

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

4233

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

Type of Material Article ; picture, page 2.
 Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard
 General Scope of Information Given: Archbishop Gives Downtown Chapel New Pastor.

INDEX UNDER

1954

Volume (Year)

Date June 10

Page 1

Column 5

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Father Schmitz has asked to be relieved of the Downtown Chapel because of health reasons. During the summer he will be director of Camp Howard of Oregon. He will be in residence there for the time being.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Howard has appointed Rev. Merlin D. Hamsmith as pastor of the Chapel to succeed Father Schmitz.

The St. Vincent de Paul parish was canonically erected ~~on~~ August 5, 1943, with the Rev. Jerome M. Schmitz as the first pastor. The Downtown Chapel, located at S. W. Fifth Avenue and Burnside Street, Portland, was opened for worship and formally dedicated by Archbishop Howard on July 18, 1943, the vigil of the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul.

By the spring of 1944 it was found necessary to enlarge the chapel. In April, 1954, the present building and property were purchased by the parish and additional improvements were

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

made. In the summer of 1948 the entire building was remodeled as at present constituted with facilities for the Portland Seamen Center in the basement, and the entire main floor being adapted for use as a chapel, accommodating 325 persons. The second floor was remodeled to allow living quarters for three priests and a housekeeper, and for the parish hall to accommodate 200 persons.

Present attendance at the chapel is computed to average 400 daily, with an approximate attendance of 1100 persons at the five Sunday Masses.

Besides the pastor, Father Schmitz, Father Pius Aleska and Father John Cumisky, OSB, are in residence. Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta who has been assistant at the chapel since June, 1952, was recently assigned to Our Lady of the Mountain parish in Ashland, as temporary administrator. Mr. Fred Grass has been sexton since 1946; Joseph Wieck, housekeeper, since 1949; Miss Estelle Callahan, secretary, since 1944.

The Downtown Chapel has been free of indebtedness for the past three years and a reserve of \$30,000 has been accumulated towards the new church. The Downtown Chapel is also responsible for the \$20,000 St. Therese burse for the training of priests; \$9,000 has been collected to date for this fund. In 1953 \$5,000 was raised for the building of a chapel at Camp Howard of Oregon. In 1948 the Catholic ^{Portland} American Club was established in the basement quarters, and in the past year the name was changed to Portland Seamen's Center and became a participating member in the United Fund.

Prior to the establishment of the present parish (canonical), for over a quarter of a century the problem of a downtown chapel for the great number of Catholic men living close to the center of the city had been discussed. One or two desultory efforts had been made in the past, but the difficulties appeared too great for solution.

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

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IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it effected things or persons Catholic.

Type of Material _____
 Main Character or Place _____
 General Scope of Information Given: _____

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6/10/54

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Page 2 --- Downtown Chapel.

On September 3, 1935, this long and ardently cherished project was brought to a happy solution when Archbishop Howard blessed the St. Vincent de Paul Chapel at S. W. Third Avenue and Ankeny Street, contiguous to the Burnside district.

According to a report rendered on the third anniversary of the establishment of the reading room by the Reverend John E. Larkin in charge of both the reading room and the chapel, over 300,000 men had been benefited by these facilities during the preceding three years.

In February, 1939, the reading room and chapel were moved to another location at N. W. Fourth and Couch Street.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

- Downtown Chapel
- Catholic Maritime Club
- Portland Seaman's Center
- Father Jerome Schmitz
- Camp Howard
- Father Merlin Hamsmith
- Father Pius Aleska
- Father John Cummysky, OSB
- Benedictine Fathers
- Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta
- Ashland
- Father John Larkin

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Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

4044

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc. Locality of note.

Type of Material	Article
Main Character or Place	Archbishop Howard
General Scope of Information Given:	Archbishop Names
	Thirty Priests In Appointments.

INDEX UNDER	1951
Volume (Year)	August 23
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Column	

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Archbishop Howard has officially announced the following appointments, all of which are effective on next Thursday, August 30, 1951:

Pastors:

- The Reverend Theodore J. Bernards as pastor of St. John the Apostle parish, Oregon City.
- The Reverend Robert S. Neugebauer as pastor of Mary Star of the Sea parish, Astoria.
- The Reverend Carl Wachter as pastor of St. Monica's parish, Coos Bay.
- The Reverend Joseph E. Vanderbeck as pastor of St. Joseph's parish, Salem.
- The Reverend Louis A. Sander as pastor of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish, Verboort.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—repeat on separate forms.

- The Reverend Merlin G. Hamsmith as pastor of St. Anthony's parish, Portland.
- The Reverend Carl Mai as pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish, Cottage Grove.
- The Reverend John Greene as pastor of Our Lady of the Mountain parish, Ashland.
- The Reverend Pius B. Baur as pastor of St. Edward's parish, Lebanon.
- The Reverend Martin Doherty as pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish, Albany.
- The Reverend Martin Bohrofen as pastor of Sacred Heart parish, Gervais.
- The Reverend Paul Zeller as pastor of St. Patrick's parish, Canby.
- The Reverend Augustine A. Meyer as pastor of St. Henry's parish, Gresham.
- The Reverend Gerald Linahen as pastor of St. Anne's parish, Reedsport.
- The Reverend James Gallagher as pastor of newly-formed parish at Myrtle Creek.
- The Reverend Francis H. Hanley as pastor of St. Cyril's parish, Wilsonville.
- The Reverend Edward Hyatt as administrator of St. Michael's parish, Oakridge.

Continued
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IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

Type of Material _____

Main Character or Place _____

General Scope of Information Given: New Appointments, cont.

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Assistants:

The Reverend Robert C. Cieslinski, St. Cecelia's parish, Portland.

The Reverend Robert O'Hara, St. Lawrence parish, Portland.

The Reverend William McLeod, Immaculate Heart parish, Portland.

The Reverend Jeremiah Linehan, St. Andrew's parish, Portland.

The Reverend Aldo Orso-Manzonetta, the Downtown Chapel, Portland.

The Reverend Thomas Becker, St. Mary's parish, Eugene.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

The Reverend Franz Schubert, St. Boniface parish; Sublimity.

The Reverend James R. Miller, Mary Star of the Sea parish, Astoria.

Priests on the teaching staff of Central Catholic High School for Boys will be in residence at the places indicated, in Portland:

The Reverend Thomas R. Laughlin, St. Rose parish.

The Reverend William A. Dooley, St. Peter's parish.

The Reverend Francis Steinkellner, St. Francis parish.

The Reverend John Domin, St. Joseph's Home.

The Reverend James Carroll, Provincial House, Marylhurst.

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IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

Type of Material Article
Main Character or Place St. Cecelia's
General Scope of Information Given: New Administrator ---
Fr. Aldo Orso-Manzonetta.

1950

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Date Oct. 26

Page 2

Column 4

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Archbishop Howard has appointed Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta as administrator of St. Cecelia's parish, Portland, Oregon.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta

St. Cecelia, Portland

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PD 1889

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

Type of Material Article --- Pictures on pg. 4.

Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard

General Scope of Information Given: 6 Pastors, 13 Assistants Appointed.

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8

Column

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Archbishop Howard made the following appointments: (effective as of Sept. 6)

Rev. George Sniderhon, of Beaverton, as pastor of Newberg; Rev. Daniel J. Hurley of Newberg as pastor at Corvallis; Rev. Anthony Gerace, superintendent of St. Mary's Home For Boys, in Huber, pastor of St. Cecelia's parish in Beaverton; Rev. John Goodrich succeeds Fr. Gerace as superintendent of St. Mary's Home For Boys at Huber.

Additional appointments are: (as pastors) Rev. Cornelius J. Shea from McMinnville, named pastor of Forest Grove and attached missions.

Rev. Daniel K. O'Connell from Forest Grove is named pastor of McMinnville.

The following appointments are effective as of Sept. 8:

Assistant priests: Rev. Irvin Vandehey from St. Vincent's, Salem, to St Stephen's,

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Portland.

Rev. Lowell Blackburn to St. Vincent de Paul, Salem.

Rev. James Dillon from Downtown Chapel to the Madeleine, Portland.

Rev. Francis Steinkellner to the Downtown Chapel, Portland.

Rev. William McLeod from St. Stephen's parish to Holy Cross in Portland.

Rev. Maurice Grammond to St. Mary's Home, Huber.

Rev. James Carroll, on staff of Central Catholic High School, in residency at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Rev. James Mosley to All Saints, Portland.

Rev. Aldo Orso-Manzetta to St. Cecelia's parish, Portland.

Rev. John Domin to Astoria parish.

Rev. Edmund Bliven to St. John the Baptist, Milwaukie.

Rev. Earl Larsen temporarily in St. Rose, Portland.

Rev. H. L. Hermann is named assistant at St. Rose parish, Portland.

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

Type of Material Article and pictures

Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard

General Scope of Information Given: Ordination to Priesthood, Subdiaconate Saturday

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The Reverend Aldo C. Orso-Manzonetta was born on July 26, 1923 in Portland. He received his grade school education at St. Francis Academy, Portland, from 1929 to 1937. He was a student at Washington High School in Portland from 1937 to 1941. He studied philosophy and theology at St. Thomas seminary, Denver, Colorado, from 1945 to 1950.

Archbishop Howard will ordain him to the priesthood in the Cathedral in Portland June 3. His first public Mass will be in St. Philip Neri Church in Portland.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta
St. Philip Neri, Portland

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of note.

Type of Material Article and pictures
 Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard
 General Scope of Information Given: Ordinations to Priesthood, Subdiaconate Saturday

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

On Saturday, June 3, Archbishop Howard will confer the sacred order of the priesthood upon four deacons. He will raise two seminarians to subdeacons, Thomas Becker and Francis Schubert.

Two of the new priests to be ordained on Saturday for this Archdiocese, i.e., the Rev. Maurice H. Grammond and the Rev. Aldo C. Orso-Manzonetta. The third priest to be ordained will be the Rev. Robert Edward (Damasus) Payne, OSB, who is attached to the New Westminster Priory, New Westminster, B.C. The fourth will be the Rev. Adrien J. Ste. Marie, CSC.

Three new priests for the archdiocese will be ordained by the Archbishop on Saturday, Mar. 25, besides these and the two mentioned above, four more are to be added to the clergy of the Archdiocese in the immediate future.

The Reverend James Edward Mosley, who will be ordained in St. Paul, Minnesota, also on

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

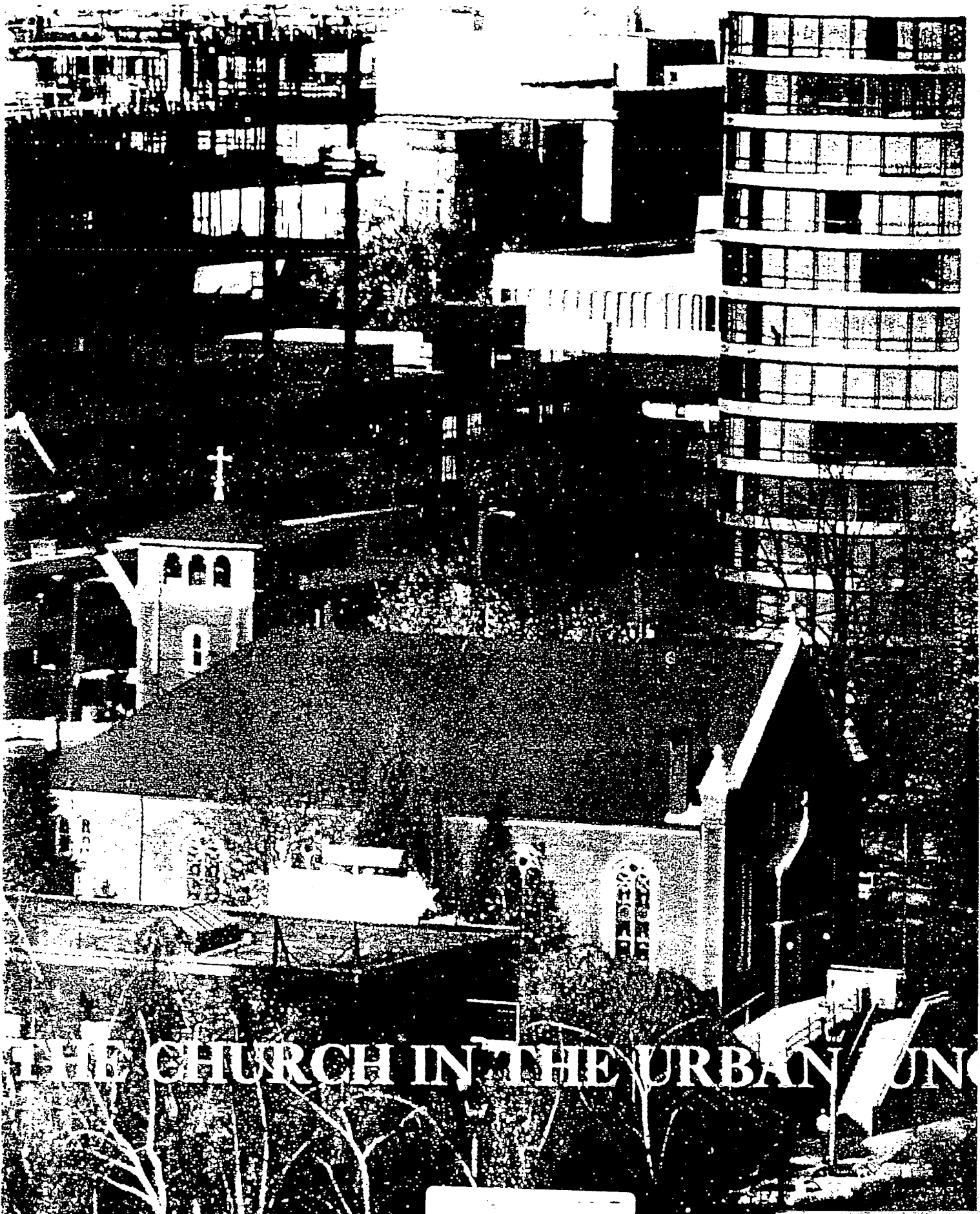
June 3, the Rev. Earl R. Larson and the Reverend Lowell Patrick Blackburn, both of whom were ordained in Dubuque, Iowa, on May 27, by Bishop Binz of Dubuque; also the Reverend James L. Carroll, who was ordained in Boston, Mass., on May 3, by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston.

The Reverend Lowell Patrick Blackburn was born in Cresco, Iowa, on October 7, 1924. He attended Assumption grade school from 1929 to 1938; then Assumption high school from 1938 to 1942, at Cresco, Iowa. Later he studied philosophy at Loras College, Dubuque, and theology at St. Mary's seminary, Baltimore, Maryland, and Conception seminary in Conception, Mo. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 27 at Dubuque, Iowa, by Bishop Binz.

Files:

- ~~xxxxxxx~~
- Father Thomas Becker
- Father Francis Schubert
- Father Maurice G. Grammond ✓
- Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta ✓
- Father Robert Edward Payne, OSB
- Benedictine Fathers
- Father Adrien J. Ste Marie, C.S.C.
- Holy Cross Fathers.
- Father James Mosley ✓
- Father Earl Larson ✓
- Father Lowell Blackburn ✓
- Father James L. Carroll ✓

CONFIDENTIAL



THE CHURCH IN THE URBAN JUNGLE

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*the oldest structures in the core
area . . . its
Lombardy-Romanesque facade
is an oasis in today's visual
chaos.*

By Lionel L. Fisher

HE IS a man buffeted by change. Each year the concrete canyons deepen around him, usurping more of the once-clear mountain vistas and even the light struggling through the stained glass windows of his church.

And the flock the parish tended for nearly a century has dispersed into the hills above Portland and beyond.

The Rev. Aldo C. Orso-Manzonetta sits in his tiny office behind the sacristy of the Church of St. Michael the Archangel and talks about the way things used to be:

"I'm not really against progress," the 57-year-old Roman Catholic priest says with a sad smile. "But profit seems to be the only motive anymore. People tend to be the victims of so-called progress, rather than its beneficiaries."

When Father Aldo, as he is widely known, took over as pastor of St. Michael's in the fall of 1959, private homes and apartment houses still filled the neighborhood of the church at Southwest Fourth Avenue and Mill Street. "That year, urban renewal was really just talk," he says. "The main idea was to provide housing for the low-income families of the area. That's what Portland Center (255 S.W. Harrison St.) was supposed to be all about. Well, the first to go were the low-income. And every year more people, especially the elderly on fixed incomes, continue to be turned out. If you call that progress . . ." He shakes his head.

"It's turning into a stone jungle. When I first came, the church would

stay open all day and half the night. Policemen on their rounds would stop in for visits. Now, on weekdays, we're open a total of two hours, from 11 in the morning until 1 or 1:30 p.m., except for holy days of obligation, when our regular noon Mass is supplemented by a morning and evening service."

One February morning in 1978, a man walked in off the street and kicked over the 5-foot wooden statue of St. Michael the Archangel. Its fall from the pedestal near the altar broke off the statue's wings and right hand, which brandishes a sword. The repair bill came to \$800. Carved lovingly in Bolzano, Italy, from a small plaster cast of the patron saint supplied by Father Aldo, the sacred image had cost the church \$575 in 1969.

Several years earlier, someone maliciously disposed of several beer bottles by heaving them at the church's exquisite stained glass windows, installed at the turn of the century. Three of the jewel-toned panels had to be restored, and heavy plexiglass protects the panes on the outside.

Designed by Joseph Jacobberger, the church was built in 1901 at a cost of \$14,000 in materials. The sum had been raised in small subscriptions. The labor was contributed by newly arrived immigrants from Italy. When the cornerstone was laid in November 1901, St. Michael's was designated by Rome as the "National Church for the Italian Colony of Portland."

Smack in the middle of what was then called both "Little Italy" and "Little Jerusalem," it was one of three national houses of worship established for the city's Italian-, German- and Polish-speaking citizenry. St. Stanislaus' and St. Joseph's were the Italian

church's counterparts for Portland's Poles and Germans respectively. Only St. Michael's survives.

It is among the most expensive small pieces of real estate in Portland because of its prime location. But declared a historic landmark by the city on Dec. 29, 1971 — the same day Temple Beth Israel received the designation — the church is assured of remaining there as long as it wants. Father Aldo is working toward having it nominated for the National Register of Historic Places.

The native Portlander, known for his puckish humor and impulsive outspokenness, says, "I have to keep reminding people we were here before everyone else."

The downtown church is one of the oldest structures in the core area. Dwarfed by towering barriers of glass and steel, its Lombardy-Romanesque facade is an oasis in today's visual chaos.

"Back when the Portland Plaza (1500 S.W. Fifth Ave.) was still in its planning stages," says Father Aldo, "the developers wanted to build a three-block complex. They came over and asked for a price, and I told them: 'Find me a block within a half-mile radius, tax-free, and add \$2.5 million. Take it or leave it.' They left it."

Between 1887 and 1916, close to 4 million Italians emigrated to the United States. In 1914 alone, 292,414 of these new Americans arrived on the East Coast, their numbers dwindling to 57,217 the following year. An Italian decree suspending the emigration of all men of military age, matched by restrictive legislation by the U.S. Congress, finally stanching the flow in 1920.

LIONEL L. FISHER is a Portland writer.

The downtown church is one of the oldest structures in the core area . . . its Lombardy-Romanesque facade is an oasis in today's visual chaos.



Michael Lloyd/Oregonian

Wood sculpture of St. Michael the Archangel stands near altar.

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In 1900, according to historians, there were 1,014 foreign-born Italians in Oregon. A decade later, the figure had grown to 5,538, amounting to fewer than 5 percent of the immigrants in the state at the time and fewer than 1 percent of Oregon's total population.

But as early as 1895 there were enough Italians in Portland for them to begin planning for their own church. And six years later, on Sept. 24, 1901, a cornerstone was imbedded at the base of a distinctive stone and brick structure that proclaimed it "Chiesa Italiana di San Michele Arcangelo, Fabricata Della Colonia Italiana di Portland, Oregon: A 1901 D."

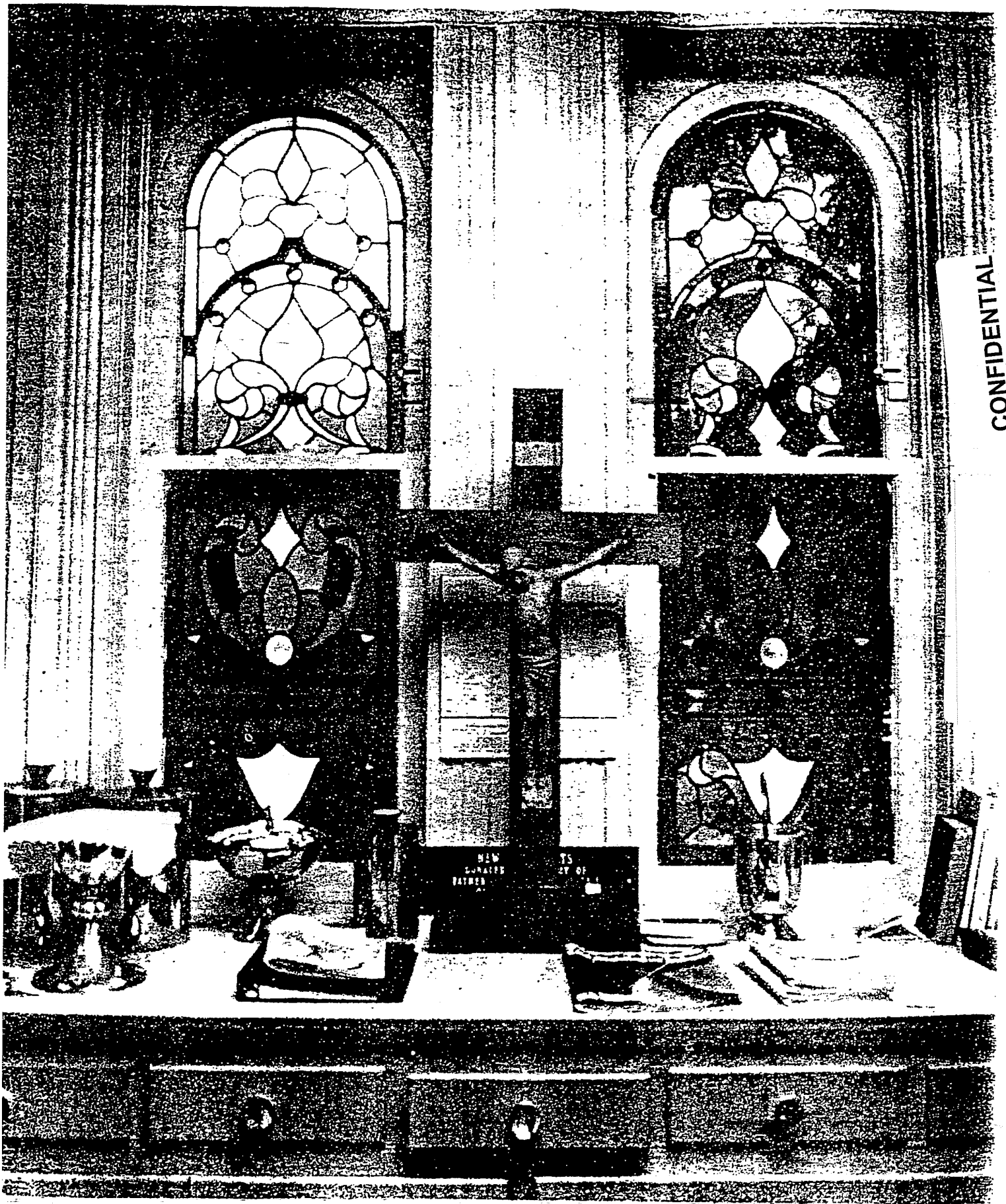
Its pastor during the construction period and for five years after was the Rev. Alexander Cestelli, a priest of the Archdiocese of Portland. He was succeeded by a Jesuit, the Rev. Michael Balestra, who was to remain at St. Michael's for 40 years. Their Italian

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St. Michael's newest neighbor of towering steel and brick rises inexorably from the other side of the adjacent parking lot that used to be the old St. Mary's Academy.

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The sacristy, situated between the sanctuary and living quarters, is the pivot point of Father Aldo's daily rounds.

Italy helped lay rails for steam and electric cars and pipes for sewer and gas lines, and they constructed buildings and streets. They took whatever jobs they could find for whatever pay they could get. And they settled alongside another group of abused immigrants, the Jews, in South Portland. The first Italian colony grew at the edge of the city dump, on what is now Duniway Park, and spread out from there.

This is the flock Cestelli and Bales-tra tended: families with the music of Italy in their names, some lovingly remembered in the stained glass of St. Michael's — the Albertinis and Mulet-tas, the Nicolidis, Semanzas, Parisis and Caputos and many mellifluous others.

Talking to the third pastor of St. Michael's, you get the feeling that this congregation, from a far simpler time, is the one that Father Aldo would have preferred to serve. His father, Carlo Orso-Manzonetta, moved to Portland in 1920 from the Piemonte district of northern Italy to join a brother and a sister who were working in a macar-

ni factory.

Soon afterward, Carlo was able to send for Paola Raschiotti, from the same district, and they were married at St. Michael's on Aug. 19, 1922. Their son, Aldo Carlo, was born on Portland's east side July 26, 1923. He graduated from Washington High School in 1941. (That year, he recalls, the class president and football team captain was Vic Atiyeh.)

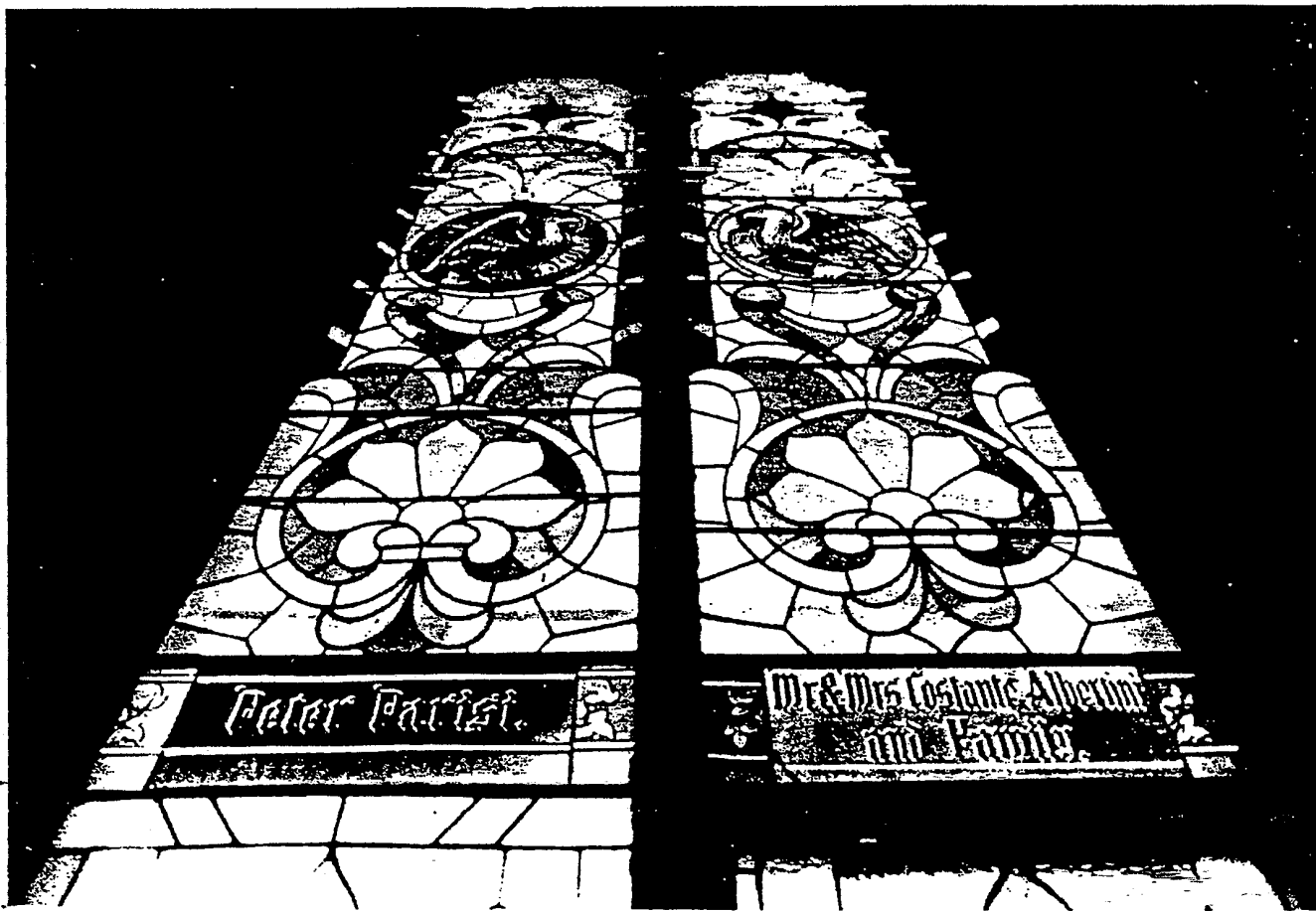
Young Aldo Orso-Manzonetta graduated from the University of Port-land in 1947, then journeyed to St. Thomas Seminary in Denver. Or-dained to the priesthood in June 1950, he was assigned to St. Cecilia's (now Queen of Peace Church) in North Port-land. Fifteen months later, he was as-signed to the Downtown Chapel at Southwest Fifth Avenue and West Burnside Street (since relocated to Southwest Sixth and Burnside). He was administrator of Our Lady of the Mountain Church in Ashland, a tempo-rary post during the summer of 1954. Back in Portland, he spent three years and three months as assistant to Mon-signor Thomas J. Tobin at All Saints

Parish, 3847 N.E. Glisan St. Following a short assignment as chaplain at Mer-cy Home in North Bend, he assumed the pastorage at St. Michael's in Sep-tember 1959.

He is most animated when he talks of the old days. Back, for instance, when his good friend, Herb Weiskopf, was director of the Portland Opera Association and Father Aldo became a familiar figure backstage. "I made my debut in 1969 as an Ethiopian slave in 'Aida,'" he says, laughing. "Then, I was a lamp extinguisher in 'The Bar-ber of Seville.'"

"Herb collapsed in the arms of two stagehands after taking a solo bow at the conclusion of 'Lucia' in April 1970," he recalls sadly, "a massive heart attack. He was a marvelous man, so warm and sincere. He loved people. It emanated from him. He'd embrace you in the street, and you knew it was a completely heartfelt and honest gesture."

Although Father Aldo has adored opera all his life and possesses a col-lection of recordings "you wouldn't believe," he has been to only a few



— Michael Lloyd/Dragonian

Some early members, with the music of Italy in their names, are remembered in stained glass windows.

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Although Father Aldo has adored
 opera all his life and possesses a col-
 lection of recordings "you wouldn't
 believe," he has been to only a few

performances since his friend's pass-
 ing. "It's just not the same," he says
 quietly. At Sunday Mass it is Wanda
 Weiskopf's trained voice that St. Mi-
 chael's parishioners hear.

Regret and a tinge of cynicism
 creep into the priest's tone when he
 shifts his attention toward the present.
 "The skyscrapers keep going up," he
 grimaces. St. Michael's newest neigh-
 bor of towering steel and brick rises
 inexorably from the other side of the
 adjacent parking lot that used to be
 the old St. Mary's Academy. The
 naked girders have reached past the
 eighth-floor level of the pie-shaped
 aluminum-and-glass condominiums of
 the Portland Plaza, directly east of the
 busy construction site. The latest addi-
 tion to Portland's soaring skyline will
 be known as the 1515 Building, a sign
 advises.

"Our lighting used to be more than
 adequate," bemoans Father Aldo.
 "Now the illumination coming
 through the windows is so reduced,
 we're about to install new lights so
 our parishioners can read inside the
 church." The money for the impend-



Michael Lloyd/Oregonian

ally in their names, are remembered in stained glass windows.

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ing project already has been raised by the congregation.

Since he arrived at the church 21 years ago, most of the priest's efforts have gone into ensuring that the 79-year-old Portland landmark wears gracefully the mantle of its heritage. St. Michael's still bears the designation of the Rose City's church for Italian-speaking Catholics, although its pastor estimates their current representation among the congregation to be only about 20 percent. An additional 60 percent, he figures, are apartment dwellers from neighboring streets.

The official parish boundaries extend south from Southwest Jefferson Street to the Sellwood Bridge and from the Willamette River to the gray asphalt of Interstate 405. But many of St. Michael's faithful make their regular Sunday odyssey from all over the Portland metropolitan area.

"They feel comfortable here," he says simply.

Soon after becoming pastor, Father Aldo began arranging for the





Since he arrived at the church 10 years ago, most of the priest's efforts have gone into ensuring that the 77-year-old Portland landmark would gracefully shed the mantle of its heritage. St. Michael's still bears the designation of the Rose City's church for Italian-speaking Catholics, although the pastor estimates their current representation among the congregation to be only about 20 percent. An additional 60 percent, he figures, are apartment dwellers from neighboring streets.

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"They feel comfortable here," says simply.

Soon after becoming pastor, the other Aldo began arranging for



ALDO C. ORSO-MANZONETTI

Michael Lloyd/Oregonian

CONFIDENTIAL Michael Lloyd

He is working toward having the church nominated in his office behind the sacristy at the Church of St. Michael the Archangel.

church's deteriorating plaster statue to be replaced with handsome wooden ones, carved by the artists of Bolzano. These he supplemented with Stations of the Cross crafted in Val de Gardena, near the Tyrol, an alpine region of western Austria and northern Italy. Ralph Cereghino was commissioned to design a new altar in accordance with Vatican II directives, and it was built by Salvatore "Sonny" Nero and installed by Cecil Flora and Ernie Leonetti. The magnificent George De Pyro reproductions of Ghirlandaio's "The Visitation" and Murillo's "The Immaculate Conception" have retained their prominent positions flanking the altar.

The church was rewired in 1960, and the rich stained glass windows, installed in 1908, were restored eight years ago. Further renovations took place early in 1978 after some \$150,000 had been pledged by members and friends of the historic church.

The front steps of the edifice were rebuilt and a new ramp fashioned. New heating and air-conditioning systems were put in, and two restrooms added. "They're the most comfortable rooms in the place," Father Aldo chips in with a wide grin.

"God willing, I'll serve here as long as Father Balestra," he says softly, then slaps his head in mock consternation. "Oh, Lord, another 30 years!"

Father Aldo seems a lonelier figure since the death of Heidi, his constant canine companion for 10 years, a sturdy Rottweiler given to him as a puppy. She had to be put to sleep July 4 after she developed cancer of the liver. On a wall by the priest's desk in his office is a large color photograph of a much younger Heidi and her younger cassocked master.

St. Michael's parishioners knew the large black dog well. More often than not during Mass, she would stroll

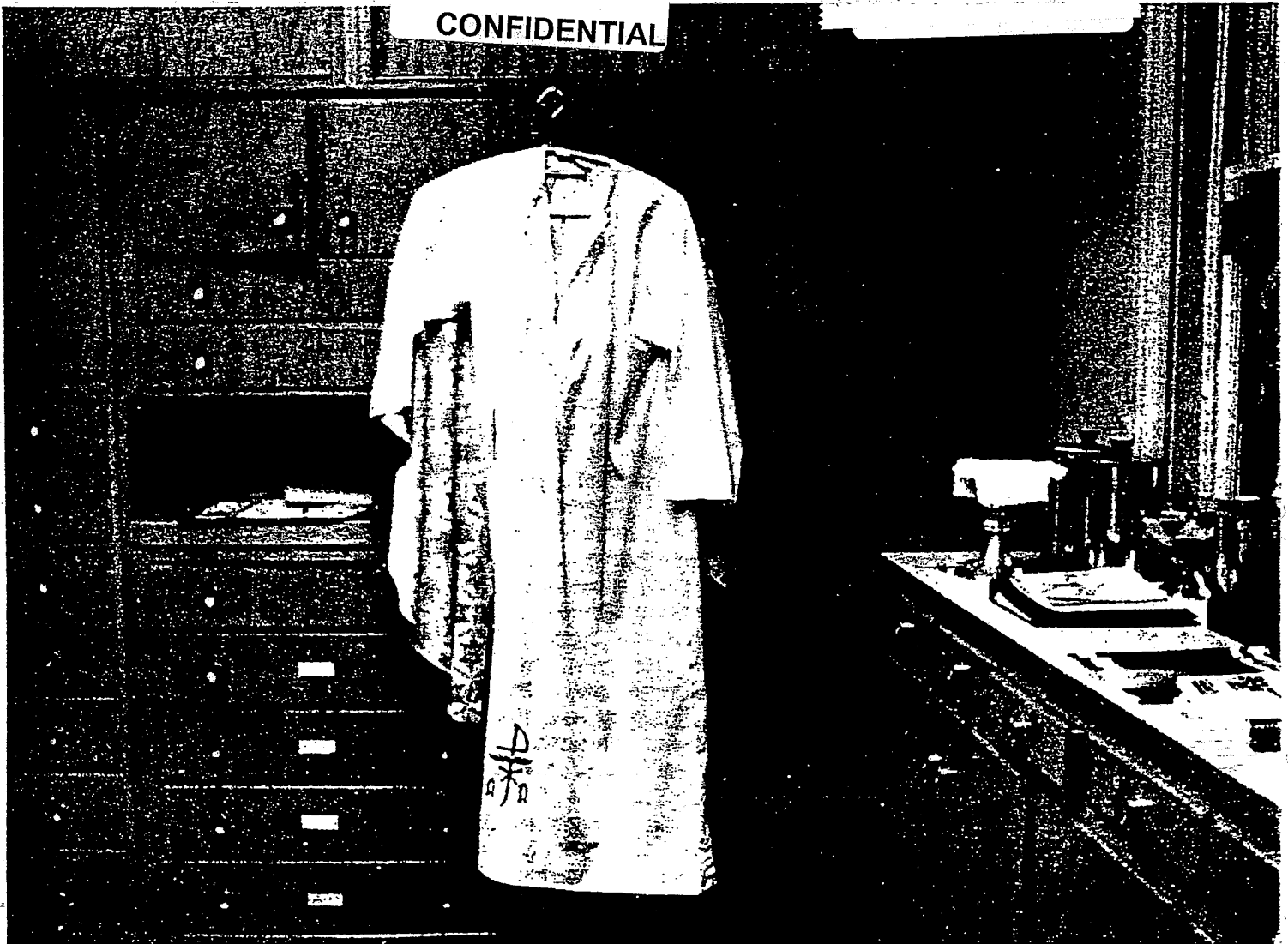
into the sanctuary and sprawl comfortably for a while.

"Heidi only began doing that about two years ago," recalls Father Aldo. "In fact, the first time was during a Sunday Mass. I was giving a sermon on how quickly the spiritual grace gained in church seems to dissipate as soon as a family leaves. In their car, I was saying, the bickering resumes, and by the time they walk through their front door the father is bellowing, 'Who let the dog in?'"

"The punch line drew a roar of laughter, but it wasn't until I walked back from the pulpit that I understood why. Heidi had come in and plopped down right in my spot at the altar. 'One of us has to finish this Mass, girl,' I told her, 'and I think it better be me.' She moved away nonchalantly, and from that morning on strolled in and out regularly to check things over.

"In fact," he continues with relish, "one young couple arrived for their

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ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON
PRIESTS' RECORD

DATE OF BIRTH July 26, 1923		PLACE Portland, Oregon	
FATHER Carlo Orso-Manzonetta		MOTHER Paola Maria Raschiotti	
COMMON SCHOOL St. Francis Academy		TIME 1930-1937	
PREPARATORY Washington High, Portland University		TIME 1937-1941	
PHILOSOPHY St. Thomas Seminary, Denver		TIME 1945 through	
THEOLOGY St. Thomas Seminary, Denver		TIME 1950	
ORDINATION	WHEN	WHERE	BY WHOM
TONSURE	May 31, 1947	St. Thomas Seminary	Most Rev. Urban Vehr
MINOR ORDERS	June 1, 1947	" " "	" " "
SUBDIACONATE	May 29, 1948	Portland, Oregon	Archbishop Howard
DIACONATE	Oct. 23, 1949	St. Thomas Seminary	Most Rev. Urban Vehr
PRIESTHOOD	1950 <i>same</i>	Portland, Oregon	Archbishop Howard
ORDAINED FOR THIS DIOCESE Yes			
INCARDINATED		FROM	
TOOK UP WORK		FROM	
APPOINTMENTS St. Cecelia's Parish, Portland;			
Assistant, Downtown Chapel, Portland, August 30, 1951;			
<i>Temp. Adm. - Ashland (Our Lady Mt.) MAY 1954</i>			
Asst., All Saints, Portland, 9/2/54			
Chaplain- Mercy Home for the Aged, North Bend, Oregon			
(May 1958)			
Parish Priest-St. Michael's Parish, Portland, Oreg. 2 Sept. 1959			
O	I	W	SENIORITY
			NAME
			ALDO ORSO-MANZONETTA

MEMORANDUM

TO: Archbishop Levada
FROM: Fr. Lienert
SUBJECT: Fr. Aldo Orso-Mansonetta
DATE: May 14, 1992

I have enclosed a memo documenting a telephone conversation about Father Aldo.

After this conversation I checked his file and the secret archives. I have included from his file a complaint about a boy staying overnight with him while he was in Newberg. I have enclosed the folder form the secret archives.

He was accused of making sexual overtures to a minor who stayed over night with him. In a separate instance he was accused of having some sexual involvement with two boys from All Saints school. Fr. Frison and Gary McInnis reported that two male prostitutes (young boys) come to them and accused Fr. Aldo of picking them up and having sexual relations with them. Finally Bill Curtin reported that for a number of years the police had been suspicious that Aldo was "messaging around" with young boys.

Bishop Waldschmidt and Father Joe Wood met with Fr. Aldo about these complaints. Fr. Aldo denied all of them and stated that had no sexual problems and that the rumors and complaints came out of his honest efforts to assist young men who needed help.

I would like to speak with you about this complaint.

1-1-94 FEB 3 1994

Dear Reverend Charles Leinert
I never really had much of a chance
to talk with you and you and sister
Frank are the only 2 people who I
ever got to mention so much of what
has weighed on my mind for years.
Now I'm currently being accused of
shoplifting a watch, I never but
someone is saying I did so I'm in
the Clark County Jail awaiting the
outcome of this, what I'd like to
ask you for help in ~~reversing~~ at the
time is do you know of a place where
I can live at and get help at the
same time? it has to be free because
I have no money.

I don't care if it's in Oregon or
Washington as long as it's free and
can get one on one counseling or
even a place to live and I can
come see you weekly would be fine
I've lost my faith in any God and the
system behind my sexual affair with
father Aldo.

I've even been suicidal over it in
the past.

I know I can talk to you about
it tho I just got that feeling
after our first meeting. I'd like
to continue with you.
Please help me if you can.

Thank you

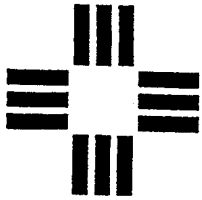
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ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

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Vicar For Clergy

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MEMORANDUM

TO: File
FROM: Father Charles Lienert
SUBJECT: Sex Abuse Allegation
DATE: January 5, 1994

Father Joe Jacobberger called me today to report an allegation of sex abuse which had been made to Sister Fidelis who is on his staff.

A homeless person named [redacted] whom Sister Fidelis has seen from time to time when he has come to ask for assistance, made the accusation to her that he was sexually abused by a priest twenty years ago. The priest he accuses is Father Aldo Orso-Manzonetta. He is at the present time seeing a counselor through the county.

I have asked Father Jacobberger to have Sister Fidelis contact me so that I might get more information from her and see whether it will be possible to contact him and speak with him. He said that he will ask her to call me as soon as she is able.

CJL:gg

REDACTED

2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-1895 503/234-5334

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PD 1907

MAY 12 1997

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57-101

1997

Monda

Insurance Adjuster For
 Pastoral ~~SE~~ Center of Portland
 Oregon.

I'm formally informing you
 that I Allen George Bahr
 am legally and formally
 representing my sister Brenda
 Joyce Bahr and also I'm represent in
 the estate of my deceased
 Mother Ruby Ellen Bahr

I have power of Attorney
 signed over to myself by my
 sister Brenda so I may
 speak for and bring to you
 this Demand Letter that I
 formally am requesting
 some type relief for
 my sister Brenda for the
 emotional stress and loss of
 faith in God due to the
 actions I personally endure
 at the hands of one of

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YOUR Fathers (Aldo) Massenetta
at St. Michals Catholic Church
My Sister Brenda Suffers
From this incident due to
fact that I have been ve
close to her and my Mom
Ruby All my life and at all
times I Revealed and inform
Sister Frank Back in Jan 9
of the past misdeeds of Father
also because of my commi
forward with that I abuse as
the fact it was a priest
well it emotionally and stress
done great damage to my
Relationship with my sister
and deceased Mother
they also lost almost compl
faith in God as have I
due to my revealing the truth
of the past deeds of your
Churches one Father (Aldo)
So I hereby inform you as
Legal Power of Attorney the
I request Relief for my
Sister and Mother in the

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Form of Compensation so they may feel and seek some relief from the repercussions they receive due to a incident that stem from the wrong and illegal doings of one of your supposedly most trusted members of one Father Massin (Aldo)

I request relief for my sister and Mother Estate that I'm in charge of as soon as possible or first legal and public knowledge of this case affair to be pursued

Allen J. Bah

May 18th 1997

You may call me or write me as my sister's legal rep. at 335-8408 for 4009 NE Grand Portland Oregon 97212

ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND INSURANCE OFFICE

MAY 12 1997

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Attorney Rep
Allen Baker
4009 NE Grand
Portland Oregon
97212

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INSURANCE OFFICE

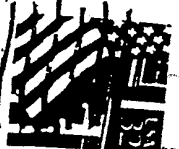
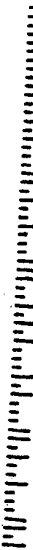
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Phonda

FN Surence Section
Pastoral Center
2838 S.E. Burnside
Portland Oregon

97216/1893 24

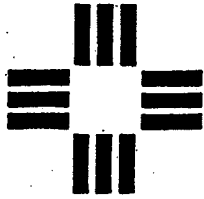


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Vicar For Clergy



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

August 29, 1994

ALL

Dear Mr. [redacted]:

I just received your letter asking for Father [redacted]'s real name. His complete name is Father Aldo Orso-Manzonet.

My number is (503) 233-8366. I am here normally from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. I am often in meetings, but my secretary will be able to tell you when I will be free if I am tied up when you call. I would be happy to speak with you.

Sincerely yours,

Reverend Charles J. Lienert
Vicar for Clergy

CJL:gg

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2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-1895 503/234-5334

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