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EMMANUEL IS DAYTON'S 1st parish

"It is the largest church in the Archdiocese, with a seating capacity of 1,400. It is the only church in Ohio with double balconies. Except for the exterior sandstone, the entire structure is made of wood and brick with no steel whatsoever... the architect achieved what others have tried in vain to copy - a church with nary a pillar holding up its ceiling, which is 85 feet from the floor." Father Jammers McKay, SM, Sesquicentennial History

Joseph Fischer, Emmanuel organist in the 1860s, started the J. Fischer and Bro. music publishing company with his brother, Ignaz, in 1864. They later moved the company to New York and became one of the country's largest music publishers.

- 1831** - established as a German parish & original church dedicated
- 1871** - cornerstone for current church laid
- 1897** - Archbishop Elder permitted Emmanuel to erect Stations of the Cross
- 1913** - flood destroyed pews & pulpit
- 1920** - current marble altars and stained glass windows installed
- 1922** - rear spire blown down in a windstorm
- 1922** - Father Joseph Sieber runs through falling embers to rescue the Blessed Sacrament from a fire after a lightning strike
- 1956** - front spires removed
- 1991** - organ restored to a smaller size and different style
- 2015** - digital ranks restore organ to original sound

DID YOU KNOW?



Emmanuel means "God with us."

For an extensive video on this church's history, please visit emmanuelcatholic.com



Emmanuel has hosted a Tuesday evening Miraculous Medal novena for more than 50 years. The annual Divine Mercy Sunday celebration dates to 1989 and the Corpus Christi procession along Franklin Street - decorated by parishioners with designs in colored wood chips - will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2021.

"The Downtown Dayton Parishes preserve traditions with an eye to the future. We all desire to evangelize in the city and share the gospel message with the world. All three are beautiful, and one of the ways you draw people into the Church is through beauty: beautiful music, beautiful art, beautiful architecture." Father Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S.