

EPISODE TITLE: **Father Teurling's Rocker**

CIRCA: 1915

Guest Interview: Janice McNeil – Curator; Museum of Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

Project: Rocking chair made for Monsignor William Joseph Teurlings

Father William Teurling(s?), born in Tilburg, Holland in 1872, was instrumental in forming the infrastructure of the Lafayette area Catholic community. Respected by Jews, Catholics, blacks and whites, his dynamic personality inspired and influenced the spiritual and political growth of early twentieth century Lafayette. Father Teurlings opened his heart to the pleas of black Catholics and was instrumental in forming black and mixed-race churches in what is now known as Acadiana.

In 1915, Louis Sarcin Broussard made the mahogany rocker which now resides in the Museum of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Lafayette, Louisiana.

The story is told by Janice McNeil, curator of the museum. Video locations will be at the museum, Teurlings High School and Fr. Teurlings gravesite at the Calvary Cemetary and the MT studio shop.

The project will be a faithful copy of the original (sans repairs).



Museum Curator Janice McNeil