

CHAPTER – 6

Churches Our Ancestors Attended in Daviess County

St. Peters Catholic Church Montgomery Indiana



St. Peters Church in the 1950's

Left is a picture of how St. Peter's Church appeared in the 1950's during a wedding. As you can tell the old Communion Rails are still there so it is pre Vatican Two. Nearly all the Kavanaughs attended this church at one time or another. My Great Grandparents Timothy and Margaret "Nolan" Kavanaugh attended this church and later helped to start the church at All Saints in Cannelburg as it was closer to their home. Timothy's Funeral was held in this church in 1893. Many of my ancestors attended this church from the Kavanaugh, O'Connor and Hart Families.

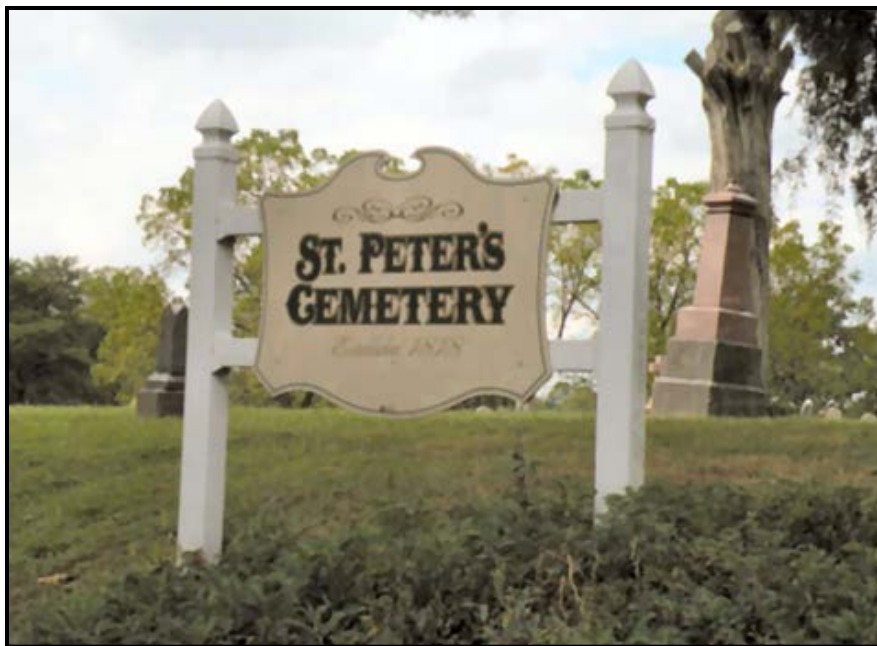
Timothy & Margaret donated a stain glass window (Last Stain Glass Window on the South side) in St. Peter's Church. The value of that window today is 50 to 250 thousand if you can get one. As children we attended St. Peters School and attended Daily Mass there at St. Peters. This church was a central part of our lives. My wife and I (Louis Jr. & Liz "Michaels" Kavanaugh) were married there along with many of our children

and other family members. My Mom's (Catherine Kavanaugh) Funeral Mass was held in this church in 2007. As you can see this church has been a big part of our lives and still is today as several descendants of the Kavanaughs, O'Connors and Harts are members here. We also take pride in the fact that Notre Dame University was to be started here but because of sickness and other factors the Holy Cross Brothers moved to South Bend Indiana after the Bishop there gave them land to build the University.

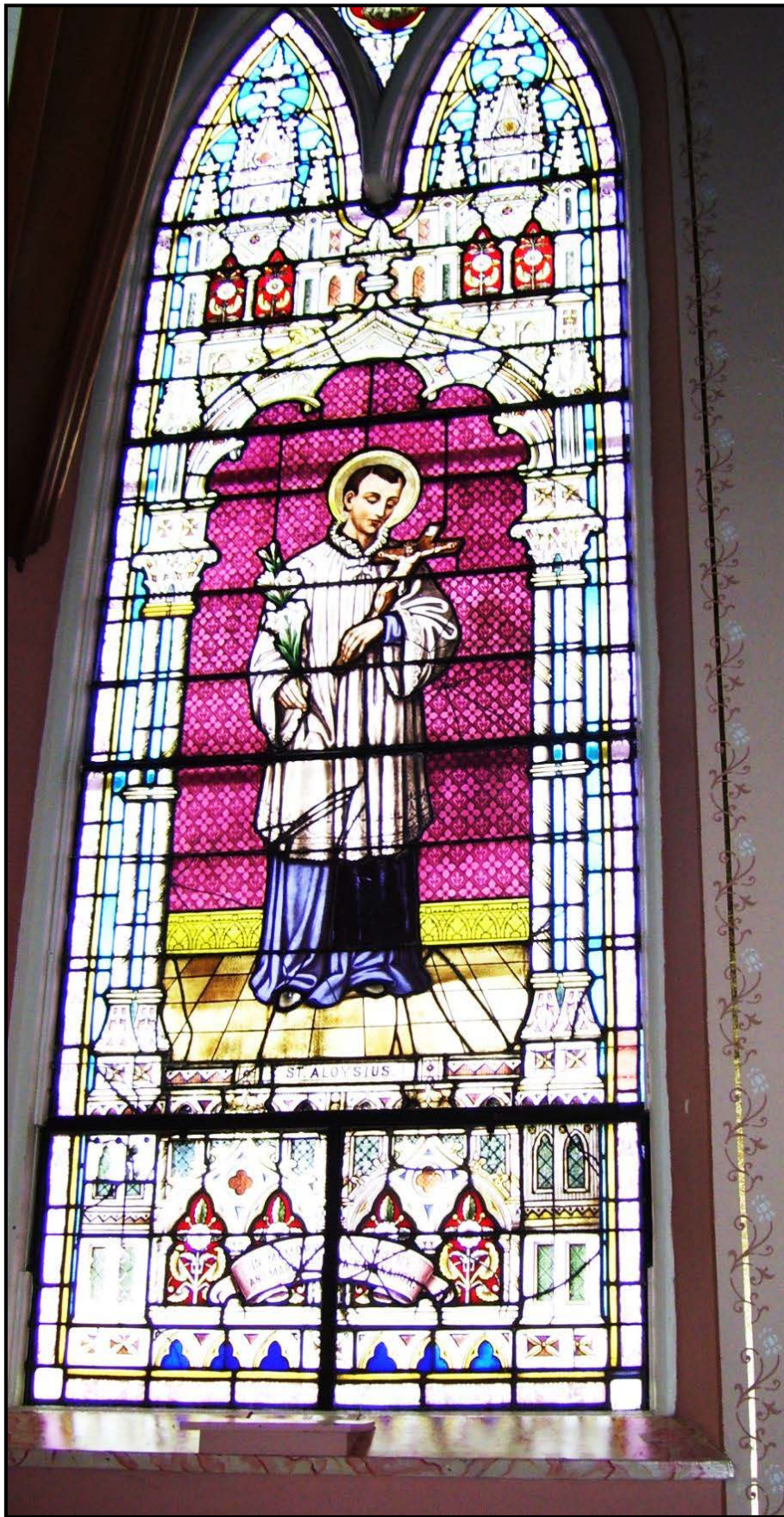
St. Peters Church on Christmas Eve Service in 2012



Left is a picture of St. Peter's Church as it appears now. Many of the descendants of the Kavanaughs, O'Connors and Hart Families are members of this church today. In 2018 this Church will celebrate its 200th Anniversary and the Kavanaughs, O'Connors and the Harts have been a part of that for a good part of that time. Many individuals who once went to St. Patrick's, St. Michael's and All Saints now attend St. Peter's as all of those parishes have now joined in together. St. Michael's has been torn down and St. Patrick's has been turned over to the Corning Irish Heritage Center but All Saints still has services on Tuesday evening and is open for Funerals & Weddings.



Above: Sign for St. Peter's Cemetery near the entrance on the south side.



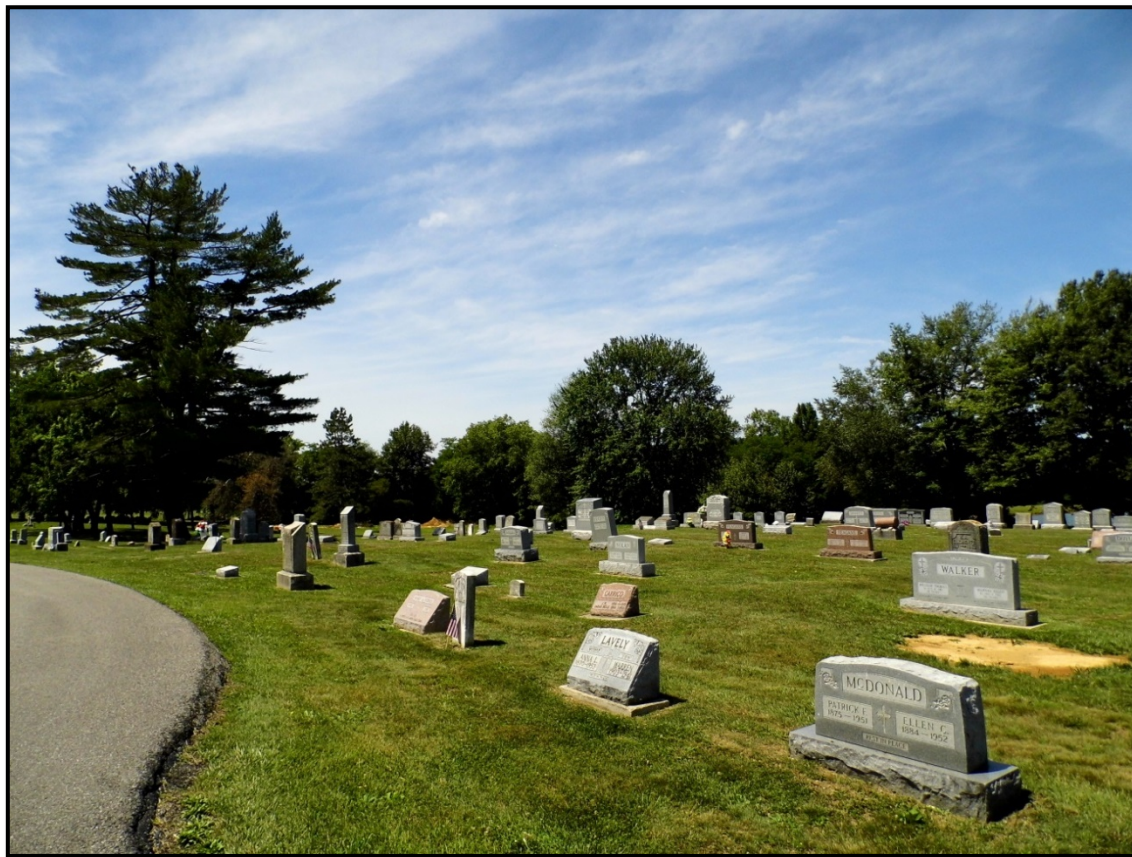
Left: window in St. Peter's Church was donated by Timothy and Margaret Kavanaugh, Great Grandparents of Louis Kavanaugh Jr. They were members of St. Peter's Church but later help to start All Saints in Cannelburg because it was closer to their home. Today the cost of this window would be between 50 Thousand to 250 Thousand if you can get the material. Windows were imported from overseas years after the church was built. This window is on the left side of the church, the very last window on the south side of the church.



Above: You can see the inscription on the window along the south side of St. Peter's Church donated by the Kavanaugh family which reads, "In Memory of Timothy and Margaret A. Kavanaugh"



Left: St. Peter's Cemetery, Plaza. This is the Plaza at St. Peter's Cemetery located on the north portion of the cemetery. St. Peter's Cemetery has the largest number of buried ancestors. This is more than any of the other cemeteries in the area. Buried here are Parents, Grandparents, Great Grandparents on the Kavanaugh, O'Connor and on Hart sides. This Plaza was built around the year 2000. My Parents Louis Sr. & Catherine Kavanaugh are buried just to left in this picture. Below is a picture of the west section where my Grandparents John & Mary Lucy O'Connor are buried.



*St. Patrick's Church & St. Patrick's Cemetery
Corning, Indiana*

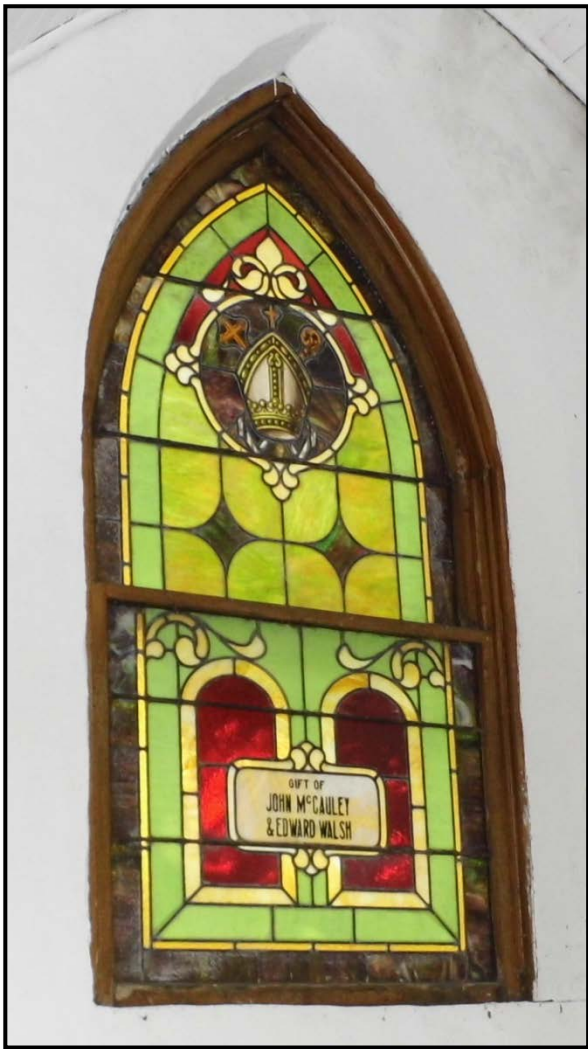


Left is how St. Patrick's Church looked from the outside when the Catherine "McCauley" Kavanaugh and the McCauleys and the Walshs attended Church back in the early 1900's. Mom use to tell me how she use to walk from her home on the Corning Road south and go to Daily Mass and then go on to school which was just a short distance from the church property. The Corning one room school house was just south of the church near where Dan and Donna Hedrick now live.

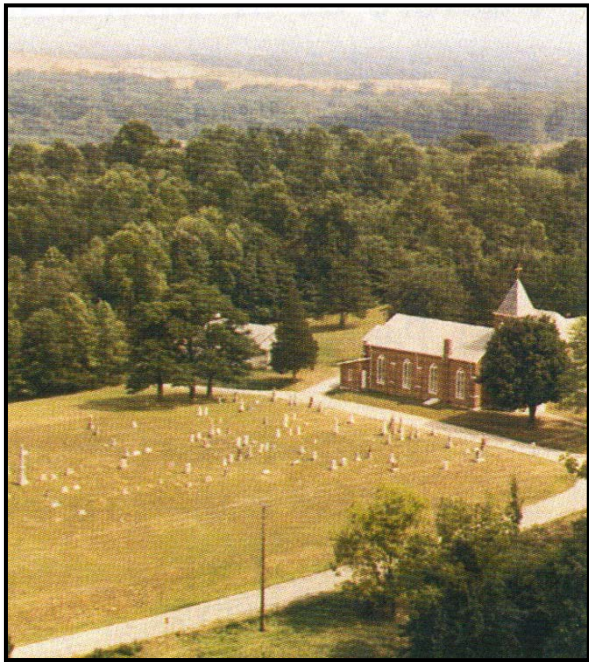
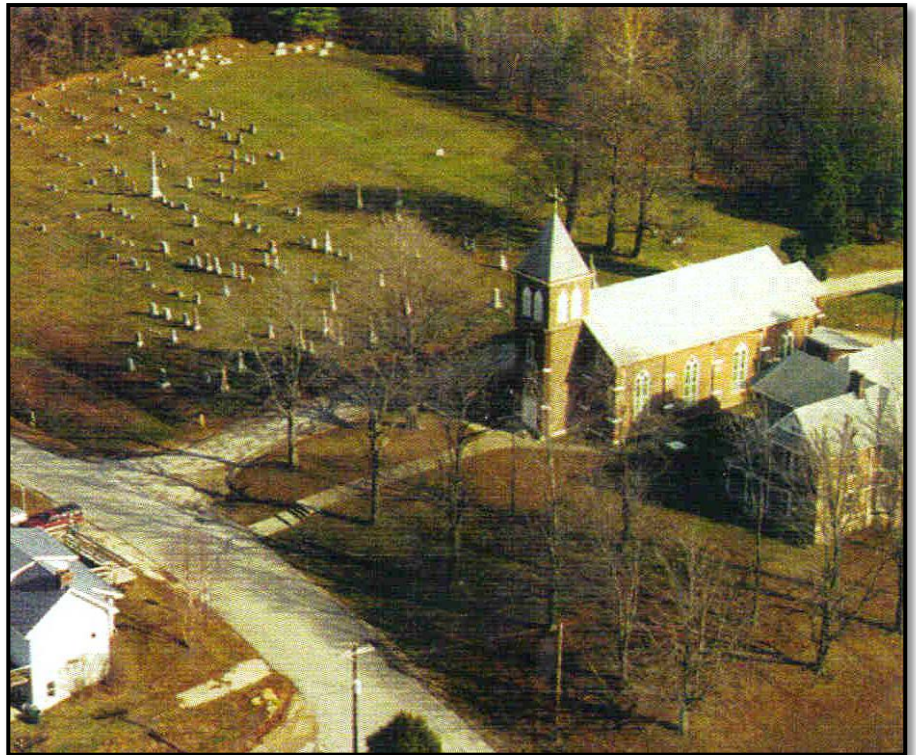


Left: St. Patrick's Catholic Church as it looked in July 2012: This is how the church looked on the inside as it had some very beautiful altars and statues in the Church. When my mother (Catherine "McCauley" Kavanaugh) attended this church she served as a sacristan and sang in the choir. Mom and Dad were married in this church on July 4, 1936. Their reception was only the 2nd wedding reception held in St. Patrick's Hall. The Hall is gone now as it was torn down a few years ago. Catherine "Mc-

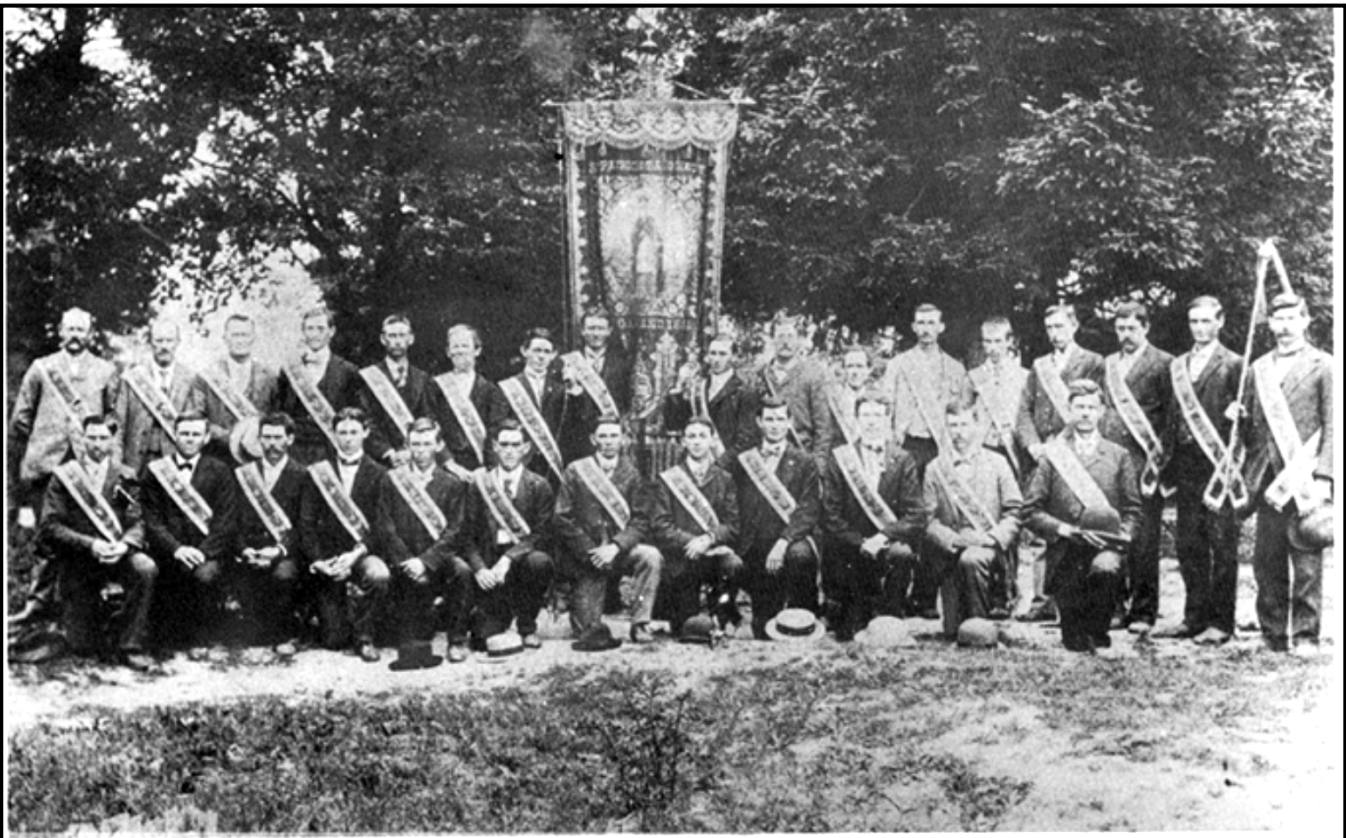
Cauley" Kavanaugh's parents along with Aunts and Uncles from the McCauleys and the Walsh Families attended this church as well. Mom's sisters (Dorothy & Jim Mahan, Helen & Alvin Doyle) were also married in this church along with her parents. The funerals for her parents along with other family members took place here. You will note the Red Votive Light on the wall on the right side in the sanctuary was donated by Catherine Kavanaugh in Memory of her Parents John & Bridget McCauley. This was done in the 70's when Father Erbacher was the Pastor at All Saints and St. Patrick's. The church is closed now and most everything in the church is gone. Some items went to St. Peter's in Montgomery while the pews went to individuals and other churches. The Priest's House has been turned over to the Corning Irish Heritage Center and the Church building will also be turned over to them as soon as the paperwork is completed.



Left: Stain Glass window at St. Patrick's Church, Donated by John & Bridget McCauley and Edward Walsh. Mom had always told me about his window and said if anything happens to that church to see if that window can be preserved. Presently that window is still in the upper left of the back of the church near the choir loft. Even though the church is closed the beautiful windows remain in the church. Mom had high praise for her Dad and Mom to donate this window as they were not blessed with excess funds to do something like this. She was proud of what they did for St. Patrick's Church.



Above and left are aerial pictures of St. Patrick's Church grounds and St. Patrick's Cemetery. John & Bridget McCauley and three of their children along with many of the Walsh Family are buried in this Cemetery.



In 1881, Father G.N. Ginnisz, then pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Corning, founded the St. Patrick's Total Abstinence Society. Members pictured were, front row from left: Pat Murphy, Frank Clements, Andrew Smith, Leo Smith, Pat Colvin, Fred Clements, Pat M. Colvin, Leo Colvin, Pat Bennett, Frank Smith, Sylvester Smith and Jim Pettigrew. Back row

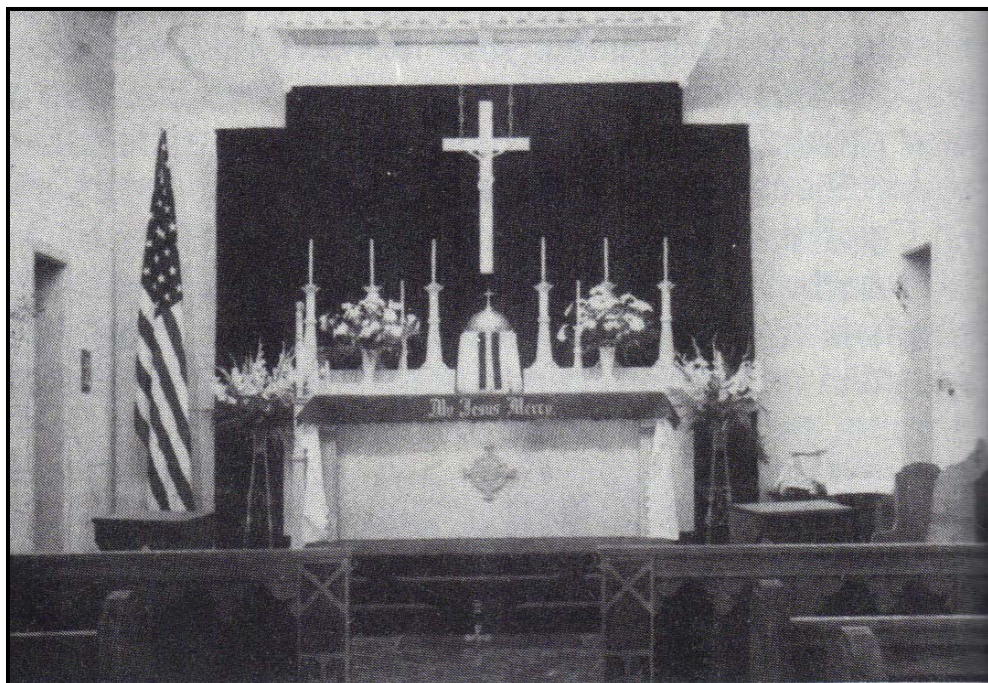
from left: Pat Landeragan, Simon Landeragan, Tom Lamb, Pat Kane, John McCauley, John Colvin, Austin B. Smith, Bert Hughes, Jim Murphy, Pete Reynolds, John D. Toy, Martin Doyle, Tom Whitesides, Ed Hughes, Bud Carrico, Jim Kane and Tom Gallagher.

Above: St. Patrick's Catholic Society: I came across this picture during my research and found it interesting. If you will note that in the back row, 5th from the left is John McCauley (My Grandfather). The Irish like to have a good time and sometimes may have partied too hearty and that is why some churches established Abstinence groups. Hopefully it cut down on the use of alcohol. Some organizations were called Hibernians and I think that is what that eventually was called. You will note a lot of names that are familiar to the St. Patrick's Area.

Below: Pictures of All Saints Catholic Church where the Kavanaughs worshiped for many years. This included the families of John & Mary Lucy, Lawrence & Agnes, Pat & Julie, Louis Sr. & Catherine. Several Stained Glass Windows in this church were donates by the Kavanaughs.



Inside View Before the Fire - 1953



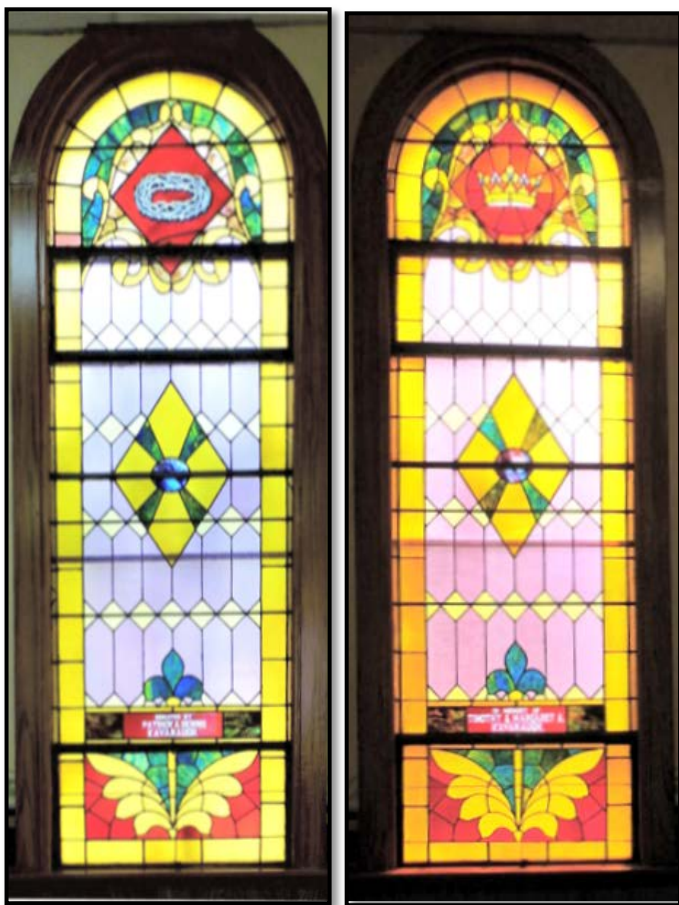
Renovated Church following the fire of 1953

Louie & Catherine Kavanaugh eight sons served Mass as Altar Boys at All Saints and the Girls sang in the Church Choir. The Church was the center of the Kavanaugh's lives as they not only attended Mass on the Sunday but thru the week as much as possible. Many of us will remember going to Mass at 6:30AM in the morning during Lent or attending Communion Service at 5:30 or 6PM whichever worked out with the farm and school schedule. Our Dad Louis Sr. was baptized in this church and so were all 10 of the Children. Three of the children had their weddings in this church, Kay & Dave Andres, Charlotte & Jerry Lewinski and Mark & Clara Kavanaugh.

This church suffered a major fire in October of 1953 which left the church in need of a major renovation before the congregation was able to get back into the building in 1954. During this time the pews were removed and stored in newly constructed barn on the Louis & Catherine Kavanaugh Farm.



Left: All Saints Church as it appears today. There are no services held on the weekends anymore but Mass is held each Tuesday Evening and on special days when the Pastor's schedules permits. Funerals and Weddings are also held here. The Funeral for Louis Kavanaugh Sr. was held in this church in March of 1990 and funerals for many of the Kavanaughs were also held in this church. The Viewing for Catherine Kavanaugh was held here but the Funeral was moved to St. Peter's Church in Montgomery because of the large crowd expected for the funeral.



Left: Stain Glass Windows in All Saints Church: Pictured are two stain glass windows in All Saints Catholic Church in Cannelburg that were donated by the Kavanaugh Families.

The window on the left was donated by Patrick Kavanaugh (son of Mark & Anna "Kelly" Kavanaugh) & Dennis Kavanaugh, (son of Mark & Mary "Dowling" Kavanaugh). The window on the right was donated by Father Timothy Kavanaugh and his sister Margaret Kavanaugh in Memory of their Parents who were also named Timothy and Margaret "Nolan" Kavanaugh.

You might note that the Kavanaugh family of Patrick and Dennis later changed their last name to Cavanaugh with a "C" instead of Kavanaugh. This is further proof that this side of the family changed their name from K to C and not the other way around. It is told to me that Mark's Family changed their name from Kavanaugh to Cavanaugh because of confusion with bank accounts. Mark Kavanaugh & Timothy Kavanaugh Sr. were brothers as both came to the United States from Ireland in the early 1800's.