



ST. XAVIER MONTHLY CALENDAR

CINCINNATI, SEPTEMBER

BICENTENNIAL RETROSPECTIVE EDITION – ISSUE No. 9

Before the St. Xavier Church website, Facebook page and email blasts – even before the weekly bulletin – there was the ST. XAVIER MONTHLY CALENDAR. The first issue, dated October 1888, announced:

THIS CALENDAR is published to keep the people informed on matters of Church and School. It is entirely gratuitous; and should not under any consideration be sold. We shall endeavor to put it into the hands of our parishioners on the last Sunday of each month, in order to remind them of the feasts and fasts, the advantages and obligations and other important features of the incoming month.

For eight decades, the CALENDAR, did just that. But like the St. Xavier parish community it served, it also evolved. The articles, written both in-house as well as sourced from local, national and international publications, humor, and advertisements, reflect the prevailing issues, sentiments, fashions and technologies of the day, providing a window through which to view that community as well as a mirror through which to see reflections of our current community.

As a way of sharing these “views”, each month during our bicentennial year, St. Xavier will publish selections culled from the 952 published issues – We hope that you will enjoy these Retrospective Issues.

Calendar Notes

It is unnecessary to speak of the necessity of an education. In this age and this country, it is impossible to make much headway without a fair education. If attention to education is necessary, attention to the character of the education is more necessary...

[September 1899]

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Parents of our parish have no excuse for sending their children to the public schools. Our new school is the peer of any in the West. All the labor and expense entailed were not incurred through mere whim or idle fad. Bishops, priests and all good Catholics fully realize that the parochial school is a necessity, and careless, indifferent Catholics are not safe in opposing their inexperienced judgements to the counsels of the wise, and sad experience of their spiritual guides.

[September 1902 and 1919]

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The Mass of The Holy Ghost will be offered up on Monday, September 18th, at 8 o'clock, to beg the blessing of God on our schools, the children and their studies. All the college students

and pupils of our parochial schools will be present.

[September 1922]

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The Opening of Our School

Our new parochial school will open on Tuesday, September 2. The school will *be free* to all the children of the parish, and textbooks will be supplied gratis to all those children who are unable to pay.

In order to meet the current expenses of the school, a society will be established, the members of which will contribute monthly according to their means. This society will take an active interest in the school work, and with their co-operation, the pastors expect to have not only the finest free school building, but also the finest classes in the city.

The society now in process of organization will be called the St. XAVIER SCHOOL Association. During the year a Mass will be said weekly for the society.

The pastors hope for at least eight hundred members paying twenty-five cents a month...

[September 1902]

Advertising in the Calendar

Does it pay to advertise in The CALENDAR? In answer to that question, we beg you to look over our advertisements. Our advertisers, you will then see, represent some of the best firms in the city. They are keen business men, and we believe that they all maintain a high standard of commercial honor. The CALENDAR circulates not only in St. Xavier's Parish but also among many of the leading Catholic families of the city. It is not, like a daily paper, read and then cast away, but it is kept for constant daily reference.

It is not within the province of the Editor of The CALENDAR to keep track of the actual result produced by its advertising; yet he happens to know of two firms who have gained from it in

GET READY FOR
School Shoes
SPECIAL for September and October.
All Solid Leather Shoes
for GIRLS and BOYS.
worth \$2.00, at **\$1.25**
FANGER & RAMPE
337 to 343 East Pearl, near Broadway.

[September 1911]

in the past ten months, purchases amounting to several thousand dollars. The Calendar is supported by its advertisers; we request and expect our readers to patronize them.

[September 1908]

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The Infant Peril

We have all heard of the yellow peril. The yellowness thereof has so paled that we do not mind it any longer. But another peril has arisen nearer home, which we trust the parents in our parish will endeavor to avert. It is the *infant* peril.

This peril is threatening our confessors in the church, and those penitents who needs must go to confession after dark. There are plenty of hard working men and women who are busy during the day. They come to confession on Saturday night. But they are now being crowded out by infants of seven, eight and nine years.

On Saturday afternoon, the confessors have plenty of leisure for the simple reason that few come to confession. Where are the children? The confessors get the answer to this question after supper, when, on returning to the church, they find the sacred edifice crowded. The crowd is so big because any number of children *who ought to be in bed* are mingled with the adult penitents.

Let parents see to it that their little boys and girls go to confession when possible, in the afternoon. This will be good for the confessors who will have their work more evenly distributed, it will be good for the children who will be kept off the streets at night, and it will be good for the grown folks who will get more attention from their respective confessors.

Let the child peril cease; let the topsey turvey order be set right. Should this abuse continue unchecked, many adults will be driven away from the confessional.

[September 1911]

Mrs. Anna Siess

"I have loved, O, Lord, the beauty of Thy House..." What a fitting epitaph for Mrs. Anna Siess, a widely-known member of St. Xavier Parish, who, "fell asleep in the Lord" on Wednesday, August 21.

Mrs. Siess was a devout member of St. Xavier's...a former prefect and often an officer of the Married Ladies' Sodality, and vitally interested in all its activities, but the one which she particularly loved was, the work of the Sanctuary Guild, a group which gathers one day each week to care for all the articles used in the sanctuary. The making of beautiful linens and vestments is only one phase of the work, another greater, is the number of vestments to be mended not to mention the surplices and cassocks of healthy, thoughtless acolytes. But it was not a mere one day a week service that Mrs. Siess gave. The frequent visitor to her home would ever find her fingers busily engaged in fashioning some dainty article for use in the sanctuary. And, in this lovely activity, she rounded out fifty years of service...

Mrs. Siess exemplified in her life how ideally the virtues of Martha and Mary can be blended...She did not wait to give of her time and her gifts...she gave graciously of her services to the parish school. Father Finn had an enrollment of 1,300 children, many worries, many expenses and very little financial help. With the aid of half a dozen girls, Mrs. Siess took charge of the cafeteria and by her splendid planning and management saved untold expense for the struggling school.

Later, with a group of the Young Ladies' Sodality, for many years she managed the tea-room at the Wednesday evening socials and never since her resignation, has the tea-room achieved the same high praise for tasteful hospitality.

During the war, Mrs. Siess devoted eight hours daily to the Thrift Stamp Campaign, in which St. Xavier led the schools in the state of Ohio...

To these many activities Mrs. Siess brought a sunny-heartedness, a deep sympathy and a contagious enthusiasm which endeared her to all her associates. She had a "flair" for management which amounted to genius. Coldly practical in planning for parish affairs, her attention to detail would enable Xavier to give delighted patrons a more than generous service. The fame of her Thanksgiving Suppers, her Easter Monday Luncheons, and the excellence of the many dinners served our various societies spread far and wide and, in Cincinnati at least, her success have never been equaled.

Mrs. Siess has ... left a niche in our hearts, a place ...which will be hard to fill. St. Xavier's is sad at the loss of a noble soul.

Unique were the services St. Xavier paid to Mrs. Siess when she was brought for the final blessing in the church she loved and served so well. A Solemn High Mass was intoned at the main altar and four low Masses were read at the adjoining altars...the linens used on the altars, the albs, surplices, etc., used by the celebrants, ...were especially chosen, as they were the work of Mrs. Siess' hands..."Well done, thou good and faithful servant, ...enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

[September 1935]

C. SIESS,
Grocery and Daily Market,
 Best Brands of Flour. Elgin Creamery
 Butter, Lard and Cheese a Specialty.
503 BROADWAY. Near Fifth.

[September 1905]

"Don't expect opportunity to come to you with a letter of introduction.

[September 1916]

The Artistic Glass Painting Co.

.....Manufacturers of Fine.....
 CHURCH WINDOWS,
 Sycamore and Franklin Sts.

[September 1898]