

HISTORY

St. Mary's Church "Our Lady of the Hills"

Beginning about 1855	Father Lee from St. Bridget's in East Bloomfield intermittently visited the area and said Mass in various homes.
About 1860	Father Hughes, who apparently replaced Father Lee, scheduled monthly Masses during the "favorable" months. During this time, services were held in a small hall over Knapp's Hardware Store (now Ace's Restaurant).
October 6, 1868	St. Mary's was incorporated as a Mission Parish of St. Bridget's by Bishop McQuaid. Mass continued to be said over Knapp's Hardware and later in a schoolhouse located at the present day corner of Allens Hill Road and East Lake Road.
June 27, 1871	Father Nicholas Byrne was appointed as the first resident pastor of St. Michael's in Livonia Center, and on this same date St. Mary's, still a Mission Parish, was transferred to St. Michael's, and there it remained for more than one hundred years
Probably in 1874	Land was purchased on West Main Street in Honeoye.
August 15, 1876	The Church was built in 1875-1876, and it was dedicated on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1876, by Bishop McQuaid.
1889	Four acres of land was purchased on what is now County Road #37 for use as a cemetery.
1956	Under the pastorate of the late Father J. Joseph O'Connell, five acres of land was purchased on the corner of Route 20A and County Road #37.
1956	St. Mary's owned a Religious Instruction Center on Allens Hill Road opposite the Central School. The building was donated by a former parishioner, Mr. Francis Kinsel.
1958	A new "St. Mary's" was constructed at a cost of \$63,000. Beauty and simplicity were combined in its construction.
June 28, 1958 (Saturday)	Mass was said for the last time in the old St. Mary's.
June 29, 1958 (Sunday)	Father O'Connell offered Mass for the first time in the new St. Mary's. More than 1600 attended the four Masses that day.
Fall of 1972	The new rectory, located across from the east drive of the church, was completed in the fall of 1972. The old St. Michael's rectory, located in Livonia Center, was sold.
June 6, 1982	St. Michael's was closed forever.
1987	A beautiful bell in an attractive bell tower was added. Parishioners Eustace Deisenroth, Joe Bader, and Steve Wenthe collaborated in designing, planning, and building the bell tower.

(The above was taken from a manuscript, dated December 19, 1988, written by Edmund Nighan)

1992	Under the direction of Father Mike Hogan, a campaign was launched to build a parish center. The parishioners pledged \$300,000 toward the project and in 1993 it was completed.
June 12, 1999	Roger Loomis was ordained a Permanent Deacon, the first from St. Mary's.
June 23, 2007 (Saturday)	Last Mass on Saturdays at St. Mary's was celebrated by Father Richard Shatzel.
June 26, 2007	St. Mary's in Honeoye and St. Matthew's in Livonia were clustered with Father John Hayes being appointed by Bishop Matthew Clark as the pastor for both parishes.
June 29, 2008	50 th Anniversary of St. Mary's Church.
July 27, 2008	St. Mary's Church was rededicated at the 8:30 a.m. Mass with Father John Hayes officiating, assisted by Deacon Roger Loomis.

PRIESTS ASSIGNED TO ST. MARY'S CHURCH

1871 – 1875	Father Nicholas Byrne
1875 – 1877	Father William J. Seymour
1877 – 1884	Father T.C. Murphy
1884 – 1898	Father Joseph G. Hendrick
1898 – 1911	Father Malachy Garvey
1911 – 1915	Father Michael J. Kreig
1915 – 1929	Father George T. McCall
1929 – 1935	Father John A. Smith
1935 – 1941	Father Emmet F. McGee
1941 – 1947	Father Patrick A. Kelly
1947 – 1947	Father A. Adamek
1947 – 1955	Father John F. Woloch
1955 – 1961	Father J. Joseph O'Connell
1961 – 1965	Father Walter Carron
1965 – 1967	Father Paul Wohlrab
1967 – 1987	Father Vincent LeFrois
1987 – 1994	Father Michael Hogan
1994 – 2003	Father Edward Zenkel
2003 – 2007	Father Richard Shatzel
2007 - 2013	Father John Hayes
2013 -	Father Hoan Dinh