

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

BY-LAW NO. 2003-89

A by-law to designate property located within the Town of Amherstburg as being of historical and architectural value to the heritage of the Town of Amherstburg

WHEREAS certain lands and buildings located thereon, within the Town of Amherstburg and hereinafter described are deemed to be of historic and architectural significance;

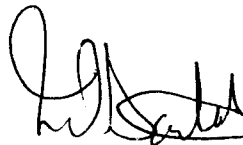
AND WHEREAS in the opinion of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Amherstburg, it is expedient and desirable to designate the said property to be of historic and architectural significance;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

HEREBY DESIGNATED AS ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 1913

1. That the reasons aforesaid, the property and church building on lands within the Town of Amherstburg located on Concession 2 Part Lot 14 and as described in Schedule A attached hereto, which schedule forms part of this By-law, be and the same is hereby proclaimed to be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 4, Bill 176 of the Ontario Heritage Act and amendments thereto.
2. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on the day following the final passing hereof by the Council of the Town of Amherstburg.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 27th day of October, 2003.



Mayor



Clerk

St. Joseph Church - River Canard

Location:

St. Joseph Church is located at the corner of County Road 8 and South Riverview Drive in the Town of Amherstburg.



History:

St. Joseph Parish was founded in 1864 by incorporating the extremities of Assumption Parish (Windsor) founded in 1748 and St. John the Baptist Parish (Amherstburg) founded in 1802. St. Joseph Church is situated eleven kilometers from Amherstburg and sixteen kilometers from Windsor.

The current Church is the third church on the site, with the first being a small Chapel located approximately where the rectory driveway is now. The first mass was celebrated in October 1864. Six years later in 1870 Father Marseille undertook the construction of the second Church, the first church on the site of the present

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church. The Church measured eighty feet in length by forty-five in width. A vestibule fifteen feet by twelve feet was in the front and had eight steps leading to this large porch.

In October 1910 a new pastor, Father Loiselle, was appointed to St. Joseph's. The new pastor quickly realized that the Parish had outgrown the existing Church. The first task Father Loiselle undertook was to build a modern rectory - the current one - at a cost of \$7000. He then undertook the construction of a new Church. In the spring of 1911 the first Church was demolished to make way for the new one. Under the direction of Father Loiselle each able-bodied parishioner had to deliver his share of construction materials to the new Church site.

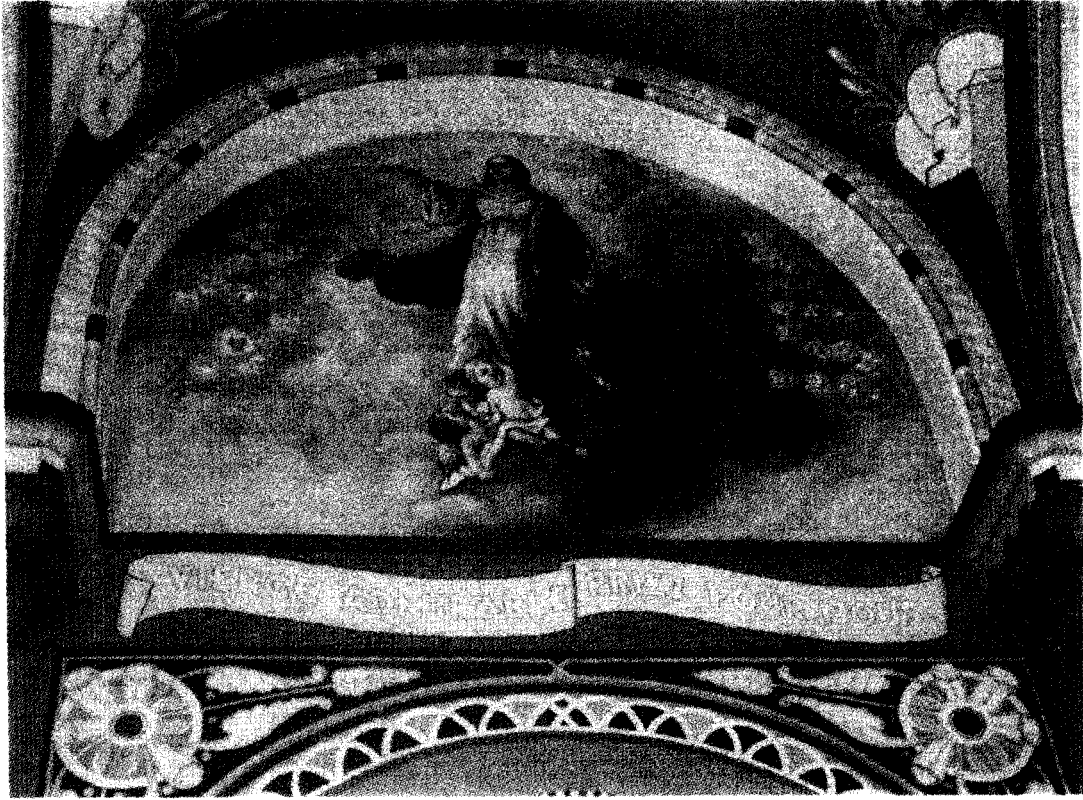
Architect J.O. Turgeon of Montreal designed the Church Plans, the brickwork was done by Mr. Joseph Wilson of Amherstburg and the woodwork by Mr. Urgel Jacques of Windsor. The Church measures one hundred and fifty-eight feet long on the outside, one hundred and fifty-three feet long on the inside and sixty eight feet to the roof above the wall plates. On June 15, 1913 His Excellency Mgr. M.F. Fallon blessed the corner stone. The first mass was celebrated in the basement of the Church on Sunday, April 18, 1915. The first mass celebrated in the Church proper was on October 22, 1916 by Mgr. M.F. Fallon D.D. Bishop of London. The cost of building the new Church was \$75,000. The Church is situated on the River Canard and over the years several bridges have been constructed. The first was a wooden bridge, which opened to allow boats through. This was replaced with a steel bridge built in 1906, which in turn was replaced with a cement bridge on September 1937 at a cost of \$30,000. This cement bridge frames the Church as you approach it. The bridge was extensively repaired in 2002.



St. Joseph Church - View as you come into the Church

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Malczyks, Polish immigrants, redecorated the present interior of the Church in 1953. The paintings took over a year to do and depict seventeen religious scenes. In addition Mr. Austin Meloche, a parishioner of St. Joseph's, constructed walnut altars. Mr. Arthur Schilling of Detroit designed the Church altars. The main altar is 17 feet high while the side altars are 15 and one-half feet in height.

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Painting of the Virgin over right side altar

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Painting of Jesus and the children over the left altar

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Rear of the Church and the Choir Loft

Over the last ten years an ongoing restoration has been undertaken. The rectory, the Church storm windows and the steps were done first. The massive Church roof was completely redone next while the east, south and north exterior walls have been stabilized with stainless steel rods and repointed. The west wall and the interior still require restoration and will be done as funds allow.

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Schedule A Bylaw 2003-89
Building Inventory Form

Identification

Building Name: St. Joseph Church

Street Location: 9399 Townline Road, Windsor,
Ontario, N9J 2W6

County: Essex

Present Owner: Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation,
Diocese of London

Present Use: Roman Catholic Church

Handicap Access: Elevator from street level to Church level
and basement

Description:

Building Material: **Brick**

Structural System: **Masonry load bearing walls**

Condition: **Excellent**

Integrity: **Original Site**

1864 Chapel constructed on site
1870 Wood Church Constructed 1911
 Wood Church Demolished
1912 Corner Stone for existing Church Dedicated 1915
 First Mass in Basement of Existing Church
1916 Current Church Dedicated.
1937 Cement Bridge constructed over River Canard
1953 Church Redecorated, ceilings painted with scenes **from the**
 Bible
1960s Vatican II changes; the altar is turned facing the people 1970s New
carpet installed on the altar and steps leading to altar 1990s Rectory
partially restored, stain glass windows repaired, side
 entrances rebuilt, front steps tiled, reconciliation room built 2001
 East and South outside walls repaired
2002 North outside wall repaired.