



# THE ANGELICUS

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THE ANGELICUS presents this special edition in memory of Monsignor William Barry, co-founder of Barry College and founder of St. Patrick's Church on Miami Beach. We offer our prayers and condolences to the entire family.



**MONSIGNOR WILLIAM BARRY ... 1886-1967**



# The Man of Two Isles . . .

## Father Barry Is Pioneer In Florida

by Marjorie L. Fillyaw  
Feature Editor, *The Voice*

Known simply as "Father Barry" to thousands of Greater Miami residents and tourists who annually vacation at Miami Beach, Monsignor Barry was a member of the Barry family of County Clare, Ireland, whose name has long been synonymous with the history of the Church in Florida.

One of 18 children born to Michael and Catherine Dixon Barry at Inagh, County Clare, he was the brother of the late Bishop Patrick Barry, fifth Bishop of St. Augustine. Their sister, the late Mother Mary Gerald, O.P. served as Mother General of the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Mich., and was first president of Miami's Barry College, which she founded in 1940 with her two brothers. Another brother, the late Father Joseph Barry was a parish priest in Ireland and Monsignor is survived by numerous nieces and nephews in the priesthood and Sisterhood.

After attending local schools at Inagh, Monsignor Barry studied at Rockwell College in Tipperary and at St. Patrick Seminary, Carlow. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1910 at St. Mary Seminary, Baltimore, and took advanced studies at the Catholic University of America.

When he received his first parochial assignment from the late Archbishop Michael J. Curley, fourth Bishop of St. Augustine, as assistant pastor in the Cathedral parish, St. Augustine there were less than 500,000 residents in the entire state of Florida. The Catholic population was small and dispersed in tiny settlements sprinkled throughout the vast pinelands of the state.

The young Father Barry joined 11 other secular pioneer priests who with their Bishop and parishioners represented the Catholic Church in Florida with bands of Jesuit and Benedictine Fathers who has established a number of missions on the peninsula.

A few months later when he was transferred to the Immaculate Conception parish in Jacksonville, he brought the sacraments to Catholics in the vast area west of Jacksonville as far as the Appalachian River by foot, horse-drawn carriage, horseback, and railroad. Many times he stopped overnight at the homes of the faithful along his route. Sometimes lodging for the night would be at a boarding house or a bare room in an out-of-the-way hotel.

In 1913 he was transferred to St. Peter Parish, DeLand, which covered the territory in Brevard and Volusia Counties. Between 1917 and 1922 he was first pastor of Our Lady of the Angels and also Holy Rosary parish in Jacksonville. Appointed pastor of St. Paul parish, Jacksonville, in 1922, he supervised the construction of the parish and



Monsignor Barry, as the first publisher and executive editor, reads the first edition of the Florida Catholic, which he founded in 1939.

there before being assigned on May 12, 1926 to Miami Beach.

One of three pioneer priests assigned during the early 1920's by Bishop Barry to establish new parishes in the Greater Miami area, Monsignor Barry celebrated Masses and conducted school in reconditioned polo stables donated by the late Carl G. Fisher, non-Catholic benefactor of St. Patrick parish and lifelong friend of the Monsignor.

St. Patrick Church at Miami Beach was completed in 1928 and dedicated by Bishop Barry in 1929. St. Patrick School, completed in 1929 is staffed by Adrian Dominican Sisters. The parish plant also includes a rectory, convent, school cafeteria, youth center, gymnasium, and parish club rooms. A Miami Beach landmark since its completion in 1939, is the campanile which faces Alton Rd. at 37th St. Partly a memorial to Carl Fisher, it contains a life-size statue of Christ the King and 32 chime bells.

The Irish-born priest did not confine himself to parochial work but participated in any activities which would promote the welfare of the Church, the family, and the community.

Through his interest the Sisters of St. Francis of Allegany, N. Y. arrived at Miami Beach in 1927 to assume the operation of the Allison Hospital, founded by and named for another local pioneer. It was formally purchased by the Franciscans in 1929 and renamed St. Francis Hospital.

For the convenience of Catholics residing and visiting in the southern section of Miami, the Church of St. Francis de Sales was erected by Monsignor Barry in 1940 at Sixth St. and Lenox Ave. It is still served as a mission of St. Patrick parish. Two years later, Monsignor Barry supervised the construction of still another chapel, St. Joseph's located at 86th St. and Byron Ave. in Surfside. It has since been erected as a separate parish.

Recognizing the need for a home-like residence which would provide accommodations for the many young women who annually seek employment in the Greater Miami area, Monsignor Barry built, in 1942, Florida's first Catholic residence for young working women. Known as Casa Francesca and administered by the Adrian Dominican Sisters, it is located at 1120

Sixth St., Miami Beach, directly opposite St. Francis de Sales Chapel.

In 1938 when Bishop Barry and Mother Mary Gerald proposed the building of a Catholic College for women in the Miami area, Monsignor Barry toured Dade County in search of an ideal location for the educational institution. Ground for Barry College, named for Bishop Barry, was broken early in 1940. Located in Miami Shores at NE Second Avenue and 111th St., it is the only four-year Catholic women's college south of Washington, D. C. and is staffed by Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Always a leading exponent of Catholic education, Monsignor Barry provided the first scholarship to the college in June 1940 and it has been his practice to offer a scholarship each year to qualified students of St. Patrick High School. Named director of the first Catholic seminar at the University of San Marcos in April, 1941, Monsignor Barry traveled to Lima, Peru where he conducted a series of spiritual conferences and was appointed a counsellor at the Catholic University there.

In 1949 he was awarded an honorary degree of L.L.D. from Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind., in recognition of the Latin-American Seminars which he organized and directed for the exchange of professors and students between North America and the Central and South American nations.

The first publisher of Florida's earliest Catholic weekly publication, Monsignor Barry was the first executive editor of "The Florida Catholic" diocesan newspaper of the Diocese of St. Augustine, which published its first edition on Dec. 1, 1939 in Miami under his direction.

In 1937, Monsignor Barry was one of the first three priests in the State of Florida to be elevated to the rank of a domestic prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor. He was further honored in 1953 when Pope Pius XII bestowed upon him the title Prothonotary Apostolic Ad Instar, the highest honor or give by the Church to Monsignori.

The first priest in Florida to become a dignitary of this rank, he was entitled to celebrate at time the Pontifical Mass during which he was permitted to wear a mitre, pectoral cross and a prelate's ring.

Monsignor Barry served as a diocesan consultor of the Diocese of Miami, a post which he held in the Diocese of St. Augustine until the Diocese of Miami was erected in 1959. While a priest of the Diocese of St. Augustine, he also served as Vicar General having been appointed to that position in 1939.

Early of December last year, Monsignor Barry announced his resignation as pastor of St. Patrick parish in compliance with the papal directive for bishops and priests to retire after reaching age 75.

Miami's Bishop Coleman F. Carroll said his resignation marked "the passing of a remarkable era of zealous work for the Church in Florida. Msgr. Barry bridged two generations in his achievements for the Church and indeed, as an unwavering patriot for his country. Undoubtedly he is one of the best known priests in the United States and recognized everywhere for his accomplishments."

## Students Form Honor Guard at Concelebrated Requiem

by Karla McGinnis

In crowded St. Patrick's Church, Miami Beach, Monsignor William Barry attended his last mass on November 21, 1967 at 10 a.m.

With Monsignor Barry were bishops, priests, sisters, relatives, Jewish and Protestant friends, government officials, parishioners, and an honor guard — one hundred strong — of Barry students.

Monsignor's requiem mass, the Mass of Christian Unity, was indeed a solemn occasion, yet with distinct impressions of a joyous event.

were Bishop Paul Tanner, Bishop Patrick Shanley, and two of Monsignor's nephews, Father Joseph Barry of Ireland and Father Laurence Barry of Illinois. There was also a grand-nephew, Father William J. Barry of Chicago.

The solemnity of the priests' purple vestments contrasted noticeably with the rich jubilation of the choir from St. John Vnanny Minor Seminary, complemented by the delicate descants of the Barry College Cor Jesu Choir. Anything but

mournful, the sounds of the choir's "Holy, Holy, Holy" burst forth with devout fullness to the hushed congregation.

Some were sad, however. A few of Monsignor's old friends wept softly, a Barry senior sniffled as Father Burke delivered Monsignor's eulogy of the life, work, love, and dedication of Barry's last founder. A distinct Irish brogue solemnly prayed later, "Grant mercy, Lord, on those who have died."

After communion Bishop Carroll addressed the assembled mourners by thanking them

"for being here to pay tribute to this great churchman."

His Excellency recalled that

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The procession leaves St. Patrick's after the concelebrated Requiem Mass for Monsignor Barry.

Eighteen priests including His Excellency Coleman F. Carroll celebrated the funeral mass. Among the other celebrants

## The Spirit of Love . . .

The following is the eulogy by Rev. Joseph Jurasko, O.P. given at the students' requiem mass for Monsignor in the Cor Jesu Chapel on November 21.

Reverend Mother Genevieve, Sisters, Students and Friends: I wish briefly to draw together two great spirits.

Six years ago, almost exactly to the day, I stood before the sisters at the Motherhouse in Adrian during mass like this morning, and announced that the Motherhouse was without a Mother. It was the occasion of the death of Mother Mary Gerald Barry. This morning I announce that Barry College is without a Father, for Monsignor William Barry was not only a co-founder of this institution, but indeed, a Father; for the past twenty seven years, his concern was truly fatherly.

Monsignor Barry and Mother Gerald Barry were much more kindred in spirit than in blood. What virtues we ask made twins in spirit? I believe I discovered the answer. *The Miami Herald* yesterday carried a short article on Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bush who were chosen to be the family of the year in the Miami area. Mrs. Bush remarked that what enabled her to be happy and successful in thirty-three years of marriage and the education of eight children was hard work, discipline, love, and prayer. Monsignor Barry and Mother Gerald not only possessed these four virtues, but possessed them in an abundance. It was because of these virtues that they accomplished marvelous deeds; those deeds are a matter of history.

The death of these two great persons marks the end of an era. We are on the threshold of a new era, a new dawn is rising, with its hopes and its new fears. This is indeed a new and great challenge for our generation. It must be met not only with words or dialogue, but with deeds or virtue.

Monsignor Barry and Mother Gerald stood for change and contributed greatly to the growth and progress of the school, the church and mankind. Their lives teach us this lesson, that if change would be progress, it must be through prayer, love, discipline, and hard work. Discipline and hard work without love and prayer is insufficient, just as prayer and love without discipline and hardwork is inadequate. The combination of four virtues, I believe, made Monsignor Barry and Mother Gerald so outstanding in their achievements. We pray that we can accomplish for our generation what they did for theirs.

Today as we pray for the repose of the soul of Monsignor William Barry, we pray also that in his much deserved eternal happiness, he will be especially accompanied by his sister, Mother Mary Gerald, by his brother, Bishop Patrick Barry, and by his very dear friend, John Thompson, all of whom were co-founders with him of Barry College. May they rest in peace.



# We Remember the Man . . .

During his eighty-one years, Monsignor William Barry touched the lives of numerous people in the Florida area. Barry students and faculty came in close contact with Monsignor and often saw him during his many visits to supervise the construction of the library. Monsignor Barry was a typical Irishman as can be seen from the following tales.

Sister Joanetta, head of the graduate department, previously taught at St. Patrick's School and often dealt with Monsignor. Sister remembers that no matter what a student's offense from blowing up labs to letting air out of tires, to theft, Monsignor would bring

the student back to class and say "Sister, he's a fine boy. Give him a chance."

Sister Alma Christa, professor in the music department and a Barry graduate, tells of an amusing experience at St. Patrick's Church where she was conducting the choral group for a graduation ceremony. "In the middle of the triumphant closing hymn," Sister said, "I suddenly heard Monsignor's authoritative voice over the microphone: 'Will the choir please stop singing?' Monsignor had forgotten an announcement that he wished to make!"

Sister says that she remembered Monsignor as unpredictable, strong and humorous, but most of all as a personal friend his warm, sincere interest and support could always be counted upon.

Mrs. Adele O'Sullivan, a student at Barry and one of Monsignor's parishioners, remembers his sermons as fresh and provocative. "He never preached but held you in a spiritual conversation," she said. "His message was for you." Mrs. O'Sullivan says that he was close to his people. He loved poetry and could recite long passages. The Irish in him showed true when he told his favorite tale "The Elephant Story."



Sister Dorothy and Monsignor Barry exchange greetings on the 25th anniversary of the college. Looking on at the celebration are Michael O'Neil, chairman of the lay advisory board and Sister Mary William, prioress of the sisters.



Monsignor Barry and Mrs. Jack Thompson, widow of one of the college's founders, view a portrait of the late Jack Thompson at the Dedication ceremonies of Thompson Hall. November 20, 1962.

## STUDENT HONOR GUARD . . .

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ten days before the funeral, he had visited Monsignor Barry to give him the apostolic blessing. Bishop Carroll remembered that Monsignor's eyes opened briefly as he said, "You know, I love all the people of Miami Beach. They are my people -- all of them -- and they are wonderful people". Monsignor awoke again later to say, "I have never knowingly disobeyed my bishop."

In the Monsignor's own words, Bishop Carroll found the essence of the late founder's life: love of God and respect for authority. "You can't love your neighbor unless you love Almighty God . . . and all authority and law comes from God," Bishop Carroll summarized.

As the reverent crowds filed slowly out of black-draped St. Patrick's into the contrasting bright sun, the bell from the Tower which Monsignor had built tolled as he passed by for the last time.

An elderly gentleman from the crowd mused aloud, "He would have liked this . . . he always did like ceremonies. This world certainly will miss him."



Monsignor Barry stands to greet President John F. Kennedy at a democratic fund raising dinner on Miami Beach.



Monsignor Barry celebrates the groundbreaking of the library on December 15, 1966. From left to right behind Monsignor are: Sister Dorothy, president, Mother Genevieve, Mother-General of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, Sister Mary William, prioress, and Sister Ignatia, librarian.



Monsignor Barry celebrates his golden jubilee mass in the Barry auditorium on June 21, 1960.



Sister Dorothy places the hood on Monsignor Barry after he received an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the college on Founders' Day, 1966.

Capt. Linda Jackson Kennedy, 2015



# A Tribute To The Man . . .

The following remarks were delivered by Rev. Cyril Burke, O.P., Chaplain of Barry College, at the funeral Mass for Monsignor Barry on Nov. 21.

Last Thursday night, strengthened and consoled by sacramental absolution administered by the dedicated Franciscan hospital Chaplain, Father Capistran Petri, with the sounds of Our Lady's Rosary ringing in his ears, Monsignor Barry fell off in peaceful sleep. He died shortly after midnight on Friday, November 17.

It was a fitting way for Monsignor Barry to die. From his earliest years Our Lady's Rosary was part of his family life. Nightly, in that holy home devoted parents and their thirteen surviving children chanted Our Lady's praises as, through her intercession, they begged a merciful God for the spiritual and material blessings necessary to sustain them in this vale of tears. Their pleas were not in vain.

Three priests at the altar of God, one a successor of the Apostles in the See of St. Augustine, and a Dominican Sister destined to the Mother Generalship of the vibrant Adrian Community were fruits of that petition. Other fruits found expression in successful practitioners of the law, a distinguished university professor, and makers of model homes in which three more priestly vocations and two more Dominican Sisters add lustre to the family history.

Devotion to Our Blessed Lady did not end when Monsignor Barry left the parental fireside to enter Rockwell College in County Tipperary. Nor when he entered the seminary at Carlow. He brought it with him to St. Mary's in Baltimore, to the Catholic University in Washington, to north Florida, and finally to Miami Beach in 1926. It was a familiar sight at sundown to see him walking in front of St. Patrick's Rectory, Rosary in hand, continuing in maturity the blessed patrimony of his childhood.

The epitome of his devotion to Our Blessed Mother, of course, is the Campanile dedicated in 1939 to honor the memory of the incomparable Carl Fisher and to house the bells that would toll the Angelus of Our Lady amid the hustle and bustle, the gaiety and the sorrow, the sun and sand that is Miami Beach.

Yes, it was a fitting way for Monsignor Barry to die. And it was a fitting day for him to die.

In the calendar of the Church, November 17 is the feast of St. Gregory the Wonder-Worker. St. Gregory was one of God's Third Century noblemen. Learned and holy, he has come down to us in tradition buttressed by the pen of St. Basil as a miracle worker. The breviary recital of St. Gregory's life recounts that by prayer he moved a mountain that was impeding the building of a Church. He dried up a marsh that was a cause of discord between brothers. He restrained the river Lycum that had ruinously inundated the land.

Granted the possible allegorical or imaginative character of these events, three solid truths stand out: 1) Gregory built a Church in the face of great difficulty; 2) He promoted peace



Monsignor Barry Library, expected to be completed in March, is a living monument to the man, who gave so much of his life to the development of Barry College.

between brothers; 3) He stopped the flow of forces that threatened the security of the land. What St. Gregory did in the 3rd Century, Monsignor Barry did in the Twentieth.

Any man who has built a Church knows that it is not done without great difficulty. Land, plans, finances, vested interests, materials, weather and a thousand other obstacles must be overcome. Monsignor Barry built not one but five! Holy Rosary and St. Paul's in Jacksonville, St. Patrick's, St. Francis de Sales and St. Joseph's in Miami Beach are symbols of the Gregorian resolution with which this man carried the Faith of his ancestors to the Florida portion of his adopted land. And while the public record may not show it, certainly the Book of Life will record other Churches that came into existence with his counsel, his encouragement and his financial support.

Always it was his inspiring leadership that moved his people to sacrificial heights in the construction, the adornment and the maintenance of God's House.

Builder he was. And peacemaker, too. In a priestly service that spanned 57 years no man can count the souls that found peace within the quiet confines of his confessional where contrite sinners were returned to the grace of God by the words of absolution spoken with authority and with mercy. How many homes seared with domestic dis-



Monsignor Barry poses in front of St. Patrick's garbed in the Bishop's mitre, pectoral cross and a prelate's ring which Pope Pius XII permitted him to wear.

cord were restored to tranquility by his patient, perceptive and comforting counsel. Civic bickerings melted under the warm smile that hid his passion for justice and the commonweal.

In Monsignor's eyes the color of a man's skin, the faith he professed, his station in life counted for naught. In his great heart he felt for all men the love that springs from a profound awareness of the eternal Fatherhood of God. All men were his brothers. He sought only to bring peace to their souls by every honorable means within his command.

Gregory-like, Monsignor Barry fought the forces that would destroy us. Against bigotry, there stands his vigorous opposition to the Ku Klux Klan in Jacksonville as well as anti-semitism and racism in south Florida; against sickness, his dominant role in the founding of St. Francis Hospital in Miami Beach; against insecurity, the establishment of the Casa Francesca and his unsurpassed support of the late Archbishop Hurley's and Bishop Carroll's driven to aid the weak; against ignorance, his own St. Patrick's school, St. Patrick's Book Shop, the Aquinas Center at Miami University, the numerous scholarships he supplied for worthy students and the jewel in his crown, Barry College in Miami Shores; against secularism, the first Florida Catholic newspaper, the Florida Catholic; against tyranny, his advocacy of the cause of Irish Freedom and his forceful recital of the evils of atheistic communism be it Russian, Chinese, Cuban or whatever from his pulpit and in the public forum; against the enemies of hemispheric solidarity, his championship of inter-American amity; against national disunity, his unflinching devotion to his country in peace and in war; against those who would read the seamless robe of Christ, his complete submission to the person of the office of the Vicar of Christ on earth, filial obedience to his Bishop, compassion for fellow priests in their trials, respect and affection for all the members of the mystical body of Christ.

Truly, the feast of St. Gregory — whose emulator he became — was the fitting day for Monsignor Barry to die.

Like his saintly predecessor, Monsignor Barry's work did not go unheralded or unsung. In life, many testimonials paid tribute to the man and his achievements. Twice he was honored by the late and beloved Pius XII. Notre Dame University selected him for an honorary degree. Barry College's new library bears his name. Mt. St. Mary's College, Maryland, cited him as a great Churchman and patriot. Latin nations and their

diplomats have recognized his worth.

The Daughters of the American Revolution presented him with a medal in recognition of his leadership and patriotism. On the occasion of his Golden Jubilee in the priesthood the

city of Miami Beach, Miami, Dade County and other civic bodies did him honor. In death, your presence here this morning not only comforts his nephews and nieces and other relatives but it reveals the depth of your admiration for this man who did so much to make our world a better place in which to live.

To have said so much is to have said too little unless the ultimate cause of Monsignor Barry's deeds be explained. St. Paul records the reason in the Eighth Chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, verses 28 thru 30: "We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose especially long ago and intended to become true images of his son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this: those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory."

May the same Almighty and Merciful God now give eternal rest to Monsignor Barry's immortal soul.



A solemn campus heard the news of Monsignor's death on Friday morning, November 17.

The following are condolences received by the college on Friday, November 17, the day Monsignor died. They are from Jean Wilkowski, Barry graduate, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Lewis Walt, and Gen. Martin Green, commandant of the Marine Corps.

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FATHER CYRIL BURKE BARRY COLLEGE MIAMI FLO  
DEEPLY TOUCHED BY MONSIGNOR'S DEATH CONVEY  
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND BE ASSURED OF  
PRAYERS FROM LATIN AMERICA IN WHICH HE TOOK  
SUCH GREAT INTEREST

JEAN WILKOWSKI

CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AD INTERIM

AMERICAN EMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA HONDURAS

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SISTER M DOROTHY O.P.

PRESIDENT BARRY COLLEGE 11300 NORTHEAST ND  
AVE MIAMI FLO

DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN YOUR LOSS. FROM MY RECENT  
PERSONAL EXPERIENCE I AM KEENLY AWARE OF THE  
MEANINGNESS OF MONSIGNOR BARRY TO YOUR COL-  
LEGE. I AM PROUD TO BE AMONG THOSE HONORED BY  
THE COLLEGE BEFORE HE DIED AND TO HAVE ASSO-  
CIATED PERSONALLY WITH A MAGNIFICENT FACULTY  
AND STUDENT BODY OF WHICH HE COULD WELL BE  
PROUD. I HAVE REQUESTED MONSIGNOR O'CONNOR TO  
OFFER MASS FOR MONSIGNOR BARRY

LT GEN. AND MRS L W WALT (09).

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SISTER M DOROTHY O P PRESIDENT BARRY COLLEGE

11300 NORTHEAST SECOND AVE MIAMI FLO

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1. THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS SENDS  
SINCEREST REGRETS AT THE PASSING OF MONSIGNOR  
BARRY, A DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR, WHO HAS CON-  
TRIBUTED IMMENSELY TO HIS CHURCH AND HIS COUN-  
TRY IN THE TRAINING OF YOUNG WOMEN OVER THE  
COURSE OF THE PAST 28 YEARS

FM CMC