

2011 - intro

**Holy Cross History Conference
Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH
June 2-5, 2011**

Introduction at the Opening of the Conference

This is the first time that the Annual History Conference of the Congregations of Holy Cross has been held in Ohio. It is fitting that we meet here because back in the 1850s and 1860s, there were originally 17 Holy Cross institutions in Ohio. The last one closed in 1920.

Holy Cross used to have schools in 7 different Ohio cities there were seven in Cincinnati, three in Toledo, two in Columbus, two in Hamilton, one in Sandusky, one in Zanesville and a farm in Lancaster. Some of the schools, which were attached to parishes, were conducted for just a few years as Father Sorin would call the Brothers back to Notre Dame, often to help build and develop the University. The one institution that had the greatest longevity (of 49 years), was St. Joseph College in Cincinnati. Holy Cross left there in 1920.

I would like to introduce you to the person who was responsible for bringing Holy Cross back to Ohio — Archbishop Edward F. Hoban. In 1945 he convinced Holy Cross to open a secondary school on the property of the former Drury Estate in Gates Mills. Gilmour Academy opened in 1946. Archbishop Hoban then convinced Holy Cross, through his good friend, Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer, to open two more institutions St. Edward High School in Lakewood in 1949 and Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron in 1953.

The reason why Edward Hoban was so interested in bringing Holy Cross to the diocese of Cleveland was because he was taught by Holy Cross Brothers in Chicago when he attended St. Columbkille Elementary School in the 1890s. St. Columbkille's was located about a mile south of Holy Trinity High School. The Holy Cross education Edward Hoban received must have made a lasting impression on him.

Edward Francis Hoban was ordained in 1903 and was made an Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago in 1921. He served as the Bishop of Rockford, IL for 14 years and then was appointed the Coadjutor Bishop of Cleveland in 1942. He became the 6th Bishop of the Cleveland Diocese in 1945, the same year he convinced Holy Cross to open Gilmour Academy.

Bishop Hoban began his reign in Cleveland at the end of World War II when the country experienced post-war scarcities and a slow recovery. He was the son of Irish immigrants but made it clear that he would favor no nationality. Old Irish-German feuds in Cleveland neighborhoods were to be forgotten. He worked to rebuild a post-World-War-II Church. He sent priests to visit people in Displaced Person Camps in Europe and the USA. The priests urged people to settle in Cleveland. Bishop Hoban built a cluster of ethnic national parishes, but he emphasized one important rule — within schools, the language was to be only English. There was no doubt in the Bishop's mind that the children of immigrants needed to assimilate American culture and become worthwhile and productive citizens.

Bishop Hoban was raised to the title of Archbishop in 1951. He had a lasting friendship with Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer, the first Provincial of the Holy Cross Brothers. When Brother Ephrem agreed to open the high school in Lakewood, it was named in honor of the Archbishop — St. Edward High. It is also reported that in 1953, when the Archbishop was speaking at the dedication of the new Holy Cross high school in Akron, which was named in his honor, he turned and looked at Brother Ephrem, and remarked, "*I hope Brother Ephrem knows that my middle name is Francis.*" Actually the Archbishop had hoped that Holy Cross would open another secondary school east of Cleveland in Mentor, where Lake Catholic High School is now located.

Archbishop Hoban died in 1966. Among his accomplishments in his 21-year reign, were an increase in the number of Catholics in the Diocese from 546,000 to 870,000. He established 61 new parishes, 47 elementary schools and 12 high schools. He is buried in the crypt of St. John's Cathedral in downtown Cleveland.

We are thankful for his dedication to the memory of the Holy Cross education he received early in his life.

Bro Larry Steudent, CSC
6/2/2011


Welcome !
to the **30th Annual Conference**
of the **History of the**
Congregations of Holy Cross




CLEVELAND

Beautiful Ohio
OHIO

OHIO



St. Joseph College
Cincinnati
(1871 - 1920)



Archbishop Edward F. Hoban, S.T.D.
Auxiliary Bishop (1942-1945)
Bishop (1945-1951)
Archbishop (1951-1966)



St. Columbkille's School
Chicago

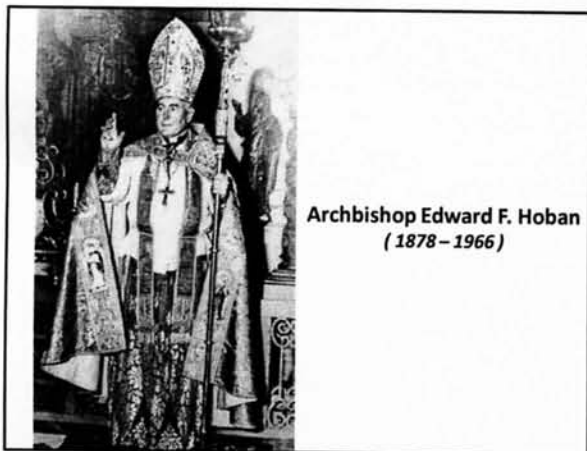


Bishop Hoban at Gilmour Academy -- 1948



**Archbishop Hoban at
St. Edward High School in 1952**

**at Archbishop Hoban High
in 1954**



Archbishop Edward F. Hoban
(1878 - 1966)