

SAINT PAUL CHURCH (502 WASHINGTON STREET)



Year Completed: 1916

List of Owners (with dates)	Book/Page
06/03/1914 Fred O. Johnson to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston (84,246 sq. ft.)	1283/270

Additional Information:

- “St. Paul’s Church, a mission branch of St. John’s Church at Newton Lower Falls, was dedicated here this morning [November 12th] by Cardinal O’Connell, fully 700 members of the parish being present. Cardinal O’Connell arrived shortly before 10 and immediately laid the corner stone. Later he resided at the mass celebrated by Rev. Leo J. Knapp, the pastor. His eminence was assisted by Rt. Rev. Mgr. Ambrose F. Roche, pastor of St. Patrick’s Church, Watertown, and Rt. Revm Mg. M.J. Splaine, pastor of St. Joseph’s Church, Roxbury. Other clergymen present were Rev. John F. Keleher of West Newton, Rev. Daniel C. Riordan of Newton Center, Rev. Dennis Donovan of Newton Upper Falls, Rev. M.J. Delaney of Natick, Rev. Arthur S. Connolly of Jamaica Plain, Rev. Daniel J. O’Connor of Hyde Park, Rev. Joseph F. Faber, S.J. , Rev. Philip R. O’Donnell and Rev. E.F. McLeod of Boston and Rev. John J. McGrath of Whitman. The men of the parish formed a double line, through which the Cardinal was escorted to the church. Mgr. Splaine preached the sermon. The pastor later extended welcome to his eminence. Cardinal O’Connell spoke on the life of St. Paul, for whom the church is named. He also pronounced the benediction. The church occupies a beautiful site opposite Town Hall Park. It is of English Gothic design. The materials are a pleasing combination of brick, dark and irregular in color and rough in texture, with a composite limestone of a warm gray tone. The central motive is an entrance tower, which conveys an impression of massiveness as well as delicacy. Here a large tracery window surmounts a low stone doorway, on either side of which are niches for statues of St. Peter and St. Paul. Large flanking buttresses rise in the belfry. In the center, above the battlements of the roof, stands a graceful stone cross, an adaptation of the Celtic type. Passing through the front doorway one enters the vestibule, which is separated from the nave by a leaded glass screen. There are two side entrances, that on the left being surmounted by a life-size statue of St. John, the Evangelist, and that on the other side by a statue of St. Priscilla. The main church is built without columns. The altar is deeply recessed below the arch of Caen stone which divided the nave from the chancel.” – Boston Daily Globe: November 13, 1916