

Heppner Catholic Church to Join in Observance of Diocese Anniversary

The Rev. Francis McCormack, pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic Church at Heppner announced today that the local parish would participate to the fullest extent in the observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Baker, which includes Heppner. In keeping with diocesan-wide plans, Father McCormack said, the Heppner parish will hold special services of Thanksgiving on the Fourteenth of each month in 1953.

The first Catholic Church in Heppner was built in 1887, and was dedicated to St. Patrick. This served the needs of the parish until the present edifice was constructed in 1941. It was dedicated and blessed by Bishop Joseph F. McGrath on November 27th of that year.

The Diocese of Baker Oregon will commemorate the Golden Jubilee of its formation (June 19, 1803) throughout the year of 1953, according to an announcement made by the Most Rev. Francis J. Leppig, D. D., Bishop of Baker. The exact date of the Pontifical High Mass in Saint Francis Cathedral, the central event in the celebration, will be announced later.

The keynote of the Golden Jubilee, according to Bishop Leppig, will be Thanksgiving for

both the spiritual and material blessings which have been received by Bishops, Nuns, Priests and Laity during the half-century of the Diocese's existence.

The Diocese of Baker (until recently known as the Diocese of Baker City) was separated from the Archdiocese of Oregon City (now Portland in Oregon) and was erected formally by an Apostolic Letter of Pope Leo XIII on June 19th, 1853. The Rev. Charles J. O'Reilly, pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Portland, was elected first Bishop of the new diocese.

The same upon which the new Bishop entered in 1903 was not lacking in difficulty and hardship. At that time, there were but 2,350 Catholics in the entire diocese, and eleven diocesan and three religious priests. Of these, indeed, three were not active because of illness, which left the new Bishop with only a skeleton force with which to carry on his assignment.

After fifteen years of labor in the Baker Diocese, Bishop O'Reilly was transferred, on March 20, 1918, to Lincoln, Nebraska. He left Oregon in August of that year to begin his new duties. His death after an extremely active mis-

ionary life came on February 4, 1923 in Lincoln.

Bishop O'Reilly was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph Francis McGrath, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Tacoma, Washington. Bishop McGrath was born March 1, 1871 at Kilmacow, County Kilkenny, Ireland. He studied for the priesthood at St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, and the Grand Seminaire, Montreal, and was ordained there, on Dec. 21, 1895 by Archbishop Fabre of Montreal.

He had intended to devote his life to the Diocese of Springfield, Mass., but ill health forced the future Bishop to look for a warmer climate. He served for a time in Texas, then he was prevailed upon by Bishop O'Dea to make the Diocese of Seattle his home. He remained a member of the Clergy of that Diocese until the time of his appointment to Baker.

Bishop McGrath was consecrated second Bishop of Baker by the Bishop of Seattle, Edward J. O'Tea in St. James Cathedral, Seattle, March 25, 1918. At the time of the consecration of Bishop McGrath there were 28 parishes, 15 Diocesan priests and 10 priests of religious orders and a Catholic population of 6,809 in Eastern Oregon.

This singularly beloved and

WSCS Meets At Wilhite Home On Wednesday Night

Mrs. Harvey Wilhite and Mrs. Oliver Creswick entertained the Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service at the Wilhite residence on N. Gilmore street Wednesday evening, January 7. Twenty-five members and guests were present. Mrs. Carl McDanel and Mrs. Carl Vincent led the program and devotions with Mrs. Alex Green, Mrs. Walter Beckett and Mrs. J. Palmer Solien assisting with explanations of the local and general scope of the WSCS.

A going-away gift was presented to Ms. Tress McClintock who is leaving soon to make her home near Oregon City.

Plans for the next meeting on February 4th at the home of Mrs. Alex Green included a shower for the nursery which the society sponsors during the church hour. Toys and other items for quiet entertainment for pre-school children were specified. Mrs. Whitmer Wright, president, conducted the business meeting. Refreshments were served.

Soroptimist Club To Purchase Reflector Tapes For Bicycles

The regular monthly business meeting of the Soroptimist club was held at their luncheon Thursday January 8 at O'Donnell's. Committee reports were given and it was voted to buy some new teen-age books for the Public Library and also to purchase reflector tapes for bicycles to assist in the clubs bicycle safety campaign.

It was reported that one box of warm clothing had been sent to Korea and another box is ready to send.

Lonely School Notes

The Cardinals won two more basketball games last weekend. Friday night the score was lone 79, Boardman 58, with the second team playing the last half. On Saturday night it was Stanfield 38 to lone 56. The game was close with the Tigers leading most of the first half. Both games were away from home. The lone basketweavers will play their next four games at home.

The District No. 35 School Board met with the Architects and Mr. McCormack of the McCormack Construction Company on Tuesday. Construction of the new building is progressing satisfactorily on schedule. The project is half completed and will be finished before the completion date unless some unforeseen delay is encountered. The roofers have been held up just a week now by wind and rain, but began roofing the flat surfaces by working on Saturday and Sunday. The board is getting bids on telescopic bleachers and backboards as well as other materials and equipment not let on the contract.

The plans for the swimming pool were studied for the third time and returned to Freeman. Continued on page 7.

The floors of the school were scrubbed and repolished during vacation. We think they look very nice.

Sheryl Harris reporter.

SUNDAY DINNER GUESTS

Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Wagner entertained Sunday with dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Marion Krebs and children George and Marylee of Cecil.

Heppner Grade School News

News Notes From Combined 1st and 2nd Grade Room

Two of our members failed to show up when school called Monday morning. Sue Townsend came back Tuesday and said she had been out because of measles but Vickie Johnson has transferred to Nampa, Idaho.

Our attendance record was perfect for three days last week, the first time all of our group has been together for several weeks.

The first thing we did after coming back together Monday was to hear about each child's Christmas fun and the gifts he received. Everyone agreed that Chris Burkenhine's new baby brother was probably the nicest gift received, although Chris speaks of his new twenty-two as if he considers them about equal in importance.

Several new dolls made their appearance and all were admired but Patty Mahon, with a doll that measured 28 inches in height was really the envy of all the little girls.

The room looked quite bare with the Christmas decorations down, but after art period Friday it looked a little better. Each child was to work out something for himself, so there are cut-paper medallions, snowmen and pictures of various things above the blackboard now.

Just as the little people were cleaning up after their art period, Friday, Mrs. Probert surprised them by bringing refreshments in

Fourth Grade

Wayne Harris, who came here from Colorado last summer, moved away this week.

Bonnie Pulleton entered our grade Monday. She came from Vale.

We have had many absent this week because of illness. Bernice Thomson, Neal Penland and Dorothy Vinsen have the measles.

We are grateful to the Rosewall Motor Co. for the pencils they gave us.

An educational film that was shown us this week was "The Eyes and their Care". We also enjoyed the film of Mother Goose.

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In the waning years of his episcopacy, Bishop McGrath was given a Coadjutor by the Holy See, Leo Fabian Fabry of the Diocese of Natchez, Miss. Bishop Fabry was plagued by illness almost from the day of his consecration. He was destined to precede Bishop McGrath in death less than two years after his consecration on March 31st, 1950.

The Rev. Francis P. Leppig, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Eugene, Oregon was selected as the third Bishop of Baker, and was consecrated in St. Mary's Cathedral, Portland by the Most Rev. Edward D. Howard, D. D., Archbishop of Portland on September 12, 1950. He was ordained to the priesthood by the late Archbishop Shrivette on April 14, 1920 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Portland, Oregon.

On the arrival of Bishop Leppig in the diocese there were 23 parishes, 37 priests (29 diocesan and 8 religious) and 15,065 Catholics in the Eastern Oregon Diocese of Baker.

The Socialist Party became a national party in 1982.

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Pretty "Foxy" Terrier

Talking about dogs the other night—and Sandy Johnson topped everything off with a tall story about his fox terrier, "Boscum."

According to Sandy, "Come bird season and that dog won't stir if I take down my rifle. Same if it's deer season and I go for my shotgun—he won't move, but he's scratching at the door if I so much as look at my rifle!"

One day, Sandy decided to fool him. He took down both his shotgun and his rifle—and swam. Boscum was on his way! So Sandy put the guns back and took out his fishing rod. He went outside and there was Boscum—digging like crazy for worms!

From where I sit, a dog that can outguess humans is as rare as a human that can outguess other humans. For instance, I like a glass of beer with lunch but I wouldn't think of pouring you one without first asking. Everybody has preferences—and it's fading out what they are and respecting them that keeps freedom from "going to the dogs."

Joe Marsh

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