

One of the handsome old buildings of Upper Marlboro is St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, on Main Street on the east side of town. The church was dedicated in the Spring of 1899, as reported in the June 3, 1899 issue of The Catholic Mirror the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Dedication at Upper Marlboro'

Upper Marlboro', Md., on Sunday last was the scene of a celebration worthy of the birthplace of the first Catholic Bishop of the United States, Rt. Rev. John Carroll [1735-1815]. On that day Cardinal Gibbons dedicated the new St. Mary's Church, which was completed early in the spring. After the dedication Solemn High Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Dr. Alphonse Magnien, S.S., president of St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, with Rev. John Wade, of Newport, Md., as deacon and Rev. Thomas Mory's of St. Stanislaus', Baltimore, as sub-deacon. Rev. Louis O'Donovan, S.T.I., of the Catholic University, acted as master of ceremonies. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. D.J. Stafford, of St. Patrick's, Washington, D.C., who chose as his subject "The Divine Origin of the Catholic Church." A number of distinguished clergymen were present, including Rev. John A. Morgan, S.J., president of Loyola College, Baltimore; Rev. Charles Damer, rector of Holy Cross Church, Baltimore; Rev. John Gloyd, rector of St. Patrick's Church, Washington, D.C.; Rev. James T. Gardiner, S.J., of White Marsh, Md.; Rev. John J. Ryan, of Gonzaga College, Washington, D.C.

The church is a brick building trimmed with Hummelstown brownstone, with slate roof. Its length is 120 feet, 58 feet wide and 60 feet high, and it is surmounted with a gilt cross. On the front is a tower 75 feet high, ornamented with four brownstone turrets. It contains 24 stained-glass windows. The pews, which give a seating capacity of 800, are of solid oak, antique finish.

All things considered, it is one of the finest churches in the counties, and, as His Eminence remarked, compares favorably with the churches of Baltimore and Washington. The church is built on the site of the old one, which was erected about 1830. Ground has been purchased adjoining the church, and a residence for the priest will be erected thereon.

A large part of the funds requisite for building the church was legacies left by Mrs. Eliza G. Graham, Misses Annie and Agnes Hill and Mrs. Elizabeth Snowden Hill, mother of the latter two. The Cardinal spoke feelingly of the memory of these kind benefactors.

A solid oak communion rail, in conformity with the pews, was donated by Dr. Richard S. Hill. The baptismal font, also of oak, was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Hill. Two statues, one of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the other of St. Joseph, which surmount the side altars, were donated by the pastor, Rev. Charles J. Trinkaus.

Mr. Hugh A. Campbell, of Washington, D.C., was the architect, and Messrs. Wyvill Bros., of Upper Marlboro', and members of the