

August 2012

A beautiful picture by a local artist is available for sale through the CCEA and St Rose of Lima Church. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the CCEA (Outreach). Thanks to Father Giuliano for generously donating the proceeds to the CCEA. Visit the CCEA website www.ccea4u.com to see the print and order your copy.

The print depicts the occasion of the dedication of St Rose of Lima Church in 1875. The steamer "Lancaster" brought a contingent of 120 Catholics from Port Deposit. They are depicted in the painting in procession from the ship to St Rose for the ceremony presided over by Bishop Becker, the 1st Bishop of Wilmington. I found this information in Fr. Perkins history of St Rose. I suspect that Mrs. Langner used an old post card photo for a model, as the buildings and ship depicted at the foot of the CC lock, is mostly historically correct judging from other post card photos of that era I have seen. The grocery and ships supply store on the dock was where the steamers tied up before, or after negotiating the locks, which would be located to the right of the scene in the painting. The store would eventually become Schaefer's in 1907. Founded during the 1800's, it was previously operated by Barwick, Young and Camp in succession. Note the covered walkway to keep off sun and weather, a common feature in those days. Eventually there was a two-story building next to the store known as the "Easton House" a rooming house serving steamship passengers. The white multi storied building to the left of the procession up the hill, is the Schaefer family residence. An artist's liberty, it only had two stories in those days, the 3rd added by Mr. Pensil in the 1930's to accommodate ship pilots rooming with the family at that time previous to construction of the original "Pilot Shack". This print was used as the cover subject of "The Seed Has Grown to Harvest: Centenary of St. Rose of Lima Mission, 1874-1974", by Rev. Russell H. Perkins. Mrs Langer produced and donated the painting on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of St Rose and the opening of our new church hall. It hung over the hall mantle, painted Williamsburg blue to match the painting, for many years.

Information provided by Larry Ortt.

St. Rose of Lima Church



Chesapeake City Ecumenical Association

