David R. Pilarski, *Holy Innocents Church: An Historical Compilation 1900-2016* (Pittsburgh: St. Philip Church, 2017), softcover, illus., 48 pp. This attractive history was authored by a life-long member of the now-suppressed Holy Innocents Parish in the Sheraden section of Pittsburgh. The author has painstakingly tracked the history of the parish buildings — including its Gothic church with magnificent Sotter-designed stained-glass windows — and its four pastors. Old newspaper articles and photographs enhance the text.

George J. Marlin and Brad Miner, *Sons of Saint Patrick: A History of the Archbishops of New York from Dagger John to Timmytown* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2017), table of contents, notes, index, illus., 490 pp. This history of the prelates who have headed the premier see in the United States — the Archdiocese of New York — is of particular interest to Western Pennsylvanians. This exceptionally well-written work recounts not only the story of the ten archbishops who exerted exceptional influence on the national and international stages, but includes in that story the role of several Western Pennsylvanians: future archbishop John Hughes’s assignment to Bedford County (“the end of the earth”), Father Thomas Heyden of Bedford and the church trustee issue, and the rumored appointment of Pittsburgh Bishop Donald Wuerl to succeed John Cardinal O’Connor as archbishop of New York. The volume also discusses the challenges of the church in recent decades: demographic changes, financial crises, and clerical sex-abuse cases. Given current demographics, Timothy Cardinal Dolan may be the last “son of St. Patrick” to occupy the throne in St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York.

Richard Gazarik, *Prohibition Pittsburgh* (Charleston, SC: History Press, 2017), softcover, table of contents, bibliography, index, 128 pp. Pittsburghers have always enjoyed “spirits.” So when Prohibition (1920-1933) hit the Smoky City, it triggered a level of corruption and violence unseen in the city’s history. Wars between gangs of bootleggers resulted in bombings and murders that placed Pittsburgh on a par with New York City and Chicago as to criminal activity. Ethnic Catholics played a prominent role in this era — as suppliers, enforcers, and consumers. This played out against a backdrop of the Protestant anti-saloon movement, KKK activity, and a wave of nativist anti-immigrant sentiment.

Cody McDevitt and Sean Enright, *Pittsburgh Drinks: A History of Cocktails, Nightlife & Bartending Tradition* (Charleston, SC: History Press, 2017), softcover, table of contents, illus., bibliography, 192 pp. Pittsburgh’s drinking culture is a story of its people — hardworking and intense. This history of Pittsburgh bars, speakeasies, taverns, and clubs is an edgy page-turner. The story of Fr. John Beane — assistant at St. Paul’s Cathedral and president of a branch of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union, who attempted to personally rout the customers at a speakeasy in the cathedral parish (“Now. Let me have a drink, Mrs. Sullivan, and I’ll see how many I know in this place.”) — alone justifies the purchase of this “uproarious” book.

Cynthia Brideson and Sara Brideson, *He’s Got Rhythm: The Life and Career of Gene Kelly* (Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2017), table of contents, illus., 560 pp. This is a comprehensive biography of an East End native who attended St. Raphael and Sacred Heart schools, rising to become a star of Hollywood’s Golden Age. The text skillfully balances his famed career (stage, singing, movies) with his complex personal life. For fans of *An American in Paris and Singin’ in the Rain*, this is the definitive work on America’s famed “song and dance” man.

Robert Steimmeyer, *The History of St. Joseph Parish* (Verona, 2016), softcover, appendices, 60 pp. This parishioner-written work presents the 150 years of history of St. Joseph parish in Verona (Allegheny County). The development of railroads, shipping, and mining brought Irish and German immigrants to the Allegheny River area, and the parish developed quickly. The initial wooden church was succeeded by three brick structures, with the current structure completed in 1982. The school continues with a lay faculty. Diocesan and parish sources were well used to create this informative and attractively designed history.

Rev. Blaine Burley, O.F.M. Cap., *Only the Beginnings: Commemorating the Coming of the Capuchins and their Co-Workers to the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea* (Denver: St. Conrad Archives Center, 2016), softcover, table of contents, appendices, illus., 344 pp. This incredibly detailed volume by the Capuchin archivist in Denver presents the history of his order’s undertaking of a mission to Papua New Guinea in 1955. That initiative came from the Capuchins’ St. Augustine Province, headquartered in Pittsburgh. These friars were the first white men that the natives encountered. Today, the country boasts a strong Catholic community organized into an archdiocese and several dioceses, with a significant number of native clergy. For those interested in international missions undertaken by religious from Western Pennsylvania, this highly readable volume is a must!

Paul E. Fischer, *Making Music: The History of the Organ and Piano Industries in Erie, Pennsylvania* (North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace, 2015), softcover, table of contents, bibliography, index, 122 pp. Many Western Pennsylvanians would be surprised to read that the city of Erie has for many years been a center for the organ building and construction industry. With the decline in the market for new organs since the 1970s, a comprehensive history by someone involved in the organ industry his whole life is indeed welcome. The Tellers Organ Company, which was a major local party in this field, contributed several of its family members to the priesthood in the Erie diocese, which served to spread the influence of the company. Even those for whom music is not a passion will find this work highly informative and thoroughly enjoyable.

Stephen Michael DiGiovanni, *Aggiornamento on the Hill: James A..Formatter of Nature and Grace* (Downers Grove, IL: Midwest Theological Forum, 2016), table of contents, appendix, 586 pp. This work by an *alumni* of the Pontifical North American College (the “NAC”) in Rome is his second volume dealing with the American seminary in the Eternal City (the author’s first dealt with the life of the seminary’s long-time rector, Bishop Martin O’Connor) and the second volume recounting the institution’s history (the first was Msgr. Robert McNamara’s *The American College in Rome, 1855-1955*). The NAC’s rich history is presented against the backdrop of the *aggiornamento* or “updating” that profoundly changed the seminary and its future priests. The work includes a number of Western Pennsylvanians who were resident at or associated with the NAC: Cardinals Wright, Dearden, DiNardo, and Wuerl. The author’s skills as a former diocesan historian are ably displayed. The front-cover picture of NAC seminarians engaged in a snowball battle in St. Peter’s Square during the massive 1965 Roman blizzard is a canny invitation to a truly readable and hard-to-put down volume!

Benjamin T. Peters, *Called to be Saints: John Hugo, The Catholic Worker, and a Theology of Radical Christianity* (Milwaukee: Marquette University Press, 2016), table of contents, appendix, 586 pp. This is a theological and historical analysis of the role that Pittsburgh priest Fr. John Hugo and the silent retreat play in understanding Servant of God Dorothy Day and her radical Christianity. This incisive study of Day’s spiritual director (who later became pastor of St. Germaine parish in Beith Park) delves deeply into the rich theology upon which Hugo drew and which in turn provided the theological support necessary for Day’s radicalism. The author, an assistant professor of theology at St. Joseph University in Connecticut, spent three years at a Catholic Worker community in South Bend, Indiana. This volume is an expansion of his 2011 doctoral dissertation at the University of Dayton, *John Hugo and an American Catholic Theology of Nature and Grace* (290 pp.).

Lance Richcy and Adam De Ville (eds.), *Dorothy Day and the Church: Past, Present, & Future* (Valparaiso, IN: Solidarity Hall Press, 2016), softcover, table of contents, illus., 434 pp.
This is the published record of proceedings of a conference on Dorothy Day (1897-1980) held at the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in May 2015. The several dozen papers and homilies contributed to this work on the founder of the Catholic Worker Movement include two by local PITburghers: Paul Dworcak (former Director of St. Joseph House of Hospitality, former board member of the Catholic Historical Society, and a contributor to Gathered Fragments) and Jim Hanna (contributor to Gathered Fragments). This volume presents the richness of this Servant of God, her social activism, passion for justice and peace, devotion to the cause of the oppressed, and how she lived out her life inspired by the Gospel and the example of the saints.


This work presents the economic plight afflicting World War I veterans in the early years of the Great Depression, when they sought early redemption of military “bonus” certificates not redeemable until 1945. Some officials viewed the men as part of a Communist front. Activist Fr. James Cox of St. Patrick’s in Pittsburgh led a march of 25,000 to Washington, D.C., in January 1932. Andrew Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, quietly supported Cox—in an era when “many in America saw Catholic priests as only slightly less dangerous than Communists.”


This work by the former director of the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency is a fascinating “inside’s look” at the American intelligence community and its challenges in today’s world. Equally fascinating is the story of the Pittsburgh-born author—a product of the Sisters of Mercy at St. Peter’s Grade School on the North Side, his football coach Dan Rooney, high school at North Catholic, and college years as a commuter at Duquesne University. This is a straightforward and readable history of more than just American national security.

Essays on New Jersey Catholic History: In Commemoration of the 350th Anniversary of the Founding of the New Jersey Colony (CreateSpace, 2016), softcover, table of contents, footnotes, index, illus., 234 pp.

The New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission has published this volume of 12 essays on aspects of that state’s Catholic history. Two of these essays involve the historical roots of the Passionists (whose first monastery in the New World was established in Pittsburgh) and the Carmelites (whose provincial novitiate was located in New Baltimore in Somerset County until 1968, and whose pastoral ministry included a number of German ethnic parishes in the diocese of Pittsburgh). Father Robert Carboneau and Archivist Alan Delozier have contributed to this volume. This work is an excellent presentation of the Catholic history shared between Western Pennsylvania and New Jersey.


This volume, by a Polish-born Ukrainian-Rite priest of the eparchy (diocese) of Stamford (Connecticut), traces the life of the first Eastern-Rite bishop in the Western Hemisphere and records the years of struggle of the “Greek Catholic” Church in the United States. Ethnic conflict and tensions with Latin-Rite bishops punctuated the history. The author candidly assesses the complexities and shortcomings of the institutional Church. This work illuminates the common heritage of both Ukrainians and Ruthenians. This scholarly research is intended to serve as the genesis for the beatification process of Bishop Soter Stephen Ortnysky, O.S.B.M., whose remains are entombed in the crypt of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia.


This is the story of a special group of student-athletes who captured the lone major national title in Duquesne University’s history. The story behind the raising of a national championship trophy includes the role of the Holy Ghost priests, and the aftermath of the wild celebration that ensued upon victory. Regrettably, this work was not written while the major participants—Dick Ricketts, Shihugo Green, coach Dudy Moore, and assistant coach Red Manning—were still alive. Nonetheless, Duquesne alumni and those interested in collegiate basketball will find this a “must” buy.


A veteran reporter of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette presents forgotten historic tales of the Steel City—including commentary on long-closed/demolished Catholic churches and lesser-known Catholics, such as the eight Murphy brothers from the North Side who served in World War II. The material is taken from the archives of the Post-Gazett.


This is the story of a “Mary Poppins-ish” sister—Sr. Eric Marie Setlock, R.S.M., of the Sisters of Mercy—inspired the author to discover an alternative approach to coaching basketball at Mt. Aloysius College in Cresson (Cambria County). When the almost 80-year old sister joined coach Loya to develop better teammates, her sisters of Mercy values of mercy, justice, hospitality and service became the basis for the coach’s system in working with youth. His approach serves as a blueprint for using organized sports to teach kids skills useful for the rest of their lives. Loya includes the story of his Slovak family’s roots in Johnstown, and the story of the Mercy sister from the small town of McIntyre (Indiana County). The book will be of value not just for the history it presents but also for the message it conveys to those seeking that defining moment in their careers.

Louise King Sturgess, Pittsburgh Then and Now (London: Pavilion, 2016), table of contents, illus., map, index, 144 pp.

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation has issued an updated version of this classic work (originally published in 2004 under the direction of the late Walter C. Kidney), emphasizing the dramatic changes the city of Pittsburgh has undergone. The “old” photographs from the late 19th/early 20th centuries, as contrasted with the “new” taken in the 21st century, are breathtaking—and illustrate the necessity for continued historic preservation. Numerous Catholic churches are pictured, including a stunning photograph showing the enormously high twin spires of the second St. Paul Cathedral (Downtown) and the central spire of St. Philomena Church in the Strip District. The physical dominance of city neighborhoods by steepled Catholic churches is strikingly evident. Alas, most of those towering steeples were later removed, as the “new” pictures evidence. Other churches—such as St. Peter the Apostle (Italian) in the Lower Hill District and St. Patrick’s in the Strip District—met destruction by wrecking ball or fire. The pictures of the second and third St. Paul Cathedrals are alone justification for purchase of this beautiful and informative volume.


Baby Boomers are producing a record number of nostalgic look-backs at their childhood. This is one of those—the story of a native of Ambridge (Beaver County) who describes life as the steel mills were shutting down. He is one of the millions who fled the industrial North in the “Burgh Diaspora”—after fulfilling their parents’ dream of a college education—leaving behind the blue-collar industrial heritage of southwestern Pennsylvania that has all but disappeared. His story includes the details of his Catholic upbringing. He nostalgically captures the spirit that has made this area great.


This is the first of four projected volumes of the new history of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, intended to replace the 2-volume History of the Archdiocese of St. Louis by Msgr. John Rothensteiner that was published in 1928. The author is professor of Church history at the archdiocese’s Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. Of interest to Western Pennsylvania readers are the many connections: the French military and missionary travels through the Ohio River Valley to the Missouri, the 1786 pedestrian journey of the fiery priest Fr. Pierre de la Valinière to Pittsburgh and on to Missouri, Bishop William Du Bourg’s stay in Pittsburgh in 1817 before traveling on to the mid-West, and the 1841 arrival of St. Louis Coadjutor Bishop Peter Kenrick whose travel companion was Father (later Bishop) Michael O’Connor.

The book’s informal easy-to-read style will appeal to many.

Release of this book in a presidential election year was truly appropriate since this was the biography of the first woman to serve as Special Assistant to the President of the United States. Margaret “Midge” Costanza (1932–2010) was an Italian Catholic from Rochester (New York) who became an activist and power player in Washington, D.C. – at the epicenter of the early culture wars. The book is bluntly candid about her politics and life. Of particular interest is the detailed account of her intervention to save St. Boniface Church on Pittsburgh’s North Side.


This book tells the story of the premier seminary in the Deep South – Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans – the rector of which is Pittsburgh native Rev. James Wehner. The volume is well organized and thoroughly written by a New Orleans diocesan priest who obtained his doctorate in church history from Catholic University of America in 2009. Father Wehner encouraged him to write this history for the seminary’s 50th anniversary. This is the latest in a series of quality Catholic histories that Father Raphael has written.


The author is the original participant in what has become known as the “Duquesne Weekend” retreat by faculty and students of Duquesne University that marked the beginning of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement in 1967. The author’s “witness” includes a history. This is the “Golden Jubilee Edition” of a work that first appeared more than twenty years ago.


The communications director of the diocese of Pittsburgh/general manager of the Pittsburgh Catholic newspaper and the past editor of the Pittsburgh Catholic have collaborated to produce a biography of Donald Cardinal Wuerl, eleventh bishop of Pittsburgh and now archbishop of Washington, D.C. This volume provides an insightful look into the workings of the Vatican, the Conference of Catholic Bishops, the formative influence of Wuerl’s mentor (John Cardinal Wright), and the reciprocal influence of Wuerl on a host of younger prelates who are natives of the see of Pittsburgh. The “hot issues” that Wuerl and the American Church have faced are candidly and succinctly addressed.


This volume by a former student at the Pontifical North American College and the Gregorian University in Rome captures the life of an American seminarian in the Eternal City in the late 1950s. While the author studied for the diocese of Sioux Falls (South Dakota), Pittsburgh seminarians from that period figure in his presentation. The author became a professor of Classics and a specialist in Greek philosophy.


This work by an Italian journalist has attracted universal attention as an exposé of problems afflicting the Vatican and its finances despite Pope Francis’s efforts to institute financial controls and end corruption. Of particular interest to Western Pennsylvania’s is the included story of how Pope St. John Paul II involved Pittsburgh tycoon John Connelly (of Gateway Clipper fame) in the construction of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae* (Pope Francis’s residence) within the walls of the Vatican and the efforts of Pittsburgh Bishop (now Cardinal) Donald Wuerl to save the project after Connelly’s financial empire went bust. Pittsburgh architect Louis A. Astorino was the supervisory architect.


The Director of the Writing Program at the University of Pittsburgh authored a *QQ* article in 2009 that morphed into this book and an Academy Award winning film. This work is the riveting story of Nigerian-born Dr. Bennet Omalu who identified CTE (Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy) during an examination of the autopsy of former Pittsburgh Steeler Mike Webster at the Allegheny County Morgue in downtown Pittsburgh. The book’s many Pittsburghers – from Catholic sisters to Fr. Carmen D’Amico – are people that many readers will know.


More than 200,000 Catholics served in the American Civil War (1861-1865). This scholarly work addresses how Catholics used their patriotic participation in the war to challenge and change pre-existing religious and political nativist prejudice. Their effort showed that their religion was no barrier to being loyal American citizens. Pittsburgh Bishop Michael Dome- nec saved Pittsburgh churches from being burned by nativists by delivering an impassioned patriotic sermon (which was subsequently printed in an enhanced version in the diocesan newspaper), by having a patriotic report read from all church pulpits, and by flying the flag from churches and St. Michael’s Seminary. The bishop also played a diplomatic role in the effort to maintain Spain’s neutrality during the war. Civil war buffs will find this work highly engaging.


Dominican Fr. Thomas Doyle has been at the epicenter of the American scandal involving clerical sexual abuse since 1984. This is his story, told from the inside. Once rebuffed by bishops who disregarded his advice as to the scope and potential costs of such abusive conduct, he is now a member of the Pontifical Commission reporting directly to Pope Francis. The roles of former Pittsburgh bishops Wuerl and Bevilacqua (and Boston’s Cardinal Law who took up residence at St. Vincent Archabbey), as outlined in this work, are now part of this history.


This is the story of Carpatho-Rusyns, their historic homeland in Central Europe, and their massive emigration to the United States – with Western Pennsylvania as a major destination. Of particular interest is the treatment of the Greek Catholic Church in Europe and the United States, and the role of Pittsburgh in this group’s history. The author is professor of history and Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto.


Pope Leo XIII established *Sant’Anselmo* in Rome in 1888 for the training of Benedictines from all over the world. Since then, the institution has had a lasting impact on Benedictine monasteries throughout the world through its pursuit of academic, liturgical, and theological studies. Two-thirds of all Benedictine abbots have studied here. The author was a professor of ecclesiastical history at *Sant’Anselmo* for many years, before becoming an abbot in Germany. Drawing upon institutional archives, he presents a focused history – and in the process presents, in context, such Western Pennsyl- vania figures as Archabbot Boniface Wimmer and Denis Stittmatter of St. Vincent’s in Latrobe, and Archbishop Rembert Weakland (successively archabbot of St. Vincent’s, Abbot Primate of the Benedictines, and arch- bishop of Milwaukee). The scholarly text is enhanced with many photog- raphs.


This is the story of Father Bill Cunningham (1930-1997) and others drawn to “Focus: Hope,” a non-profit civil and human rights organization. Cunningham was a long-haired cowboy boots-wearing activist who rode a Harley-Davidson. But the work is the larger story of how the archdiocese of Detroit, headed by former Pittsburgh bishop John Dearden, responded to
the 1967 race riots that transformed the Motor City. The transformation of “Iron John” is evident as the story in this volume unfolds. The author, a former newspaper reporter and editor, was a student in Father Cunningham's English Literature class.

Rose Gordy, The Green That Never Died: A Memoir of Convent Life of the 50's and 60's (Pittsburgh: Rosewords Books, 2015), softcover, illus., 436 pp. This autobiography presents the life of a Pittsburgher who entered the Sisters of Mercy of Pittsburgh at age 18, became a teacher (at Epiphany Catholic School, in the 60's and 70's). She was a former newspaper reporter and editor, was a student in Father Cunningham's English Literature class. Her story is presented through narrative text, letters, some seventy poems, and photographs. She is the author of five other books.

Dennis R. Marsili, Little Chicago: The History of Organized Crime in New Kensington, Pennsylvania (Indiana, PA: Dennis R. Marsili, 2015), softcover, table of contents, endnotes, bibliography, illus., 198 pp. This is the story of two brothers from the Mannerino family in New Kensington (Westmoreland County) who became power brokers in one of the most notorious operations in American criminal history – la Cosa Nostra, popularly referred to as the Mafia. Their influence not only covered a large swath of U.S. territory, but extended to Cuba. The author addresses their purported involvement in the assassination of JFK. This work includes the history of Mt. Saint Peter parish in New Kensington, the fascinating story of the financing and construction of its historic church and parish complex, and the relationship between its pastor Msgr. Nicola Fusco and the Mannerino family. The author is a retired police detective, whose wife was a long-time teacher at Mt. Saint Peter School.

Saint Norbert Church: 100 Years 1914-2014 (Pittsburgh: Saint Norbert Church, 2015), softcover, illus., appendix, n.p. This is a delightful, succinctly written, but heavily illustrated history of St. Norbert Parish in the Overbrook section of Pittsburgh. Its massively impressive church has long dominated traffic at the intersection of Routes 51 and 88. Anthony and Stanley Pyzdrowski were the architects of the modified English structure, replete with a tower with battlemented parapet and massive buttresses. The parish school closed in 1992 and was subsequently demolished. On September 1, 2016, the parish was merged with the Cartrick parishes of St. Wendelin and St. Basil and St. Albert the Great in Baldwin to form Holy Apostles parish.

All Saints Church: Ons, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic – Dedicated December 19, 1915 (Pittsburgh: All Saints Parish, 2015), softcover, 72 pp. This is the centennial history of the magnificent brick and stone church designed by famed Catholic architect John Theodore Comès for All Saints parish in Etna (Allegheny County). The detailed explanation of the symbolism of all facets of the church interior and exterior is supplemented by a listing of the priests who have served the parish since its establishment as an independent parish in 1902. The church has survived water inundations, and has been beautifully restored. The color and black-and-white photos provide the necessary visual to the church's story. The church was included in a fall 2015 inaugural tour of Comès churches by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.

John A. Cavallone, The Genealogy Quest: Tearing Down Brick Walls (North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace, 2015), softcover, table of contents, appendices, illus., bibliography, 200 pp. Genealogical research can be confusing, time-consuming, and frustrating – but passion, determination, and an inquiring Sherlock Holmes-type mind can lead to the successful identification of a family's history. This is the story of such a quest, which begins in County Down (Ireland) and involves our local cities of Braddock and Pittsburgh, as well as Chicago. The book is more than the story of one extended family; it informs the reader as to techniques and the integration of Internet information with documentary records. This volume highlights the supportive role played by the Pittsburgh diocesan Archives in locating sacramental records.

Rev. Xavier Donald MacLeod and Julia Morgan Harding (Luis F. Escalante, ed.), Rev. Gallitzin and His Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary: Preceded by a Biographical Sketch of the Rev. Dometrios A. Gallitzin, Priest, Prince, and Pioneer Missionary of the Alleghenies (CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 2015), softcover, table of contents, 68 pp. This is the fourth volume of a collection edited by the Roman Postulator of the Beatification Cause for Fr. Demetrius Gallitzin (1770-1840), issued for the purpose of making available early historical documents pertaining to this missionary priest.

Ralph Cindrich, NFL Brawler: A Player-Turned-Agent’s Forty Years in the Bloody Trenches of the National Football League (Lyons Press, 2015), table of contents, index, illus., 280 pp. This is a raucous first-person account of the NFL by the first player-turned-agent, Ralph Cindrich, who is a native of Avella in Washington County. A star linebacker at the University of Pittsburgh, Cindrich went on to play professionally for New England, Houston, and Denver. As an attorney, he became a tenacious negotiator. His memoir takes readers behind the scenes of deals, trades, and the real action of the sport. Catholicism is infused in this work, beginning with the importance of faith to the Rooney family and the author’s future wife. This book scores a touchdown!

Father Pitt, Father Pitt’s Pittsburgh Cemeteries: The Art and Architecture of Death (Pittsburgh: Serif Press, 2014), softcover, table of contents, 86 pp. This narrative and pictorial tour of “necropolital” Pittsburgh provides a unique look at sculptures, stained glass, monuments, and mausoleums by the nation’s top architects – all in Pittsburgh cemeteries. The commentary is fascinating, as are the photographs. Pittsburgh’s Catholic cemeteries are included.

Ann Kessler, O.S.B., and Neville Ann Kelly, Benedictine Men and Women of Courage: Roots and History, rev. ed. (Seattle: Lean Scholar Press, 2014), table of contents, notes, bibliography, index, 518 pp. This survey of Benedictine monasticism covers the rich history of that order. Included is an examination of the Benedictine roots in North America, beginning with Boniface Wimmer and continuing through the foundations that emanated from St. Vincent Archabbot in Latrobe. The work ends with a consideration of 21st century issues affecting Benedictine monasticism. The principal author is a Benedictine nun with a Ph.D. in history from Notre Dame University.

Christina Boyle, An American Cardinal: The Biography of Cardinal Timothy Dolan (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2014), table of contents, bibliography, index, 304 pp. This enticing biography of the cardinal-archbishop of New York, Timothy Dolan, presents the human side of a gregarious mid-Westerner who served successively as auxiliary bishop of St. Louis and archbishop of Milwaukee before becoming head of the New York archdiocese. For readers from Western Pennsylvania, this work includes a number of individuals from this area who figured in Dolan’s life: Msgr. William Ogrodowski as a vice-rector of the Pontifical North American College in Rome during Dolan’s rectorship, the Benedictine Rembert Weakland (Dolan’s predecessor in Milwaukee who resigned in the midst of a scandal), and Cardinals Sean O’Malley and Donald Wuerl. Cardinal Dolan, who holds a doctorate in American Catholic history, is portrayed as a savvy diplomat, tenacious fighter, and true pastor.

Alice Camille and Paul Boudreau, Fearless: Stories of the American Saints (Cincinnati: Franciscan Media, 2014), softcover, table of contents, bibliography, 192 pp. The lives of twelve saints who helped build the Catholic Church in the United States are presented in this volume. Included are three former Pittsburghers: St. John Neumann, St. Katharine Drexel, and Blessed Francis Seelos. The human side of these individuals is emphasized.

Patricia Daly-Lipe, Patriot Priest: The Story of Monsignor William A. Hemmick, The Vatican’s First American Canon (Rock Hill, SC: Strategic Media Books, 2013), softcover, table of contents, bibliography, notes, 270 pp. This is the biography of the author's great-uncle, Msgr. William Hemmick (1886-1971). Born in Pittsburgh, he was raised in Europe and was proclaimed “The Patriot Priest of Picardy” for his actions in World War I. He became successively the first American canon of two Roman basilicas – St. Mary Major and St. Peter’s. Hemmick was also a representative of the Knights of Malta to the Holy See. He converted the future Queen Astrid of Belgium, and officiated at the Roman marriage of Hollywood actor Tyrone Power and starlet Linda Christian.

Albert M. Tannler, Pittsburgh Architecture in the Twentieth Century: Notable Modern Buildings and Their Architects (Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh History & Land-
The Sisters of St. Basil the Great were founded in the 4th century. Scrupulous research underpins and prosaic wording enhances this visually attractive color presentation of notable 20th century architectural gems in the city. Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, St. Agnes, St. James, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian, and St. Mary of Mercy churches are included. An epilogue addresses 21st century architecture in Pittsburgh.


The first work is the autobiographical story of Joe Bullick, a long-time member of St. Alphonsus parish in Wexford, whose childhood was that of a foster child in Pittsburgh during the Great Depression. His single Catholic mother, unable to care for him, placed him in foster care. The power of love shines through in this story. The second work by Bullick is a collection of anecdotes, reflections and stories used by the now deceased pastor of St Alphonsus parish, Rev. William Schroeder (d. 1998). The author is a local historian, founder and former curator of the North Allegheny Museum.

John McHugh, *Far from Ballinascreen: The Story of 18th and 19th Century Emigration from South Derry to Loretto (Cambia County) and the Development of Loretto, and Other New Settlements in Western Pennsylvania* (Draperstown, N. Ireland: Ballinascreen Historical Society, 2012), softcover, table of contents, illus., 150 pp.

Catholics in Ireland underwent displacement from their ancestral lands as the English Protestant “plantation” took hold. Periodic revolts and a series of famines added to the misery of tenant farmers, leading to an exodus to America. This work chronicles that exodus from Derry in northwestern Ireland to new Catholic settlements and farming land at Loretto and lesser-known communities in Cambria County. This work is told from the perspective of the departing Irish and is a welcome addition to the early history of Catholic Western Pennsylvania.


In 1963, a shy Belgian Dominican nun took the No. 1 slot on the hit parade of the day with her song “Dominique” which established her international reputation and inspired young women to enter religious life. The “Singing Nun” subsequently departed the convent for a life of depression, drugs, alcohol, financial problems, and medical issues. But she also became involved in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement, which had started at Duquesne University in 1967. In June 1976, the now-Jeanneke Deckers spoke to and sang for a gathering of 50,000 at the Charismatic Renewal meeting at Duquesne. She produced songs for the movement. Her story ended with her committing suicide with friend Annie Pêcher. Her sad death was indeed regrettable.


The Sisters of St. Basil were founded in the 4th century by St. Basil and his sister, Saint Macrina. The order entered the U.S. in 1911, settling in Philadelphia (Fox Chase Manor Motherhouse) to serve Ukrainian immigrants. This is the story of the first century of the Basilian Sisters in the United States. The order has been of critical importance to the growth of the Eastern Rite churches in the country. The order maintains a college in eastern Pennsylvania and has worked in Western Pennsylvania parishes and at a hi-rise housing project for the elderly in Pittsburgh. This province is separate from the Basilian Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Province who maintain a motherhouse at Mount St. Macrina near Uniontown (Fayette County) and serve Rutenian Byzantine Catholics in North America.


Robert Drinan (1920-2007) was a famed Jesuit priest, attorney, Dean of the Boston College School of Law, and anti-war activist who was elected in 1970 to serve in the U.S. Congress where he would remain for 10 years. This biography is a fascinating, indeed compelling, story. Of particular note is its inclusion of the story of the conflict between then-Father Donald Wuerl (secretary to former Pittsburgh bishop John Cardinal Wright, then Prefect of the Congregation of the Clergy in Rome) and *Commemoration* contributor Peter Steinfelds over the role of priests in politics and Drinan's position on abortion – occasioned by a pointed article by Wuerl in the English-language edition of L'Osservatore Romano in 1972. That analysis, like this book, is nuanced.


Journalist Penny Lernoux began this history, but died in 1989, having written only five chapters. NCR editor Arthur Jones and Orbis Books editor Robert Ellsberg completed the work. The Maryknoll missionary Sisters were founded in 1921 and served in Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the United States. The history includes two Pittsburgh natives – famed writer Sister Marta del Rey Danforth and former president Sister Janice McLaughlin. This printing has been updated to mark the centenary of the order's founding.


This publication combines the little known history of a present-day college that began when Sisters of Mercy from Pittsburgh opened a small school in a tinsmith's shop in Loretto (Cambia County) in 1848. A new academy, named Saint Aloysius Academy (in honor of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, patron of youth), opened in 1853. In 1897 the then-motherhouse and academy moved to Cresson because of its proximity to the Pennsylvania Railroad. Mount Aloysius became a junior college in 1939, and a four-year college in 1991. This tour of the campus building integrates the history of the Sisters of Mercy and those (like steel tycoon Charles Schwab) who contributed to the school's development. The author was the then-Vice President for Mission Integration at the college. She also authored two companion publications for the Administration Building's stained glass windows and historical artifacts.


The first volume traces the history of Italians in Erie, starting with the arrival of the city's first Italian immigrant in 1864. By 1891, St. Paul's (Italian) parish was established. Text and photographs illustrate life in “Little Italy” on Erie's West Side – from its dominant Italian church and Italian-language newspaper to Italian operetta at the opera house and the city's first Italian-American mayor, Louis Tullio. The second volume explores Pittsburg's Bloomfield section which has experienced waves of immigrants: the Winebiddle Plantation lands were solidly German for 100 years, with some Irish arriving after the Great Famine, and then Italians in the late 1800s and continuing into the 1960s. This volume reflects the two major ethnic groups (Italian and German) and their major parishes (Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph). Many of the original buildings are long gone, but this book preserves the historic memories. The author is executive director of the Bloomfield Preservation and Heritage Society.

Marjorie Jean Burke, *Tales From an Orphanage* (AuthorHouse, 2009), softcover, table of contents, illus., 173 pp.
St. Paul's Orphanage in Pittsburgh in the 1920s and 1930s. It is one of the very few publications that memorialize life there. The three adults have recalled their stories for the author. The three bounced back and forth between orphanage and foster homes after the death of their mother and the desertion of their father. The sadness in this story reflects the challenging times in the United States during the Depression years, particularly for orphans.


Coleman Carroll was Pittsburgh's first auxiliary bishop, who became the first bishop of Miami in 1958 and its first archbishop in 1980. These two works examine his role in the massive Latin American influx of political refugees and other immigrants to southern Florida and their later spread to other parts of the U.S. The first work consists of twelve essays that focus on the integration of Cuban, Haitian, Mexican and other immigrants into Catholic and American cultural life in Miami-Dade County – of which Carroll's support was key. The second work is an incisive study of the Church's role in preserving Catholicism in the Cuban immigrant community in its early decades, and Carroll's critical role in convincing President Eisenhower to designate Cubans as political refugees and provide federal funding.

*Albert F. Pishonieri, Me, Mom and World War II* (Bloomington, IN: Author House, 2008), softcover, table of contents, appendices, illus., 528 pp.

This is the autobiography of an Italian-American native of Hillsville (Lawrence County), Pennsylvania. As an air cadet during World War II, he attended St. Vincent College, and then departed for action in the European Theater. Surviving dozens of combat missions, he was discharged after the end of the war, and returned to live in Ellwood City. He re-enrolled at St. Vincent College, obtained his history degree, and embarked on a career as a teacher in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This veteran history teacher of 37+ years weaves an intriguing story by chronicling historic events and personal experiences in between the actual letters he wrote home to his mother, which she preserved. His story is that of many other Western Pennsylvania Catholics: a son of immigrants, a large family, steel town atmosphere, loss of father, the Great Depression, and the call to war – all of which combined to bring out one's inner strength and faith.


This is a history of the American Catholic economic debates, in the pre-Vatican II era, over the relative dangers and merits of Marxism, capitalism, socialism, labor unions, class-consciousness, and economic power. Bishops, theologians, activist priests, union workers, and farm laborers were caught up in the debate and actions that led to enormous social change. The author (an associate professor of Religious Studies at Rockhurst University in Kansas City) candidly presents the Communist attacks on Pittsburgh's Fr. Charles Owen Rice, then chaplain of the Association of Catholic Trade Unions, who was engaged in disrupting “Communist-led” unions.


This volume, produced by an area historical society, covers the history of several Catholic parishes in the Tarentum/Brackenridge area of northeastern Allegheny County: St. Peter (Irish and Italian), Sacred Heart (German), St. Clement (Slovak), SS. Peter and Paul (Byzantine), Holy Family, Sacred Heart-St. Peter (a 1969 merger), and Holy Martyrs (the 1992 merger of Sacred Heart-St. Peter and St. Clement). The book contains over 700 photographs covering 125 years (1880-2005) of Catholic history in Tarentum. The author previously wrote the history, *Corpus Christi Carpets: Holy Martyrs Parish*.


Peter Henry Lemke (1796-1882) was a German-born Lutheran minister who converted to Catholicism and was ordained a priest in 1826. Immigrating to Philadelphia in 1834, he was assigned to assist Fr. Demetrius Gallitzin at Loretto. He laid out Carrolltown in Cambria County and succeeded Gallitzin as pastor upon the latter's death in 1840. He was instrumental in bringing Boniface Wimmer and the Benedictines to Western Pennsylvania. Lemke joined that order, and went as a missionary to Kansas, ultimately returning to Carrolltown. This text was discovered in the archives of St. Boniface Abbey in Munich after World War II. In translation, these memoirs provide a contemporary perspective on the development of Catholicism up through the end of the 19th century. The translation with its accompanying notes is well done.


This is the story of an Erie native who grew up in that city's large Polish neighborhood and later experienced the challenges of debilitating Parkinson's Disease, which left her virtually penniless. The author's early life in Catholic elementary and high schools is covered. This inspiring story will prove useful to those suffering from this disease, and their caregivers.


Between World War I and the Great Depression, Columbia University and the National Education Association fought to establish a federal department of education and a national system of education – an effort fiercely resisted by Catholics who feared the end of the parochial school system. Masons and the KKK supported the federal plans and compulsory public schooling. The National Catholic Welfare Conference engaged in intense political lobbying to counter these efforts. The role of Pittsburgh Bishop Hugh C. Boyle, a former superintendent of Pittsburgh diocesan schools, is included in this volume.


This work by a Passionist priest is an encyclopedic examination of the Catholic Church's involvement in social issues from the late 19th to the end of the 20th century through the prism of the life and writings of legendary Msgr. George Higgins (1916-2002), who was a professor at Catholic University of America and a syndicated columnist. This volume presents the critically important role of Western Pennsylvanians in the development of the labor movement: Fr. Stephen Ward of Johnstown, Fr. Adelbert Kazin-cy of Braddock, Fr. George Barry O'Toole of St. Vincent's College, Msgr. Charles Owen Rice, and William Sylvis's effort to create the first national trade union.


This is the history of a religious order of women formed to minister to the needs of Catholic Lithuanians. The sisters recently sold their Motherhouse in Whitehall (Allegheny County), due to declining numbers. This volume will, therefore, stand as the definitive record of their ministries in their first eight decades.

*James S. Broadbent, Right-Of-Way Man: Clearing the Path for Our Nation's Highways* (Pittsburgh: SterlingHouse Publisher, 1999), softcover, 192 pp.

Acquisition of property for an interstate highway requires a negotiator for the purchases in an effort to avoid acquisition by eminent domain. In the case of Pittsburgh's North Side, the construction of I-279 displaced thousands of residents. The author of this work was that point man. He puts a human face on the stories of the acquisition. The process led to the closure of St. Mary Church and the years-long controversy affecting St. Boniface Church. The East Street Valley community was, like the two churches, solidly ethnic German.


The Allegheny Mountains seemed an almost insurmountable barrier to early settlers. The Cresson area's “pike” afforded one of the first links be-
tween Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. When the Pennsylvania Railroad established an office here, the area boomed. This volume illustrates the famed Horseshoe Curve, the Gallitzin Tunnels (named for the famed missionary prince-priest), numerous Catholic churches and institutions (including Mt. Aloysius Academy, St. Francis Xavier Church and school, St. John’s Orphanage, Basílica de St. Michael the Archangel, Gallitzin Chapel House, St. Francis College, Carmelite Monastery, Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Mount Assisi Monastery, St. Brigid Church, and St. Aloysius Church — both old and new) and nearby Loretto (founded by Father Gallitzin, Apostle of the Alleghenies). The author — a Sister of Mercy who also authored books on Altoona, Dallas, and Northern Cambria County — died in May 2016.

William Lombardo, The Mother Church: The History of St. Elizabeth Church, St. Anthony de Padua, Our Lady of Fatima Church (Diocese of Erie, 1997), softcover, illus., 140 pp.

This is the history of the several churches that have served the Italian Catholic population of the adjacent cities of Farrell and Sharon in Mercer County in the diocese of Erie. Population changes led to the ultimate consolidation of the several churches to form Our Lady of Fatima. The latest parish reorganization is bringing further changes to the structure of Catholic life in the Shenango Valley area.


This is the most comprehensive account of the architecture of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County ever published. Detailed text, over 1,600 historic and current photographs, maps, and a select bibliography of architecture, architects, and designers enrich this contribution to the area’s history. Included are dozens of Catholic churches and institutions. As a number of the buildings are now gone, their existence and architectural significance are preserved in this massive work.


This is the biography of Msgr. Geno Baroni (1930-1984), born of Italian immigrant parents in Acosta, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Ordained a priest of the diocese of Altoona-Johnstown in 1956, he later moved to Washington, D.C. to undertake ministry to inner city blacks. He became director of the Office of Urban Affairs of the Archdiocese of Washington (1965-1967) and director of the Urban Taskforce of the U.S. Catholic Conference (1967-1970). Baroni was Catholic Cardinal Martin Luther King’s March on Washington. His vision of Catholic social teaching led him to push social legislation in the 1970s. During the Carter administration, he held the no. 3 position at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This book is the fascinating story of a priest who was an exceptional advocate for urban neighborhoods and cultural pluralism, but died prematurely at age 54 of cancer. He was also the first president of the National Italian American Foundation.


This neighborhood history devotes considerable attention to the churches in this neighborhood in the southern part of the city of Pittsburgh, of which St. George’s is the most prominent from both an historical and architectural standpoint. This volume provides contextual background on the German parishes (St. Michael and St. Peter on the South Side) that gave birth to St. George’s. The history of St. George elementary and high schools draws in several other parishes as a series of successive mergers occurred in light of declining enrollment and Catholic population. St. George’s, in its later incarnation as St. John Vianney, was closed in 2016.


After World War I, several religious communities were asked to serve in Puerto Rico. This included the Capuchins from St. Augustine Monastery in Pittsburgh, who were to replace Spanish Franciscans on the island. In 1930, the Capuchin Minister Provincial invited the Sisters of St. Francis of Millvale (Allegheny County) to staff the Colégio San Antonio in Rio Piedras. The sisters began classes in Spanish immediately so that they could teach doctrine. In August 1931, five sisters sailed for Puerto Rico. In this volume, the order’s long-time archivist presents, in chronological fashion, a detailed story of the first 50 years of their ministry to children, adults, and lepers. It is a fascinating and inspiring history.


This festschrift contains more than two-dozen contributions by academicians and others in honor of the premier American Catholic historian of the 20th century — Msgr. John Tracy Ellis (1905-1992) — on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Ellis was the long-time professor of ecclesiastical history at Catholic University of America and the University of San Francisco, secretary of the American Catholic Historical Association, and editor of the Catholic Historical Review. The massive volume notes the contribution of Pittsburgh to Catholic history: the role of Sister of Mercy Elizabeth Carroll in the post-Conciliar Church, the diocese’s role in the ethnic separatist movement within the American Church in the late 19th century, Belgian Cardinal Mercier’s visit to the city in 1919, and its role in the preservation of religious manuscripts through microfilming in the latter half of the 20th century.


This is the 50th anniversary history of the first diocesan high school, for boys, in Pittsburgh. The vision of founder Bishop Hugh C. Boyle was to enable young men to receive a Christian humanist education and to produce Catholic professional leaders. The work is profusely illustrated.


This slim volume provides insight into the ministry of Benedictine monks of the Byzantine Rite.


The prolific author of histories of religious orders has here focused on the Sisters of Mercy and their pioneering work in Western Pennsylvania — covering both Pittsburgh (as the order’s first establishment in the New World) and Cresson (the convent in Cambria County that became a separate Motherhouse). This work is an excellent source of early Catholic Americaniana.


This is the fascinating story of the development of Catholicism in Cambria County, with the second largest Catholic population in Western Pennsylvania in the 19th century. Arriving shortly after the establishment of the diocese of Pittsburgh, Boniface Wimmer and his monks transformed religious life in the diocese. This rare volume details the story of the Benedictines, the parishes they staffed, and the people that they served and continue to serve in Western Pennsylvania.

ARTICLES