

## **HISTORY OF ST. FRANCIS MISSION MIDWEST, WYOMING 1980-1990**

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St. Francis Circle has been active during the decade. The activities they have directed include: a Christmas Breakfast, a Raffle for a wagon full of toys and a luncheon at the Annual Bazaar. They cook and serve a dinner for the Senior High Graduating class and their families as a gift to the community.

In 1984, our first Parish Council was formed. John Pacheco was the first President. This group oversaw the finishing of the basement, walls and floors and redid the inside of the Parish House. 1989, the outside of the Church proper was painted. In 1985, we redid the inside of the Church. A complete support system was put in place.

From 1980 to 1983, St. Francis was a Mission of St. Anthony's and from 1983-1989 it was a Mission of St. Patrick's, at which time we reverted back to St. Anthony's.

In 1981, we became Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. Those who were appointed were: Caroline Burke, Margaret Armann, John Pacheco, Rick Gasser, Mary Gasser, Melva Malson and Nora Pacheco.

In 1984, we began the Renew Program. We had four groups and meet for 3 years. Those in charge were Melva Malson, Doris Anderson, Caroline Burke and Mary Gasser. Br. Martin has come for several years during Lent and Advent giving lectures about various religious questions.

In 1987, Melva Malson put an ad in the Catholic Register asking for an organ for our Church. An organ was donated by Ed and Pat Siolikski of Cheyenne. Gene Gasser went to Cheyenne to get it and we are still using it every Sunday. CCD Classes were held during this time and taught by members of our parish. Mary Gasser was our coordinator.

In 1990, the following parishioners from St. Francis Mission became the first members of the Lay Ministry Program from Midwest: Melva Malson, Caroline Burke, Mike Gasser, Mary Gasser, Wayne Wiltshire and Diane Wiltshire. It was a record number for any Mission in Wyoming.