	2013	
	St. Callistus	1911	1915	St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus, Uniontown
Sagamore	Sacred Heart	1912	2006	St. Mary, Mother of God, Yatesboro
Shoaf	St. Helen	1913	2007	SS. Cyril and Methodius, Fairchance
Smock	St. Hedwig	1906	2013	St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis
Uniontown	Holy Cross (Italian)	1908	1915	St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus, Uniontown
	St. George (Maronite) ³	1921	Not closed	St. George (Maronite), Uniontown
West Leisenring	St. Polycarp	1917	1997	St. Aloysius, Dunbar
INDIANA COUNTY				
Alverda	Sacred Heart	1930	1995	Resurrection, Northern Indiana County
Arcadia	SS. Peter and Paul	1906	1995	
Aultman	St. Anthony	1918	1989	Good Shepherd, Kent
Black Lick (Josephine)	St. Bonaventure	1910	2002	Our Lady of the Assumption, Coral
Cameron's Bottom	St. Patrick	1832	1995	Resurrection, Northern Indiana County
Clymer	St. Anthony	1913	1995	
Coral (Graceton)	St. Francis	1910	2008	Our Lady of the Assumption, Coral
Dilltown	Annunciation	1933	1974	Holy Family, Seward
Dixonville	Sacred Heart	1910	1995	Resurrection, Northern Indiana County
Ernest	Assumption	1907	1995	
Glen Campbell	St. Michael	1900	1995	
Heilwood	St. John the Baptist	1909	1995	
Iselin	Holy Cross	1908	1989	Good Shepherd, Kent
Lucerne Mines	St. Louis	1913	2008	Our Lady of the Assumption, Coral
McIntyre	St. Gertrude	1917	1989	Good Shepherd, Kent
Rossiter	St. Francis	1904	1995	Resurrection, Northern Indiana County
Starford	St. Elizabeth	1907	1995	
Strongtown (Strongstown)	Seven Dolours	1871	1906- 1920	
Waterman	Seven Dolours	1918	1923	Our Lady of the Assumption, Coral
Wehrum	St. Fidelis ⁴	1912	1929	Hoy Family, Seward
WESTMORELAND COUNTY				
Arnold	All Saints	1926	2008	St. Joseph, New Kensington
Bolivar	St. Mary	1872	2008	Holy Family, Seward
Bovard	St. Bede	1915	2008	Blessed Sacrament, Greensburg
Braeburn (Lower Burrell)	St. John Bosco	1937	1999	St. Margaret Mary, Lower Burrell
Calumet (Mammoth)	St. Stanislaus	1890	2008	St. Florian, United
Chestnut Ridge (Latrobe)	St. Boniface	1970	2013	St. Raymond of the Mountains, Donegal

WESTMORELAND COUNTY (cont.)				
East Vandergrift	All Saints (Polish)	1922	1985	Our Lady, Queen of Peace, East Vandergrift
	Holy Trinity	1916	1985	
	St. Casimir (Lithuanian)	1922	1985	
Forbes Road	St. Mary	1909	2008	St. Bartholomew, Crabtree
Greensburg	St. Anthony	1917	1955	St. Paul, Greensburg
Hunker	St. Gilbert	1926	2002	Holy Cross, Youngwood
Hyde Park	St. Francis	1954	1999	Christ the King, Leechburg
Madison	Our Lady of Victory	1893	1934	St. Edward, Herminie
Monessen	Most Holy Name of Jesus (Slovak)	1901-1904	1991	The Epiphany of Our Lord, Monessen
	St. Anthony	1952	1991	
	St. Cajetan (Italian)	1920	1991	
	St. Hyacinth (Polish)	1909	1991	
	St. Leonard	1900	1991	
Mount Pleasant	St. Bernardine (Italian)	1906	1972	St. Pius X, Mount Pleasant
	St. Joseph	1886	1972	
	Transfiguration (Polish)	1890	2003	
New Florence	St. Mary	1854	2008	Holy Family, Seward
New Kensington	St. Elizabeth (Hungarian)	1937	1959	Christ the King, Leechburg
Penn	St. Boniface	1863	2008	Sacred Heart, Jeannette
Smithton	St. Timothy	1867	2008	St. Anne, Rostraver
Sutersville	St. Charles Borromeo	1865	2008	Holy Family, West Newton
Trauger	Forty Martyrs	1916	2008	St. Florian, United
Webster	Holy Cross	1952	2000	St. Anne, Rostraver
Wilpen	St. Ann	1913	2008	Holy Trinity, Ligonier

Endnotes:

¹ Records of the Rimer Mission prior to 1937 are located at St. Mary of Mercy Parish in Pittsburgh.

² SS. Cosmas and Damian was attended by priests from St. Charles Parish in the neighboring Diocese of Erie, which may hold some records.

³ St. George (Maronite) is now part of the Maronite Eparchy (diocese) of Saint Maron of Brooklyn (established 1966) and the parish houses its own records.

⁴ The present location of this church's records has not been confirmed.