

# Cloud of Witnesses

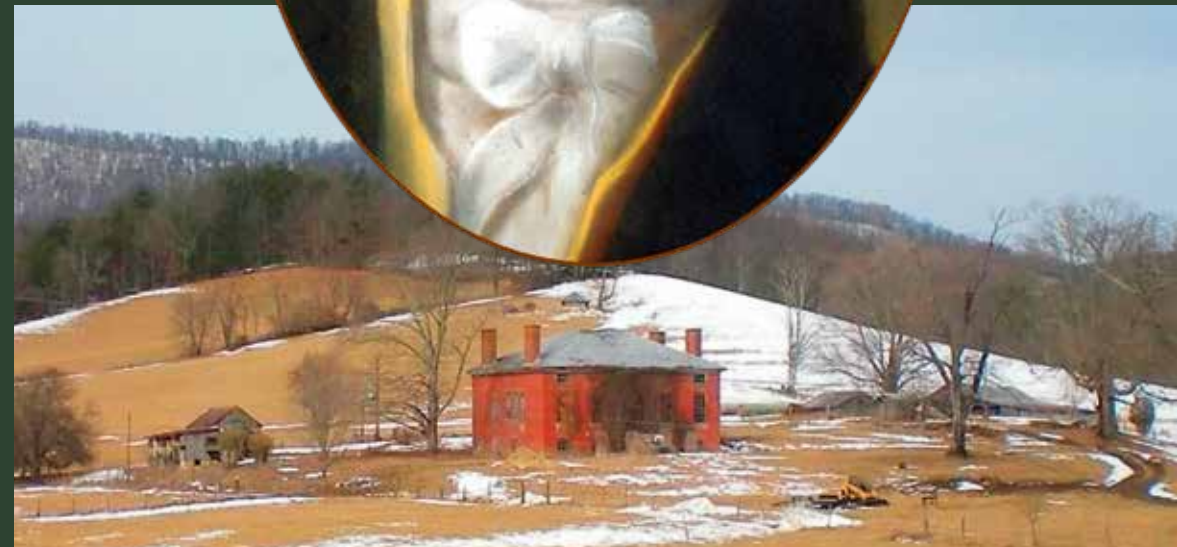


St. John's Chapel, Sweet Springs, West Virginia

Do you know who is in your own Cloud of Witnesses (Heb. 12:1), the people in your life who have died but still influence you positively in a significant way? Fr. Harry Winter, O.M.I., Ph.D. traces the history of Virginia's Governor John Floyd Jr. (1783-1837) and his pioneer feminist wife, Letitia Preston Floyd, (1779-1852) and their descendants to show how their influence is as important for the United States today as President John Adams and his wife, Abigail Adams and their descendants.

The Floyd family's conversion to Catholicism is important, and Fr. Winter proposes them as part of the Cloud of Witnesses for any American, indeed any person interested in the abolition of slavery, in feminism, the governor's possible Native American ancestry, or in the maturing of democracy. You will meet a fascinating historian, Dr. James Glanville, and two of the most recent descendants of the Floyd's, Lynn Spellman and her daughter Jacqueline (Jackie) Spellman.

If you thought Appalachia was only a hillbilly or coal mining region, Fr. Winter will show you a very different Appalachia, particularly in the area around Sweet Springs, West Virginia, which is undergoing revitalization today.



The Floyd-Lewis Chronicles:  
The Growth of Catholicism and Its Impact  
Beyond the Appalachian Region

Father Harry E. Winter, O.M.I.