



## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary In Memory of the John Clemens Family

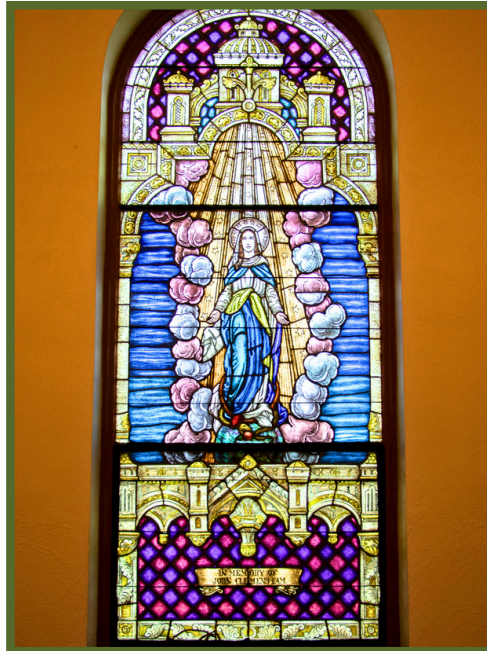
John Clemens was born in 1861 in Germany. John settled in Cobden, where his uncle, Mathias Clemens, had made his home since 1854. John and his wife, Barbara, a fellow immigrant, had nine children.

John became expert in fruit growing and specialized in tomatoes.

When he passed, a nephew, the Rev. John P. Laux, from Covington, Kentucky, officiated at his funeral. John was laid to rest in the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Cobden, in a plot that was donated by his uncle Mathias's family. Joseph Bigler deeded an adjoining plot.

The Clemens family tree includes the Barbara (Basler) Stute relatives and the John and Lizzy Cerny relatives.

*Thank you to Molly Cerny and Catherine (Cerny) Gibbs for this story.*



*Stained glass window of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*~Donated in memory of John Clemmens Family.*

### Parish Pearls

#### First Baptism

Glen Joseph Stadelbacher

*Born:* May 29, 1926 *Baptized:* June 4, 1926

*Parents:* Leo and Geraldine (Treece) Stadelbacher

*Godparents:* Andrew and Theresa Stadelbacher

*Priest:* Father Charles Brumleve

#### First Funeral Mass

Walter Menees

*Born:* April 22, 1849 *Died:* October 11, 1927

*Funeral Mass:* October 13, 1927

*Buried:* St Joseph Cemetery

*Priest:* Father Charles Brumleve

### Priests of the past

#### Rev. Victor Sulkowski 1952-1961

*Father Sulkowski oversaw completion of planned renovations around the parish. The rectory, Sisters' quarters, and school were all updated. The church received new flooring, carpeting, and stations of the cross. A new furnace, birch doors, soft-padded kneelers were installed. The remaining stained glass windows were finished.*



Father Victor Sulkowski

### Father's corner:

#### The Assumption of The Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated throughout the Church on August 15. This feast has a twofold purpose: Mary's joyful departure from this life and the assumption of her body into heaven.

On this solemnity of the Assumption, we contemplate Mary: she opens us to hope, to a future full of joy, and shows us the way to achieve it: to welcome her Son in faith; to never lose our friendship with him, but to allow ourselves to be illuminated and guided by his Word; to follow him every day, even in times when our crosses seem heavy. Mary, the ark of the covenant in the sanctuary of heaven, shows us with luminous clarity that we are on the path toward our true Home—the communion of joy and peace with God.

The dogma of the Assumption refers to the fact that the Mother of God, after her earthly life, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory. Now, why is it important for Catholics to remember and delve deeper into the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven? The Catechism of the Catholic Church answers this question:

(Continued on back.)

**\*\*We are making a video with pictures of weddings here at St. Joseph\*\***

Email photos to [sapphoto@yahoo.com](mailto:sapphoto@yahoo.com)

Please include your names, maiden names, and date/year of wedding.

## Clemens Family and their ties to the St. Joseph Cemetery

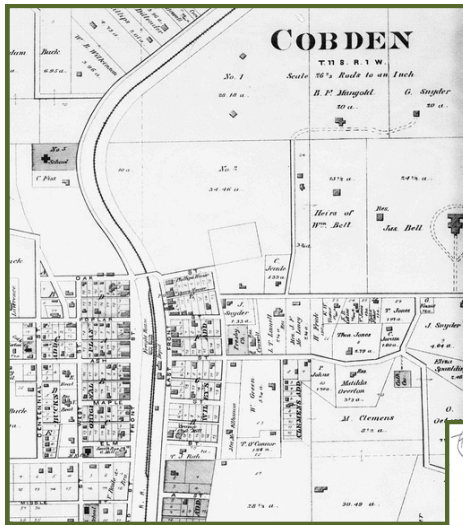
Our parish has a deep history of families offering their time, talent, and treasures. The Clemens family have roots in the St. Joseph Cemetery. The story below is from the church's cemetery record keeping. Mrs. Anna Petsch is the daughter of Mathias Clemens who was the uncle of John Clemens.



The Cemetery is a result of land donations made to the Congregation by Mrs. Anna Petsch, nata Clemens and Joseph Bigler Sr. It comprises the old "Clemens Cemetery" (a private family burial-place) to which has been added the tracts donated by Mrs. Petsch and Mr. Bigler. The deeds conveying these lands to the congregation are in the possession of the Rt. Rev. Bishop [Janssen].

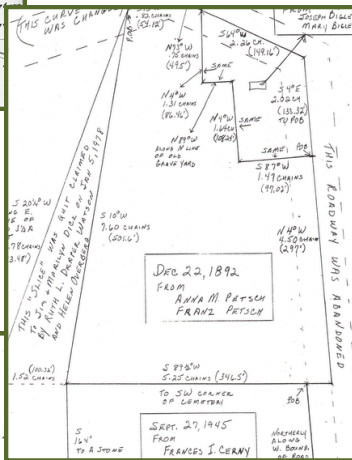
In the old Cemetery (of Mrs Clemens), no pretense was made of distinguishing or marking the graves. Therefore many buried there are not known.

-Cobden, Ill., December, 16 1897 Father Christopher Goelz, Pastor



Plat of Cobden from 1881 atlas of Union County, IL. Catholic Cemetery can be seen on the property of "M Clemens"

Survey of parcels comprising St. Joseph Cemetery from church records.



Plat of Cobden from 1905 atlas of Union County, IL. The land to the south of the Catholic Cemetery can be seen as belonging to Mrs. Anna Petsch.



### Father's corner (CONTINUED)

"The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin constitutes a unique participation in the Resurrection of her Son and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians" (#966). The importance of the Assumption for us lies in the relationship between Christ's Resurrection and our own. The presence of Mary, a woman of our race, a human being like us, already glorified in body and soul in Heaven, is just that: an anticipation of our own resurrection.

"Contemplating the mystery of the Assumption of the Virgin, it is possible to understand the plan of Divine Providence with respect to humanity: after Christ, the Incarnate Word, Mary is the first human creature to realize the eschatological ideal, anticipating the fullness of happiness promised to the elect through the resurrection of the body. The Blessed Virgin Mary shows us the final destiny of those who 'hear the word of God and put it into practice' (Luke 11:28). She encourages us to raise our gaze to the heights, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of the Father, and where the humble handmaid of Nazareth is also present, already in heavenly glory" (Saint John Paul II)

Knowing that Mary is already in Heaven, glorious in body and soul, as promised to those of us who do God's Will, renews our hope in our future immortality and perfect happiness forever.

It is also an opportunity for our entire St. Joseph community to continue walking together hand in hand with Our Lady, the Virgin Mary, who always ensures that we closely follow the path that leads us to our Savior, Jesus Christ.