

VACH COLLECTION



St. Joseph's  
Beroun, Minn.  
1896 ~ 1996



To  
the living and deceased families of:

St. Joseph's Parish



My Dear Friends,

What a momentous occasion this is - to be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Beroun. This is a time to celebrate the great accomplishments and sacrifices of the early pioneers; to celebrate the living faith which has been passed on from generation to generation; to celebrate the fidelity to God and to the spirit of the pioneers which is still so evident today.

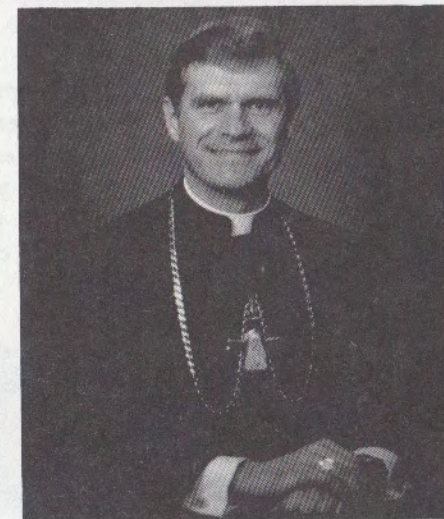
During these past one hundred years, the people of St. Joseph's have seen so much change and development. However, for all that has changed, your faith in God and in the Church has remained constant. You have been a sign to all of God's presence in your community.

At this time I would like to thank all the priests who have served your community so faithfully. Their lives and example have been an inspiration. I would also like to thank all of you who are the Church of St. Joseph. You are to be congratulated for keeping alive our wonderful Catholic tradition which took root in Beroun one hundred years ago.

With an assurance of prayers and with warm personal wishes, I remain

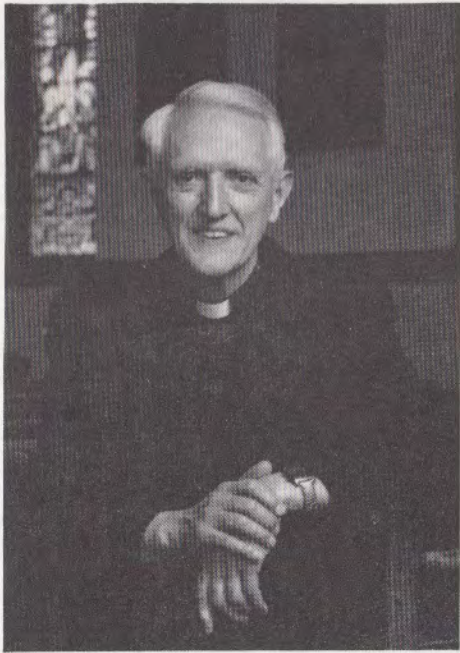
Sincerely in Christ and Mary,

Roger L. Schwietz, OMI  
Bishop of Duluth



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Catholic Diocese of Duluth  
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When marking an Easter candle with a cross and the numbers of the current year, e.g., 1996, the priest says: *Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to Him, and all the ages, to Him be glory and power through every age for ever. Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise and thank You for the presence of your Holy Spirit inspiring Czech settlers in October of 1896 to seek the establishment of St Joseph's Parish.

Thank You for prompting them to acknowledge in August of 1946, 50 years, and in April of 1972, 75 years of your faithfulness.

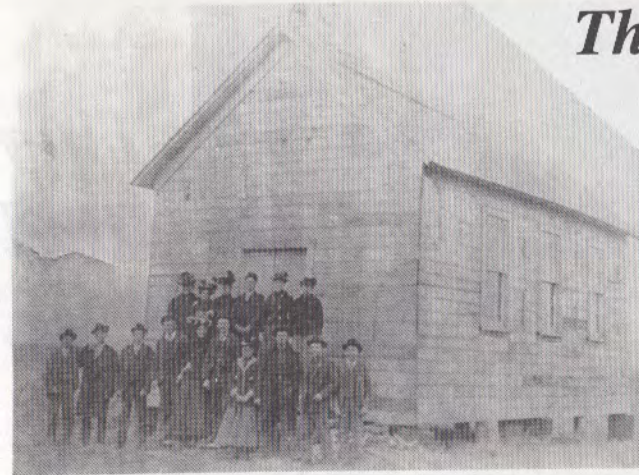
Now, Lord, we thank you again, as we recognize in July 1996, the grace of your holy presence and action in this place for a full century.

Relying on your mercy and goodness we commend the unknown future to you. To you be glory and power through every age forever! Amen.

St Joseph, patron of the universal Church, and patron of this parish, pray for us.

Fr James W Scheuer  
Pastor

## Then and Now







## *Then and Now*



1896

ST. JOSEPH'S 100 YEARS

1996

On the 25th of October 1896 fourteen Catholic members of the Beroun community met at the home of Joseph Chalupsky. Those attending this meeting were: Jon Chalupnik, Joseph Chalupsky, Vaelov Drogan, Alois Hrdlicka, Joseph Korbek, John Plasek, Albert Rados, Ant. Rosicky, Joseph Sabatka, John Schuller Sr., John Schuller Jr., Frank Slavioek, John Slezak, and John Urbansky. Building a church for the Catholic community was the concern of the meeting, and although Frank Frolek, Joseph Jakoubek, Joseph Slaby, Jon Trnka, Joseph Kleich, Tom Kucera, Jan and Joseph Ouradnik were not in attendance, they favored the project.

Soon after the meeting, a small church, 18' X 30' X 12' building was built at a cost of \$168.00. Ten acres of land necessary for the church and cemetery was given in deed from the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad.

The first Mass was said in the new church by Fr. Rabsteinsck on Dec, 26, the Feast of St. Stephen. On April 2, 1897, the Most Rev. James McGolrich, Bishop of Duluth, dedicated the building to St. Joseph, patron saint of the parish. On June 1, 1899, the first class of children received First Holy Communion. Every Sunday Joseph Chalupsky taught the children both their catechism and the Czech language. Laymen, officers from the first meeting held devotions on Sundays when a priest could not come.

The small church soon was out grown and a corporation entitled, the Church of St. Joseph, Beroun Minnesota, was created on June 24, 1902. Corporation officers included the first lay trustees of the parish, Joseph Sebesta, Secretary, and Jacob Kubesh, Treasurer. This permitted a loan of \$700.00. The new church was built at a total of \$2335.00.

St Joseph's was served by different priests from the surrounding towns as it was still a mission. This continued for 25 years.



In 1926 the present brick structure was built. The corner stone of this was layed by the Most Rev. Thomas A. Welch, Bishop of Duluth. Rev. Wm. Guilfoyle was the first resident pastor of St. Joseph's, now no longer a mission. His first Mass was Aug. 29, 1926. The brick church was completed the winter of 1927, at a cost of \$33,000.00. In 1938 a new brick rectory was erected. This new building was ready Dec.22,1938, at a total cost of \$9000.00. A great deal of labor was donated.

On Aug. 26, 1946 the Golden Jubilee was celebrated with Bishop Welch, Rev. George Gallik, Rev. Boland, Rev. John O'Connell and Rev. Andrew Gallik officiating at High Mass.

Over the years some additions and improvements were made to the church and cemetery.

In 1972 on April 16 the Diamond Jubilee was held. The occasion was celebrated with Mass and various other solemnities.

The past 25 years have brought many changes to our church as we keep abreast of the times. But through it all is still our sense of belonging, first to God, and then to our special community of St. Joseph's Parish in Beroun.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

1903-1996	Baptisms....916
1914-1996	Marriages.. 295
1906-1996	Deaths.....448

Do you remember the church picnics? There were many over the years, one of the first was in 1901 to raise needed funds to build the second church. The picnics were held at several locations, including the Pehler farm on Cross Lake, where one year in the 30's the Brom boys brought a motor boat from the twin cities to give rides. The Haberman farm was another location as was the Beroun Pavillion. The ladies were kept busy preparing and serving the pot luck dinners and the men organized several events such as sack races, penny toss, target shooting, horseshoe and ball throwing games. They also kept cool consuming plenty of their favorite beverage.

St. Joseph's Men's Club played an active role in several parish functions from 1961 through 1974. Meetings were held each month and there was always some event being planned. Besides the usual general maintenance and upkeep projects, the Men's Club hosted several fund raisers such as bingo games, ham dinners, card parties, bazaar raffles and hunter's breakfasts. The profits from these events were then used to put on Christmas parties for the local children and the YCC boys at Willow River, fund church picnics and purchase many other items. The parish council eventually assumed the functions of the Men's Club in the early 70's.

Some projects from Board meeting minutes:

- 1985 Replaced cement sidewalks
- 1986 Installed cement driveway
- 1987 Built new roof over entry
- 1988/89 Purchased dishwasher and updated electrical in church
- 1989 Surveyed new cemetery additions
- 1991 Completed cemetery locations and new maps
- 1992 Removed fuel oil tank, installed new propane heating system in church
- 1993 Transferred cemetery to separate non-profit organization
- 1995 New rain gutters on house and church
- 1995 Resurfaced parking lot

"Cemetery Trivia" taken from records as of Oct. 3, 1990

There are 219 lots, with a total of 2,208 sites  
590 sites are occupied or reserved  
1,618 sites are open

The first person buried in the cemetery was Edward Kryzer, in 1892 (born 1891, died 1892)

The person born the longest ago was Mary Ballata, born in 1826 (died in 1912)

The most common last name in the cemetery is "Kryzer"

The most common man's name in the cemetery is "Joseph" (then Francis, then John)

The most common woman's name in the cemetery is "Mary" (then Anne or Anna)

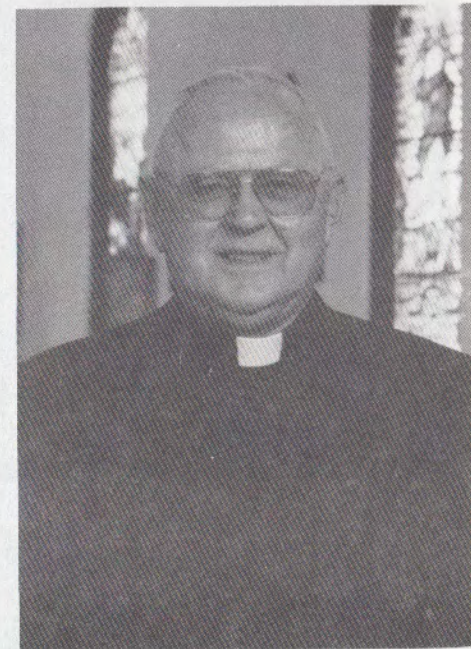
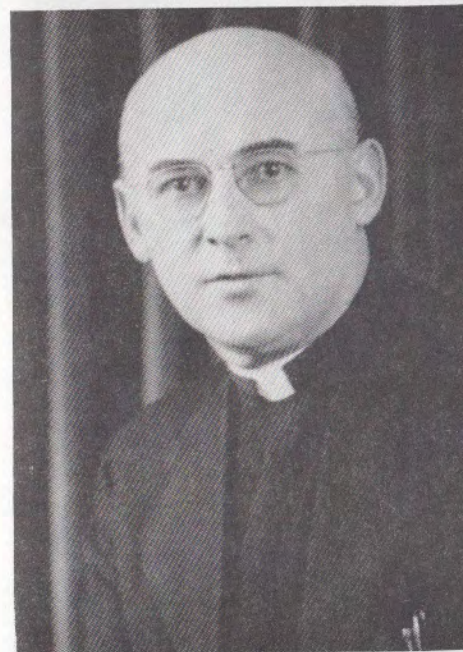


### Pastors at St. Joseph's

1896-Dec.26 Fr. Thomas A Rabsteinek, Pastor of the Pine City Parish offered the first mass in the Beroun First Church.

Following is a list of Missionaries and resident pastors since then.

1896-1899	Fr. Rabsteinek
1900-1901	Fr. John Smiers
1901-1905	Fr. Louis Buechler
1905-1906	Fr. Vaclov Koerner
1906-1908	Fr. Max Rieger [Hinckley]
1909-1926	Fr. Leo Laskowski [Pine City]
1926-1930	Fr. Wm. Gilfoyle [Our first resident pastor]
1930-1961	Fr. Andrew P. Gallik
1961-1964	Fr. Francis Gaber
1964-1965	Fr. Bernard J. Smith
1965-1966	Fr. Gerald J. LaPatka
1966-1967	Fr. Joseph Vovk
1967-1971	Fr. John T. Mangan
1772-1979	Fr. Francis Gaber
1979-1981	Fr. Raphael Sesek
1981-1984	Fr. Louis Broulliard
1984-1985	Fr. Richard Partika
1985-1986	Fr. Edward Foster
1986-1989	Fr. Francis Gaber
1989-1991	Fr. Frank Marincel
1991-	Fr. James Scheuer



All Priests who served at St. Joseph's were very important and contributed to the church and its community. Among the many who served, these two were here the longest. Father Andrew Gallik, from 1930-1961 (31 yrs.) and Father Francis Gaber, from 1961-64, 1972-79, and 1986-89, a total of 13 years.

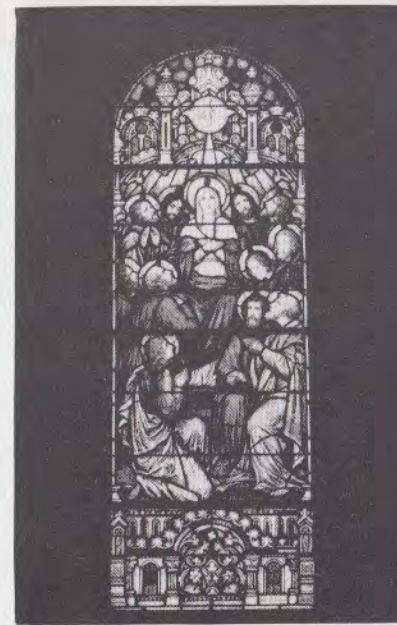




Agnes O'Donnell was the organist for many years at St. Joseph's Church. She gave of her talent as well as donated the beautiful organ that is now in use at the church. Some other ladies who also played the organ were Mary Prohaska, Lottie Chalupsky, Lois Glaudel, Nicole Chalupsky, and Renee Houle.

Our present organist for the past few years is Kathy Hagberg. Kathy not only plays the organ so well, but has a beautiful voice, which she shares with us.

We thank God for such gifts.



The stain glass windows that adorn our church are from the Joyful and Glorious mysteries. Starting with the first window on the left in the front is the beginning of the Joyful Mysteries.

The Annunciation. Our lady in prayer kneeling before the Archangel Gabriel, announcing that God wishes her to be the mother of his son.

The second window is the Visitation. Mary visits Elizabeth who is to be mother of St. John the Baptist.

The third window is the birth of Christ. Mary Joseph and shepherds kneeling around the crib.

The fourth window is the Presentation. Mary and Joseph presenting Jesus to the Lord. The aged Simeon, the prophet, and Anna are at their side.

The fifth window is The Finding in the Temple. Mary and Joseph find Jesus talking to the learned men.

The sixth window, in the crying room, is of St. Elizabeth.

The seventh window is a picture of a king.

The eighth window on the right side in the back starts the Glorious Mysteries. The resurrection. Jesus is with Mary Magdalene and Peter.

The ninth window is the Ascension. Our Lord shows himself alive to his disciples.

The tenth window is the The descent of the Holy Spirit on Mary and the disciples.

The eleventh window is our Lady's Assumption. It shows Mary and angels.

The twelfth window is the Coronation of our Lady as Queen of Heaven, being crowned by her divine son, with the Father besides them.

The windows came from Innsbruck, Austria. Families donated \$200.00 towards the purchase of the stain glass windows. The windows cost \$1730.00, which \$2400.00 was collected. There is a plaque in the church with the names of the families that donated.

The Stations of the Cross were donated at the same time as the windows. These stations are hand-painted on copper. The cost was \$770.00. The families that donated money for the stations are on a plaque in the church.





This is a picture of some of the ladies of St. Joseph's in front of the kitchen where they prepared many bazaar dinners as well as food for weddings, funerals and other social gatherings.

The men also prepared a special ham dinner each year in honor of St. Joseph. Many people came to St. Joseph's from a great distance for their bazaar dinner where well known kolackys were served. St. Joseph's bazaar dinner was also known for the delicious bread dressing which was made for many years by Magdalyn Kryzer mixed up in an washing machine tub. This kitchen was modernized in the 60's and equipment purchased by the Rosary Society.

Many women served in different ways. One such woman was Mary Zemek who was the housekeeper. Later years Ann Haberman took over this job.

Margaret Kryzer was the longest reigning president of the Rosary Society, accomplishing a great deal in her 20 years of service. Some of the other officers of the Rosary Society were: Agnes O'Donnell, Lillian Reiser, Agnes Toman, Ardythe Ryan, Shelly Worrel, Fran St. Martin, Barb Fodstad, Laura Chalupsky, Genevieve Runa, Marlene Bible, and presently Sharon Baum.



#### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Several activities and functions were used to raise money for St. Joseph's Church. One of these was play productions. It was a great time for not only the "would-be actors", but as a social gathering for the parishioners. The first affair was a play under the direction of Mr. Chalupsky called "Rozbita Sklenice" (The Broken Glass.) Under the directorship of Fr. Guilfoyle in 1927, the passion play "The Upper Room" was staged. This was again reenacted in 1933 under the leadership of Fr. Gallik. Fr. Gallik over the next seven years produced over a dozen performances both in English and Bohemian. He also took the plays "on the road", traveling to Cloquet, Denham, Pine City, Rush City. In the dark days of the depression all possible help was needed and this provided not only needed funds for the church but good entertainment for the community as well. World War II came along and put a halt to most activities of this kind and as to date no interest in drama has returned.

The above picture was of a cast in a three act comedy "Vcerne Rokei" put on Sunday, June 7, 1931. Cast-bottom row left to right: Mary Pulkrabek, Mary Runa, and Emma Chalupnik. Middle row-left to right: Frank W. Runa, Rudolph Plisek, and Frank R. Rys. Top row- left to right: W.A. Karban, Vincent A. Mikyska, and James A. Kuzel.



## REMINISCING

I remember carrying wood to keep the fires going in the old cook stove while Magdalene Kryzer, Mrs J. W. Kryzer, Barbara Kryzer, Jennie Kryzer, Mrs.J. Runa and other ladies cooked the meal to serve at the annual bazaar dinner. People brought chickens for the dinner already roasted. We then had to take out the dressing, cut up the chicken and reheat all of it. Dishes were washed in tubs on the stage in the basement. We had an old wood cook stove. Regardless of the hard work, huge meals were prepared and served. After the meal an auction was held to raise money selling produce, chickens, geese, vegetables, and fruits.

I sang in the choir before my marriage and also after. I used to walk three miles to church and back home from practice each week. Agnes O'Donnell's father, John Chalupsky was the choir director.

In 1932 I married Edward Ouradnik in Beroun. Father Gallik was the priest at that time.

Bernadine Ouradnik

John Smetana remembers attending the first wedding performed in the present church. The wedding was for his sister Rose on June 1, 1927.

Jon Chalupnik, one of the members present at the first meeting on Oct. 25, 1896, was Ernest's father, my father-in-law.

Ernest and I (Mary Runa) were married in 1937 at St. Joseph's Church by Fr. Andrew Gallik.

One of Ernest's sisters, Josie, was married to Tom Shima. Tom was the janitor and caretaker of the church for many years, and took his job very seriously. He rang the bell each morning, noon (for the Angelus), and evening; walking every day whether it rained, snowed or was 100 degrees in the shade. He kept the church warm even when he had to fire up (with wood) all night, sometimes in our below zero weather. In later years Louis Chalupsky took over this job.

I, too, helped at the Bazaar and other dinners cooking on the old wood stove. Hot water was brought over from the creamery in ten gallon cans. It was hard work, but with many helping hands the bazaars were a success and money was raised for the church.

Mary Chalupnik



Emma Soukup  
-100 year old parishioner-

Emma Pavek was born in Owatonna, Mn. On April 15, 1896. She was one of 10 children, 8 girls and 2 boys. When she was 9 mo. old her family moved to the Beroun area.

She was married in 1916 to Henry Soukup in Pine City, and had two children. They then moved to Rice Lake WI where Adeline was born. In 1936 Emma and her family moved back to the Beroun area.

They attended church in Beroun. Her husband built some of the cupboards in the sacristy.

She remembers: The church picnics which were always alot of fun. That two ladies had to clean the church once a month. The ladies had to make a quilt to sell at the bazaar. Every family had to bring chickens fried and ready to eat for the bazaar. She remembers that on Holy Thursday mass the little girls were dressed in white dresses and the little boys were dressed in white shirts and dark pants. Women had to wear dresses and a hat or something on their heads and the men wore suits. Emma remembers that couples were allowed to get married in the morning only and they couldn't have a dance during Lent or Advent.

Emma now resides at Lakeside Nursing Home in Pine City.



# Looking Back

Golden Jubilee  
Diamond Jubilee



# Looking Back





*Looking Back*



June 1954

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...



## NOTES

In appreciation

Thanks to all who helped to make this book of memories:

Thanks to the people who shared their memories and for the following committees:

Dinner:

Sharon Baum

Kay Rarick

Val Mikyska

Display and Memorabilia:

John Plasek

Bud Odendahl

David Chouanard

Wilfred Kraft

Booklet:

Maxine Odendahl

Sharon Baum

Liturgy:

Barbara Mikyska

Jason Rarick

Fr. Scheuer

Music:

Kathy Hagberg

Dale Plasek