

**Sacrificial Lamb****In Memory of Carl Edward Stadelbacher**

My parents, Geraldine and Leo Stadelbacher, were greatly grieved after the loss of their son, Carl Edward Stadelbacher, in World War II. They wanted to honor his memory by dedicating a window in his name.

The Sacrificial Lamb image depicted in the window helped bond their hearts with God the Father and His Son. Jesus sacrificed his life for the salvation of mankind.

Carl gave his life also fighting against the evil of the world. In a sense, they were both the Sacrificial Lamb in Leo and Geraldine's eyes.

In coming out of Mass one day my parents said they both had a most unexplainable feeling of peace and that Carl was happy and all was well.

Thank you to Margie and Molly Cerny for this special memory.

**"In Pious Memory of Sgt. Carl Edward Stadelbacher"  
A Mother Remembers**

*Margie Stadelbacher shared an article written by her mother, Geraldine Stadelbacher, in 1947. The article is about Margie's brother, Carl Edward Stadelbacher, who died in 1945 during World War II.*

*Carl was captured and starved in a German prison camp. He was liberated but was so weakened from his experience that he died in a liberation camp. He was temporarily buried in Butzbach, Germany, but his body was later brought back to the United States and was laid to rest in the St. Joseph Cemetery in Cobden.*

*"When my mother, Geraldine, passed away, I was going through some of her papers and found this article. I was so moved by it and thought it was a timeless expression of a mother's pain at the loss of a child from the ravages of war," Margie said. The article follows:*

**"How Soon Will They Forget?"**

Mrs. Leo Stadelbacher of Cobden has written the following thoughts in the hope that if agony, such as hers, were voiced, mankind might work a little harder to prevent more wars.

It is written in loving memory of her son, Communications Sgt. Carl E. Stadelbacher, Co. K, 112th Inf., 28th Division, on the 2nd anniversary of his death, April 16, 1945, after being liberated from Zeigenheim Prison in Germany.

Today they have come, the medals of honor my dear boy won on the battlefields over there. As I hold them in my trembling hands, a picture passes through my tears, of a boy entering manhood with the eager look of youth upon his face. "My baby of years gone by."

I see him standing before me so proudly dressed in khaki brown, adorned with these medals I hold in my hands and I can hear him say, "This, mom, I won for so and so." As he did in the long ago when as a boy in school he'd come home to me with a good grade won for lessons he'd learned, for he knew it would make mom's heart glow with pride.

His country called and he bravely went with that smile on his lips and a kiss on my brow. He said, "So long, mom, I'll come back. Don't cry."

The months here passed by. Then, overseas, on they trudged through mud (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



*Stained glass window of the Paschal Lamb.*

*~Donated in memory of Carl Stadelbacher*

**Father's Corner:  
Jesus, Our New Paschal Lamb**

"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" – John 1:29

These familiar words spoken by John the Baptist testify to Jesus' identity and mission as the new Paschal lamb, which will be fulfilled in his Paschal sacrifice, beginning with the Last Supper.

**The First Passover**

We read about the first Passover in Exodus 12. Here we receive not only the account of what happened the night of the first Passover but also the instructions for how the people of Israel were supposed to keep the feast "throughout your generations...as an ordinance for ever" (Exodus 12:14). From that day onward all the way to the time of Jesus and beyond, the Passover would be celebrated each spring as a day of remembrance of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

**The New Passover**

Let's look at how Jesus fulfills the five criteria of the original Passover.

**1. Choose an unblemished male lamb**

Sacrificial lambs had to be without blemish. Jesus, the sacrificial lamb, made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the 10th of Nisan – the same day the lambs of sacrifice were brought into the city. Jesus also was questioned, scrutinized, and declared three times to be innocent (without blemish) by Pilate.

**2. Sacrifice the lamb**

Mark 15:34 records that Jesus died at the ninth hour, which, according to the first-century Jewish historian Josephus, was the time of sacrifice of the Passover lambs in the Temple. "So, these high priests, upon the coming of their feast, which is called the Passover, slay their sacrifices, from the 9th hour to the 11th hour."

**3. Spread the blood of the lamb**

Sacrificial lambs were slaughtered in the Temple. Their blood was collected in silver basins and poured out on the altar by the priests. Similarly, Christ's blood was poured out for us. At the first Passover, the blood of the lamb was spread on the lintels of home, so that the angel of death would pass over the home, sparing (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

## A Mother Remembers (CONTINUED)

and war's hell. France, Belgium, Luxembourg and on into Germany. Into Hertgen Forest's blood bath, where so many comrades fell, buddies of days back in the U.S.A.

Then came that terrible day, in the Battle of the Bulge, while at a rest camp in Chevaux, Luxembourg, Carl was captured, no more to know the freedom of the land of his birth.

A prisoner of war, he now endured long, cold days and nights of starvation and loneliness. No letters from home to cheer him, no Red Cross aid, just hope to sustain him. Finally starvation, with its grim hand of death, silenced earth's horror and war's wild scream.

As I hold these medals, so dearly won, my mind is confused. For still war clouds hesitate to fade. And far away in a war-torn world my boy lies buried, no more earth's worries to share. No casket to cover his face. Wrapped in an Army blanket, they laid him to rest with only a cover of earth for his bed.

And still men wrangle over earthly goods, and money so small, while to me no amount of gold could have bought his life. With the Faith that guided me through dark despair, I cling to Christ's words: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what

they do."

"Give light to them that sit in darkness and guide their feet in the way of peace." And as background for this prayer, comes the silent voices of our sons beneath their crosses, row on row: "Remember."

*We thank Margie for sharing this story.*



### Leo & Geraldine Stadelbacher Family

Sitting L to R - Leo holding Margie, Geraldine Rose Lee holding Charles, Norbert

Standing L to R - Glenn, Geraldine Theresa(Gerry), Carl, Robert, Earl

## Priests of the Past

### Rev Joseph Orford 1961-1967

Father Orford, led the liturgical changes from the Second Vatican Council in 1965, created the parish council, spent time with Catholic boys at Giant City Park Youth Camp alongside nuns, and was named the Catholic Chaplain for Anna State Hospital. He also oversaw the closing of St. Joseph's School due to falling enrollment.



Father Joseph Orford

## Father's Corner: (CONTINUED)

the firstborn son. Jesus instructs all those who believe in him to drink his blood (John 6:53-56), thus marking our lips – the entrance to our bodies (temples of Christ). We are saved by drinking the blood of the lamb (often in silver or gold chalices) in the Eucharist.

### 4. Eat the flesh of the lamb

At the first Passover and those following, the Israelites were required to eat the flesh of the lamb to be in covenant. It was not enough just to sacrifice the lamb. We eat the body of Christ in the Eucharistic meal, placing ourselves in covenant with Christ.

### 5. Keep the Passover as a day of remembrance

For the Jews, to remember does not simply mean to think back fondly upon something. For Jews, to remember – specifically to celebrate a memorial (see Exodus 12:14) – is to make present again.

At the Passover meal, the father tells the significance of the Passover. He recounts what God has done for *them* (not just their ancestors). God has delivered them from slavery to the Egyptians. At the Last Supper, Jesus will change the language to remembering what Jesus will do for us – pour himself out in sacrifice to deliver us from our sins and open the gates of heaven which were closed by the sin of Adam and Eve. We remember this not only during Holy Week. His once and for all sacrifice is made present at every Mass in the Eucharist.

Jesus' sacrifice as the paschal lamb of the new Exodus fulfills the requirements of the original Passover, bringing freedom from slavery to Satan, sin, and death and entrance into the Promised Land of Heaven.

## Parish Pearls

### Parish Hall

Work on the building of a new St. Joseph Church Parish Hall began in the summer of 1973. By 1974, the new hall had been completed. A large part of the labor was donated by the men of the parish. In June of 1974, the new hall was blessed and the first of what would prove to be many potluck meals was served.