

school made up of Catholic rate-payers, taught by John Mack, a private non-Catholic gentleman, in a log-cabin opposite the present Parochial residence. During the first years of Father Bretkopf's charge of the mission, the feasibility of a Separate school was brought into consideration. The time to begin was considered opportune, and five trustees were elected: they were George Stemmler, Andrew Biesinger, Peter John Foerster, Anthony Haid, and Peter Riitz. These five gentlemen met with great opposition, but they stood faithful to the sacred cause entrusted to them, and it was only after a long and most difficult struggle that they accomplished the work. Thus it is to the untiring efforts of these noble pioneer gentlemen that we owe the blessing of our present Separate school.

In 1867 the present school grounds were purchased from Michael Kuhn at a cost of fifty dollars. The grounds contained one acre, and a log house had previously been built on them. This was turned into a school. To this the people built a small Sanctuary where the attending priest said Mass. The mission then contained about twenty families. In the course of a few years the mission increased rapidly, and the old log school-house was replaced by the present one. At the request of Father Bretkopf, the old school-house was torn down and the Sanctuary — which they held sacred — was carefully burned so that not a vestige was left