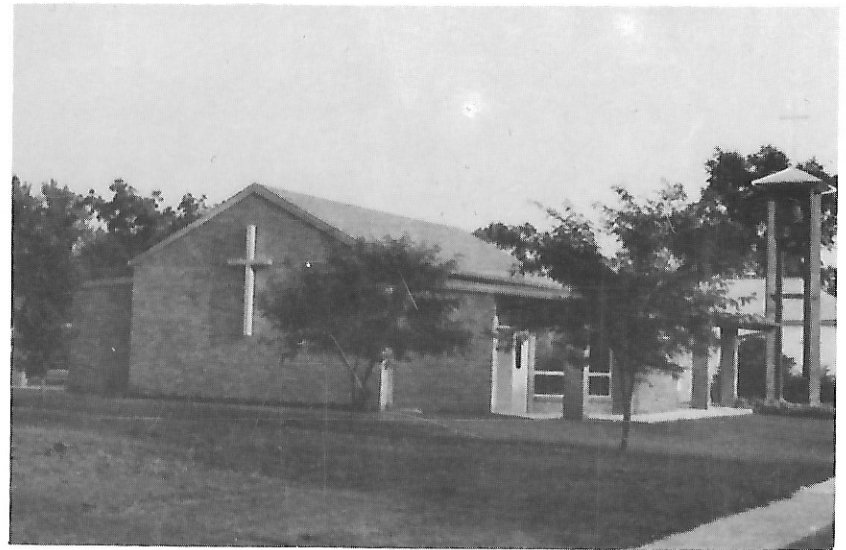


History of
SACRED HEART PARISH
Beaver Crossing, Nebraska
1890 – 1975



Commemorating the Dedication
of Its
New Church
January 1, 1975

To
Our Bishop, the Most Reverend Glennon P. Flavin, S.T.D.
The Former and Present Pastors
The Pioneers
The Faithful Members, both Living and Deceased
of
Sacred Heart Parish, Beaver Crossing, Nebraska
This Retrospect is Respectfully Dedicated

YEAR OF PUBLICATION 1975

This retrospect is primarily the work of Esther Mary Eisenbarth, who was responsible for all of the research which was necessary for the early history of Sacred Heart Parish. Shortly after she started writing about the inception of the new church she became ill and several months later died on July 2, 1975. The details of the new church, and the events which followed, were then supplied by members of the church and the moderator of the building program.

History of the Sacred Heart Church Beaver Crossing, Nebraska

The history of the Sacred Heart Church in Beaver Crossing, Nebraska, dates back to the early settlers of the community who came to the valley to make their homes. The Catholics, prior to 1890, worshipped at churches in neighboring towns, namely: Seward, Utica, Friend and Exeter.

On March 25, 1890, after services had been held in the Opera House at Beaver Crossing, it was decided to build a new church. Father James Simeon of Exeter was in charge of building. Three lots were purchased and a fourth was donated by the Pioneer Land Company at the corner later occupied by the old church and rectory. The church, as originally designed, was 32 feet by 50 feet to which a sanctuary, 16 feet by 14 feet, was added later. The first altar was made by a carpenter and placed about four feet from the south wall which had a door that was used as an entrance to the sanctuary. Behind the altar a confessional was placed on the west side; the east side was used to keep the priest's vestments, altar boys' cassocks, chalices, etc. The total cost of lots and building was \$1,800. The church was dedicated by the Most Rev. Thomas Bonacum, D.D., on November 17, 1890. In 1891 the congregation consisted of about 18 German and Irish families, and was attended by the Rev. Father Simeon of Exeter. The first baptism administered in the new church was that of Fred Simeon Geis, the son of Jacob and Mary Geis.

In 1897 Utica became a mission of Beaver Crossing Parish with Rev. Hochmueller as the first pastor. After a few months the newly ordained Father Ress was appointed as pastor. He resided chiefly in Utica until 1900. During that year Father P.S. McShane assumed charge. He erected a two-story, 25-foot by 25-foot residence in Beaver Crossing for the clergy at a cost of \$1,500. Father Thomas Barden had charge for a few months during 1901. He then was succeeded by Rev. J.S. Hayes, who remained until July of 1903 when Father Charles Stricker was appointed.



Original Sacred Heart Church, Beaver Crossing. Built for \$1800.00. Dedicated by Bishop Thomas Bonacum on November 17, 1890. Rectory built in 1900 for \$1500.00. After fire in 1910 a new steel ceiling was installed. In 1897 the parish was attached to the Utica parish.



Old church and new rectory on the left.

PASTORS OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH FROM 1890 TO PRESENT

1. Rev. James Simeon of Exeter.
2. Rev. Crowe of Friend.
3. Rev. Hochmueller — resided at Utica.
4. Rev. Joseph Ress — resided at Utica.
5. Rev. P.S. McShane — built the rectory.
6. Rev. Thomas Barden.
7. Rev. J.A. Hayes.
8. Rev. C.A. Stricker.
9. Rev. M.A. O'Boyle.
10. Rev. A.J. Lutz.
11. Rev. William Murphy.
12. Rt. Rev. E.W. Fowler.
13. Rev. J.W. Loughnot.
14. Rev. John J. Murphy.
15. Rev. Paul Donovan.
16. Rev. Edward Hagan.
17. Rev. John L. O'Donnell.
18. Rev. L.L. Mandeville — part of 1929, resided temporarily.
19. Rev. Ralph F. Egan.
20. Rev. J.M. O'Sullivan.
21. Rev. J.J. Kaczmarek.
22. Rev. Lawrence H. Kalin.
23. Rev. Kenneth F. Schnoebelen.

Some of the

EARLY FAMILIES WHO WORSHIPPED AT SACRED HEART CHURCH

Anderson	Helget	Ryan
Brennen	Heser	Schmehr
Burke	Hubertus	Schoebau
Clark	Houzvicka	Smith
Creedan	Leif	Suntken
Cunningham	McCormick	Swartz
Eisenbarth	McGrail	Weiland
Finn	McLane	Wiszman
Geiger	Organ	Wirtheim
Geis	Orth	Ziegler
Harter	Riordan	Zimmerman
Heid	Roth	



Inside of the old Sacred Heart Church in 1975.

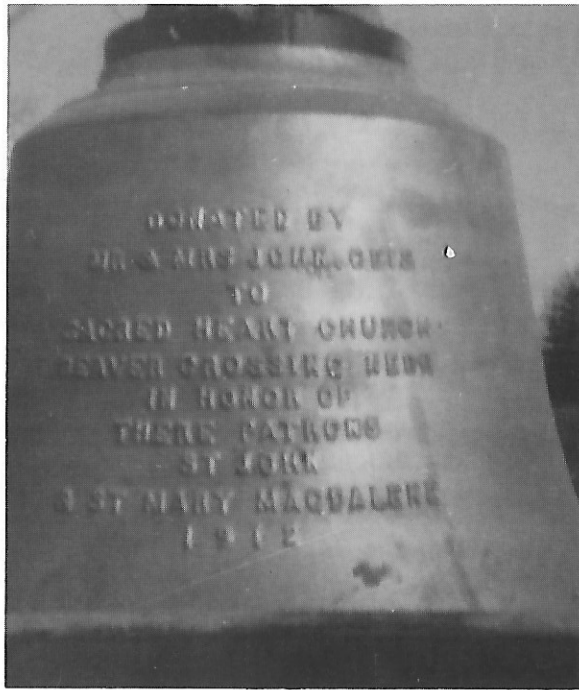
John Harter donated two acres of land on a knoll on the south part of his farm for a burial plot. The notary, Myron Warner, signed the papers on November 26, 1902, witnessed by Wm. J. Organ, John Geis Sr., and Jacob Geis. Lots were laid out and purchased by the parishioners. The money was used to prepare and seed the plots and place a fence around the area which was named Calvary Cemetery. Shortly thereafter Mrs. John Burke died and was buried before all was completed; her monument still remains. Jacob Geis moved the bodies of his wife and son Henry from the Beaver Crossing city cemetery to Calvary Cemetery in late summer of 1903. The monument of Henry was also moved and still stands. The front entrance originally had brick pillars, but in later years the road was graded and graveled. Now only the east gate can be used. Many family names are engraved on the monuments. They include Harter, Geis, Hesel, Orth, Eisenbarth, Heid, Helget, Hubertus, David, Leif, Wirtheim, Roth, Wiszman, Ziegler, Organ, Cook, Clark, Wachter, Rotter, Pariset, Patocka, Burke, Bouchard, Smiley, Kraus, Geiger, Eager and Miller. In a letter of Verona Geis it was stated that after her death a monument of the Sacred Heart be placed in the cemetery in her memory. Her wishes were fulfilled with a statue of white marble. In October of 1969, Wallace Bolte, Paul Leif, Tom Cast, Robert Kunert and others surveyed for lots, then made and placed new concrete markers. A new

fence was erected at that time. Esther Mary Eisenbarth donated all the material needed to complete the two projects.

In November of 1911, the pastor, Father William Murphy, was fatally injured in an automobile accident. The mishap occurred at about 7 PM as he was returning home from Seward in his White Steamer. He was accompanied by Father Turgeon of York and his sister Mary, the housekeeper. About three miles north of Beaver Crossing he suddenly approached a horse and buggy and to prevent an accident he chose the ditch, which caused the car to overturn. The other two occupants were thrown out. Father Murphy was thrown against the steering wheel, through the windshield and onto the ground. He died as a result of head, chest and internal injuries. He was 68 years of age at the time of his death and had been a resident of Beaver Crossing for only a short time. The funeral took place in Lincoln.



Installing Bell, Fall of 1912.



Bell.



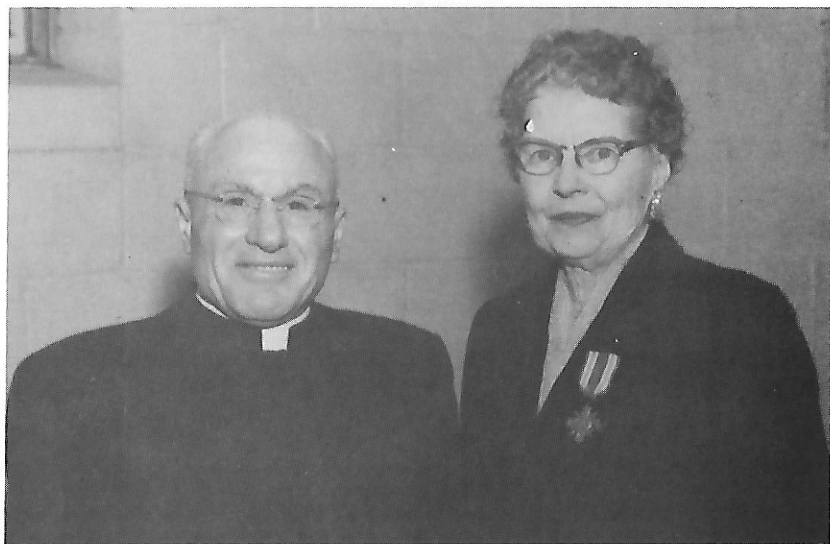
First Confirmation class, November 7, 1912.

In January of 1912 a large bell weighing 1,500 pounds arrived from St. Louis at a cost of \$350. It was donated to the church by John, Sr. and Lena Geis, parents of George Geis and grandparents of Joe Geis. In February, 1912, Jacob Geis erected a new bell tower at his own expense. It was called the "Geis Memorial Tower" and a brass plate was inserted in the vestibule of the church bearing a proper inscription. On November 7, 1912, those present had the opportunity of witnessing the liturgy of the Catholic Church carried out fully for the blessing of the bell by the Most Reverend J. Henry Tihen, Bishop of Lincoln. The services began at 10:00 AM with the blessing of the bell which was given the name of John. It was followed by the High Mass sung by Rev. Charles Becker of Geneva. The Bishop gave a clear explanation of the bell and its uses in the church. After the Mass he confirmed 40 children of the parish. In the sanctuary, along with the Bishop and the celebrant of the Mass, were the Reverends A. Petrasch of Friend, George Agius of Seward, and Robert Bickert of Bellwood. Rev. John Hayes, a former pastor, assisted the choir and George Rau of Utica presided at the organ. At the evening meal which was well attended, the Bishop gave an address on Patriotism. The ladies of the parish served both the dinner and the supper in a hall on the south side of main street.

There were many donations and improvements in early 1912. Among them was a beautiful set of Mass Vestments by the Mathias Hesper and John Orth families, and marble Holy Water Fonts given by Mrs. Peter Hubertus and the Harter girls, Verona, Elizabeth and Helena. The church and house were painted; also some modern plumbing installed in the house. The center altar was given by Jacob Geis and was made of stained oak and trimmed in gold. George Roth, a carpenter living in Goehner, made the two side altars. In later years they were all painted a cream white with gold trimming and remained in the church until it was abandoned.

The Knights of Columbus (Father Wm. Crowe Council #1737) was organized in Friend, Nebraska, May 10, 1914, and included several towns. On June 1, 1919, the men from the Sacred Heart Parish who joined were L.J. Eisenbarth, Frank Eisenbarth, John J. Geis, Francis L. Schmehr and Fred Geis. This group remained active members for many years. In later years men from the parish joined the York Council, but did not attend for long as there were too many conflicting dates on meeting nights; soon membership dissolved.

in her own church. She was vice-president in the Lincoln Council of Catholic Women from 1952-1954 and was its president from 1954-1956. In appreciation of this special award, Mrs. Geis entertained all of the deanery presidents, their husbands and special guests at dinner.



Father Lawrence Kalin and May Geis.

Because of their love and respect for Father Kalin, the parishioners in 1956 wanted to help Father Kalin celebrate his 20th anniversary in the priesthood. A special reception and program was arranged which consisted of the following: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Luke L. Mandeville, V.F. was the toastmaster. A welcome address was given by Richard Hesper and this was followed with an accordian solo by Mrs. Leonard Schmit. A toast was extended on behalf of the Beaver Crossing parishioners by L.C. Geis and a vocal solo was rendered by Patricia Schmit. Then a second toast was given by the Utica parishioners represented by Carl Carpenter. This was followed by a beautiful instrumental duet given by Judy and Jane Long. Father Rawley Myers gave a special address and the celebration was concluded by a response from Father Lawrence Kalin who expressed his appreciation for the great esteem accorded him by his parishioners.

In 1961 the parish planned a surprise for Father Lawrence Kalin on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. His brother Leander and family, and three of his nephew priests, Eugene, William and Leonard Kalin, were in attendance. A program entitled "This is Your Life" as written by

Mrs. Bess Kuhn, president of the Altar Society, was presented by members of the parish. Father Kalin was given a monetary gift and a spiritual bouquet in memory of the occasion.

In 1967 a remodeling program included the lowering of the ceiling, placing fiber paneling on the walls and painting the woodwork. Donations toward this project included:

Asphalt tile floor covering by May and Herman Geis.

Blond pews with padded kneelers by Esther Mary Eisenbarth in memory of her parents, Frank and Rose Eisenbarth.

Two prie dieu matching the pews by Paul and Bessie Leif.

A censor by Lou and Elizabeth Eisenbarth.

Two large electric fans by Paul and Bessie Leif and Esther Mary Eisenbarth.

In 1964 a new ceramic nativity set was made and donated by Mrs. Bess Kuhn and Paul Schmit built a crib for it. The old set was given to the men's reformatory in Lincoln.

In 1969 Fred Geis paid for the paving in front of the church which gave the parishioners some much needed parking space. Also in August of that year chimes for the organ were given by Mrs. Helen Leff in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Houzvicka, who owned and operated a harness and repair shop for the community in earlier days.

To accommodate the new liturgy in the early 1970s, a new altar facing the people and a communion table were made and donated by Peter Gergen. In addition to the above there were many contributions of candle holders, votive light stands and numerous other items over the years.

In the early days of the Sacred Heart Altar Society, all meetings were held in the homes with many ladies in attendance. The Society was organized to raise funds to purchase new altar linens, cassocks, surplices, candles and other items for the altar. Mrs. George Heid crocheted the trim for many of the altar linens.

Very few records of any importance concerning the meetings could be found prior to 1935. The first name of the Altar Society was "Ten Cent Tea," named for the lunch. Many non-catholics in the community also attended the meetings. In later years the name was changed to Sacred Heart Altar Society, the lunch was increased to 15c and plans were made for membership dues. After construction of the new rectory in 1950 the basement was used to hold meetings. The kitchen was furnished with funds from the Altar Society, and rooms were provided for Catechetical instructions. Later Father Schnoe-

belen converted the house furnace from oil to propane and the Altar Society purchased a special furnace to heat the rooms where the meetings were held. In March of 1965 the Society also bought eight new tables and twelve more chairs. Since that time the Altar Society has been very active and has held food sales, bazaars, card parties, soup suppers and dances to keep the finances in hand. The Sacred Heart Altar Society is a member of the York Deanery, Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW), and is actively involved in Church Women United. Many members attend the Church Women United "Work Days" held once a month the first three months of the year. The present officers of the Altar Society are: Mrs. Rene Dixon—president, Mrs. Sandy Geiger—vice-president, Mrs. Mary Hesper—secretary, and Mrs. Margie Rotter—treasurer.

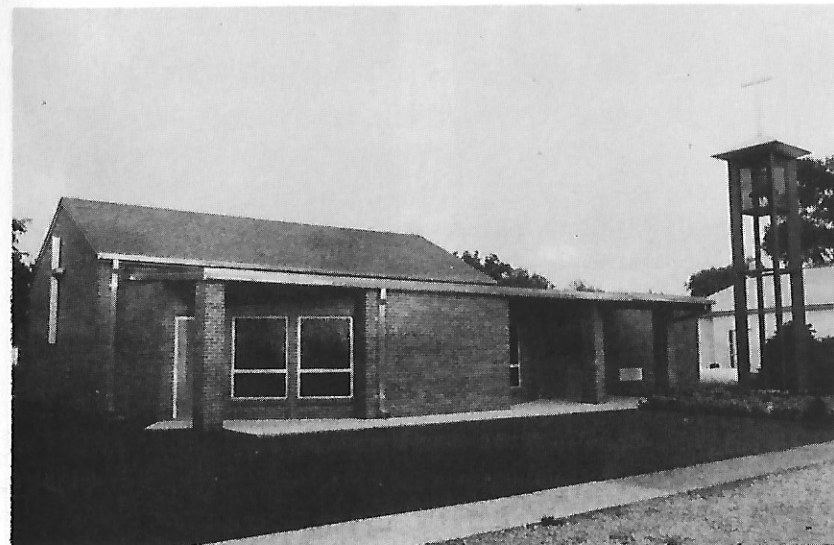
Organists of the Sacred Heart Church have included Verona Geis, the Brochtrup sisters, Josephine, Frances and Nellie, Mrs. Gerald (Doll) Geis, Mary Creedan Hesper, Lois Jean Cast Zimmer, Frances Wachter Gill, Barbara Schmit, Shirley Hillgren, Mary Lou Geis Buss and Donna Harding. Mary Hesper and Donna Harding are the present organists at the church. During the years, the choir has had many men and women of the parish participate. Some of the older names include Regina Hubertus Foreman, L.C. Geis, George Wachter and Albert Rotter. More recent members include Paul Geis, Ed Hanling, Paul Schmit, Mrs. Peg Schernikau, Mrs. Donna Harding, and always the high school boys and girls throughout the years.

A Catholic Youth Organization was formed in the early 1930's and was active for many years. The members furnished a room in the new rectory in 1950. During the years they provided a great deal of entertainment and social life for its members.

A Catechetical Program has also been active for many years. Lay teachers from the parish have always volunteered their services; many times with a great deal of sacrifice. At the present time the program consists of classes from kindergarten through the 12th grade.

Over the years the priests have served the parish well. At the writing of this history Father Kenneth Schnobelen is the pastor, and he has performed 45 baptisms, 8 weddings, 9 funerals and has had 8 converts. He has a great interest in beautiful flowers and well kept lawns. His Silver Jubilee was celebrated on June 20, 1971, with a dinner and program held in the Beaver Crossing Grange Hall. The parishioners of St. Patrick Church in Utica also participated.

In the winter of 1973, it was voted upon and decided to build a new church.

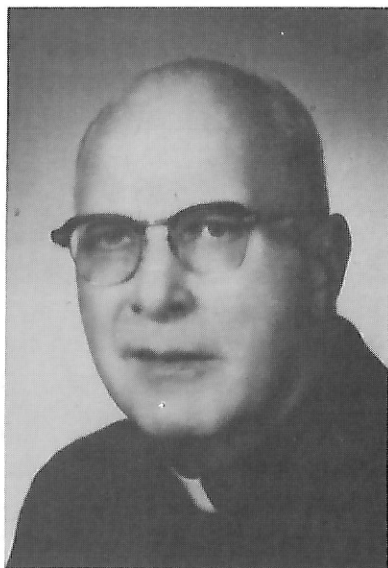


The new Sacred Heart Church.

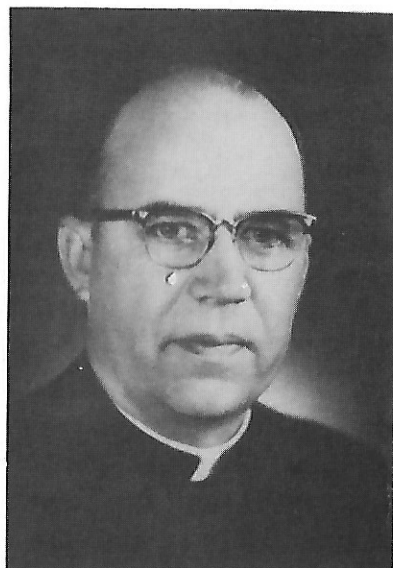
The site selected was immediately south of the old church. Committees were organized to canvass the parish for the purpose of raising funds. A six-member building committee was elected by acclamation of the parishioners. This committee consisted of Richard Coffey—chairman, Paul Schmit, Paul Geis, Mrs. Mary Hesper, Mrs. Margie Rotter and Mrs. Adeline Geis. Later a seventh member, Richard Pariset, was appointed on this committee which served until the completion of the building.

Due to the poor health of the pastor at this time, the Bishop assigned Right Reverend Monsignor Maurice Helmann, who was residing at St. Francis Parish near David City, on March 6, 1973, as the Episcopal Vicar for the purpose of seeing through to completion the building of the new parish structure in Beaver Crossing. He had within his authority the responsibility to make all final decisions in the matter and to give the necessary leadership which the building program demanded. He met with the building committee and it was decided that an architect would be needed.

The architectural firm of James Loftus and John Denny from Omaha was contacted and eventually chosen for the project. A survey and an analysis of the soil was made immediately and some minor preliminary drawings of the structure were proposed. However, the project was halted because of the illness and eventual death of Monsignor Helmann. His death, due to a heart ailment, occurred on August 14, 1973.



Msgr. Helmann



Rev. Clarence Reisdorff

Now that the project had its initial impetus, the Bishop did not wish to see the building program stopped, nor did most of the parishioners. This was emphasized during a general meeting called after Mass by Father Schnoebelen. After much discussion about the building program it was brought to a vote which resulted in an overwhelming decision to continue the project. The Bishop then spoke to Father Schnoebelen who assured him that he would cooperate with the project if Father Clarence Reisdorff of St. Vincent De Paul Church, Seward, were assigned to take Monsignor Helmann's place. Accordingly, on August 25, 1973, Father Reisdorff received his assignment from Bishop Glennon P. Flavin to oversee the building project; he was to act in the same capacity as that of his predecessor, Monsignor Helmann. He took the opportunity to speak to the parishioners after a Sunday morning Mass to be assured of their cooperation, and also to explain why and how he had been appointed to this task. The parishioners assured him of their cooperation which was maintained throughout the entire building program.

The plans for the new church were then completed by the architects and the building was put out for bids. On Tuesday, February 26, 1974, all those interested in bidding on this project met in the Beaver Crossing Grange Hall. Four contractors presented their bids which were as follows: Wilson Construction Company of David City had a low bid of \$152,000. Next came the

Jirovsky-Feigion Construction Company of Seward, with a bid of \$154,840. A third bidder was the Hank Buis Construction Company of Lincoln with a bid of \$157,250. The fourth and last bid came from the Garrett Construction Company of Lincoln whose bid was \$169,922.

Since the lowest bid was nearly \$30,000 more than was anticipated by either the architects or the building board, a severe problem arose because of the availability of funds. For a time the members of the building board felt that all of their efforts were in vain, but still they did not give up hope. With the aid of the architect and agreement with the contractor who had given the lowest bid, the Wilson Construction Company, several items of his original bid were deleted; this brought the contractor's newly adjusted bid down to \$132,991.

Once again the parishioners were canvassed for pledges and because of their good response and renewed enthusiasm it was felt that the new low bid could be handled. Bishop Flavin was informed of the new bid, as well as of the interest shown by the parishioners, and then gave his approval to continue on with the program. On March 7, 1974, the contract was signed. However, almost immediately several of the parishioners, the Altar Society and friends of the parish decided that several of the items that were deleted should be included in the new building, and they responded by providing the funds for all of them. For example, the painting was one item that had been deleted, but a number of parishioners, under the leadership of Herb Cast and his wife, Velma, took it upon themselves to do the priming, painting, staining and varnishing. A saving of almost \$2,000 was realized from this venture, but much labor was required with the parishioners working late hours into the night. The task was completed by November 30. This was only one example of the enthusiasm of the parishioners; eventually all of the deleted items were back in the project and included in the completed building.

Ground was broken for the new church and social hall on the morning of Sunday, April 28, 1974, following the 10:30 AM Mass. Construction did not get underway until about a month later because the contractor wanted to complete a previous job. Some rain was involved in slowing down the starting date, but once construction began it advanced quite rapidly. The cornerstone was placed in position by the contractor on Friday, June 21, 1974, the Feast of the Sacred Heart, in order to avoid any delay of the project. Father Schnoebelen blessed the cornerstone on the following Sunday, June 23, 1974, immediately after the Mass, with all of the parishioners present.



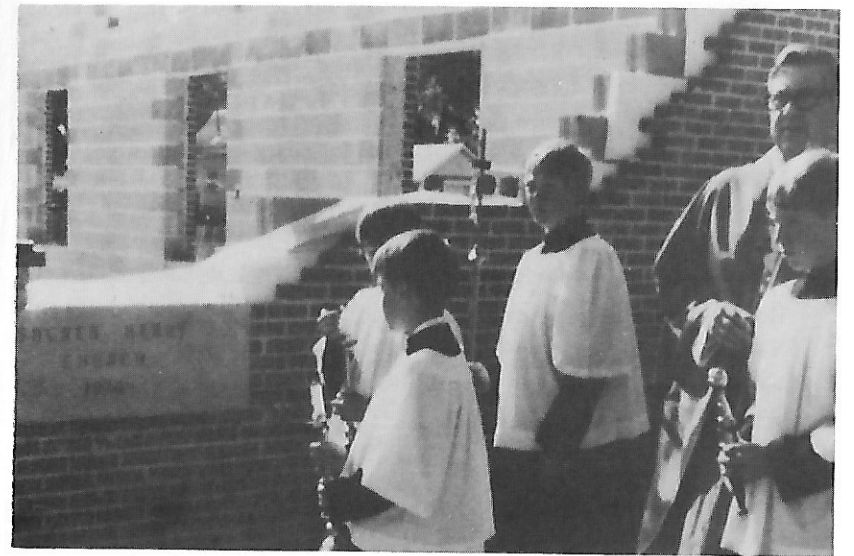
Ground breaking ceremony. Father Kenneth Schnoebelen, pastor, and Father Clarence Reisdorff, moderator.



Oldest living parishioners, Mrs. May Geis and Fred Geis, at ground breaking ceremonies.



Workmen placing cornerstone.



Blessing of cornerstone by pastor.

From this point on construction moved along quite rapidly. A bell tower was erected in which was installed the bell from the old church, but not before it was remodeled. The bell was removed from the old church by means



Removing bell from tower.

of a crane and then it was sent to the Verdin Bell Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. The hammer of the bell was removed and in its place an electronic device was installed. In this way the bell could be rung electrically from the sacristy of the new church. There were some delays here and there for items from some of the manufacturers, such as fire-proof doors for the kitchen serving windows, and portable walls. The basic structure was substantially completed by Thanksgiving Day. The Bishop was informed of the progress that had taken place and he decided to dedicate the new building on December 15, 1974.

In order to meet this deadline word was immediately sent to the Schottler Furniture Manufacturing Company of Beatrice, Nebraska, for them to install the new blue padded pews, which they did on December 2. Moving day was December 4; items from the old church were moved to the new church, one being the Hammond Organ to which a new tone cabinet was added. New stations of the cross were hung on the wall, and other appointments for the church were brought in.



Inside the new church.

Then it happened. On December 14, the day before the Dedication was to have taken place, a severe snow storm with blizzard-like proportions moved in. The Bishop could not reach Beaver Crossing, and neither could many of the parishioners and friends who had been invited. This called for a rescheduling of the Dedication which was then set for January 1, 1975. The rescheduling did cause some difficulties and confusion, especially on the part of the ladies who had prepared the meal for the occasion. They had to make arrangements for keeping the food on hand, and also prepare for another meal to take place on the new date. Since the church had been in readiness for the Dedication, the old church abandoned, and in spite of the blizzard, the first Mass was offered in the new church by the pastor on December 15.

January 1, 1975, arrived clear and cold; it was a beautiful day for the Dedication. His Excellency, the Most Reverend Bishop Glennon P. Flavin, led the

procession, consisting of Father Thomas Olmstead (the Bishop's assistant), Father Kenneth Schnobelen, Father Clarence Reisdorff, Father Mike Harter (the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harter), and all the altar boys, from the rectory to the new church. During the procession the "old but new" bell rang out loud and clear. When the procession reached the church, all the parishioners waited outside while the Bishop blessed first the outside, and then the inside of the new church. He offered the Mass and gave the sermon.

All donors, some from other faiths, plus the contractors and architects were invited to the Mass and later to a dinner served at the Grange Hall with about 150 people present. The ladies of the parish had again prepared the food and were assisted by three ladies from St. Vincent De Paul Church of Seward who served it with the help of high school girls from the parish. The Bishop expressed his appreciation to all of the parishioners for the sacrifices which they had made and for the cooperation which they had given Father Reisdorff, the moderator, during the construction of the building. He mentioned that this edifice was truly indicative of the strong faith of the community, and he was happy that he could be a part of the dedication ceremonies. One of the highlights brought out during the remarks made by the speakers was the announcement that no indebtedness remained on the building. This brought the dedication ceremonies to a happy conclusion.

The new church and social hall has about 4,000 square feet of floor space. The sound proof portable walls in the social hall give this area a multiple purpose. It can be used for catechetical instructions, group meetings, and also as an overflow to handle large gatherings at Liturgical Services; glass windows separate the social hall from the nave of the church. A loudspeaker system was installed throughout the structure. This enables the visitors in the social hall to hear the liturgical services. Beautiful colored windows compliment the structure. Drapes were furnished for all the windows in the social hall and kitchen. Two electric furnaces provide heat for the structure; also an air conditioning system was installed throughout the building.

A number of items that were not included in the original contract but were donated and are worthy of note were the following:

1. The Sanctuary Furnishings, including the beautiful hand carved altar and pulpit, the communion table, credence table and the tabernacle table, were especially made for the Sacred Heart Church by Marvin Harter of Wichita, Kansas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harter. All the lumber in these items was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pariset. Marvin Harter brought some of these furnishings to Beaver Crossing on November 9. On his return

trip to Kansas he took along the round Sacred Heart window from the old church. This he repaired and on December 14, 1974, he returned to Beaver Crossing with more of the sanctuary furnishings and the window which now was encased with a frame and illuminated.

2. The blue padded pews and the two statues in the Sanctuary of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary were donated by Joseph Geis.

3. The bell tower and the remodeling of the bell were donated by Esther Mary Eisenbarth.

4. The kitchen equipment and cabinets, the carpet for the church, a West-cloz Quartzmatic clock, the air conditioning units for both the church and the social hall, all of which had been previously deleted from the original contract, were donated by Mrs. May Geis. She also gave the main crucifix in the sanctuary above the altar in memory of her husband Herman Geis. This beautiful cross was hand carved by Vincenzo Demetz Figlio of Italy.

5. The Stations of the Cross were donated by Paul and Bessie Leif in memory of his uncle and aunt L.J. and Elizabeth Eisenbarth.

6. The tabernacle was donated by Frank and Rose Harter in memory of their parents, John and Margaret Harter and Charles and Margaret Walterscheid.

7. The paschal candle holder was donated by Richard and Margaret Ann Trojan.

8. The repository background was donated by Casper and Rose Spohn.

9. A gold vestment was donated by Kenneth and Delores Cast.

10. Holy water fonts were donated by Rita and Mark Hesel.

11. The coat rack was donated by Becky, Barb, Ron, Alan and Doug Geis.

12. A cash donation was given by Father Kenneth Schnobelen in memory of his mother, Amelia Schnobelen.

13. A cash donation was given by Rita Geis in memory of her parents, Louis C. and Matilda Geis.

14. A cash donation was given by Jay Geis in memory of his parents, Frank J. and Sarah Geis.

15. A cash donation was made by Regina M. Foreman in memory of her uncle, Frank Hubertus.

16. Credit to Dean Pankoke for bulldozing and land leveling. He donated his services.

17. Credit to Alan Phillips and Bob Carr who removed the old church without charge.

Other items of interest:

1. The problem of removing the old church. This was solved by giving the building to Alan Phillips and Bob Carr who dismantled it for the lumber which they hauled to their "Living Water Ranch" in Olsburg, Kansas. The stained glass windows were sold to the Knisley Antique Corporation of Goehner, Nebraska.

2. On March 25, 1975, the Sacred Heart Church had served the Beaver Crossing community for 85 years.

3. The First Communion class took place on April 20, 1975. Members of this class were: John Harding, Timothy Pariset, Teresa Kunert and Angela Kallhoff.

4. The first baptism on May 4, 1975, was that of Gretchen Colleen Leif who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Leif.

5. The first class to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (May 17, 1975), included the following members: Eric Dixon, Dan Geis, Alan Geis, Ronald Geis, Mark Hesper, Sandra Kunert, Cheryl Kunert, Jeffrey Harding, Barry Trojan, Richard Wichman, Lisa Hamling, Mary Schmit, Lisa Schernikau, Gail Pariset, Julie Pariset and two Nelson children from Holdrege.

6. The first wedding took place on July 3, 1975. It was that of Stephen Kunert, son of Dolores and Robert Kunert, and Miss Sheryl Law, daughter of Gary and Marilyn Law.

7. The first funeral was that of Esther Mary Eisenbarth. It took place on July 5, 1975.

The parishioners of the Sacred Heart Parish who gave cash contributions towards the building of the new church were as follows:

Oliver and Helen Beach	Richard and Mary Hesper
Herbert and Velma Cast	Thomas and Charma Hesper
Kenneth and Delores Cast	David and Diane Kallhoff
Richard and Barbara Coffey	Richard and Judy Knisley
Ed and Evelyn Divis	Mrs. Bess Kuhn
Esther Mary Eisenbarth	Robert and Dolores Kunert
Terry and Sandra Geiger	Mrs. Helen Leif
Carl and Adeline Geis	Gerard and Janet Leif
Fred Geis	Paul and Elizabeth Leif
Mrs. May Geis	Donald Leif
Joseph Geis	Richard and Geraldine Pariset
Paul and Betty Geis	Mrs. Marguerite Rotter
Ed and Bernette Hamling	Donald and Margaret Ann Schernikau
John and Donna Harding	Paul and Doris Schmit
Frank and Rose Harter	Casper and Rose Spohn

John and Rose Trojan
Richard and Margaret Ann Trojan
Ralph and Dorothea Wichman
Father Kenneth Schnoebelen
Mrs. Louise Knepper
Mrs. Bea Frank

Mrs. Margaret Knight
Rita and Mark Hesper
John Kunert
Stephen Kunert
Becky, Barb, Ron, Alan and Doug Geis
Don Grantski donated crushed rock for the front of the church.

Friends of the Sacred Heart Parish who gave cash contributions toward the building of the new church were as follows:

G.A. Dunlap	Lyle and Lorayne Henke
Home State Bank	Mrs. Clara Henke
K.E. Paulsen	Father Clarence Reisdorff
Miss Rita Geis	Mark and Suzanne Kolterman
Jay and Tracy Geis	Ralph and Jean O'Connor
Beaver Crossing Holmes Post #178	Alfred and Regina M. Foreman
Christian Mobile Service	Mrs. Agnes S. Hamilton
Ervin and Marie Barth	Les Rolfmeier
United Methodist Church	Metropolitan Church Goods Company
Mrs. Florence Amos	Mr. and Mrs. John Denny
Richard and Joyce Christian	Robert and Martha Dowding
Arthur and Evelyn Pariset	One anonymous contributor

Financial Report

Sacred Heart Church Building Program

1974-75

TOTAL INCOME

Parishioners' Contributions	\$ 116,060.65
Friends' Contributions	6,636.00
Income from selling farm	27,844.77
Activities — soup suppers, raffles, etc.	3,841.50
Withdrawn from diocesan savings	11,062.38
Interest on savings	1,464.93
Savings account, CD's, etc.	3,790.80
Sales Tax Refund	2,248.31
Sold pews from old church to St. John Lutheran Church, Atlanta, Kansas	1,000.00
Sold stained glass windows	1,500.00
Miscellaneous items sold from old church	91.51
Donation from Sacred Heart Church Fund	500.00
Donation from Altar Society	301.04
Credits	32.71
Total Income	<u>\$ 176,374.60</u>

SPECIAL NOTATION:

Total expenditures (note page 25) ---	\$174,478.79
Additional expenditures incurred since this booklet was printed:	
Cost of printing History Booklets -	321.00
Shanahan Co. -- change orders ----	107.72
Final & total expenditures incurred in the entire building project ----	<u>\$174,907.51</u>

EXPENDITURES

Architects	\$ 7,639.00
Wilson Construction Co., David City, Nebraska — Contractors ..	149,827.15
Schottler Fixtures and Pews, Beatrice, Nebraska	5,860.50
Yost Lumber Company, Beaver Crossing, Nebraska — Bricks	1,832.69
J.C. Penney Company, Lincoln, Nebraska — Drapes	758.35
Vahl Drug Store, Seward, Nebraska — Paint, Brushes, etc.	682.33
Yost Lumber Company, Beaver Crossing — Paint, Brushes, etc.	219.03
Carl Engel — Survey Plot	65.00
Grange Hall — Rental when receiving bids	5.00
Liability Insurance — 1974 to 1976	141.00
General Insurance — 1974-1975 — Willard Nagel, Farmers Mutual Insurance Association of Seward County	365.00
Outside lighted cross	1,053.17
Sanctuary Cross	848.75
Cross on tower turned to face main street	47.00
Vinyl Wall Covering and labor	367.69
Stations of the Cross	910.00
Tabernacle	810.00
Processional Cross and Torches	450.37
Candle Followers	46.00
Tone Cabinet for organ	500.00
Bronze Candlesticks	90.00
Bulletins and Missalette Box	65.00
Hymn Board	157.00
Holy Water Fonts	33.00
Electricity	147.30
Telephone	128.19
Postage	10.00
Safety Deposit Box Rental	8.70
Four Brass Flower Stands	100.00
Microphone, etc.	54.04
Electrolux Commercial Vacuum Sweeper	341.32
One load rock	153.12
Fire Extinguishers	75.00
New Electrical Service to rectory	360.78
Lawn seed and fertilizers	77.50
Refinish chairs — Knisley	52.00
Labor — hauling fill dirt, old church basement	32.00
Sample's Studio — pictures for history book	82.75
Extra Clergy	25.00
Miscellaneous	<u>58.06</u>

Total Expenditures \$ 174,478.79

Available pictures of pastors



Father Joseph Ress



Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas Barden



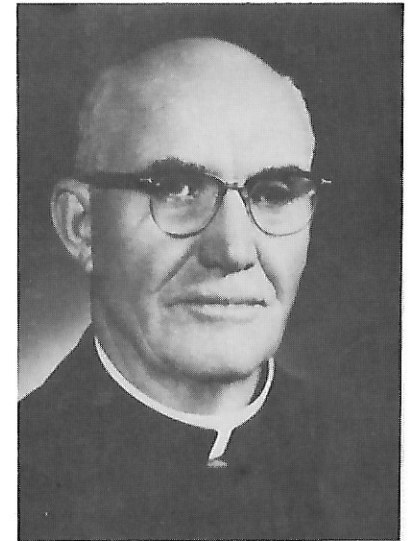
Rev. Michael A. O'Boyle



Msgr. E.W. Fowler



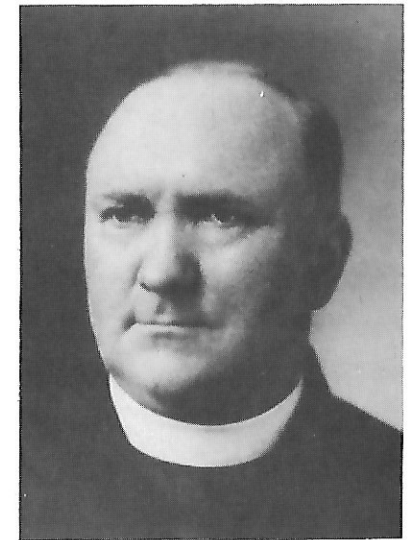
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward Hagan



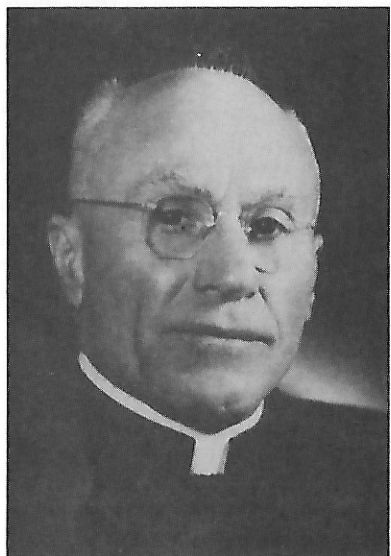
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Luke Mandeville



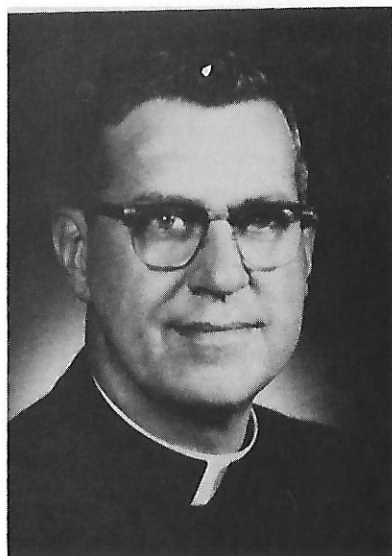
Very Rev. Ralph Egan



Rev. J.M. O'Sullivan



Rev. Lawrence Kalin



Rev. Kenneth Schnobelen