

HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK' PARISH FROM JANUARY 1, 1925 to
MARCH 15, 1939.

Kemmerer

In 1925 the Reverend William Short was pastor and from here he regularly attended the mission church in Cokeville. Occasionally he also went to Big Piney where he said Mass in a private home. On October 10, 1926 the Most Reverend Patrick McGovern confirmed a class of fifty-five in St. Patrick's Church, and on May 31, 1931 he confirmed another class of sixty-six in the same church.

On July 1, 1933 Father Short was changed to Rawlins and the Reverend Doctor John McDevitt, J. C. D., succeeded him as pastor of St. Patrick's Parish. He also attended the mission church at Cokeville regularly, and in 1934 through the ~~help~~ help of the Catholic Church Extension Society of Chicago he erected St. Anne's Church at Big Piney, Wyoming where he likewise celebrated Mass regularly.

On February 24, 1935 Father McDevitt said good-bye to Kemmerer and left to take charge of the parish at Laramie. Temporarily the Kemmerer parish was then placed in charge of Father Jerome H. Denk until May 12, 1935 when the Reverend A. C. Riester, S. J., succeeded him also in a temporary capacity. He served as such until May 12, 1935 when the Reverend Gerard Schellinger, who had been appointed as pastor by the Most Reverend Patrick McGovern, arrived to take over his duties.

On September 8, 1935 Father Paul Hellrung came as assistant for the parish, and in succession the Reverend Walter Nicholson, the Reverend John Sullivan and the Reverend Joseph Aubuchon served in like capacities.

On May 17, 1936 a class of eighty-five made their First Holy Communion and a week later, May 24, one hundred and sixty-five were confirmed by the Most Reverend Patrick McGovern.

At a cost of \$1300 a new Hammond electric organ was installed in the parish church during the year of 1936, and the year following the entire interior of the church was remodeled at a cost of \$3500.

There seems to be no need for mentioning the beginning of the new missions at Jackson and Moran with the subsequent erection of churches in those places, because at your order the records for them were completed by me and sent to you last year, and consequently they must be in your archives at present.

At present there are no debts on any of the churches, and the 1st calendar year showed thirty-nine ~~Bap~~ Baptisms and fifteen marriages for the entire parish.

Gerard Schellinger