



The Windows of St. Michael's

A brief history about those who donated the stained glass windows of St. Michael's, or in whose memory they were given.

Window Symbol: Cross

The perfect symbol of Christ and His sacrifice for His faithful, the emblem of salvation and redemption, a sign of hope.

Given in Memory of: Ellen P. (Fogarty) Dalton

Ellen P. Fogarty was born about 1825 in Ireland, probably in the parish of Kilmaganny, County Kilkenny, daughter of Timothy Fogarty and his wife. About 1845, during The Great Hunger, Ellen immigrated to Massachusetts, probably arriving in the Port of Boston. On June 1, 1856, in Taunton, Massachusetts, Ellen Fogarty married Patrick Whalen, another Irish immigrant. He was a blacksmith and they lived in Taunton.

Patrick and Ellen (Fogarty) Whalen had at least three children: Thomas W., Timothy Bartholomew who married Ellen Welch, and John Patrick Whalen. On January 28, 1862, only a year after the birth of the last child, Patrick Whalen died of consumption, leaving Ellen with three young sons.

On July 9, 1866, Ellen Fogarty Whalen remarried. She married Peter "Pierce" Dalton, an Irish immigrant from the parish of Killeean, County Monaghan. He was a widower. Peter relocated the family to Pawcatuck, settling in Downerville, where many of the other donors of our stained glass windows lived. Peter, Ellen, and her three Whalen sons lived on Cross (Garden) Street. Peter Dalton worked as a stonemason in the local quarries.

Ellen Dalton did not have an easy life. She lost her first husband and was left with three young children. Her eldest son, Thomas Whalen, suffered from epileptic seizures throughout his childhood. Then in 1876 she lost her second husband when Peter Dalton died. To provide for support of her sons, Ellen operated as a landlady for their multi-family home at 43 Garden Street. It's especially noteworthy that she donated a stained glass window. It must have been a significant financial hardship for this twice widowed single mother, a testament to her devotion to her parish and to God. Ellen (Fogarty) (Whalen) Dalton died of apoplexy in Pawcatuck on January 27, 1907. After her funeral her sons had her body removed to Taunton, Massachusetts, for burial with their father in one of the Catholic cemeteries.

Descendants

Descendants of the family may include the **Fogarty**, **Whalen** and **Dalton** families. It appears Ellen Dalton's only direct descendants are through her sons from her first marriage. She and Peter Dalton had no children. Ellen's sons worked as stonemasons in the granite quarries, but may have returned to Massachusetts in their adult years. There are no known descendants of Ellen (Fogarty) (Whalen) Dalton in the local area.