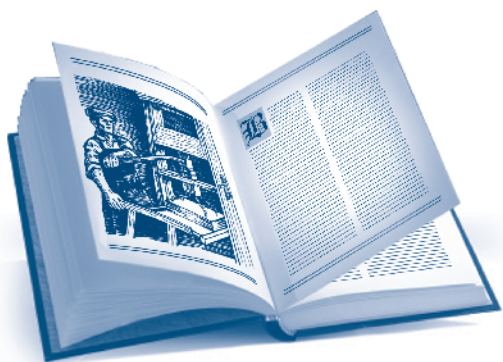


# BOOK REVIEWS

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## **Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh**

By Mary Ann Knochel  
(Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2007)  
127 pps. \$19.99 softcover

Catholicism has significantly influenced Western Pennsylvania since the first mass was performed in April 1754 by Father Denys Baron. After the French fled in 1758, more than 40 years would pass until there were enough Catholic families to form a church in Pittsburgh; the first was St. Patrick's in the present-day Strip District. The Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh covers a large area in southwestern Pennsylvania and includes the counties of Allegheny, Butler, Beaver, Lawrence, Greene, and Washington.

Knochel follows the coinciding rapid growth of the region and the Catholic community with photographs from the early 19th century to modern times. The book extensively covers Pittsburgh, the Steel Valley, and surrounding counties. It also looks at the social and community life of people of

faith and the diversity of ethnic churches. It is impossible to cover the hundreds of churches in the diocese or include histories of their beginnings, closures and mergers. The author has managed to give readers a

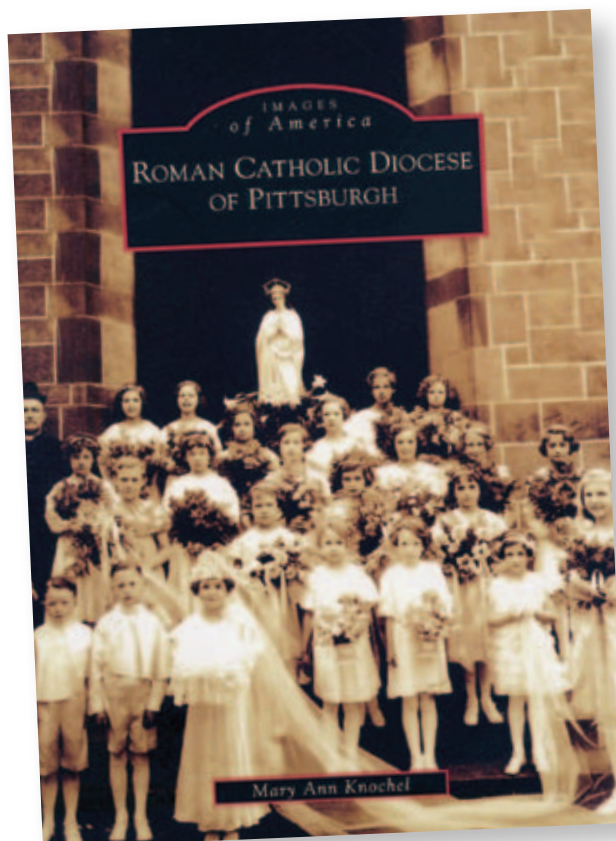
sense of the many facets of the diocese; unfortunately the topic's scope is very large and the book is not.



Although many churches have merged or closed, the diocese still is full of vitality. The Church of the Resurrection in the Brookline area of Pittsburgh recently celebrated its 100th anniversary, and is one of many that celebrated the important event with a publication recounting its history. Ethnic churches are also still strong as witnessed by the centennial of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Butler, an ethnic Italian church that still retains its Italian traditions. Churches are still being built in the diocese, such as Saints John and Paul Parish in Sewickley, which opened its doors in May 2010. Visitors to the Library and Archives at the Senator John Heinz History Center can read more than 400 histories of Roman Catholic churches throughout the region.

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**Art Louderback** is chief librarian, Heinz History Center Library & Archives.



**Book Review Capsules** are now online. Visit <http://senatorjohnheinzhistorycenter.blogspot.com/> or get there from [www.heinzhistorycenter.org/](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/)

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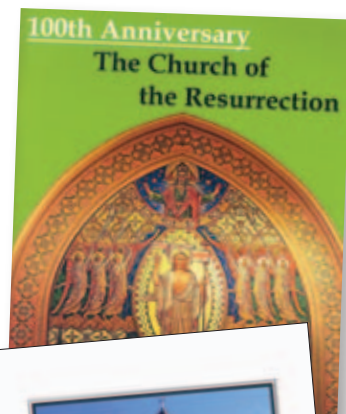
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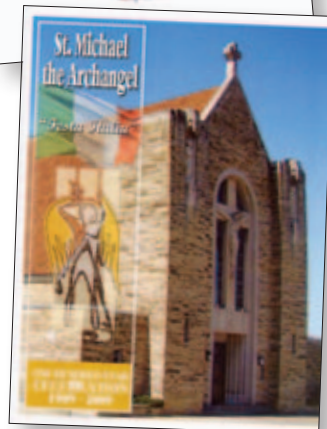
### 100th Anniversary of the Church of the Resurrection

(Pittsburgh: Self-published, 2009)  
52 pps, softcover



### Celebrating the Dedication of the New and Permanent Church of Saints John and Paul Parish, May 2, 2010

(Sewickley: Self-published, 2010)  
32 pps, softcover



### St. Michael the Archangel: One Hundred Year Celebration, 1909-2009

(Butler: Self-published, 2009)  
40 pps, softcover

## NEW from the History Center

### Maz, You're Up

By Kelly Mazerowski  
Illustration by Judith Lauso  
24pp., 12.95 paper

When his grandson, having just lost a baseball game, says he wants to win a big game one day, Pap Pap reveals that he hit the winning home run for the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 1960 World Series. *Maz, You're Up!* is a children's book commemorating the 50th anniversary of the '60 Series and Bill Mazerowski's famous home run. Written by Bill daughter-in-law Kelly Mazerowski, the book also features original watercolor illustrations by Pittsburgh artist Judith Lauso as well as photographs from the History Center's and Pittsburgh Pirates' archives. Available through the History Center Museum Shop (412) 454-6300 or [www.heinzhistorycenter.org/secondary.aspx?id=37/](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/secondary.aspx?id=37/).

