

## Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

On May 6, 1951, on the occasion of the dedication of the first permanent Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Church, Bishop Edward F. Hoban read a special message from Pope Pius XII. He said that May 6th was "a day that has crowned the sacrifices and the years of toil not only of the present congregation but of the pioneer members whose great faith inspired them to make the many sacrifices needed to lay the foundation of this structure."

Sacred Heart of Jesus, the second-oldest Polish parish of Cleveland, began with the purchase of land in "the Orchard" on Marcelline Avenue (now East 71st Street) between Krakow and Kazimier Avenues. The first Mass in a frame church was celebrated on Christmas Day, 1889. By 1908, the parish had grown and a new church was needed. Construction began in 1908, but costs exceeded available funds and world events interfered - The Panic of 1907, the Depression of

the 1930's and two World Wars.

Finally, in June of 1949, the building of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church began on the foundation that had been laid in 1908. The parishioners



Sacred Heart of Jesus

who had attended Mass in a basement church for over forty years, would at last have a church of Briar Hill Stone, trimmed in Indiana limestone. The cost would be \$250,000.

On May 2, 2010, fifty-nine years after Bishop Edward F. Hoban read the special message from Pope Pius XII, the parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church attended the final Mass in their church.