

## THE LANDY'S

# "From generation to generation"

by Irene Hickey

On the 21st day of September 1892, two young people stood before the altar at Sacred Heart Church and were joined in marriage by the Rev. P. Casimir Lutfring, O.F.M., Cap.

These two people were James Landy and Delia Head - the marriage was performed in the presence of their best man, Edward Enright, and maid-of-honor, Mary Head - their families and friends joined with them to witness the sacrament of matrimony.

As they pronounced their vows, little did they know what the future would hold for them - only that their faith and love would see them have a good marriage.

In the next 15 years, there would be 10 children born to them; 8 boys and 2 girls. As the children were born, each was brought to Sacred Heart and baptized in the faith. As the children grew they participated in all church activities - all the boys served as altar boys at Sacred Heart and at the mission church of St. Anthony's at Nepera Park; they also became active in Holy Name, ushers and served on various building committees.

As the children grew older, they began to seek their own ways in life. The two girls, Mary Irene and Florence, would

become Agnesian sisters - Mary Irene would take the name Sr. Odelia and Florence would become Sr. Gilberta. Both were professed at Fond-du-lac, WI. Sr. Gilberta, the only surviving child, is stationed there today. Francis Emmet Landy became an embalmer and undertaker and worked for various funeral homes throughout the city. He was often seen in his black panel wagon which was known as the "black maria". John Berchmans Landy found his place in life at Boyce Thompson Institute where for many years he worked as a botanist, growing and cultivating plants. Joseph Stephen Landy and Henry Sylvester died in early childhood. Richard Edgar was ordained a priest of the Dominican Order in Washington, D.C., on June 13, 1935. He became known as Fr. Regis Landy and celebrated his first solemn Mass at Sacred Heart on June 15th, 1935. With the exception of Fr. Edgar, all were buried from Sacred Heart. Fr. Edgar died during the blizzard of '47 and his funeral Mass was at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in New York City.

James Landy, Jr., married Mary Lonergan and they became the parents of three children; Clare, James G. and Joan - Clare and Joan were

married at Sacred Heart.

Matthew Aloysius married Mary Murphy and they too became the parents of three, John B., Eileen and Matthew A., Jr.

Gilbert Martin Landy married Eileen Halpin at Sacred Heart Church on March 31, 1951 - their marriage was blessed with four children, Gilbert M., Brian R., James J. and Deanne E. All four Landy children were baptized and received the sacraments at Sacred Heart, all went to Sacred Heart School and all graduated from there. James J., his mother and sister still live in Sacred Heart Parish.

Gilbert Landy, Sr. was well known for his rapport with the young people of the city. He was known for his fairness and understanding, but always with a firm hand. His untimely death in 1974 was felt by many - Yonkers had lost one of its finer sons.

If bricks and walls and sidewalks could speak, what stories they could tell - stories of generations - generations of families who were born, raised and died, all in the shadow of the Monastery Church of the Sacred Heart. Let us hope that the Landy generation will always be with Sacred Heart, and so too, other generations of families who have their "roots" here.



Sr. Odelia (Irene) & Sr. Gilberta (Florence)