

HISTORY OF THE RAWLINS PARISH 1939 to 1951

Father Short remained Pastor at Rawlins until January 10, 1940. He was then transferred to Sheridan and the Reverend Gerard Schellinger again became pastor. At the time of the change, Reverend Myles Kearney was assistant and he remained in that capacity. In March of 1943, the Reverend Herbert Kraus took his place as assistant and remained until October 1944, when he was succeeded by Reverend Thomas Cleary. Father Cleary was transferred in November, 1946, and replaced by the Reverend Charles Bartek. Father Bartek remained until June 1948, and the Reverend Terence McGovern came to serve as assistant. Shortly after he came, Father Schellinger took a leave of absence from the parish, because of ill health, and went to California. This change was made in October of 1948. Father McGovern then took over as administrator of the parish and the Reverend William Delaney was sent to assist him. This situation lasted for about a year until Father Schellinger resigned the parish and then the Reverend John Meyer was appointed pastor and the Reverend James Doudican was named assistant, and at present these two are the pastor and assistant in Rawlins.

During the time between 1939 and 1950, a number of missions were held, with different missionary priests conducting them. The Forty-Hours Devotion was conducted by the Reverend James Hartmann, pastor of the Cathedral of Cheyenne, for October 20 to October 22, 1940.

A novena was held from October 4 to October 13 for "Our Boys in the Armed Forces," and for "Victory and Peace." In 1944, a mission was held from Passion Sunday to Palm Sunday, March 26 to April 2, and conducted by the Reverend James V. Fallon, S.J., of the Jesuit mission band, St. Louis, Missouri.

The next mission was held in 1947, from Sunday, October 5 to October

11, and conducted by the Reverend Father Hoffman, of the Chicago mission band. In the following year, 1948, the Forty-Hour Devotion was held with Father Hellinger of the same mission band conducting it. In 1949, several retreats were given for the different organizations of the parish, and the Thirteen-Hours Devotion was held in Saratoga and Hanna by the Reverend John Corrigan of Laramie. The Forty-Hours Devotion was held in Rawlins by Doctor John McDevitt, J.C.D., Pastor of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Laramie. A Retreat for the Young Ladies' Sodality was preached by the Reverend Cyril Hmelovsky, Pastor at Worland, as also a Retreat for the women of the Parish by the Reverend Phillip Krass, Pastor of Thermopolis on April 28, 29, and 30. The Forty-Hours Devotion in 1950 was given by the Reverend John Corrigan, Laramie, and the Thirteen-Hours Devotion in 1950 by the Reverend William Delaney, Superior. A Triduum was held December 6, 7, and 8, with the Reverend C.J. Darley, C.S.S.R., conducting the services. Another retreat for the Newman Club members was given during Christmas week by a Franciscan Father, The Reverend Sebastian Egan.

During these same years, a new pulpit was donated to the church by W.C. Johnson and family. Also numerous improvements were made on the church interior, a better arrangement of the sacristy was made and lights were placed on the confessionals. At about the same time the clubrooms of the rectory were rearranged and modernized, making them better adaptable for meetings of the church groups.

Of course, with the war years of 1942 to 1945, numerous pious services were dedicated to the welfare of our boys serving from this parish, and many special novenas were held. On Labor Day, 1945, a special High Mass was offered for the boys who had given their lives in the country's service. Twenty-one of the boys of our parish had been killed in action: namely, Eddie Branch, Donald Calnan, John Curry, Ralph Garcia, William Jaramillo, Errol Jaure, James Kilburn, Raphael Lackey, Norman Les, Ernest Lovato, Clarence Lucas, Bernard Lucas, James Mahoney,

Daniel Martinez, William Niland, Lemoine Roberts, Charles Roybal, Jack Shively, Leroy Siray, Edward Walker, and Richard Wallenstein.

During this period, the parish was the cradle of several religious vocations. The Reverend William Stewart, born and baptized in Rawlins, was ordained a priest for the San Francisco diocese, in 1946, and the Reverend Joseph Fraher was ordained in Rawlins at St. Joseph's Church on June 3, 1950, and said his first Mass here on the following day; also Gilbert Martinez entered the seminary and is studying for this diocese at Conception, Missouri. Then, a local girl, Mary Ellen Dolan, entered the convent and is now a Sister of Charity of The Blessed Virgin Mary and is teaching in California. Pauline Ingram entered the Dominican novitiate at Sinsinawa, Wisconsin.

In November 1949, a drive-for funds to build a parochial school was begun. The American City Bureau served as counsel in this effort. By December 15, \$101,000 had been raised. Kellogg & Kellogg, architects, were engaged to draw plans for the new school. By July of 1950, the plans were completed. The school building will contain six class rooms, rest rooms, library, Sister Superior's office, play room, or gymnasium, partial basement, dining room and kitchen. In August, the contract for the school was let to the Dudley-Mitchell Construction Company of Riverton, Wyoming, for \$222,237. This sum did not include school furnishings or architect's fee. Building was begun in mid-September. The school will be finished for class scheduling in September of this year. Thus are realized the dreams of those zealous pastors of the past, Fathers Conrath, Schellinger, and Short, and Administrator Father McGovern, who worked so hard to gather funds for the school.

On the Missions: Mass was celebrated in Medicine Bow the first Saturday in December 1949. Since then, Mass has been offered regularly four times a month. For the time a store building serves as the church.

The Saratoga church was painted within and out, insulated, and wired.

The Hanna Church has been readied for moving to a new location on the highway. The location has been leveled, excavated, footings and part of the foundation poured. The move should be made and the church renovated by September 1951. The Catholic Church Extension Society has given \$1,000 for this project.

The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered three times during this period. A class of 178 was confirmed by the Most Reverend Patrick A. McGovern, on May 14, 1941. On November 3, 1946, a class of 85 was confirmed by Bishop McGovern. And again on October 23, 1949, another class of 63 was confirmed by the Most Reverend Hubert M. Newell, coadjutor Bishop of Cheyenne.

In the year 1939, there were 48 baptisms, 8 marriages, 20 deaths, and 20 children received their First Holy Communion.

In 1940 - 58 baptisms were recorded, 15 marriages and 6 deaths, and 39 First communicants.

In 1941 - 16 marriages - 10 deaths - 19 baptisms - 8 First Communicants

In 1942 - 15 marriages - 16 deaths - 44 baptisms -38 First Communicants

In 1943 - 11 marriages - 22 deaths - 66 baptisms

In 1944 - 10 marriages - 18 deaths - 63 baptisms -33 First Communicants

In 1945 - 12 marriages - 21 deaths - 63 baptisms -44 First Communicants

In 1946 - 33 marriages - 17 deaths - 73 baptisms -40 First Communicants

In 1947 - 15 marriages - 17 deaths - 98 baptisms -36 First Communicants

In 1948 - 26 marriages - 28 deaths - 72 baptisms -56 First Communicants

In 1949 - 20 marriages - 26 deaths -105 baptisms -58 First Communicants

In 1950 - 30 marriages - 34 deaths -145 baptisms -92 First Communicants

**BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH,
RAWLINS, AND ITS MISSIONS: Hanna, Medicine Bow,
Wamsutter, Wyoming State Penitentiary.
1950-1960**

AREA OF PARISH

Up to June of 1957 the parish of St. Joseph, Rawlins was 12,000 square miles in area; in 1960, 10,800 miles. Up to 1957 it comprised all of Carbon County. In June, 1957, St. Anne's Church, Saratoga, was re-established as a parish. At this time the Wamsutter mission was canonically erected and the eastern part of Sweetwater County was assigned to Rawlins. This included about 3600 square miles, but very few people.

East to west the parish stretches along the Union Pacific Railroad for almost 130 miles.

In this parochial territory there are the missions of Hanna, Medicine Bow, Wamsutter, Wyoming State Penitentiary, and, until 1957, Saratoga. From 1952 to 1957 a station Mass was offered in Bairoil, Wyoming. This station came to an end because of the decrease in attendance.

Direction-wise and mileage-wise, the missions are located and calculated in this fashion: from Rawlins, Hanna is 40 miles east on U.S. 30; Medicine Bow, 58 miles east on U.S. 30; Wamsutter is 40 miles west on U.S. 30; the Wyoming State Penitentiary is located in Rawlins; Bairoil is 38 miles northwest of Rawlins; and Saratoga is 42 miles southeast.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND ACTIVITY

In the year 1949 there were approximately 400 families and 1500 souls in the parish (Rawlins and the missions). In 1960 there are approximately 800 families and 2500 souls. Ten years ago one daily

Mass was scheduled and two Masses were offered on Sunday. Today on school days there are three scheduled Masses (two Masses on non-school days), and five Masses are offered on Sunday.

In St. Joseph, Hanna, there were 60 families in 1949. When the mines closed in 1954, the mission began to decline. Today about 40 families are left. Mass now is had each Sunday and all Holy Days of Obligation. In 1949 Mass was offered only on three Sundays a month.

St. Malachy, Medicine Bow, has 22 families. Mass is offered each Sunday and all Holy Days. This mission was begun in December of 1949.

St. Anthony of the Desert, Wamsutter, has Mass each Sunday and on Christmas day. About 25 families make up the mission. It was begun in November of 1954.

The Wyoming State Penitentiary has Mass weekly and on Christmas. Instructions are given weekly from November to Easter. About 85 men are registered as Catholics. There is an average attendance of 30 at Holy Mass. About 16 of these come to the weekly instructions.

In the past ten years these spiritual activities may be emphasized: three missions were conducted in English and six in Spanish; special Days of Recollection for men and women have been held for the past eight years; triduum to our Mother of Perpetual Help were begun in 1952 and have continued yearly, each December 6, 7, and 8. Teenage Day of Recollection began in January 1950 and are still held yearly; Forty Hours devotion to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are held each September.

On the missions: Hanna has had two Missions and a "Thirteen Hours" devotion yearly. Medicine Bow records two Missions and a "Thirteen Hours" yearly. Saratoga up to 1957 had one Mission and a "Thirteen Hours" yearly. On all the missions and at Rawlins each November 2nd,

All Souls Day, a pilgrimage is made to the graveyard to pray for the dead. This laudable custom was begun in 1953.

The parish has been blessed with excellent assistants.

Father James Doudican served from June, 1949 to September of 1952. His work with the sodalities is worthy of highest commendations.

In September, 1952, Father Charles Brady came to the parish. He evidenced a zealous interest in convert work. During the two years he spent here the greatest number of converts were recorded in any ten-year period of the parish. Father Brady was changed in September of 1954. In his stead came Fathers Butler and Farren.

At this time the Wamsutter mission was opened and the fourth Mass added to the Rawlins schedule.

Father Farren remained until March, 1956 and Father Butler until September, 1957. Father Farren's great interest was the athletic program for the boys. He introduced football and inaugurated the annual Holiday Basketball Tourney.

Father Butler was the epitome of St. Paul's "all things to all men," the ideal parish priest, interested and zealous in every phase of parochial activity.

Father William Kendrick, lead-lease priest from Boston, Massachusetts, came in March 1956. He began the Christian Family Movement in the parish. Under his guidance this activity flourished.

Father Cornelius O'Connor was appointed to fill Father Butler's place. He did splendid work in the high school youth field.

Present day assistants are Fathers Prado and Sullivan. Both are zealous, young priests. Father Prado's magnificent command of the Spanish

language makes him invaluable in working with the Spanish speaking. He also moderates the C.F.M. groups as well. Father Sullivan's chief work is with the parish youth. He has put the teenage activities on a completely organized basis with the introduction of the National Council of Catholic Youth program. In the grade school athletic activity he has added a third sport, that of track. The present Pastor, Father John Meyer, came in June of 1949.

The parish has given one man to the altar, Father Joseph Fraher; he was ordained in June, 1950. Two young ladies have entered the Sisterhood: Sister Antoinette (Ingram) is a Sister of St. Dominic of Sinsinawa, Wisconsin; and Sister Mary Lawrence (Ingram) is now a member of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati.

At present time there are three men from the parish studying for the Priesthood: Frater John Robinson, O.S.B., Holy Cross Abbey, Canon City, Colorado, in 3rd Theology;

Mr. Maurice Medina, 1st Theology, a student for the diocese of Helena, Montana; and Ralph Kmetz, a student for the diocese of Wichita, Kansas, in 1st Philosophy. Three years ago Mrs. Agnes Reynolds and family moved here. Last May 23rd her son, John, was ordained for Dominican Order and said one of his first Masses in the parish church.

EDUCATION AND CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION IN THE PARISH

A dream of the parish for the past fifty years was realized in September, 1951, when St. Joseph Parochial School was reopened with 183 children in attendance. The new building was not ready for use at the time and, accordingly, the old West Ward Public School was rented. In January, 1952, Bishop Hubert M. Newell blessed the new school and it was put to immediate use. Five Sisters of Loreto staffed the school.

At present time 290 children attend. The faculty is composed of six Sisters, two lay teachers, and three priests, who teach religion and physical education. Three men of the parish volunteer their services to coach football, basketball, and track.

These zealous Sisters of Loreto have extended their teaching efforts to the whole parish. Since 1951 they have conducted catechism classes on all the missions in the Spring and Fall of the year. They also have supervised a two-week vacation school each June. In Rawlins they teach catechism each Saturday to the children attending public grade schools. Up to this date 137 have been registered. On each Tuesday of the school year, Father Prado and four C.C.D. girls instruct this same group after school. Lay teachers also help with the religious instructions on the missions.

Worthy of special note is the work done by the Sisters with the teenagers each June with the night school of religion. This instruction is in its seventh year. Other teenage work in religious instruction is handled by Fathers Sullivan and Prado twice weekly with the Catholic Youth groups.

Prior to the arrival of the Sisters of Loreto, summer school was conducted in both Rawlins and the missions by the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, Wisconsin. The regular catechism classes from grades 1-12 were conducted by the priests and lay teacher helpers.

Religious instructions on the adult level has continued through study club groups: Christian Family Movement action groups, and bi-yearly lectures on the Faith (each series has 23 lectures). Much personal instruction has been stimulated by a parish library and a large pamphlet and magazine rack. The latter stocks well over 100 books, brochures and pamphlets; also 12 weekly and monthly magazines.

PHYSICAL GROWTH OF THE PARISH AND MISSIONS

In 1949 the treasury contained about \$109,000.00. In 1960 the treasury has \$4,500.00, but there is a \$32,000.00 debt on the parish. In the while of ten years the new school was built and furnished at a cost of \$245,000.00; (it was dedicated in 1952). Extraordinary improvement on the church and Sisters' house in 1955 amounted to \$6,000.00. The former priests' house (lot 7, Block 19, 2nd UP addition) was purchased and renovated in 1954 at a cost of \$14,500.00. The present priests' house (lot 8, Block.19, 2nd UP addition) was purchased in 1957 and renovated at a cost of \$27,500.00. In 1960 Lots 1 and 2.of Block 19 were purchased for \$25,606.00. This extraordinary expenditure totals \$318,606.00. Against this amount there is the present debt of \$32,000.00. Apparently much revenue of extraordinary nature has been realized in the past ten years. This was made possible by three drives: one for the school; 2nd, Bishop's Fund Campaign; and a third, the Parish Support Appeal. On these three drives the people of the parish outdid themselves in generosity. The same may be said for the people on the Missions.

Hanna. The present church was built in 1915. The foundation was of stone and mud. The mud, by 1950, had crumbled so badly that the entire building was in danger of falling. The proximity of the church to the railroad tracks, with noise and dirt, bothering to a point of great disturbance, along with a lack of parking space, dictated moving the church. It was moved 1/4 mile west on the old highway to a location 300 ft square, leased from the Union Pacific Coal Co. The moving and renovation of the church was completed by October, 1951. Improvement was continued which included a new roof, painting, and a modern basement apartment. This was completed by 1955. The overall cost was \$5,500.00. The Extension Society gave \$1,000.00. The rest was raised by the Hanna folk. At present time there is \$1,022.00 in the treasury.

St. Malachy, Medicine Bow. This mission was begun in December 1949. The new church construction started in the late summer of 1952 and Bishop Newell dedicated the edifice in 1954. Actual cost of the church

was \$9,300.00. However donated labor would make the actual value to be about \$14,000.00. The size is 60ft X 30ft, and the seating is 150.

At present time the mission owes the parish in Rawlins \$375.00. Monies for this mission church were raised in the Medicine Bow area. Extension Society donated \$3,000,00 for its construction.

St. Anthony of the Desert, Wamsutter. This mission was begun in November 1954. Mass is offered in the local grade school. The treasury contains \$311.00.

Finis

NOTE: For data on the Saratoga Church, see Fr. Kraus's report given in his history of the Saratoga parish.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH HISTORY
RAWLINS
1960-1970

The years between 1960-1970 were years of progress, rejuvenation, expansion, and transfers.

In 1960 Father John Meyer was the Pastor of St. Joseph Church, Rawlins, with Father Eugene Sullivan and Father Cletus Prado acting as assistants. Sister Ludavine, of the Sisters of Loreto, was principal of the eight grade Catholic school.

In January 1960, \$8000.00 was deposited in the Rawlins Federal Savings Bank for the purchase of a 36-passenger bus (costing approximately \$6100.00) and in order to raise the Sisters' salary 50%, from \$3500.00 to \$5250.00.

In February 1960, the Parish purchased the N.E. corner of the Parish Block from Mrs. Evelyn Foote, for the sum of \$25,606.73. In this same month \$17,000.00 was borrowed from Our Lady of the Tetons Parish at the interest rate of 4 1/2%.

The Parish debt in January 1961 was \$32,000.00. It was broken down as follows: Our Lady of the Tetons—\$13,000.00, interest 4 1/2%; Diocese of Cheyenne—\$15,000.00, interest 3 1/2%; Pledge to the Sisters of Loreto—\$4000.00, no interest rate. (This note from the Diocese of Cheyenne was authorized and approved for a period of three years, with the interest rate at 4% in the October meeting of the Board of Trustees.)

Father George Tellez, who had been recently ordained in Denver, came to St. Joseph Church in August of 1961 to replace Father Cletus Prado who had been transferred to Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Rock Springs.

Father Cyril Hmelovsky from St. Mary Magdalen, Worland, had been sent the previous month to replace Father John Meyer as Pastor of St. Joseph Church, Rawlins. Father Meyer was transferred to St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Laramie.

Due to the death of Father Patrick McGovern on Feb. 23, 1962, and because of the shortage of priests in this diocese, the following changes were made:

- 1) Transfer of Father George Tellez from Rawlins to Our Lady of Fatima Church in Casper.
- 2) Assigning of jurisdiction of the Medicine Bow Mission to St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish in Laramie.
- 3) Assigning of jurisdiction of the Hanna Mission to St. Anne's Parish in Saratoga.
- 4) Until further notice and/or until new parochial boundaries would be made, the pastors and assistants of the parish in Laramie and Saratoga were declared as also acting assistants of St. Joseph Parish in Rawlins, particularly for the sake of proper jurisdiction in matrimonial cases.

Father Eugene Sullivan was transferred to Casper, Sept. 14, 1962 at which time Father Cletus Prado from Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Rock Springs succeeded him here.

St. Joseph Church Corporation reorganized October 4, 1962.

January 1963 saw the completed and furnished new convent addition, which was a 45' x 18' brick veneer, ground level addition consisting of four bedrooms and a bath. The Pioneer Construction Company of Rawlins had been awarded the contract of \$10,800.00. The convent housed five sisters. Sister Agnes Clare, of the Sisters of Loreto was then principal.

Father John Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Robinson of St. Joseph Parish was ordained in the Benedictine Order on May 20, 1963, and said his first Mass for the Parish May 21.

August 1, 1963 Father Cletus Prado was transferred to Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Rock Springs, and Father William Gianola from St. Margaret's Church, Riverton, succeeded him here.

On October 31, 1963 Margaret Tierney passed away leaving to St. Joseph Parish the sum of \$100,000.00 for the erection of either a convent or a rectory.

Father William Gianola was transferred to Our Lady of Fatima, Casper, on February 4, 1964, and Father Gerald Sullivan became his successor.

A unanimous ballot was cast in the August 1964 meeting of the Board of Trustees to authorize and approve the renewal for a period of 5 years, a note from the Diocese of Cheyenne in the amount of \$10,000.00 with interest at 4 1/2%.

The Parish paid its debt to Our Lady of the Tetons Church, January 10, 1964. This debt along with interest was paid in its entirety.

In May, 1964, Father Maurice Medina, son of Mrs. Susie Medina of St. Joseph Parish was ordained and offered his First Mass.

On Sept. 3, 1964, the following transfers were in effect:

Father Cyril Hmelovsky to Cheyenne, St. Joseph's Church
Father Gerald Sullivan to St. Joseph Orphanage, Torrington
Father Terrence McGovern to St. Joseph Church, Rawlins, as Pastor
Father Thomas Sheridan to St. Joseph Church, Rawlins, as Assistant

Lots 1 and 2, Block 28, Union Pacific Railway Company's 2nd Addition to Rawlins together with improvements were purchased for the sum of

\$26,000.00 from Andrew and Marion Freda Johnson-Curtis, in March of 1965.

Full payment to the Diocese of Cheyenne for the balance of \$8,247.50 was made from the Margaret Tierney estate in May 1965.

During the summer of 1965, loans were made for the sum of \$15,000.00 from St. Mary Magdalen Church, Evanston, and \$40,000.00 from Holy Trinity Church in Cheyenne to run for a period of 5 years at a rate of 4 1/2% interest. It was in this same month of July that a bid from the Pioneer Mill and Construction Company for the addition at St. Joseph's School consisting of expanded kitchen space, showers, and seating room was accepted. According to plans and specifications as proposed by the Kellogg Brothers, architects, the amount would \$79,500.00.

In September 1965, Father Colm Woods, from St. Anthony's, Casper, replaced Father Thomas Sheridan who was transferred to Corpus Christi Church in Newcastle. Sister Rosemary was appointed principal of St. Joseph School.

In January 1966, the Parish borrowed \$15,000.00 from St. Francis Church, Thermopolis, to be paid in 5 years at 4 1/2% interest rate.

Two teacherages south of the railroad track, which cost the Parish \$800,00 were purchased from School District No. 1 Wamsutter, in July 1966.

In 1966 the Southside Social Center was leased to the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The Parish Council Administrative Board met for the first time May 12, 1967, at which time members were elected.

Because of lack of attendance for Masses in Wamsutter, Mass was discontinued in 1967.

In October 1967, a loan of \$15,000.00 by St. Joseph Church from St. Joseph Convent Fund was authorized and approved in order to repay the loan from St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Evanston, Wyoming. The Convent Fund was to be repaid, as money was available at 21/2% interest. St. Mary Magdalen Church was paid in full January 10, 1968.

On August 23, 1968, Father Terrence McGovern was transferred to St. Leo's Church in Lusk, and Father Jerome Logue, from St. Mary's Church, Cheyenne, became Pastor of St. Joseph Church, Rawlins.

October 14, 1968 the Parish transferred St. Joseph Cemetery to the City of Rawlins and was given the guarantee of perpetual care, as are the other graves in the cemetery.

A loan of \$32,000.00 from the St. Joseph Convent Fund and the St. Joseph Building Fund was authorized and approved for a period of 5 years with the interest rate at 21/2%, for the purpose of completing payment on a loan from Holy Trinity Parish, Cheyenne. A contract was authorized and approved for the black topping at the school playground and parking lot, for the sum not to exceed \$6,000.00

On December 5, 1968, Father Colm Woods was transferred to Riverton, and Father William Gianola from St. Margaret's Church, Riverton, again became the assistant at St. Joseph Church, Rawlins.

January 25, 1969 marked the beginning of Mass in the Little Snake River Valley. It was first held in the home of Roger Travel in Savery. It is held now once a month in the winter, and twice a month in the summer.

St. Joseph got its first Parish Worker in the summer of 1969, with the arrival of Sister Jean, a Sister of Loreto, from Blessed Sacrament in Denver.

In September 1969, for the first time in the state, the 7th and 8th grades in St. Joseph School enjoyed "shared" time with the public Junior High

School. Seventh grade attended public school in the morning and 8th grade attended in the afternoon. Prior to this, science was taught to St. Joseph's 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students after school hours at the public school under the guidance of Jake Jacobson, of the Parish, with the kind help of the public school science teachers.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH 1960-1970

1960 34 marriages 140 baptisms

1961 19 marriages 136 baptisms

1962 8 marriages 120 baptisms

1963 23 marriages 92 baptisms

1964 19 marriages 105 baptisms

1965 19 marriages 88 baptisms

1966 22 marriages 55 baptisms

1967 30 marriages 72 baptisms

1968 21 marriages 67 baptisms

1969 27 marriages 76 baptisms

Confirmations—Bishop Newell

Mar. 6, 1960 113 Children 20 Adults

Feb. 4, 1962 152 Children and Adults

Apr. 12, 1964 88 Children 12 Adults

Apr. 18, 1966 121 Children 7 Adults

Mar. 6, 1968 164 Children and Adults

Mar. 1, 1970 59 Children 11 Adults

Nov. 12, 1961 Mrs. Martha Smith was confirmed by Rev. Cyril Hmelovsky at Rawlins Memorial Hospital with Marie Sandoval as sponsor.

Rawlins 1970-1980
St. Joseph Church
Msgr. Meyer

The parish history for St. Joseph's Church of Rawlins, Wyoming, for the years 1970 - 1980 follows:

Priests-Pastors: Father Logue to August 1972. Father Meyer from August 1972, to present. Father Meyer was made a Monsignor in February 1974. Co-Pastors: Fathers Angel Ornelas, William Gianola, Malcom Reid, John Hoodack, S.J. and the Reverend Mr. Hitt, Deacon to be ordained January 10, 1981.

Confirmation: Bishop Newell 1974--1975 and 1976. Bishop Hart--1977 and 1979. Trustees: Dr. William Bauman and James Chapman.

Property in Wamsutter was sold December 1973. A Mission was started in September 1972, and continued until September 1978. It was discontinued due to lack of congregation.

A new church was dedicated in Baggs in October 1974--attended monthly. The church is debt free and owns church and property.

St. Joseph's School addition was built for \$85,000. Paid for by April 1977.

Parish Centennial celebration was held April 18, 1979.

Sanctuary renovation included carpeting, and the convent and rectory were carpeted in September 1974.

Renovation of exterior of the Church and convent in July 1977. A ramp for wheel chairs and walkers was constructed in September 1977.

Marriage Encounters, the first in the Diocese, were held in the spring of 1976. Cursillos were held twice a year. Prayer Group, Charismatic groups met weekly in 1977. Missions were conducted in 1975, 1977, and 1979. Attendance was quite good.

Debt of \$15,000, incurred in 1972, was paid in full February 1974.

Yearly assistance was given to St. Ann's in Saratoga, St. Joseph's in Hanna, Our Lady of the Sage in Baggs, and St. Anthony's in Wamsutter, to an amount of \$8,000.

Rawlins 1981-1991
St. Joseph
Fr. Malcolm Reid

1. Names of clergy & religious serving during the decade and dates of service:

June 12, 1991, to present - Rev. Malcolm Reid, Pastor.

June 1982, to June 12, 1991 - Very Rev. Angel Ornelas, Jr., Pastor.

March 1990, to present - Rev. John M. Robinson, O.S.B., Associate Pastor.

1987 - 1989 - Rev. John E. Casey, S.J., Associate Pastor.

1984 - 1985 - Rev. James P. Callahan, Associate Pastor.

1984 - Mr. August Koeune, Deacon.

1972 - 1982 - Monsignor John Meyer, Pastor.

2. Notable accomplishments by lay leaders and parishioners:

1984-1986 - Angeline Kinnaman - State WCCW President. 1989-1990 - Angeline Kinnaman - Lay Ministry Program. 1990-1991 - Angeline Kinnaman - NCCW Nominating Committee. 1990-1991 - Angeline Kinnaman - Regional Province Director. 1989 - Dan Aneiros - Lay Ministry Program.

3. Notable accomplishments by the clergy and religious during the decade: (give dates)

May 1991 - Reverend Angel Ornelas, Jr. - Elected Dean of the Rock Spring Deanery.

4. Construction - new or remodeling: (give dates)

1987 - New roof on school.

1987 - 1988 - Remodeled rectory dining room.

1989-1990 - Remodeled rectory kitchen.

1989 - Storm windows and insulation for rectory.

5. Land acquisitions: (give dates) None.

6. Lay Trustees and term of service for each:

James Chapman - January 9, 1951, to January 20, 1991. W. W. Bauman - January 12, 1970, to present. Archie Kirsch, M.D. - January 20, 1991, to present.

7. Pastor's overview of the decade:

This would seem to have been a decade when the excellent priestly work of Msgr. Meyer was taken over and continued by Fr. Angel Ornelas. Both of these men were devoted to the Pastoral care of this parish in general and to attending the sick and aged in particular.

8. Significant Parish events and programs: (give dates)

October 27, 1991 - Campaign kick-off for Church remodeling.

April 1991 - Parish Sacrificial Giving Program.

January 5, 1990 - Funeral of Monsignor John F. Meyer.

May 22, 1990 - 25th Jubilee of Rev. Angel Ornelas, Jr.

July 7, 1989 - 25th Jubilee of Rev. Maurice Medina.

May 27, 1983 - Ordination of Rev. Sam Hayes.

May 27, 1983 - Ordination of Rev. Michael Hellman.

St. Joseph
Rawlins 1990-2000
Father Malcolm Reid, Pastor
April 26, 2000

1. Names of clergy and religious serving during the decade and dates of service.

Father Malcolm Reid June, 1991 to present

Father Angel Ornelas June, 1981 to June, 1991

Father John M. Robinson, O.S.B. June 1990 to 1994

2. Notable accomplishments by lay leaders and parishioners. (give dates.)

June 11, 1999, Jesus P. Juarez, ordination to the permanent diaconate

Spring of 1999, Marcella Redmond elected president State WCCW

3. Notable accomplishments by the clergy and religious. (give dates.)

1991 Father Angel Ornelas began contacting architect in Lander, WY, for plans to begin renovation of entire church and remodeling of old convent.

1993 Father Malcolm Reid oversaw and supervised complete renovation of church and old convent.

1993 Old parish rectory sold and moved to new location. Old convent became new parish rectory.

4. Construction - new or remodeling. (give dates.)

1995 Completion of church remodeling and renovation. New bathrooms, new addition to church. Landscaping project began for rectory and church grounds.

5. Land acquisitions. (give dates.)

6. Lay trustees and term of service for each.

December 3, 1990 to present, Dr. A.P. Kirsch

December 3, 1990 to 1992, Dr. W.W. Bauman

June 24, 1992 to present, Marcella Redmond

7. Pastor's overview of the decade.

This past decade has been a good one. Despite very slow economic growth much has been done to maintain the parish plant. The spiritual life of the parish I believe has grown steadily and deepened.

8. Significant parish events and programs. (give dates.)

Renovation of the church began in 1993.

Jesus P. Juarez' ordination to the permanent diaconate, June 11, 1999.