



MOST REV. M. C. O'NEILL, D.D., O.B.E., M.M.,
Archbishop of Regina

Regina, Sask., July 6, 1956.

Rev. Norman Andries,
St. Vincent de Paul Parish,
Weyburn, Sask.

Dear Father Andries:

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you and the parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Parish on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the founding of the Parish.

While most of those who will be celebrating this jubilee may not have been original members of the Parish I am sure that in their hearts there are sentiments of gratitude to Almighty God for the blessings of these fifty years. Moreover, they will be deeply conscious of the fact that they are living on the capital amassed by others, those pioneers whose generosity, faith and sacrifice made the founding of such a Parish possible.

In the life of the Church fifty years may not seem a very long time; but somehow in that space of time a parish can begin to feel venerable. Even in that space of time, how many children have been regenerated at the baptismal font, how many a man and woman have plighted their marriage vows before the altar, how often the bell has tolled for a Christian soul gone to rest!

Think too, of all the Communions--each a separate event--that have been received at the altar rails, of the secrets that have been whispered in the confessional. In all this you can read a pageant of history enacted in the lives of the parishioners of yesterday and today. And it is a history of which both priest and people may well be proud.

The latter years have perhaps witnessed the greatest growth and development. A new Church, the arrival of the Sisters of Loretto and the building of a new school - the arrival of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross and the opening of Mount St. Mary--all an indication of the living faith of an active Parish. For all these, Monsignor Janssen will long be remembered.

May the years to come be fruitful in grace and blessings for you and your parishioners.

Yours very sincerely in Christ,

F. McSorley

Archbishop of Regina.

This booklet, giving the history of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Weyburn, from its establishment in the year 1906 until this - our Golden Jubilee year - 1956, is dedicated to the pioneer pastors and parishioners.

A parish great in spirituality - great in numbers - and great in strength - has developed from the start made by the Missionaries of LaSalette and a mere handful of faithful men and women who, in the year 1906, had the courage and the faith to lay the foundation of our parish. Many of these good souls have gone to their eternal reward - we pause here and offer a silent prayer for the repose of their souls - and we thank God for those who are still with us.

Theirs was not an easy task. Modern conveniences, as we know them today, did not exist, but their labors - sacrifices - and surely there were tears as well - were works of love for the faith they cherished and wanted to perpetuate.

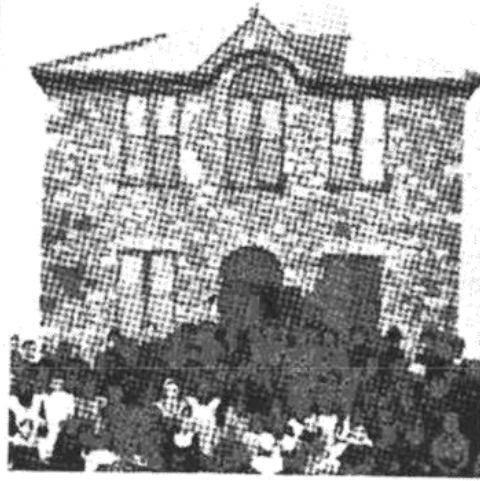
Through the ensuing years there have been many who have contributed much to the development of our parish. Many have left our midst - today we think of them too, wherever they may be, and breathe a silent prayer for them.

This history of the life of our parish covers years of pioneering - years which brought the bitter experience of two wars, drouth years that were so full of suffering and hardships - epidemics. But always there were the joys - the satisfaction of having the Sacrifice of the Mass; the Benedictions of the Blessed Sacrament; The Divine Presence in our midst with Whom we could share our sorrows and joys.

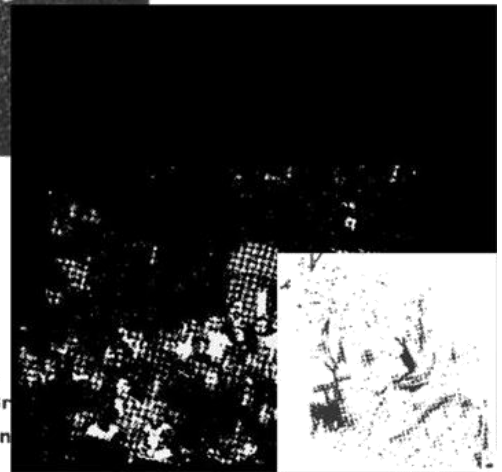
The birth and infant years of our parish were tended by the LaSalette Fathers - they nurtured and guided this infant until its adolescent years, when the Diocesan Clergy continued to mould and further develop this child of God.

During these last few years a tremendous expansion has taken place. The needs of our growing parish demanded this expansion and here again we witnessed that same dauntless courage and faith that inspired our pioneers. Guided by the wisdom of the good Fathers who have served us, there has been a steadfast, healthy growth of our parish, both spiritually and materially.

The words inscribed in this booklet have been taken mainly from the parish archives. There were some gaps, and for this reason there may have been omissions - our humble apologies. It is regretted too that pictures of a few of the Fathers who served this parish were unavailable.



Front row, left to right: Jim
Trapeau. Leo Gauthier, Leo McBr
Back row, left to right: Hen
Mergens.



"Thou shalt sanctify the fiftieth year" --- the Book of Leviticus says, "for it is the year of the Jubilee". (25,10). The word "jubilee" is derived from the Hebrew word "jobel", meaning a ram's horn, a musical instrument which was blown for proclaiming a joyful event. The Latin verb "jubilare" to shout with joy, from which the English word "jubilee" and the German words "jubel" and "jubilaum" are derived, have practically the same meaning. Looking forward, fifty years seems to be a very long time, but looking back, one marvels how quickly they have vanished. A half century has passed since St. Vincent de Paul Parish came into existence.

Many of the staunch pioneers who labored and suffered are no longer here; they rest in the cemeteries, but they have left behind them mute testimony of the hopes, the plans, the sacrifices and prayers that went into the development of our parish during the early years. Those who are still living may call out with Jeremias: it is due to "mercies of the Lord that we are not consumed" (Lam.3,22). Those who have witnessed the beginning of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, and have seen its development and its progress, have all reason to rejoice and sing with David: "The mercies of the Lord I will sing forever"(Ps.88,11).

In the years 1901-1902 Masses were offered at Weyburn by Rev. Father J. Morard, M.S., Rev. Father Luton from Estevan and Father Kuonen, M.S. Masses, at that time, were celebrated at the farm home of David Tourigny, south of Weyburn. From 1902 to 1904 Masses were celebrated in the home of the late J. A. McBride, in the house which still stands immediately south of the Anglican Church - then from 1904 until 1906 in the 'old stone schoolhouse', the foundation of which still remains on the present Assiniboia School grounds.

The Order of Our Lady of LaSalette were in charge of the Mission of Weyburn., and continued until July 12, 1943.

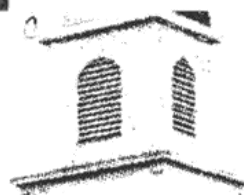
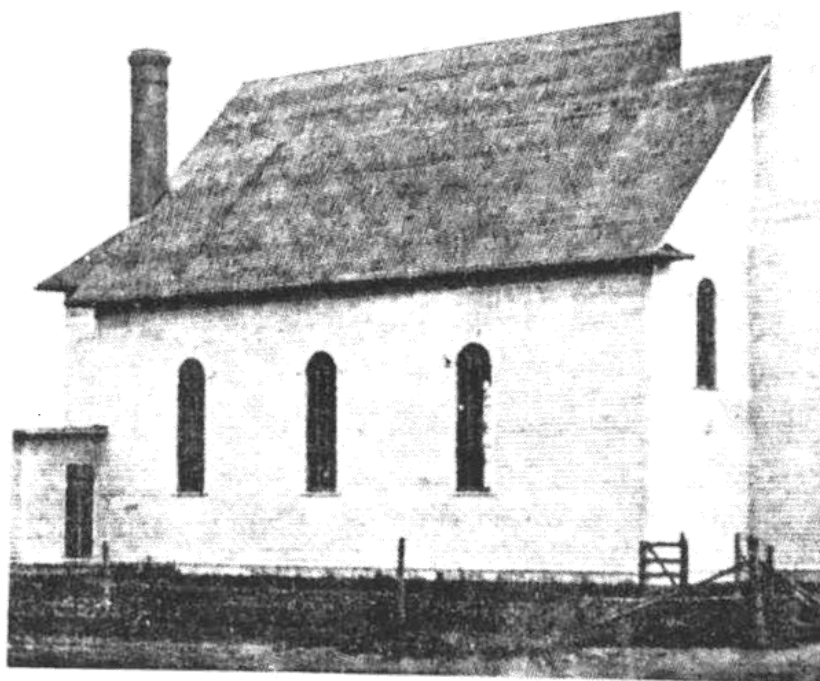
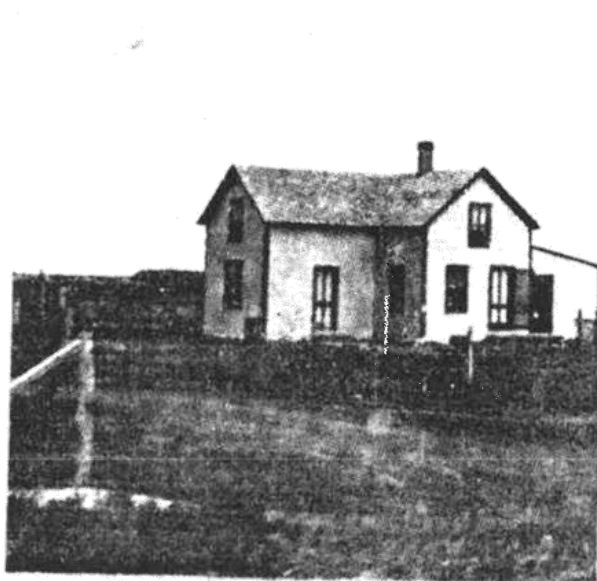
From 1900 to 1906 the growth of the Catholic population was rapid, and as a result, in May of 1906 it was decided to erect a mission chapel. On May 27th of that year a building committee was named. These were Messrs. J. A. McBride; J. Mergens and D. Tourigny. On August 24th the contract for the chapel was awarded to G. Dunn, of Oxbow, for \$4253.00. On November 26, 1906 the above mentioned committee gave their approval to the work completed by the contractor. On December 2nd the church was blessed, and the first Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father A. Dupraz, M.S.

In the year 1907 the Mission of St. Francis Regis, Halbrite, was established.

It was in this year, 1907, the steeple was erected on the church at Weyburn.

Rev. J. M. Trapeau , M.S., was installed as the first resident priest.

June 15 marked the first pastoral visitation by the late Adelard Langevin, O.M.I., Archbishop of St. Boniface. In



FIRST CHURCH AND RECTORY.

the archives of the parish we find the following words of the Archbishop on that occasion:

"This 15th day of June 1907 we have come from "Bourassa" to make, for the first time, the pastoral visitation of this new parish dedicated to St. Vincent de Paul, and on Sunday, the 16th, the feast of St. Francis Regis, we have confirmed 35 people, mostly adults. We have entrusted the care of the parish to the Reverend Missionaries of LaSalette who are visiting this place for the last seven years, and we approve of Rev. Father Jean Marie Trapeau, M.S., as the parish priest, being the first missionary to reside here definitely from this very day (16th June, 1907). Mr. Joseph Mergens has read to us an address that is a very real program and that mentions the question of a Catholic school, which was very pleasing to us. I bless willingly the pastor and the parish.

(sgd) Adolard, O.M.I.,
Archbishop of St. Boniface. "

1910

August 7 Rev. Father A. Dupraz, M.S., replaced Rev. Father Trapeau, M.S., as pastor at Weyburn.

November 6 Once more the Archbishop of St. Boniface visited this infant parish for the solemn blessing of the church bells. Here again we quote the words of Archbishop Langevin on that occasion, taken from the archives:

"Blessing of two church
bells at Weyburn, Sask.
Sunday - November 6, 1910

This sixth day of November we have, after High Mass, sung by very Rev. Father Morard, M.S., Provincial, and accompanied by Rev. Father Pare, M.S., assistant bursar, and Rev. Father A. M. Sorrel, M.S., who preached the sermon after the gospel, solemnly blessed two church bells.

"The first bell, called "Helena", weighing 600 lbs. and costing \$250.00, is for the church of Weyburn. Mr. and Mrs. McBride were the godfather and godmother. The second bell, called "Anna", weighing 350 lbs. and costing \$150.00, is for the chapel of Halbrite. Both came from the well known firm "Paccard" of Annecy-de-Vieux, France.

"Rev. Father Dupraz, M.S., Parish Priest at Weyburn, and Father Kuonen, M.S., were also present. The singing was remarkable. The collection for the ringing of the two bells brought eighty dollars.

"We bless the Parish Priest and his flock.

(sgd) Adolard, O.M.I.
Archbishop of St. Boniface.

"P.S. The reason why there is no separate school in Weyburn is that the number of proprietors is too few; but it must come, since it is a sacred duty for the parents to secure for their children a Catholic education.

(sgd) Adolard. "

1911

March 26th

First mission in the parish of St. Vincent de Paul commenced.

"This mission was given by Rev. F. J. Guinet of Hartford, Conn. U.S.A., and began on the 26th day of March, closing on the 2nd day of April, 1911. It was well attended. The people of Weyburn are to be congratulated for their love for religion which made them profit by this unique opportunity to advance their spiritual interests. The mission closed with the solemn consecration of the whole parish to the Blessed Virgin. This last ceremony was very impressive. About 150 grown up members of the parish received the sacraments.

(sgd) J. Guinet, M.S. "

1912

July

The Reverend Sisters of the Cross of Murinais came to Weyburn to take charge of the Dr. Eaglesham hospital, but the vote to decide if they would remain in charge of the village hospital did not turn out favorable. They left Weyburn in 1913.

Late in this year Rev. P. Morard, M.S., became the Parish Priest at Weyburn, replacing Rev. Father Dupraz, M.S.

1913

July 13th.

The first pastoral visit by the new Archbishop of Regina, Most Rev. O. E. Mathieu. At this time the spirit of the faithful of this parish, as manifested by the large number of Holy Communion received, was highly commended by the Archbishop. The Sacrament of Confirmation was conferred on 63 boys and 96 girls. On the occasion of this visit Archbishop Mathieu also confirmed at the mission of Halbrite. It is noted in the records that Rev. Father Mollard, M.S., was in charge of the mission of Halbrite at that time.

1915

In this year the rectory, which had been built in 1907, and located west of the church, was moved to the lot immediately north of the church, and was enlarged.

1916

May 14th

Second parish mission commenced. The Missionary Priest was Rev. J. Guinet, M.S.

1917

June 3rd.

Archbishop Mathieu again visited the parish of Weyburn, and had nothing but praise for pastor and parishioners. On that occasion His Grace expressed his pleasure at the magnificent new rectory, which building is now the convent house of the Sisters of Loretto.

May 28th.

Rev. Father Dupraz, M.S., departed for World War 1. He returned to the parish June 17, 1918. During his absence he was replaced at the missions by Rev. Father Y. Plattier, M.S., who arrived in Weyburn the end of August of this year.

June 2.

Solemn blessing of the statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the main altar.

1918

During this year most of the families of the parish were consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Many Masses were offered to protect the people of the parish during the severe and ravaging epidemic of influenza.

1919

A very solemn service was held for Sir Wilfred Laurier, who died in February.

1920

A parish mission was preached in March of this year by Rev. Father Cruveiller, M.S.

1921

- February 13. Announcement made of the appointment of Rev. Father Cruveiller, M.S., as pastor at Weyburn, replacing Rev. Father Morard, M.S.
- May 22nd. On his third visit to our parish, Archbishop Mathieu remarked on the wonderful relationship that existed between the Catholics and non-Catholics in the City.
- August 11th. Rev. Alois Summerfeld, M.S., arrived to look after the German-speaking people in the surrounding areas.
- December 22nd. Rev. P. J. Morard, M.S., was called to France, and was elected as Superior General of the Congregation of Our Lady of LaSalotte.
Rev. J. Zimmerman, M.S., came to Weyburn this year and assisted with the missions.

1922.

St. Mary's Altar Society came into existence in this year. Their untiring efforts reduced the parish debt, and in 1923 they undertook the decoration of both the interior and exterior of the church. They were instrumental in raising the monies for the completing of the murals in the church. The artist employed was Mr. Emile Mayeur of the "L'Institute des Beaux Arts a Paris, France".



MISSIONARIES OF LA SALETTE

Front: Rev. A. Sommerfeld.

Second row, left to right: Rev. J. Morard, Rev.

Back row, left to right: Rev. Y. Plattier, Rev. S. Majka, and Rev. Fr. Girard.

REV. S. MAJKA

1922 cont'd

August 12th, Rev. Edward Marcoux, M.S., recently ordained in the Eternal City, arrived in Weyburn to look after the French and English speaking people of the missions.

1924

August 31st. Once more Archbishop Mathieu paid a pastoral visit to us, at which time he confirmed in the parish of Weyburn, and the missions of McTaggart and Cedoux.

1925.

This year saw the erection of the present parish hall.

July 7th . On this date we celebrated with our pastor, Rev. Father Cruveiller, M.S., the silver jubilee of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. Archbishop Mathieu and a large number of priests were present on this occasion. Rt. Rev. Monsignor Benoit gave the discourse. The evening function took place in the new parish hall, with tributes being paid to the jubilarian and the presentation of a beautiful silver chalice from the parish.

1926.

June. Rev. Father Cruveiller, M.S., was named second Council General and the Secretary General by the General Chapter, and left Weyburn in January of 1927.

Rev. Father H. Galvin, M.S., was appointed pastor at Weyburn, replacing Father Cruveiller.

Rev. T. Links, M.S. remained as assistant in charge of the mission of Ceylon.

1930

July 10th. Archbishop McGuigan, the present Cardinal Archbishop of Toronto, made his first pastoral visitation to our parish. He was accompanied by the Rev. Father Cahill, now Monsignor Cahill and rector of St. Mary's Cathedral in Winnipeg. At the time of his pastoral visitation, Archbishop McGuigan administered the sacrament of Confirmation in the parish of Weyburn and also at the

missions of Cedoux and Halbrite. At this particular time he urged the Parish Priest and faithful to make every effort to bring in Sisters to establish a Catholic school.

September 15 Rev. Father Stanley Majka, M.S., from Altamont, N.Y., came to serve the missions of Cedoux, Halbrite, Axford, and Trossachs.

-1931-

April 8 Organization of Weyburn Subdivision of The Catholic Womens' League of Canada. First officers were Mrs. J. L. Vandendriessche, president and Mrs. Walter Garner, Secretary.

-1933-

September 25 Announcement was made of the appointment of Rev. Father W. J. Fortier, M.S., as Superior of Weyburn and Parish Priest.

-1934-

March 3 Rev. Father W. Fortier, M.S., arrived in Weyburn.

April 22 Visitation by His Excellency, Archbishop Monahan, accompanied by Rev. Father Cahill and Miss Myrian Marks of Great Falls, Montana, to establish the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the parish. As a result of this visitation, the Confraternity was established on April 29th. Officers elected were: Mrs. M.E. Gendron; Miss Nellie Landrigan; Mrs. T.A. Marshall; Mrs. Tom Gendron; Mrs. C.J. Garner; Mrs. D. Livingstone; Mrs. G. Moore; Mrs. M. Galarneau.

May 12 Erection of Sodality of Children of Mary. First officers were: Misses Leane Tourigny; Helen Rubin; Rolando Gauthier; Sarah Hind; Charlotte Hind; Jean Gregory.

July 9 Opening of first vacation school at Weyburn, with an average attendance of 163 children. Four Dominican Sisters came to Weyburn to take charge of this first vacation school, assisted by a group of the laity. The Sisters remained eight weeks reaching over 300 children in the parish and missions during that time.

August An organization for the men and young men of the parish was formed. Officers of this organization were: Tom Gendron; Jos. Gregory; Marcus Gregory; Pat Elderfield; Tom O'Connell; Tom Woodard; George Sweeney and Dennis Solleroz.

September 16th. Mission, preached by Father McGuire, CSSR.,
Moose Jaw, commenced.

In the archives mention is made of the many sacrifices on the part of the organizations in the parish to help not only in the financing of the parish, but particularly in helping the many needy families during the years of drouth.

October 23-24 First Pastoral Visitation by His Excellency, Most Rev. P. J. Monahan. His Grace, the Archbishop, arrived from Milestone Wednesday evening, October 23, and was received at the presbytery by the clergy, Parish societies and a large number of parishioners. The parish priests came in procession to the rectory to meet His Excellency and there was a solemn entrance into the church. Following a short address of welcome by the pastor and a reply by His Excellency, solemn Pontifical Benediction took place. Immediately following this the official welcoming banquet was held in the parish hall, which was served by the Catholic Womens' League. There were 120 guests, including the following priests: Father Galvin, M.S., Father LaChappelle, M.S., Father Michael, M.S., Father Majka, M.S., Father Portier, M.S., and Father McDonald of Milestone. Also present were many prominent non-Catholic guests including His Worship Mayor W. H. Duncan and Mrs. Duncan; His Honor, Judge Wilson and Mrs. Wilson; Dr. A. D. Campbell, Supt. of Sask. Hospital, and Mrs. Campbell; Dr. and Mrs. Bird; Alderman J. H. Warren and Mrs. Warren; Mr. Williams, principal of Weyburn Collegiate and Mrs. Williams; Dr. Eaglesham, M.L.A., Miss Ann Morton, school nurse, and others. On this occasion toasts were given by Mayor Duncan; T. M. Gendron, Chairman of the board of trustees; Mrs. W. Mertz for the Catholic Womens' League; Pat Elderfield for the Knights of Columbus. Tom O'Connell was master of ceremonies.

The next morning His Grace administered confirmation to 36 children and 5 adults.

December. Catholic Boy Scout Troup formed in the parish, with Pat Elderfield as Scout Master and practically all our boys enrolled as scouts and cubs. A Scouts' Association was formed with Mr. T. M. Gendron as president, Mr. J. Karroll vice president, and Mr. Joe Rink as secretary-treasurer. The troup was officially named the "Archbishop Monahan Troup".

193 cont

The records indicate that the winter of 1935-36 was very severe, extreme cold and blizzards seemed to persist throughout the winter. Father Fortier remarks that Mass attendance was very poor, and parish activities practically ceased.

1936

- April 19. The first parish activity after the prolonged winter was an amateur hour staged by the Knights of Columbus in the parish hall.
- May 28 Rev. Father Weselak, M.S., arrived to take care of the Missions of Cedoux and Halbrite, replacing Rev. Father S. Majka, M.S., who returned to the East.
- It is noted here that the Sisters who came to Weyburn to conduct our annual vacation schools stayed at the home of Mrs. M. A. Galarneau for many years.
- June Parish mission, preached by Rev. Father Craymer, CSSR., Moose Jaw, was well attended.
- July 2-3-4 The Catholic Womens' League sponsored a refreshment booth at the annual fair. The sum cleared was \$250.00
- July 5 The Forty Hours' Exposition began. The attendance at this Forty Hours was poor, due to the extreme heat. The temperature on this date was 110 degrees above zero.
- July 6 Vacation school ends with Confirmation in our parish.
- August 20 Rev. Father Fortier, M.S., received word of his transfer to professorship of theology at the seminary at Enfield, N.H. Father Fortier left September 30.
- From September to November the parish was under the administration of Rev. W. Weselak, M.S.
- November 13 Rev. Father F.X. Richard, M.S., in charge of St. John the Baptist Church, Estevan, arrived as newly appointed parish priest of Weyburn. Father Weselak now took charge of the missions.
- November Association of the Stations of the Cross was organized in the parish,
- November 29 Rev. Father S. Majka, M.S., made his departure from Weyburn.



REV. F. X. RICHARD, M.S.
In uniform of Padre with South
Saskatchewan Regiment



REV. F. SCHECK, M.S.



ALTAR BOYS, 1937

First row, left to right: Leo McCabe, Francis Shoulak, Koch, Koch, George Knox. Hubert Miller, McCabe, Paul Kozak, Bob Knox, Koch, Unknown.

Second row, left to right: Ed. Karroll, Ed. Andries, John Knox. Norman Andries, Rev. Father Richard, Joe Kosolofski, Steve Berger, Rev. Father Weselak, Ian McCabe, Dennis Gregory, J. Mertz, Herb Garner.

1937

Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever epidemics struck the City. For a period of time no devotions or meetings of any kind were held on this account.

- March Sacred Heart Study Club was organized for the benefit of the high school students. Mr. J. P. Miller, Inspector of Schools, was the director.
- March Catholic Youth Crusade organized.
- April Prayers are urgently requested - the drouth continues and moisture is badly needed; the people are discouraged- continued crop failures do not add to their spirituality, although every effort is made by the priests in this direction.
- July Drouth conditions are still prevalent. In order to have the children from the rural areas present for the full two weeks, Father Richard very wisely arranged for the accomodation of the children in the hall, where they were housed and fed. The meals were prepared and served to the children by Mrs. C. J. Garner; Mrs. R. Hind and Mrs. Garritty.
- July Important changes are announced today. Rev. Father A. Dupraz, M.S., for over 40 years a real zealous, holy, religious missionary, spending himself tirelessly and unassuringly on the prairies, is transferred, now a nervous wreck, to Louisanna, U.S.A.
- Rev. Father Weselak, M.S., young and healthy, is one of the first of seven young LaSalette Fathers to volunteer as a missionary in the new field of labor assigned by Rome to the Community - India.
- September Rev. Father F. Schock, M.S., and Father M. Nolan, M.S., came to the parish as assistant.
- September Father L. Landry, M.S., of Detroit, Michigan, preached a sermon full of significance of the message of Our Lady of LaSalette. He told our people, who had been terribly afflicted with drouth and dust storms, that they should have a special devotion to the weeping Mother of Our Lady of LaSalette. He urged them to ask her to send down rain. Three days later an unexpected, though very welcome downpour, drenched the parched "Sahara" of Saskatchewan.

1938

- Feb. 20 The parish was saddened at the announcement that word had been received of the death of Father Weselak, M.S., in India, a victim of pneumonia.
- April The Mental Hospital workers donated a new Missal and a sanctuary chair (Sedillia) to the church. This chair is still in use in our sanctuary.
- May The Benedictine Fathers at Muenster donated 35 small trees to help improve the parish grounds.
- June 5 For the first time in Saskatchewan a Catholic ceremony for the receiving of Catholic Girl Guides was held in our church. Delegates from Regina were present for the very impressive ceremony - one more attempt to spiritualize our society
- July 22 His Excellency, Archbishop Monahan once more visits the parish. For the first time in the history of the parish a solemn procession in honor of the Blessed Sacrament was held. His Excellency carried the Blessed Sacrament through the downtown section of the City. Several hundred Catholics took part in the procession - the non-Catholics of our City were impressed and respectful.
- September 19 We noticed petitions by the dozens had been placed in the lap of the statue of Our Weeping Mother - a natural confidence of our people in the Mother who is in tears. These petitions remained during the month of September and prayers were said that Mary may hearken to the requests.
- Father Richard made a valiant effort to encourage Catholic reading among the parishioners. He noted gradual but steady increases in the number of Catholics papers, "Radio Replies" and "Sacred Heart Messengers" being circulated in the parish.

1939

- May 29 A well attended retreat for the ladies of the parish was held.
- May 31 New members received into the Children of Mary.

1939 cont'd

- June 11 Rev. Father Koohan, Regina, inaugurated the Holy Name Society in Weyburn. 56 members were received into the Society.
- The outbreak of World War No. 2 saw the South Saskatchewan Regiment stationed in Weyburn. Church parades were held regularly and filled our little church to capacity.
- July Solemn procession through down-town streets of Weyburn closed the annual vacation school.
- July Blanche DeBruyne (now Sister Suszanne) daughter of Mrs. Elvira DeBruyne and the late Prosper DeBruyne entered the Sisters of the Cross
- October 15 Word of the death of Rev. Father Thos. Lincks, M.S.,²⁰ at Detroit, Michigan, was received. Special prayers were offered by the congregation.
- Notes from the archives of the parish tell of a "come-back" attempt at a parish bazaar. This annual event had been dropped for several years on account of drouth conditions and the resulting small returns

1940

- tober 4 The South Saskatchewan Regiment departed from Weyburn for further training at Dundurn and were replaced by the Saskatchewan Horse Regiment, 1000 strong, of which 201 were Catholics.
- July Drouth continues and special prayers for rain were offered daily.
- November 28 General Parish Communion for special intentions (peace in the world) of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII. At 7:30 in the evening there was a Holy Hour for the same intention. Very good attendance.

1941

Stations of the Cross were held each Friday evening at the request of Archbishop Monahan, the intention being for peace. This was continued for the duration of the war.

-13-

19 1 cont'

- March Saskatchewan Horse Regiment left Weyburn for Eastern Canada, enroute to England.
- May 18 Annual retreat for the Catholic Womens' League and the Children of Mary, concluding on May 25.
- July 20 Most Rev. P. J. Monahan, D.D., administered the Sacrament of Confirmation. In the evening the annual procession in honor of the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of the City was held. Commenting on this event we quote Father Richard's writings in the archives "20 boys from the local barracks of the R.A.F. act as guard of honor to the Blessed Sacrament. They edify the people - each holding a Rosary in his right hand".

1942

- May 10 Parish celebrates the silver jubilee of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII with a general Communion and Spiritual Bouquet

1943

- March 30 The parish celebrate with our pastor Rev. Father Richard, M.S., the silver jubilee of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. Solemn High Mass with Father Richard as celebrant was followed by solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. In the evening a reception in the parish hall was attended by the parish as well as leading Weyburn citizens from other denominations. High tributes were paid Father Richard and presentations made.
- June Father Richard received word of his appointment as parish priest at Forget
- July 12 Rt. Rev. A. J. Jansson, D.P., Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Regina, came to Weyburn to become our pastor. This was the beginning of the Diocesan Clergy taking charge of this parish. cc



RT. REV. A. J. JANSSEN, P.A., V.G.



REV. M. D. DORION



REV. L. DOBBELSTEEN

19 3 cont'

July 19 Rev. M. D. Dorion arrived in Weyburn as assistant in the parish, and attended the missions of Halbrite, Macoun, McTaggart, Trossachs and Yellow Grass.

October On the feast of Christ the King the Catholic Young Peoples' Club was organized. The first president was Sgt. James Clarke, stationed at Weyburn with the R.A.F. This organization has been, and still is, a wonderful means of grouping our young Catholic people together in both a spiritual and social way.

The Little Flower Club, was also organized in this year. This was an organization for the 7-14 year group. They met every Friday evening, and their programme enveloped both spiritual and social activities. These young people, through their own efforts, raised the funds to purchase the statue of St. Theresa in our Church today. This organization ceased to function in 1954.

1944.

January 29 The unit of the R.A.F. stationed at Weyburn returned to England. There were approximately 100 Catholic men in this group, some of whom took a very active part in parish work.

1945.

May 28 Ordination of Rev. Father Louis Vandendriessche, M.S. Father Vandendriessche was born at Weyburn, the son of the late Mr. Marcel Vandendriessche, and Mrs. Vandendriessche former residents of this parish.

1946.

May 8 "V.E." Day, which marked the end of World War II. The Mass of thanksgiving on May 9th was attended by practically the entire parish.

September Father M.D. Dorion, who had been assistant in the parish since August of 1943 was appointed pastor at Manor, Saskatchewan, and left Weyburn in September of this year to take over his pastorate. At a parish farewell in his honor tribute was paid to his zealous and unselfish devotion to the welfare of all in the parish, but particularly the youngsters and the elderly parishioners.

1946 cont d

September Father L. Dobbolsteen arrived from Holland to become assistant priest and to attend the missions

September Norman A. Andries son of Dr. A. J. Andries and the late Mrs. Andries left to study for the priesthood at St. Peter's Seminary, London, Ontario

1947

Local council Knights of Columbus re-organized, under the leadership of J. B. Tourigny as Grand Knight

September 14 James Wallace, son of Mrs. May Wallace and the late James Wallace, residents of this parish in the early years was ordained a Jesuit Priest at St. Frances Xavier's, Liverpool, England.

September Arthur Vandendriessche, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Vandendriessche, left for St. Peter's Seminary, London, Ontario, to study for the priesthood

1948

This year saw the inauguration of the Family Rosary Crusade (the peace plan of Our Lady of Fatima) in the Archdiocese of Regina. London, Ontario was the birthplace of the Rosary Crusade, and the Archdiocese of Regina was the second diocese in which it was proposed and effected. On October 12 of this year a monster rally was held in Weyburn, attended by some 2000 of the faithful from the City and surrounding areas. This occasion marked not only the launching of the Rosary Crusade but also the first official visit of the new Archbishop, the Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill, following his installation as Archbishop of Regina. We were also honored by the presence of Lieutenant Governor, His Honor Dr. J. M. Uhrich, K.S.G. Father Patrick Peyton, the Irish-born apostle of Our Lady and promoter of the Family Rosary Crusade, was in Weyburn for the occasion.

Those of the parish who were privileged to attend this rally will never forget the sincerity, the humility, the forceful devotion to Our Lady that radiated from this man of God. None were left unimpressed - all were inspired - and certainly many of the blessings God has granted this parish, through the ensuing years, are in answer to the daily devotion of our families to Our Lady, inspired and pledged and perpetuated because of the message brought to us by Father Peyton.

1948 cont

In the week following the rally, the Local Council Knights of Columbus canvassed the entire parish to obtain Rosary Pledges. The response was excellent.

FAMILY ROSARY PLEDGE

We solemnly pledge the Daily Family Rosary

that

Our Heavenly Mother Mary may guard and

protect our home

FAMILY ROSARY HYMN

O Queen of the Fam'ly Rosary
Queen of the Perfect Prayer,
Help us spread this devotion
To Fam'lies ev'rywhere.
The world we would encircle
With ros'ry's golden chain,
That in all countries, homes and hearts
The peace of God might reign

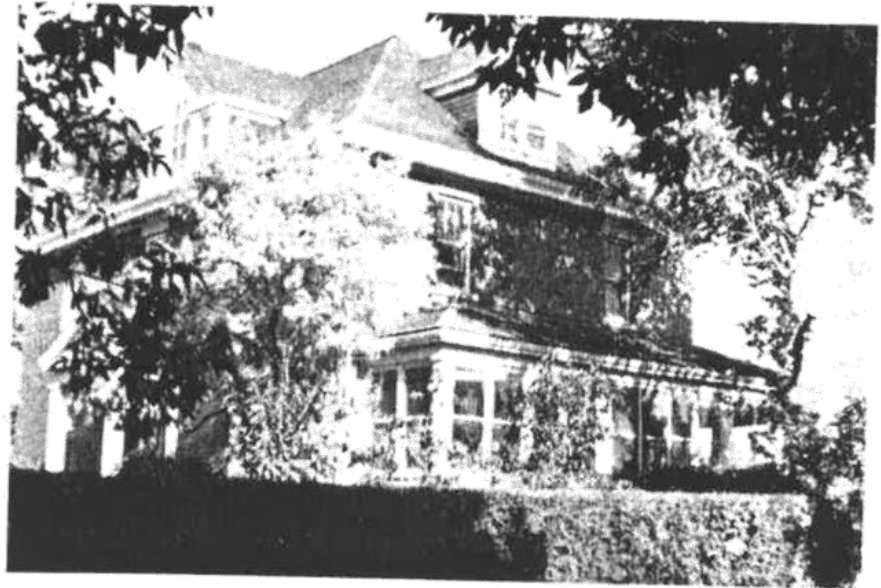
O Queen of the Fam'ly Rosary,
Be Queen of homes once more,
And bless our ev'ry effort
To fam'ly prayers restore.
The beads in loving fingers
Have powerful weapons been,
May they all evil forces crush
And bloodless victories win.

1949

September 6

The Apostolic Delegate of Canada Gildebrando Antoniutti announced that His Holiness Pope Pius XII had ordained to admit to the college of Prothonotary Apostolic Rt. Rev. Monsignor A. J. Jansson.

A Prothonotary Apostolic is a member of the highest college of prelates in the Roman Catholic Church, and also of the honorary prelates on whom the Pope has conferred this title and its special privileges. They enjoy the use of pontificals and numerous other privileges.



MEETING OF TRUSTEES

Left to right: J. Probe, J. Sosulski, Rt. Rev. A. J. Janssen, J. B. Tourl and J. Vandendriessche.

19 9 cont

A parish celebration honoring our pastor, Rt. Rev. A. J. Janssen, P.A.V.G., on the occasion of the conferring of this high honor was held on December 11. His Excellency, Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina, in a solemn and impressive ceremony, invested Monsignor Janssen as Prothonotary Apostolic. After the investiture Monsignor Janssen celebrated Pontifical High Mass, wearing all the insignia of his new dignity.

Following Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening a parish banquet was held in the hall archbishop O'Neill; a great number of the priests of the Diocese; Government and City Officials, as well as a large number of the parishioners attended the banquet, at which high tributes were paid to the guest of honor.

1950

August 8

Arrival of Sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin, commonly called the Sisters of Loretto.

This year saw the erection of the new rectory, and it was occupied by Rt. Rev. Monsignor Janssen and his assistant, Father Dobbelsteen, in August. The old rectory was then quickly converted into a residence for the Sisters, and also classrooms for the private school, Loretto Academy, which opened for classes on September 5th. On the opening day there 76 pupils registered, which included grades 1-8. The first teachers in our first Catholic school were: Mother M. Beatrice, as Superior and principal; Mother Margaret Mary; Sister Mary Vincent; Sister Francis Xavier.

November 2

The first Mass in Loretto Chapel, dedicated to Our Lady of the Snows, was celebrated this All Saints Day, by Rt Rev Monsignor Janssen.

1951

February 1

Rev Father Dobbelsteen left on a trip to Europe. He was replaced by Father E. McGrath, until he returned in April, 1952.

1951 cont

- August 29 A new classroom was built in the basement of the hall to accomodate grades 8-9-10. This was the beginning of the Loretto High School.
- August Miss Rosalea Miller (now Sister M. Vincentia) left to enter the Loretto Sisters. Sister Vincentia is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Miller.

1952

- February 26 Stations of the Cross were canonically erected in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows, in Loretto Convent.
- June 8 A great day of joy for the parish Norman A. Andries a member of the parish since 1936, when he came from Winnipeg with his parents, was ordained to the Holy Priesthood by His Excellency, Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill. This was the first ordination ceremony in our parish.
- In the evening the newly ordained Priest celebrated Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament following which the parish entertained at a reception in his honor.
- June 15 Rev. Father N. A. Andries celebrated his first solemn High Mass. Following the evening Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at which Father Andries was celebrant he was again honored when the parish entertained at a banquet. At this function congratulations and good wishes were expressed by members of the Clergy; City officials, the parishioners and representatives of all parish organizations.
- July 11 Rev. Father Norman A. Andries appointed second assistant at Weyburn.
- August Rev. Father L. Dobbelsteen appointed pastor at Govan.
- At a parish farewell in honor of Father Dobbelsteen gratitude was expressed for his untiring devotion to the people of our parish. Coming to Weyburn directly from Holland, and having experienced the ruthlessness of the war years, Father Dobbelsteen had many adjustments to make. He very quickly adopted our Canadian way of life, and endeared himself to the parish through his unselfish devotion to God, through His people.
- September Rev. Father Herman Veltman arrived in Weyburn to become assistant priest, and to look after the missions.

1952 cont d

October 8

A group from the Church Building Committee, comprising Father Veltman; John Hoeving; J. Probe; Felix Becker; Milt Slezak; Leo Girardin and Morley Giroux drove to Legale, Alberta to inspect the Church there, which church building had been highly recommended. This representative group were much impressed, and brought back their recommendation that the planned new church be built along similiar lines.

December

Rev. Father H. Veltman appointed administrator of St Vincent de Paul Parish, Weyburn.

1953

This year saw the start made on our new church. The firm of Van Egmond and Storey, Regina, were appointed Architects, and were requested to prepare plans for a building similiar to the church at Legale, Alberta.

The contract for the building was let to Morin Bros of Edmonton, Alberta, in the amount of \$143,289.36.

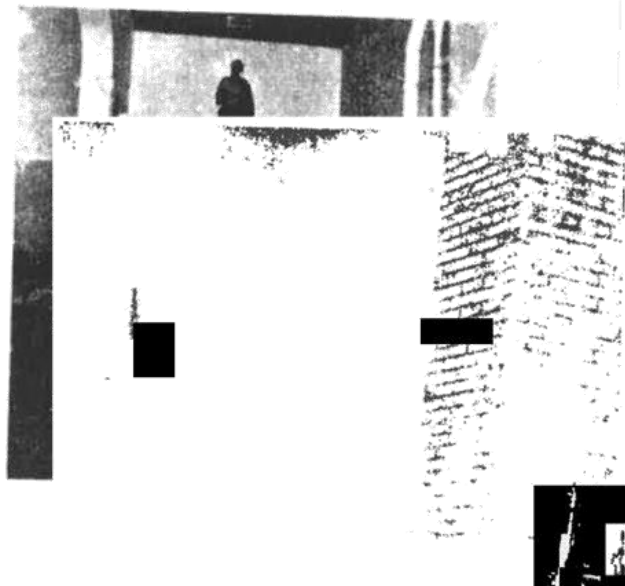
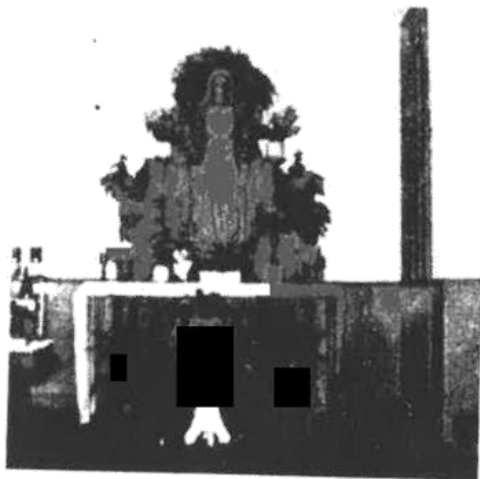
In May the first sod was turned and excavation commenced for the foundation.

At this time there was a balance of \$51,158.74 in the building fund. The Church Building Committee were faced with the problem of raising the necessary amount to meet the balance of the contract. The pledge payment system was investigated, and as a result the firm of Lawson Associates, New York, was contacted, and subsequently engaged to conduct a \$100,000.00 campaign in the parish.

December

Mr. W. Sibenlist of the above mentioned firm arrived in Weyburn to organize the campaign. Campaign offices were set up in Mount St. Mary, with the kind permission of the Superior, Mother M. Bernadine.

Among those forming the Campaign Drive Committee were Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill as Honorary General Chairman; Rt. Rev. A. J. Janssen as Executive Chairman; Rev. H. Veltman and Rev. N. A. Andries as Executive Treasurers; Jake Probe as General Chairman; Milt Slezak, John Hoeving, Max Schultz, Ray Callan, Pete Gaab and John Sosulski as Vice Chairmen, with J. B. Tourigny, A. Nimgeers and Jos. Vandendriessche forming the Advisory Committee. 24 Team Captains completed this committee. Many meetings and much planning went into the preparations preliminary to the launching of the parish drive in January, 1954.

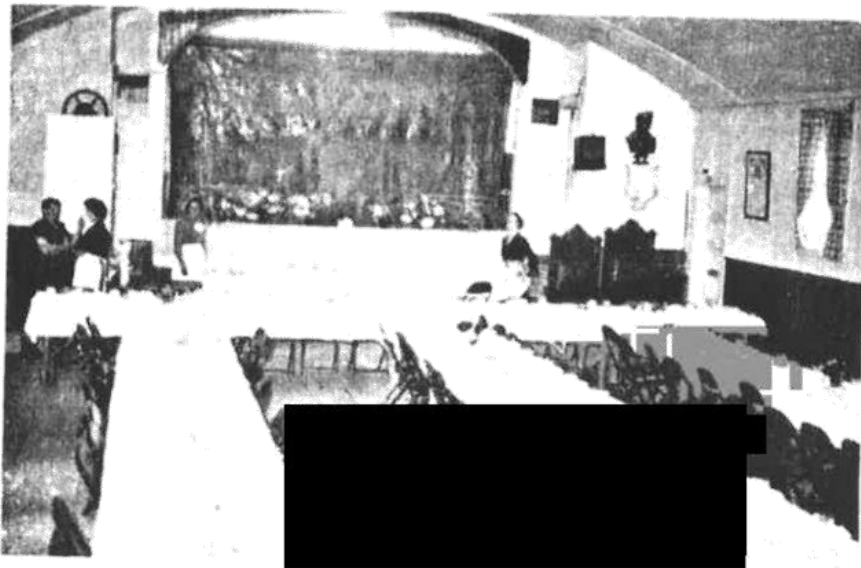
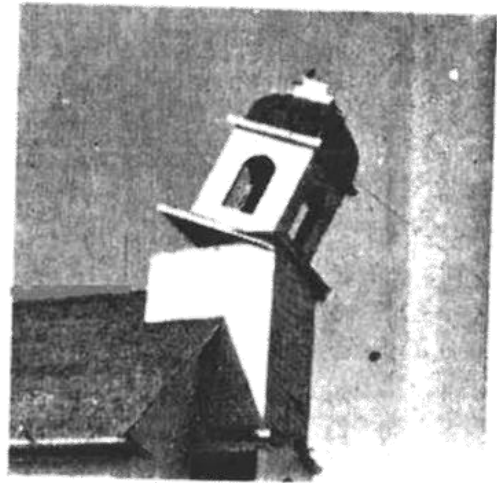


RT. REV. A. J. JANSSEN AND
REV. H. VELTMAN

OUR LADY'S ALTAR,
NEW CHURCH

1953 cont d

- May 20 A group from the Weyburn Council Knights of Columbus contacted the Superior of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross at Forget, as regards the purchase of the old hospital to be used as an Old Folks' Home.
- May 30 Arthur Vandendriessche, a native of Weyburn and son of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Vandendriessche, was ordained to the Holy Priesthood at Holy Rosary Cathedral, Regina, by His Excellency, Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill.
- May 31 First Solemn High Mass celebrated at Weyburn by the newly ordained Rev. Father Arthur Vandendriessche. The festivities following the Mass included a breakfast served by St. Mary's Altar Society and an afternoon reception and tea served by the Catholic Young Peoples Club. Following Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening, Father Vandendriessche was again honored at a banquet served by the Catholic Womens' League, at which presentations were made and tributes paid to Father Vandendriessche by the various parish organizations.
- June The old hospital building was purchased by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross.
- June 2 Rev. Father Herman Veltman sang a Missa Cantata on the occasion of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The students of Loretto Academy sang the ordinary of the Mass.
- June Father Veltman was called home to Holland by the serious illness of his Mother. Father D. Kines arrived in August to remain until Father Veltman's return in September.
- July 12 His Grace, Archbishop O'Neill, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation immediately after the 8:30 A.M. Mass. 83 children and 23 adults received the sacrament.
- July 18 Sacrament of Confirmation administered at the Missions of Halbrite and Macoun.
- August 16 Three Sisters of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross - Sister Mary Bernadine, Sister Mary Edward and Sister Mary Bridget, arrived in Weyburn and commenced the cleaning and preparations for the Old Folks' Home.
- August 31 Loretto Academy opened for the fall term, with an enrolment of 136 pupils. At this time grade 11 was added - another step towards the completion of a Catholic High School.



DISMANINTERIOR OF PARISH HALL

1953 cont'd

October 4

The cornerstone of our new church was laid in an impressive afternoon ceremony.

Owing to his absence from the Diocese, Most Rev. M.C. O'Neill was unable to be present to bless the cornerstone. His Grace delegated Rev. Norman A. Andries to perform the ceremony.

Bearing the inscription "Erected A.D. 1953" the cornerstone contains an October 1, 1953 copy of the Weyburn Review; a coronation coin; 1953 coins of every denomination from one dollar down; Catholic medals; a brief history of the parish, and the names of the Superiors of Loretto Academy and Mount St. Mary, Mother Beatrice and Sister Mary Bernadine respectively, and Rt. Rev. Monsignor A. J. Janssen, P.A.V.G., the first Diocesan Priest to take over the Weyburn Parish.

Immediately following the blessing of the cornerstone a tea, sponsored by the Catholic Young Peoples' Club, was held in the parish hall.

December

The first senior residents admitted to Mount St. Mary and these were: Mr. Herman Ehlert; Mr. Ferdinand Labbe; Mrs. Olivene Lecomte; Mrs. Ada Hammond; Mrs. Mary Schnell; Mrs. Susie Serdula Mr. Brick and Mr. Bishop

1954 - A Highlight Year!

January 19

Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina, officially launched the \$100,000.00 completion drive at a meeting of the parish held in the Legion Hall on this Sunday afternoon. Despite near blizzard conditions, which delayed the arrival of Archbishop O'Neill from Regina, more than 500 persons attended the meeting. At the close of the meeting, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was celebrated in the Church, following which the 106 canvassers commenced their "blitz" on the parish for the purpose of soliciting their donations by way of pledges covering a 20 month period.

January 28

Nine days after the campaign was launched the sum of \$103,184.00 had been pledged. A goodly sum of this amount was donated in cash, the balance was represented by pledges for the 20 month period.

Mr. Siebenlist, Campaign Organizer, had this to say to those of our parish who assisted with the drive, "this is one of the finest jobs I've ever seen a group do in all my experience. You men and women have given not only your services to the campaign, but also your hearts".

- February 5 Miss Joyce Fournier (now Sister Leatitia Fournier), daughter of Mrs. Fournier and the late Mr. Joseph Fournier, entered the order of the Grey Nuns at Montreal.
- June The question of the inadequacy of our classrooms to take care of the ever growing number of children attending our Loretto Academy, and the happy prospect of still more to enroll in September, necessitated some immediate action to provide the accomodation that would be needed. Father Andries called together a committee from the parish, and placed before them the needs. This committee saw the answer to our problem in a separate school, and with this in mind, made a survey of the Catholic burgesses in the City. Certainly it was a case of "planning in the dark" to a great extent, but with faith in the knowledge that the good Lord blesses all that is right, this committee met and planned and prayed, with the result that by the end of 1954 an appointment had been made with the Department of Education when a representative group would present our petition to form a separate school district.
- Members of this original School Planning Committee were: Father N. . Andries, Chairman; Father H. Veltman; J.B. Tourigny; C. J. Garner; J. Probe; A. Vossen; Andrew Nimegeers; L. Leydon; J. Vandendriessche; J. Hoeving; and Mrs. T. A. Marshall.
- July 16 The last Mass in the old church was celebrated by Rev. Father Andries at 7:30 A.M. The Blessed Sacrament was then moved to the new church.
- July 17 First Mass in the new church, offered by Rev. Father L. Dobbelsteen, former assistant at Weyburn. This was a High Mass with Mother Boatrice at the organ, and the Loretto Sisters with the school choir, sang the Mass.
- July 18 First Sunday Mass in the new church. This was also First Communion Sunday in the parish, when 43 of our little ones received our Divine Lord for the first time.
- It was particularly pleasing to see our Pastor, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Janssen, in the sanctuary for the High Mass.
- The first wedding in the new church was the marriage of Vincent Abel and Miss Lorraine Bayle on July 17.
- The first baptism was Brian Joseph Minard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Minard, on July 18.
- The first funeral was Mrs Leah Martin on August 13.

September

Michael K. Sosulski son of Mr and Mrs John Sosulski, left for Toronto to study for the priesthood with the Basilian Fathers

September 6

Our new church was blessed on this date by His Excellency, the Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina. Our Pastor, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Janssen was in the Sanctuary and witnessed the blessing of that which he had labored so long to see accomplished. Also in the Sanctuary were the Lord Abbot, S. Gertken, O.S.B., Munster, and Rt. Rev. P. F. Hughes, D.D. of Estevan.

Distinguished guests present in the church included the Hon. W. J. Patterson, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan; Mayor J. H. Staveley and Mrs Staveley

Following the blessing and Solemn Pontifical High Mass the parish entertained the visitors on this happy occasion at a luncheon in the parish hall.

A rally which was scheduled to be held at the Legion Hall in the afternoon had to be cancelled on account of rain but a tea was served by the Catholic Young Peoples' Club in the parish hall which was very well attended

Copy of official document
of the blessing of the new
St. Vincent de Paul Church,
Weyburn.

"On Monday, September 5, 1954, We, the undersigned Archbishop of Regina, officiated at the blessing of the newly constructed St. Vincent de Paul Church, Weyburn. The ceremony began with the blessing at 10 A.M. and was followed by a Pontifical High Mass with sermon by the Celebrant. Among those present and assisting were: Rt. Rev. A. J. Janssen, P.A.V.G. Pastor of Weyburn; Rt. Rev. P. F. Hughes, D.P., Pastor of Estevan; Rev. Fathers R. Beaudry; L. Albers; J. Molloy; L. Dobbeltstein; P. Bechard; W. Crosso; S. Leibel; J. Volk; R. McLellan; F. Seiferling; P. Rubbens; L. Sullivan; J. Frey; J. Deutscher. Rev. W. Wadey was Master of Ceremonies and Rev. H. Veltman and Rev. N. Amaries, Assistants to Monsignor Janssen, were in charge of all arrangements

"The Pastor, Assistants, Builder, Architect and people are to be congratulated on the completion of this very fine and well equipped church which will care for the spiritual needs of the growing population.

(sgd) M. C. O'Neill,
Archbishop of Regina "

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195 cont__

December 8 On this, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, our parish observed the closing of the Marion Year with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This was also the closing of the Forty Hours in our parish, which was preached by Rev. J. Molloy, Milestone.

It was in the latter part of this year that the St. Dominic Savio Cub Pack was organized under the leadership of Rev. Father H. Veltman.

1955

Again the dear Lord and His Blessed Mother blessed this parish abundantly.

January 25 Father Andries, A. Vossen, L. Leydon and Mrs T. A. Marshall met with the Department of Education to present our petition to form a separate school district.

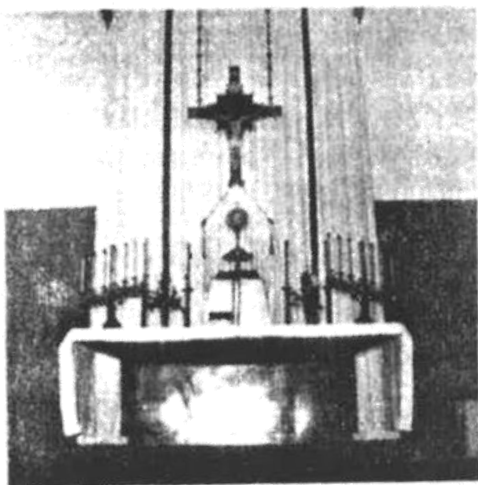
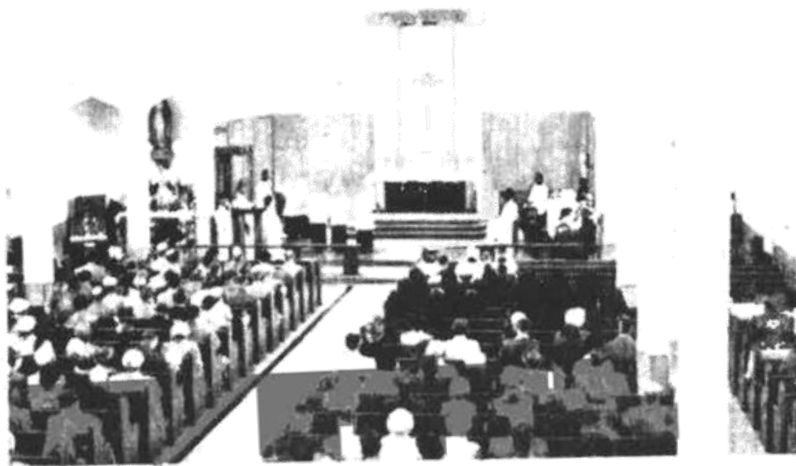
March 2 Meeting of the Catholic ratepayers in the City called for the purpose of taking a vote on whether or not they wished to form a separate school district. Despite the fact that severe blizzard conditions prevailed, 217 Catholic ratepayers attended the meeting. The result of the vote expressed the unanimous wish of our ratepayers that we form a separate school district - 217 votes for, and none against.

The vote for the organization of a separate school district being favorable, the first board of trustees was then elected. The following were elected by acclamation: Mrs. T. A. Marshall, A. H. Vossen, L. J. Leydon, Henry Pinvidic and John Hooving.

At the first meeting of the board of trustees A. H. Vossen was appointed as Chairman and Mrs. T. A. Marshall appointed as Secretary Treasurer.

At a special meeting called, the official name of the school district decided upon was "The Monsignor Janssen Weyburn Roman Catholic Separate School District. "No. 29 of Saskatchewan" was added by the Department of Education to the name chosen. At this meeting Father Andries paid tribute to the efforts and planning of the members of the "School Planning Committee" and expressed grateful appreciation for their contribution to the urgent need for expanded Catholic education for the young people of our parish.

March 15 The official organization of the Monsignor Janssen Weyburn Roman Catholic Separate School District #29 of Saskatchewan was announced in the Saskatchewan Gazette



- - -

1955 cont d

Many problems and real causes for concern seemed to continually darken the future of our separate school but with the co-operation of the Department of Education; Premier T. C. Douglas; the Council of the City of Weyburn; Mr. Lou Jacobs, Regina, and the fervent prayers of parishioners, particularly our Sisters and the children of Loretto Academy, the obstacles were hurdled one by one. In rapid succession, during the summer of this year, tax assignments were secured from separate school supporters; the contract for an eight classroom school, brick structure throughout with teachers' and principal's offices, was let to S. J. Benesh and Sons, Saskatoon, in the amount of \$100,000.00 - work on the school commenced August 29th - temporary quarters for the fall school opening arranged (3 classrooms in the convent building, 4 classrooms in the parish hall, one classroom in the sacristy of the church) - \$90,000.00 in debentures sold - a \$10,000.00 special building grant secured from the Department of Education. As the year 1955 closed, despite the hampering of work on the school caused by an early and severe winter, the construction of the school was progressing steadily.

The name of the school, chosen by the Board of Trustees is the "St. Dominic Savio Separate School"

March

Sunday Masses at Yellow Grass were discontinued. Catholics from Yellow Grass attend Mass at McTaggart. This left the Priest free to offer Mass at Trossachs on Sundays instead of on Saturdays

March 18

Canonical Erection of the Holy Way of the Cross in the new church took place March 18 by the Rev. Lucien J. Kemble, O.F.M.

An instruction on the Holy Way of the Cross was given by Father Kemble before the blessing. The Way of the Cross was then held, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

March 27 to
April 3

Parish Mission preached by two Passionist Fathers from Chicago - Father Justin and Father Kearnin. The mission was very well attended. Particularly pleasing was the wonderful attendance at the morning Masses and the number of Holy Communions (approximately 2000) received during this one week of mission

May

Sale of the old church was made to Carlson Construction. It was dismantled and converted into a four suite apartment block, now standing on the corner of Souris Ave. and 11th St

1955 cont d

July 16.

At the request of the students of St Dominic Savio School Mass was offered for Rt. Rev. Monsignor Janssen marking the golden anniversary of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. Despite the fact that illness had confined him to his room for some time, Monsignor Janssen was in the Sanctuary for the Mass, which was offered by Father Andries the ordinary being sung by the school children.

Following the Mass the students presented a spiritual bouquet to Monsignor Janssen.

August 29

St. Dominic Savio Separate School opened for the fall term with an enrolment of 212 students. Grade 12 was added this year, offering the complete education of a youngster from grade 1 to 12 in a Catholic school at Weyburn.

September 4

Father Herman Voltman appointed pastor of Holy Angels Parish, Pangman.

Rev. N. A. Andries appointed as Administrator of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Weyburn.

Rev. Emil Kutarna appointed as assistant at Weyburn, and in charge of the missions of Halbrite, Macoun, McTaggart and Trossachs

September 11

Parish farwell in honor of Rev H. Voltman. Tributes were paid to Father Voltman for his care and concern of the souls of our parish, which had been committed to his care as administrator, and for his untiring assistance in the planning and building of our new church. Presentations of gifts from the parish and all organizations were made. It was with sincere regret that we said farwell to Father Voltman.

Father Andries introduced Father Emil Kutarna, newly appointed assistant, to the parishioners on this occasion.

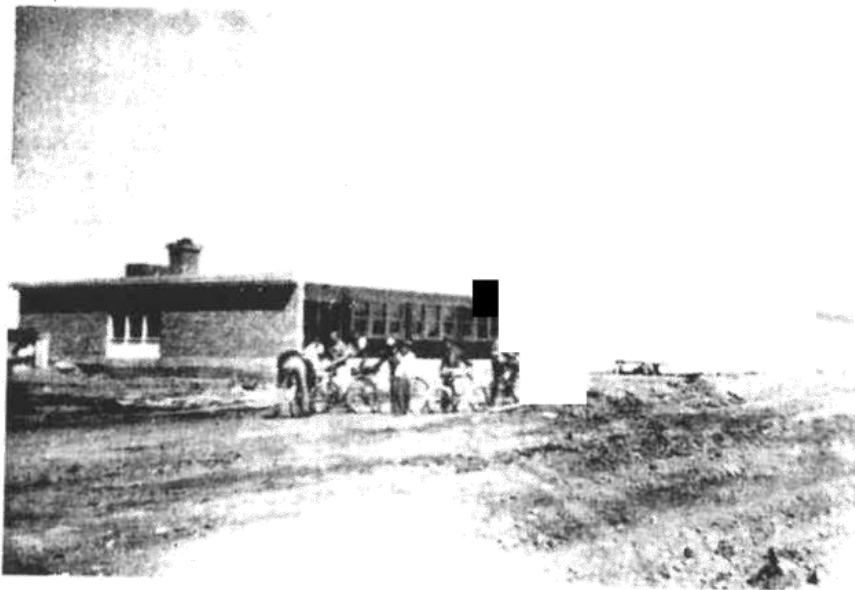
September

Thomas P. Marshall and Joseph Kot, both native sons of this parish, left to study for the priesthood. Tommy Marshall went to St. Peter's Seminary, London to study for the diocesan clergy and Joe Kot went to Brockville to study for the Redemptorists.

October 5

Official parish celebration of the golden anniversary of Monsignor Janssen's ordination to the Holy Priesthood and the silver anniversary of his appointment as Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Regina.

The day began with Solemn Pontifical High Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop



FIRST GRADUATES OF ST. DOMINIC SAVIC
 Left to right: Miss Elaine Keating, Miss Doreen
 Kievits and William Rogal. ST. DOMINIC SAVIO SEPARATE S

1955 cont'

of Regina. The Most Rev. F. Klein, Bishop of Saskatoon; Rt. Rev. Severin Gertken, O.S.B., of Muenster; Rt. Rev. P. F. Hughes, Estevan, Rt. Rev. F. Gerein, D.P.V.G.; were in the Sanctuary at the side of the jubilarian, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Janssen. 55 priests occupied the front pews. A scroll, presented to Monsignor Janssen by the Archbishop and the Priests of the Archdiocese, was read during the Mass by Rt. Rev. F. Gerein.

A banquet was served following the Mass which was attended by the visiting members of the Hierarchy, Priest, Government and Civic officials. In the evening a public reception was held, at which presentations were made to the Jubilarian - a man who has gained the respect and love of those who knew him.

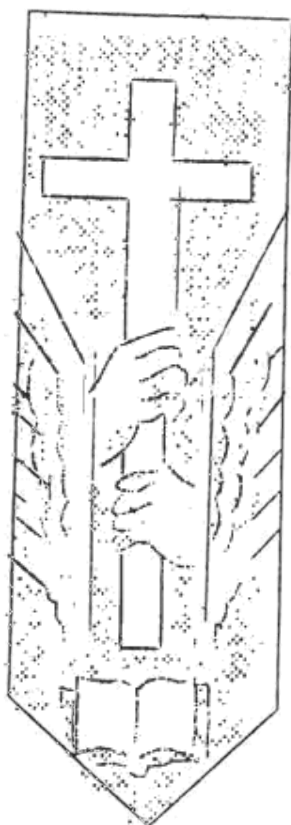
-1956-

- February 5 Day of recollection for the men of the parish, preached by Rev. Father Molloy of Milestone.
- February 6-7 A retreat for all the high school students of the parish was preached by Rev. J. Molloy, Milestone. The attendance at this retreat was very good.
- April 9 Another 'highlight day' in the history of our parish. Catholic children assembled for classes for the first time in the new St. Dominic Savio School.
- May Renovations to our parish hall commenced. A new floor in the main hall - a completely modern kitchen on the main floor. Appreciation to Mrs. R. Thompson and Mrs. J. Ellingson for their organization of a "painting bee" to paint the interior of the main hall. A number of parishioners put in hours of hard work on this project so our hall now has a clean and new look.
- May 8 Today the St. Dominic Savio Separate School was blessed by The Most Rev. M. C. O'Neill, and the parish had the opportunity of inspecting the school. Tea was served at the school by St. Mary's Altar Society.
- This day was also our first grade 12 graduation day. Four students, Miss Elaine Keating; Miss Doreen Hoeving; Miss Gemma Kievits and William Rogal had the honor and privilege of being the charter graduates of St. Dominic Savio High School. The graduation ceremonies began with Mass at 9 A.M. In the

1956 - cont'd

evening a banquet in honor of our graduates was served by the Catholic Womens' League. Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was followed by the presentation of class awards by His Grace, Archbishop O'Neill. Rev. Father Athol Murray, Rector of Notre Dame Colloge, Wilcox, preached the sermon at the Benediction, addressing his remarks to the graduates.

- May 19-20 Days of Recollection for the ladies of the parish preached by Rev. J. Molloy, Milestone.
- June 16 Sacrament of Confirmation conferred on 83 children and 17 adults by the Most Rev. M.C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina.
- June 17 First Communion Day in the parish, when 47 of God's children received their Lord for the first time. The First Communion Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father J. Firkola, newly ordained priest, a native of Esterhazy, Sask. Following the Mass the First Communicants were enrolled in the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The parishioners were then privileged to receive the blessing of Father Firkola.
- June 20 Combined meeting of the Forget and Weyburn deaneries held at Weyburn. Topics for discussion were "Sex Education" and "Training of Youth". Chairman of the meeting was Rt. Rev. F. Gerein, D.P.V.G., and papers were given by Rev. Father Pholan of Qu'Appelle and Rev. Father W. Wadey of Holy Rosary Cathedral, Regina. 26 priests were present.
- June 24 Rev. Father Stan Slezak offered Solemn High Mass in our parish. Father Slezak was ordained to the Holy Priesthood May 30th at Glenavon, Saskatchewan, his home parish. He spent a great deal of his vacation time in Weyburn parish during his seminary years, and is looked upon as 'one of our own'. A reception in the parish hall, honoring Father Slezak, followed the evening Benediction, at which presentations were made by parish societies, and tea served by the Catholic Young Peoples' Club.
- July Miss Marlene Flaman and Miss Theresia Hager entered the Sisters of Loretto. Miss Flaman and Miss Hager were members of the first teaching staff of St. Dominic Savio School, and were members of this parish for that year.
- July Statue of St. Vincent de Paul, patron saint of our parish, erected on church grounds.



Today, July 19 1956, on the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, we officially celebrate the golden jubilee of our parish. The 50 years of history contained in this booklet consistently points to the faith, the courage and the undaunted spirit of those who have been a part of St. Vincent de Paul Parish throughout the 50 years, or for any portion of that period.

Much has been accomplished. In our 'mind's eye' we can see those faithful pioneers planning, praying and sacrificing for the original church. Today, we see not only our beautiful church - our modern rectory - our hall our separate school - our Old Folks' Home - the advent of two religious communities, but also the fruits of the faith so firmly implanted in the hearts of our pioneers, passed on to us, and perpetuated through these 50 years. It is this faith that has brought an increase in the reception of the sacraments, attendance at daily Mass, and in the number of vocations to God's Vineyard.

We can feel that we have accepted the torch handed to us by the pioneer parishioners, and we have carried on, working out their plans and hopes, but we dare not stop and feel satisfied with the accomplishments of the years past. There is still much to be done. A dormant parish is a lifeless thing. Each new day presents a challenge, and offers the opportunity to show our love of God.

We offer our humble gratitude to Almighty God for the many blessings bestowed on our parish. Planning, working and praying together as one family we, the parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul, pledge ourselves to continue to mold, and build, and strengthen our parish all for the greater glory of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

A few statistics

The parish records of the past 50 years contain

3070 Baptisms
781 Marriages
568 Deaths

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Population 1906 approx. 75

1956 approx 2000

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First baptism: Ralph Nicoli, son of Will Nicoli
and Anna Moser, baptised June 16, 1907

Latest baptism: Robert John deZwart, son of Johannes
deZwart and Anna Marie Kievits
baptised July 15, 1956.

First marriage: Michael Honig and Margaret Bell
August 8, 1907

Latest marriage John William Russell and Shirley
Jean Waddell July 14 1956

First funeral: Alice Rubin, daughter of Mr and Mrs
Louis Rubin - May 15, 1907.

atest funeral: Dougald William McNaughton, son of Dennis
McNaughton and Jean Aulic June 18, 1956.
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