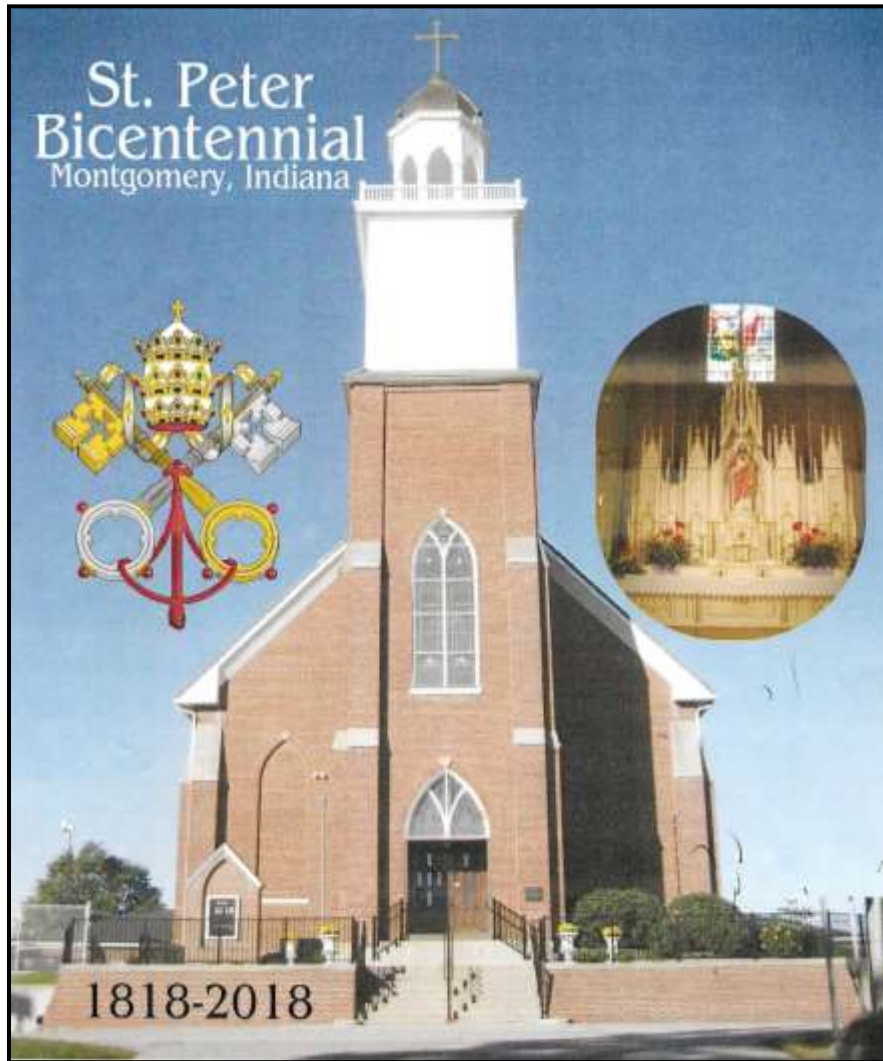


## CHAPTER – 7

### *Churches The Michaels/Matthews Family Attended*

#### **St. Peter Catholic Church Montgomery, Indiana**



#### **The Front of St. Peter's Church as it Looks Today**

It is the second oldest Catholic Church in Indiana. It was established in 1818 and the Church celebrated its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June of 2018. When you approach the town of Montgomery on Highway 50 from the west or the east you can see the Golden Dome just like the one at Notre Dame. In fact, this historic church was to be the site of the University, but the Bishop back then decided not to let them build a University and the Holy Cross Brothers picked up and left in the early 1800s and moved to South Bend, where they established the University there. This picture was on the cover of the Anniversary Book when the church celebrated its 200th Anniversary in June of 2018.



**Inside St. Peter's Church as it looks today.** There are many descendants of the Michaels Family still attending this church today. Elizabeth "Michaels" Kavanaugh and her Husband and two of her sons and their families presently attend this church. The rest of Liz's Sons and Daughter were Baptized here and two of the sons were married in this church.



**The Main Altars for St. Peter's Church as it appears now.**

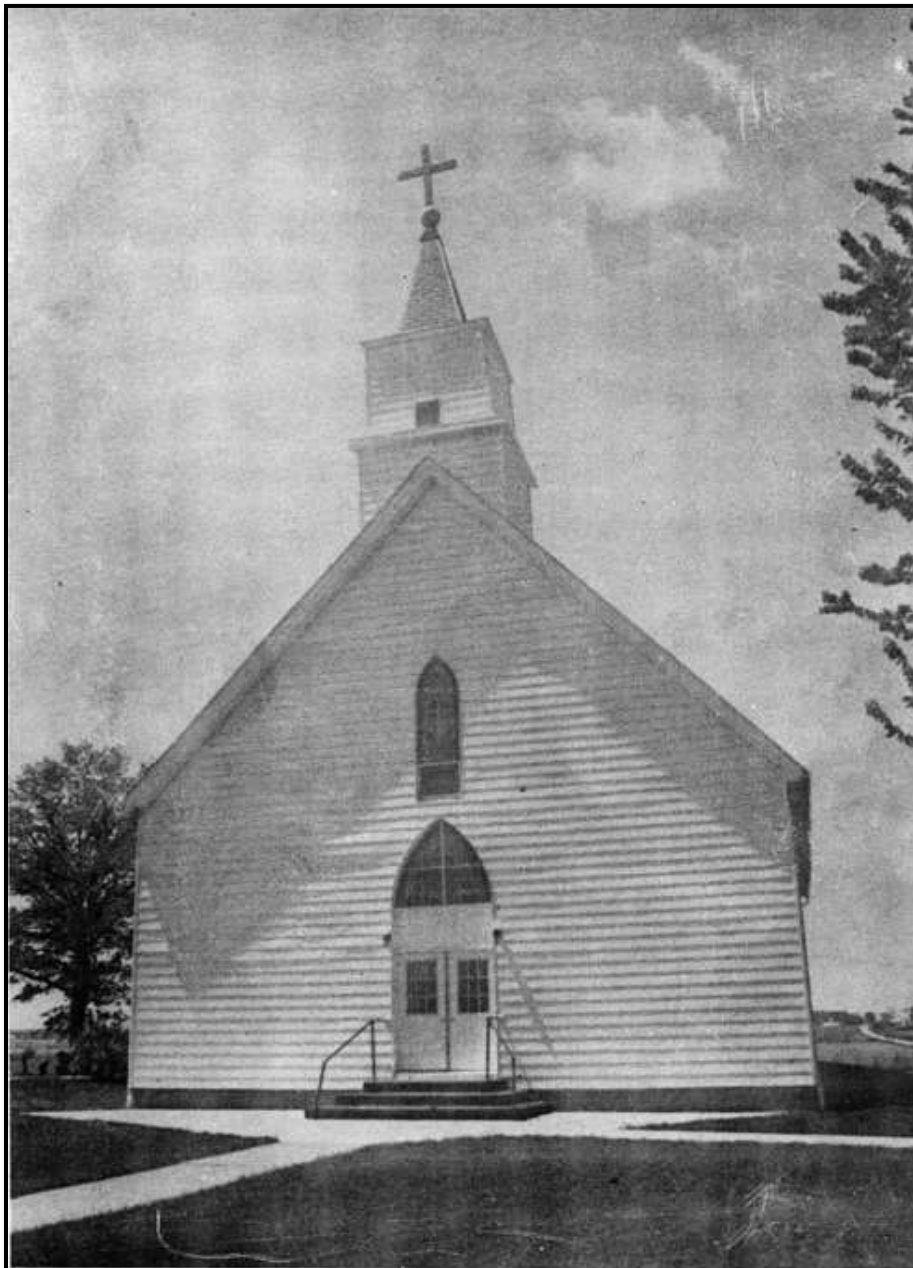


**Picture of Inside of St. Peters Church in 1955:** This picture was taken from the Choir loft of St. Peters on the day of Jim & Fran Michaels' Wedding on April 23 of 1955. This is one of the many special events that took place in this Church for the Michaels Family. Jim and Frances Michaels were married for 62 years before Frances passed away in 2017 and Jim passed away in 2019. This was a special place to the many Michaels family descendants that attended this church.

**Saint Peters Church, Montgomery, Indiana  
Picture Taken Day of Wedding in June of 1956**



**This picture was taken on June 1956:** This picture was taken from the Choir loft of St. Peters on the day of a Wedding in June of 1956. Many Michaels family members grew up going to this church. Mary Jo “Michaels” married Gene Gaetano here on Oct. 28, 1961 and her sister Elizabeth “Michaels” married Louis Kavanaugh Jr. here on July 23, 1966. Many special events of the Michaels Family were held here as Gus and Josephine celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversaries here in this church. It was also here in this church where the funerals for Gus and Josephine took place. As you can see, there were many special occasions such as Baptisms, First Communions and Confirmations that took place in this Historic church and it had a special place in the heart of Michaels Family.



**1888-1988 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30

OCTOBER 1 & 2

This Church was attended by many members of the Michaels and the Matthews Families. Not only did they frequently worship in this church, there were also many Baptisms, Weddings and anniversaries celebrated in this church for the Michaels/Matthews Family. It was a special place for the family and was the center of their lives.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH IN 1988

**View of St. Michael's Church looking Northwest from the southeast.** This small country church had a priest's house at one time along with a dining hall in the basement of the church along with a cemetery on the north side of the church. The Michaels and the Matthews attended this church for many years before the older generation passed away and the younger generation moved closer to Montgomery and attended St. Peters Church. The Church was closed in the 1990's and was torn down not long after that. The memories linger on for many who remember what the church meant to each family.