

EASTMAN COMES TO ALBION

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The third in a series of three concerts by Eastman Community School of Music faculty is set to take place in Albion. The mission is to "promote the performing arts in our community by offering a series of professional music concerts. We hope to educate and inspire through exposure to musical excellence. In using our historic churches as musical venues, we will more greatly appreciate the cultural heritage of our community."

At 3 p.m. June 13, St. Joseph's Church at the Albion Court House Square will be the setting for "Upbeat Innovations" quartet-semble.

The previous two concerts of this series have sold out and were very well received by the audience. During the intermission, someone from each church gave a brief history of the religious edifice in which the concert is held. Following is an historical sketch of St. Joseph's Church:

A disgruntled Baptist sold his property to St. Joseph's parish in 1895 with a provision that they build their new church as close to the street as possible so as to block the view of the Baptist Church next store. Hence, St. Joseph's Church edifice has no front lawn.

This beautiful red Medina sandstone structure was dedicated in September 1897. It is Gothic Revival in style, featuring a cruciform plan with a clearstory.

In 1952, when the parish celebrated its centennial, it redecorated the interior to its current appearance. At



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this time, all the Italian marble was added, thereby replacing the original altar, communion rail and statuary. The mural over the main altar was also added, which is titled "The Glorification of St. Joseph." This depicts St. Joseph rising up into heaven surrounded by many angels and cherubs.

Of particular note are the original stained-glass windows that adorn this church. To date, the maker is unknown but believed to be European.

Three doors in the church contain brilliant cut-glass windows made in Corning and installed in 1913. The two largest windows' companion subjects are interesting as to placement. The Holy Family, in brilliant colors, is in the east transept where it catches the morning sun, highlighting Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Its counterpart, in drab colors, in the west transept, depicts St. John the Baptist and secular people listening to his preaching.

When this church interior was created, worshippers were

expected to be dazzled, as are people who enter today. Our photo shown here

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Bethinking of Olde Orleans

depicts St. Joseph Church, rectory and former school around 1905. Only a tip of the Baptist Church spire may be seen here as the Catholic Church blocks a full view of its Baptist neighbor.