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**ROCK SPRINGS
HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
1887 2001
(Anonymous)**

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Established in 1887, the original name of the parish was Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin and later given its present name of Our Lady of Sorrows. In 1894 the Slavic Lodges donated money to enlarge Our Lady of Sorrows Church. The first pastor was Fr. Delahunty.

In February of 1910, Rev. Francis J. Keller was appointed pastor, namely for the English speaking Catholics. To serve the Slavic speaking Catholics Rev. Anton Schiffrer was appointed as associate. A new Church, Sts. Cyril & Methodius, was to be built to serve those living on the north side of the railroad tracks.

The Bishop hoped to unite both churches into one parish. It was decided to sell the property of Our Lady of Sorrows and build a new church to serve both parishes. The church would be on the north side of the Union Pacific railroad tracks to serve the Catholics who resided on that side of town. The attempt to unite the two parishes failed. Instead, Fr. Schiffrer was to pastor both congregations.

A new priest was sent to be pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows, and he and Fr. Schiffrer shared the same rectory and church building for services until the Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church could be built. Our Lady of Sorrows Church was partially burned on January 14, 1911. Again, Fr. Schiffrer became pastor of both parishes.