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*The Mazzuchelli Cause seeks to promote the **Beatification of Venerable Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP**, missionary builder of the Church in the Midwest and founder of the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters. Those who wish to ask prayers for their intentions and those who receive favors through the intercession of Venerable Mazzuchelli, please write to the following address:*

Mazzuchelli Cause
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Sinsinawa, WI 53824-9701
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(Click on Father Mazzuchelli link)

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MAZZUCHELLI BULLETIN



“DIVINE PROVIDENCE HAS DONE MUCH MORE THAN I HAVE DREAMED OF . . .”

WHERE IS FATHER SAMUEL'S CAUSE TODAY?

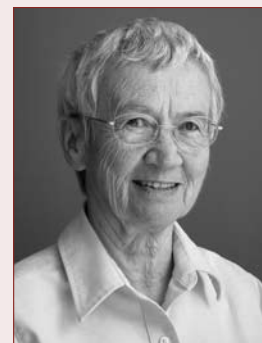
by Sister Mary Paynter, OP

Vice-Postulator for the Cause of Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP

In July 1993, Pope John Paul II approved the first step in the Cause by declaring Father Samuel "Venerable." The second stage is that of beatification, or declaring him "Blessed." Many have been praying for this for years, even before the first official prayer seeking his beatification was written back in 1938.

Now, we are moving closer to that recognition. The Madison Diocesan investigation into a miracle attributed to Father Samuel's intercession was concluded on Aug. 23, 2008, in a prayerful event in the Queen of

the Rosary Chapel at Sinsinawa, presided over by Madison Bishop Robert Morlino and his appointed Tribunal. The documents from that official investigation were then sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in the Vatican for further study. When that study is completed—a process that normally takes several years—a recommendation will be made by the Vatican Congregation to the Holy Father regarding Father Samuel's being declared "Blessed Samuel." We need to continue our fervent prayers that the Cause will have a successful outcome!



Sister Mary Paynter

MAZZUCHELLI'S DEVOTION TO MARY MOTHER OF SORROWS

by Sister Mary Paynter, OP

The picture of Mary Mother of Sorrows that hung in Father Samuel's little bedroom in Benton (at right) is now in the Mazzuchelli exhibit housed with the Sinsinawa Dominican Archives. We know from various reminiscences of his devotion to Mary, particularly under her title, Mother of Sorrows. One such memory recorded by Sinsinawa Dominican Sister Borromeo Stevens, OP, vividly recalls "the beautiful gold crowned marble statue of the Sorrowful Mother" that stood on a bracket at the right of the altar in the little chapel at St. Clara Academy in Benton. That precious statue is now in the reliquary chapel in Queen of the Rosary Chapel at Sinsinawa.

In Father Samuel's day, the feast honoring the Mother of Sorrows would have been celebrated on the Friday before Palm Sunday. Today the Church celebrates the feast on Sept. 15.



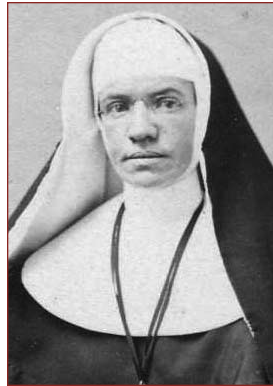
"HE WHO TRULY LOVES JESUS HAS HIS HEART FILLED WITH SENTIMENTS OF LOVE, AND HAS A TONGUE EVER READY TO TELL OF MARY, CHOSEN OUR MOST TENDER MOTHER BY OUR SAVIOR."

FATHER SAMUEL MAZZUCHELLI

MEMORIES OF FATHER SAMUEL

The following is a reminiscence of Father Samuel Mazzuchelli by Sinsinawa Dominican Sister Benedicta Kennedy, OP, written in 1914, 50 years after his death. Her memory of him was still vivid!

"Father Samuel had among his many gifts that rare one of making religious conversation attractive. He could fascinate even little children, hold them spellbound while he talked of God; he could make tired women and hungry men stop and listen. One of them said in a surprised tone to his fellows one day, when they were taking a rest from bitter toil, 'Why, that Catholic priest could make a man forget he had no dinner!' A rarer tribute than this homely speech was never heard."



Sr. Benedicta Kennedy

Sister Charles Borromeo Stevens, OP, then a young Protestant student at St. Clara, recalled her memory about Father Samuel. She later became Catholic and a Sinsinawa Dominican Sister.

"At the beginning of the lecture hour [Father Samuel's religious instruction to the students] she usually had her spelling book open in the deep drawer of her desk, meaning to study instead of listening, but Father's voice was so musical it tempted her to look up, and then his bright, dark eyes, his kindly mouth, and the glowing animation of his whole countenance held her gaze, while the warmth and color of his words caught her fancy and, later, filled her thought with many deep inquiries regarding that strange Catholic Church that he seemed to love so much."



Sr. Charles Borromeo Stevens

LIFE-CHANGING NEWS: AN ANSWER TO PRAYER

by Sister Christiane Althaus, OP

Father Steven Voss dealt with serious health issues during his childhood: cancerous lesions on both kidneys. Surgery left intact about 90 percent of the left kidney and 10 percent of the right one. These events led to failure of both kidneys in 2008 and resulted in the need for a transplant.

On April 8, 2009, Father Voss was driving to his doctor's office expecting to start on dialysis. Before he reached the doctor, he had a call from his very good friend Father Matthew Hartley. The news he received changed his life. Father Hartley had completed the rather lengthy process of screening and was able and willing to donate a kidney. Father Voss received the kidney on April 22, 2009. "My recovery has been amazing. Not one problem or setback, and a renewed energy and enthusiasm



Father Samuel's penitential chain

with the newfound good health," said Father Voss.

The final great news is Father had a second successful surgery to remove his native kidneys on June 30, 2009. In his words, "I have made a full recovery from both surgeries and feel terrific."

"I learned of the Mazzuchelli novena from a very dedicated family in our parish. They submitted my name, and I was very grateful for the prayers I received. It was very edifying to receive the mailings and see my name listed with the many others. I am certain that the prayers I received from all those praying for the Cause of Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP, were added to the countless other prayers I received from my parish community to carry me through such an incredible series of events and afford me such tremendous blessings. Sincerely, Father Steven Voss."

THE 'TRAVELLING STATUE'—OUR LADY OF SORROWS

by Sister Mary Paynter, OP

If you have ever visited Sinsinawa's Queen of the Rosary Chapel, you may have stopped to pray in the reliquary chapel and noticed the small marble statue of Our Lady of Sorrows with a gold crown. This precious statue has a remarkable history.

A letter from Sister Vincentia Williams, OP, who heard the story from contemporaries of Father Samuel, says this: "In 1843, when Father Samuel visited Father Henri Lacordaire, OP, in France, he was sitting in the little study, enjoying his friend's conversation and at the same time looking at the marble statue there. He said to his friend, 'That statue must come to America.' Evidently, Father Lacordaire agreed, because later the statue was held over in the custom house in New York, and Father Samuel was notified. He told the Sisters that they must pray the statue to Wisconsin, and it came at last."

This letter answers some questions but raises others about the "travels" of Our Lady's statue. From other documents in the Sinsinawa Dominican Archives, we can trace the delay in the statue's delivery and its various wanderings. In the spring of 1845, Father Samuel wrote to the Dominican Master General stating that he had "left in Rome some sacred objects and a little marble statue of the Blessed Virgin. . . . Now I fear that no one took the trouble to ship it to me. If such be the case, I hope my friend, Father Guglielmotti will take the trouble to send it to New York, USA, directed to Very Rev. John Power, the Vicar-General of the Diocese of New York and my great friend. He will accept it and pay all the expenses."

Father Guglielmotti wrote to Father Samuel explaining that he would have answered more promptly had he known the correct address, writing "I see your present address is not Galena but Sinsinawa Mound." When Father Samuel was in Italy and arranging for boxes to be shipped to him, he hoped to establish a college and found the new Dominican Province in Galena, but that was not to be, so after his return in 1844, he purchased Sinsinawa Mound and made his foundations there.

Also, Father Guglielmotti detailed the packing list and its costs, including a box of books along with chasubles, surplices, ciboria, pyxes, and other religious goods; and a second box "containing a Madonna in marble." He says the two boxes "left Rome after the middle of October, 1844. Your paternity's address is written on the top." This address was "Very Rev. S. Mazzuchelli, Galena, Illinois, USA." He adds that the boxes were "registered through to a certain Sartori, Pontifical Consul in America." This was

Giovanni Battista Sartori, the first representative of the Pope to the United States (from 1797 until 1841). If Sartori had left New York by the time the two wooden crates arrived, that helps to account for the delay, which was further extended by the U.S. Customs in New York.

We do not know how Father Samuel arranged with the U.S. Customs to have the boxes released. Perhaps his friend Father John Power, paid the fees and sent the boxes on their way. Nor do we know exactly when they arrived, first in Galena, and then at Sinsinawa. The fact that Father Samuel's first Sisters were asked to "pray the statue" to the Mound suggests that the year was sometime in the mid-1840s.

When Father Samuel left the Mound and settled in Benton as pastor, Our Lady went with him. Then, in 1852, when he brought his Sisters to Benton to teach in the new St. Clara Academy there, Our Lady moved again to the little chapel near the Academy entrance. By then Our Lady wore a crown of gold, fashioned by Frick's Jewelry Store in Galena from gold nuggets sent to Father Samuel by a Benton parishioner who had followed the 1849 gold rush.

After Father Samuel's death, the Sisters moved back to the Mound, their first home. Our Lady once more returned to Sinsinawa, where she remains to this day—a precious reminder of Father Samuel's great devotion to Our Mother of Sorrows.



Our Lady of Sorrows statue was gifted to Father Mazzuchelli from Father Lacordaire.

RESTORATION PROGRESS

ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH, NEW DIGGINGS

by George Burns

The beautiful little frame church that Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP, designed and built in New Diggings, WI, in the mid-1840s has been undergoing complete restoration over the past several years, due to the untiring efforts and extensive fundraising undertaken by the Mazzuchelli Assembly, Knights of Columbus, of Lancaster.

The process began years ago, after the Knights obtained funding from the Jeffris Family Foundation for an extensive historical structure study prepared by the Art Chadek Architectural Services. This 80-page study, begun in 2002, offered a complete analysis of the various elements of the historic Greco-Gothic church—the only building that remains almost exactly as Father Samuel designed it.

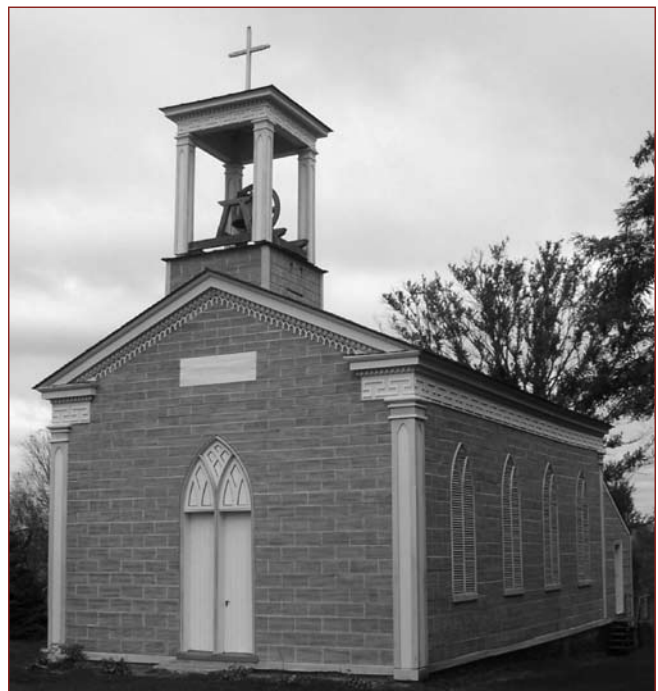
The Mazzuchelli Assembly did the heroic work of raising the funds needed to undertake a historic conservation/restoration—that is, one that is as faithful as possible to the original structure with its decoration/painting and its furnishings. The restoration of the exterior and interior was done by Architectural Conservator Ron Koenig and was completed in the summer of 2007. Later that year, Kurt Olson, of the Great Lakes Church Tower Co., completed the restoration of the belfry and reinstalled the fine Meneely bell. These two projects cost \$237,000. Interior furnishings—church pews, candlesticks, altar, carpeting, wall paper, stations of the cross, pictures, etc.—were cleaned and/or restored at a cost of \$83,180.

Finally, on Aug. 23, 2009, the church was reopened for tours, and on that Sunday, more than 225 visitors saw St. Augustine as it looked to its original parishioners about 160 years ago.

Later that same afternoon, the annual August Mass honoring Father Samuel and the church's patron, St. Augustine, was held at St. Patrick Church in Benton, and was concelebrated by several priests of Father Samuel's parishes and attended by a large throng of the faithful. Many also toured Father Samuel's restored little frame rectory and prayed at his gravesite behind St. Patrick Church. After the Mass, the people of St. Patrick Parish prepared a delicious dinner for about 150 people, and the Mazzuchelli Assembly was most grateful for the wonderful cooperation of the St. Patrick parishioners and their pastor, Father David Flanagan.



Father Cy Wiesensel (front left) and his parishioners admire the beautifully restored wallpaper and carpet in the sacristy of St. Augustine after the restoration work.



St. Augustine Church, New Diggings.

SUPPORT THE CAUSE

You can support the Cause for Beatification of Father Samuel Mazzuchelli by doing the following:

- pray the prayer for the beatification of Father Mazzuchelli;
- make his life better known. Tell his “story” to your friends and neighbors. E-mail mazzuchelli@sinsinawa.org and request Mazzuchelli brochures and prayer cards to distribute;
- invite Sister Mary Paynter, OP, to speak to your parish, school, or group about Venerable Samuel Mazzuchelli. Phone (608) 257-1064;
- **contribute to the support of the Cause.** Your donations help us continue to provide publications such

as this newsletter, printed brochures, and other media information about Father Samuel, as well as costs such as translations of materials and documents needed to advance the process of the Cause; talks; and programs given by the Vice-Postulator and others regarding the life and ministry of Father Samuel—to parish, school, and other groups, etc.

Mail donations to Mazzuchelli Cause, Sinsinawa Dominicans, Development Office, 585 County Road Z, Sinsinawa, WI 53824-9701. All donations are tax-deductible, and your donation will be acknowledged.

DONATIONS TO THE MAZZUCHELLI BEATIFICATION CAUSE

We are grateful to the following donors for their support of the Cause in 2009. The Sisters keep you in their prayers daily.

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PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF VENERABLE SAMUEL MAZZUCHELLI, OP

LORD JESUS, you called your servant, Samuel, even in early youth, to leave home and all for a Dominican life of charity in preaching your holy Gospel. You gave him abundant graces of Eucharistic love, devotion to your holy Mother of Sorrows, and a consuming zeal for souls.

Grant, we beseech you, that his fervent love and labors for you may become more widely known, to a fruitful increase of your Mystical Body, to his exaltation, and to our own constant growth in devoted love and labors for you Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign one God, world without end. Amen.

MAZZUCHELLI STATISTICS FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2009

Novena to Father Samuel

4 novenas totaling 307 people

Veneration of Father's penance chain

53 people with 178 friends and relatives

Tours of Mazzuchelli Exhibit

12 conducted tours with 409 visitors

Guest Book for Mazzuchelli Exhibit

803 registered guests