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# Die Deutsche Gefe

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The German Corner: #18

Cranberry Prairie

David A. Hoying

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Church of SAINT AUGUSTINE ~ 1833

MINSTER ~ 1832

Sankt Augustinus Kirche ~ 1833

Stallostown / Münster ~ 1832

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Franz Joseph Stallo, a schoolteacher from Damme, Oldenburg, having formed a company of sameminded immigrants in Cincinnati, established Minster as Stallostown on 15 September 1832. Mass was first celebrated in Minster in October 1832 by Father Johann Friedrich Rese, Vicar General of Cincinnati. A formal mission was established when Father Johann Wilhelm Horstmann, founder of Glandorf, Ohio, celebrated Christmas Mass for the settlers in 1833. The first church, a blockhouse (40' x 60'), was being built at that time, and on 5 April 1835 was dedicated by Bishop John Baptist Purcell. Under Father Franz Bartels the parish became formally established on 1 November 1836 and became the mother parish for nearly all the surrounding parishes. Father Maria Franz Salesius Brunner, C.P.P.S. and the Missionaries of the Precious Blood were given charge of the parish in 1845, and Minster became a mission center for the Missionaries who ministered to parishes as far away as Lima and Defiance. A second church (60' x 120', 160' tower), this of brick and in the neo-Classical style, had its cornerstone laid on 16 July 1847 and was dedicated on 11 November 1849. The striking twin spires (190') were constructed by Johann Anton Göhr in 1874. In 1900-1 an apse was added, the entrance was moved to the west end, the roof was replaced, and the barrel ceiling with its artistic paintings by Joseph Vittur was emplaced. The church was consecrated in 1931. In the early 1960's an extensive renovation that utilized mosaics and various marbles in its decorating scheme was undertaken of the entire church.

Daughter Parishes: **Saint Joseph** – *Egypt* – 1852; **Holy Rosary** – *Saint Marys* – 1854; **Saint Patrick** – *Saint Patrick* – 1862; **Sacred Heart** – *McCartyville* – 1881; **Holy Redeemer** – *New Bremen* – 1872 / 1948.

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Church of SAINT MICHAEL the Archangel ~ 1838 FORT LORAMIE ~ 1837

Sankt Michael der Erzengel Kirche ~ 1838

Berlin / Loramies ~ 1837

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The village of Berlin was platted by Wilhelm Prillemann on 20 December 1837 in the vicinity where once stood the trading post (1769-1782) of the French-Canadian Pierre-Louis de Lorimier, and the fort (1794-1812) erected by General Anthony Wayne. The parish was formed on 4 June 1838 and for its first church a small frame building was used. A brick church (30' x 60') was built by Johann Anton Göhr which still stands in part. The neo-Classical style structure was begun in 1849 and completed in 1852, being dedicated on 16 August 1852. Father Wilhelm Bigot employed the Cleveland, Ohio, architectural firm of Gudell & Richardson to design the present neo-Gothic style brick church (65' x 150', 200' tower). The cornerstone of this church was laid 12 October 1879, and the edifice was dedicated 2 October 1881.

Daughter Parish: **Saint Nicholas** – *Osgood* – 1906.

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*From whence they came...* PROVINCE OF WESTPHALIA, KINGDOM OF PRUSSIA

**Walstegge:** Entrup / Ontrup, Mai, Middendorf  
**Werendorf:** Albers, Buddendiek  
**Wessum:** Brüning, Heÿne, Küss, Paul, Rose, Schrör, Uppenkamp, Wildenhaus  
**Westrup:** Blumenhorst  
**Wext:** Wermert  
**Wüllen:** Heuker, Menker, Voss

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