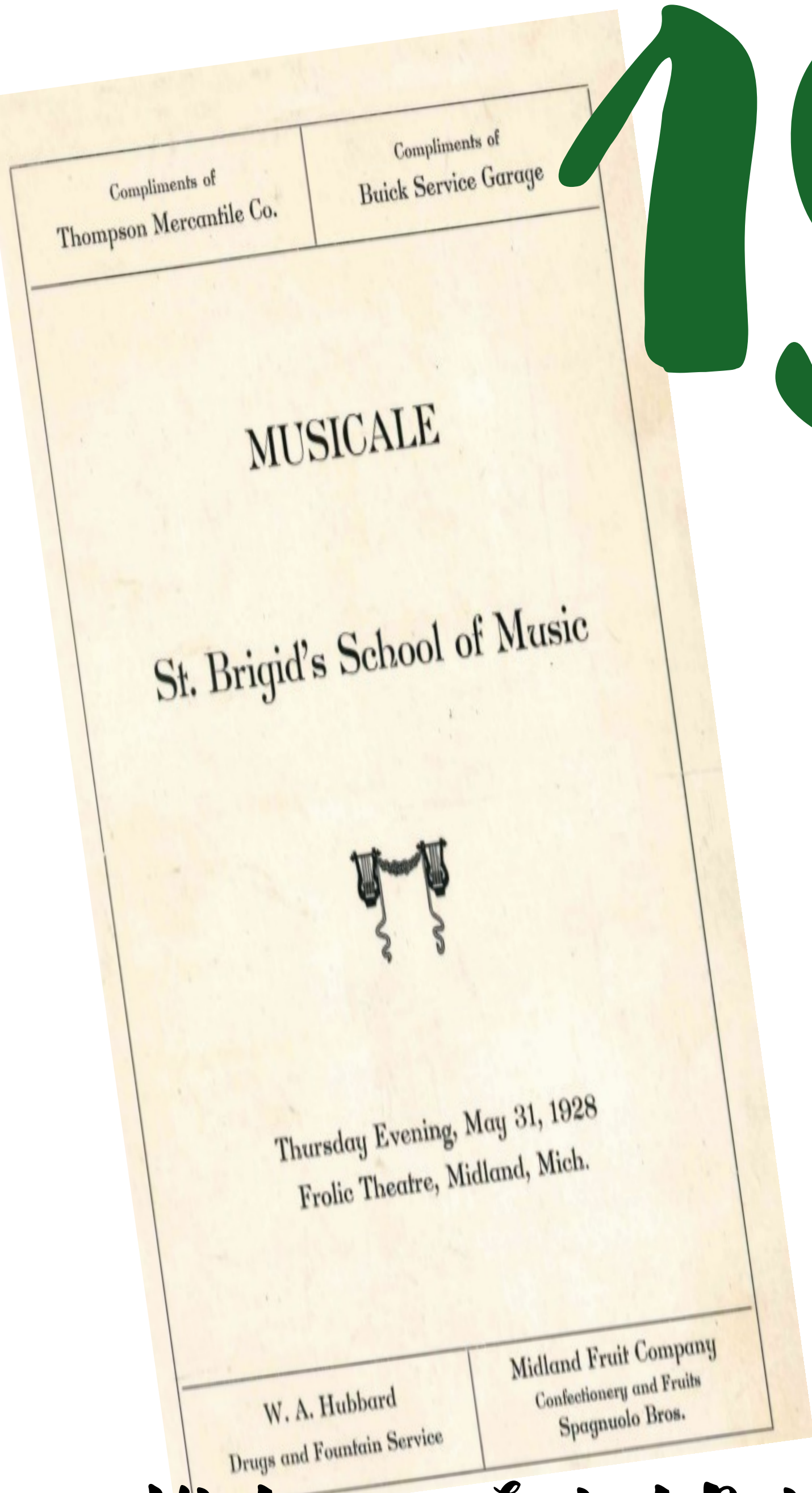


1920's



History of Saint Brigid School as recorded by Catherine Rowland

It was 50 years after a small group of eight families had established the first Catholic Church in this area and about 25 years after the arrival of Herbert Dow and the beginning of Dow Chemical Company with the accompanying growth of Midland, that Saint Brigid School was opened. Fr. McDonald arrived here in 1910 with a dream of establishing a Catholic elementary school. It was 1918 before he called a meeting of the men of the parish to promote his idea. He must've been convincing because within 4 months, a building fund drive had begun. Construction was quite a lengthy process, but four classrooms of the six room brick structure were completed for the opening of school in September, 1922. Before the school's opening, Fr. McDonald was transferred to Saint Francis Parish in Traverse City and Fr. Joseph Illig arrived to manage the final details. Fr. Illig came here with 25 years experience as an educator at the college level. Going from the college level to an elementary school and the leadership of a growing parish appeared to be an easy transition for the friendly, outgoing priest, who guided our parish and school for 36 eventful years. During these years, holy days were always free dress days from school for the students. Father, and later, Monsignor Illig, added Saint Joseph day, his namesake's feast day, to these special days.

Overture		Mackie
March		Beyer
	Orchestra	
When We Haven't Said Our Prayers		Selected
	Billy Fitzgibbon	
Moonlight and Love—Cornet Duet		Mackie
	Max Murphy, Lee Mason	
Vocal Selections		Selected
	Mrs. R. Post	
Caprice		Fay
	Orchestra	
When My Daddy Was a Boy		
	Joseph Blackhurst, James Bark, Robert Blackhurst, Wilfred La Veque, Billy Fitzgibbon	
Saxophone Quintet		Taylor
	Mary Boynton, William Ryan, Lucian LaCroix, John Currie, Shirley Gowing	
Arbutus		Davis
	Edward McMullen	
Dance Schottische		Mackie
	Orchestra	
Reading		Selected
	Mrs. Norman Best	
Harvest Tide		Colby
	Jack Currie	
The Old Refrain		Kreisl
	Harold Penny	
Harmonie Medley		
	Harmonica Band from Fifth and Sixth Grades	
Flirtation Dance		Beyer
	Orchestra	
Concert Transcription		Rathbun
	Jean Clark	
Junior League		Mackie
	Orchestra	
Good Night, Sweet Dreams		Selected
	Tot's Good Night	

First Graduating Class of 1922

- Laura McPhillips (became Sr. Mary Nolasco)
- Irma Cabala
- Robert Vantrese Bowen
- Violet Venner
- Lucille Haley
- Alice Haley
- Kathryn McCann

Bello	Richard Sinclair
Little Old Woman (Aloes)	Margaret Bliss
Fairy Queen	Mary La Veque
Robin Red Breast	James Fitzgibbon
White Rabbit	Billy Fitzgibbon
Cardinals	Billy Williams, Douglas Churchfield
Attendants to the Fairy Queen	Joan Bark, Maybelle Kaweck, Mary Jane Morris, Ann Dunning
Elves	James Hickey, Robert Kuhn, Michael Scott, Harry Scott, Jack Dunning, Robert Blackhurst, Joseph Blackhurst, Russel Walker, Joseph Sinclair, James Bark, Jack Murphy, Charles Yoder.
Butterflies	Alice Catherine Keeley, Wilma Mahar, Jean Alvord, Betty Ritter, Kathleen Smith, Mary Catherine Brooks, Marion Kaweck, Madeline McMillan, Helen Wegner, Ida Yoder, Dorothy Jane Venner, Virginia Keppel, Lucille Jablonski, Mary Margaret Nehil.
Roses	Catherine McLaren, Gladys Beauchamp, Wella Boyle, Betty Bark, Irene LaVeque, Marie Swarthout, Katherine Ann Nehil, Laura Webster, Helen Venner, Ruth Federer, Kathleen Williams, Vantrese McPhillips, Bonita MacDonald, Leannore McMillan, Deloris Hanley, Ruth Venner.
Overture	Mackie Beyer
	St. Brigid Orchestra
	Act I—Scene I
Galop Caprice	S. J. Floyd
	St. Brigid Orchestra
"The Bell in the Forest"	
A Romantic Operetta in Two Acts	
CAST OF CHARACTERS	
Prince Percival	Robert Bradley
Count Ruprecht	George Webster
Count Leopold	William Sinclair
Alexis Forster	Joseph Dixon
Karl Krag	Thomas Blise
Blaise	Francis Federer
Old Screech	Joseph Hanley
Franz Stamb	Thomas O'Brien
Stitchem, Tailor	Arthur McMillan
Chopem, Butcher	Leo Freudensmuth
Waxem, Shoemaker	Vernon A. Bushbault
Kneadem, Baker	Robert McMillan, Floyd Beauchamp
Attendants	Russell Roman
Villagers, Huntsmen	Leo Dunne, John Huberts, Edmund Nogzski, Conrad Jablonski, Carney Fitzgibbon, Herman Huberts, Buddy O'Brien, Frederick Walters.
	Act I—Scene I
Waltz	S. J. Floyd
	St. Brigid Orchestra
	Act II