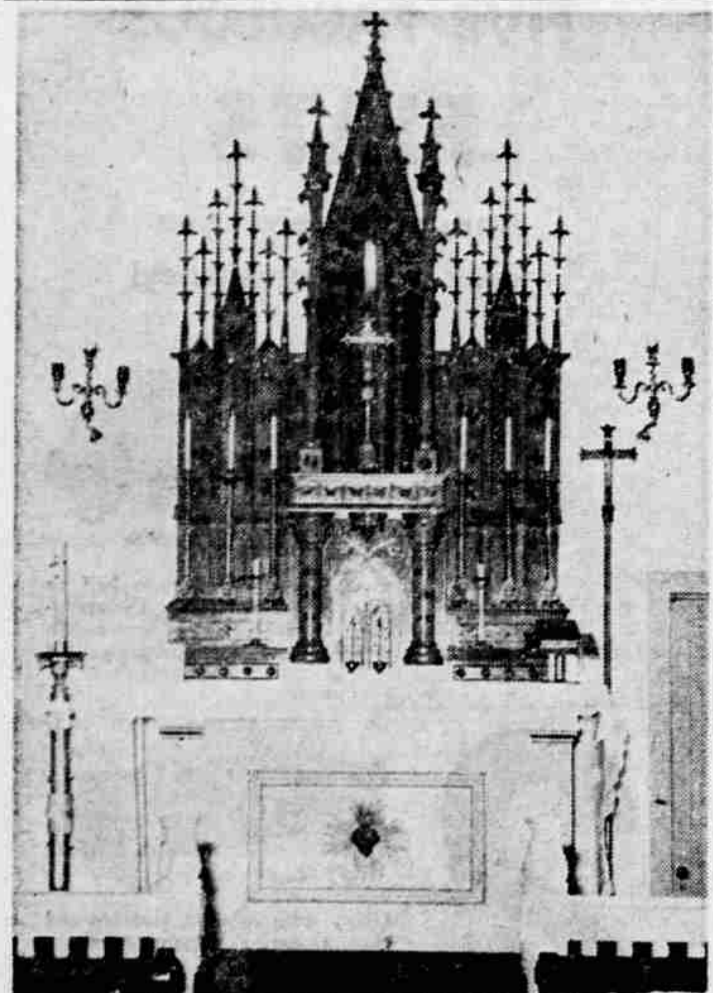


Catholic Church Dedicated 100 Years Ago



MAIN ALTAR - The main altar at St. Joseph's Catholic church, Jacksonville, was carved out of native applewood by George Christian, a resident of Applegate.



PATRON SAINT - St. Joseph's statue at the Jacksonville church which bears his name was shipped around the horn and packed overland to Jacksonville for the new church, completed in 1858. With the statue was one of the Blessed Virgin, which is also in the church, and a bell that was cast in Sheffield, England. The statues were restored in 1956 when the church was renovated for weekly mass.

Background Tied To Development Of Jacksonville

By PEG HUTCHINSON
Mail Tribune Church Editor

More than 100 years ago on Nov. 1, 1858, a group of persons in Jacksonville attended the dedication ceremonies of St. Joseph's Catholic church conducted by the Most Rev. Francis Norbert Blanchet, Archbishop of Oregon City.

The church, which still stands today, was the work of Archbishop Blanchet and the Rev. James Croke, first Catholic missionary in southern Oregon.

The historical background of the church is closely tied to the development of the town of Jacksonville and the Rogue valley.

Land Donated

Land for the church was donated in 1853 by James Cluggat (also spelled Clugage) one of the two men credited with finding the first gold in Jacksonville, according to historical records of Jacksonville's founding. First mass was celebrated in the town in September of that year at the house of Charles Casey.

"The Catholics in Jacksonville are very anxious to have a church built amongst them and are well to help to the utmost of their means," Father Croke wrote to Archbishop Blanchet in 1856. Similar letters to the Archbishop in Oregon City trace progress of the Jacksonville church.

Mining, which was important to the town's growth, also played an important part in the growth of the church. A letter to the Archbishop by the missionary states "next spring, if the mining be successful this winter, there would be a fair chance of making a good collection toward building a little church."

Then later, after several discouragements, Father Croke wrote of his ministry among the miners in the territory. "I collected in a few days in cash the sum of \$856 for a church" and added "this is very fortunate for otherwise I could scarcely meet the expenses as I have been able to collect only \$30 in Jacksonville."

Specifications for the church were listed by Father Croke and approved by the Archbishop. They included:

"The building is to be of good and substantial frame enclosed with dressed siding, a single roof-the shingles to be laid five inches to the weather; Eight Windows

"There are to be eight windows, and one double door in front-the door and windows all to have gothic heads-all glazed except the gothic door head which is to be filled up with wood-the windows to be two glass wide and three glass high to the sash;

"The flooring to be dressed, tongued and grooved;

"On the inside a Sanctuary of 10 or 11 feet to be partitioned off by a near balustrade with brass cap and one door about three feet in the center, the balustrade to be furnished with a kneeler to correspond with the steps of the altar;

"In the Sanctuary a neat



FATHER BLANCHET - Second parish priest of St. Joseph's church was the Rev. Francis Xavier Blanchet, a nephew of Archbishop Francis Norbert Blanchet. Father Blanchet was priest in Jacksonville from 1863 until 1887. The picture was taken about 1885.

plain altar to be erected with tabernacle, steps, platform and of the dimensions to be set forth in plan of altar.

"The Church to stand three feet above pillars-10 feet from front and at least 20 feet from side street."

The church building is 36 by 23 feet and made of native lumber with heavy timbers mortised and fitted together without the use of nails. The bell, weighing 297 pounds, was cast in Sheffield, England, in 1860, sent to Montreal, Canada, and then around the horn to be carried overland to Jacksonville. The bell, still in good order, is used in the services.

Several missionaries offered mass in St. Joseph's church before the Rev. J. T. Fierens was appointed first resident priest Nov. 30, 1861. He was transferred to Portland in 1863 and the Rev. Francis Xavier Blanchet, nephew of the Archbishop, arrived in Jacksonville. He remained there as parish priest for 25 years.

During 1865 Father Blanchet requested of the Sisters

of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary in Portland that a convention school be established in Jacksonville. Sister Mary Dolores was appointed Superior pro tem of the new school and traveling with her to Jacksonville was Sister Mary Febronia and Sister Mary Zetique.

Resident Students

During the first year the records show that 12 resident students and 33 day students attended the school.

The Sisters and Father Blanchet administered to the sick and dying throughout the duration of a small pox epidemic in 1869, for which the public press of Jacksonville eulogized them for their heroism.

St. Mary's Academy was moved from Jacksonville to Medford in 1908 where it was run as a grade and high school for day students. It was purchased by the Sacred Heart parish in 1951.

In 1890 a small frame church was built in Medford which served as a mission of Jacksonville. In time the Jacksonville parish, one of the first in the archdiocese, was reduced to a mission. In 1940 the church was closed until 1956 when the Rev. Nicholas Deis and the Rev. William McLeod took charge of the renovating of the building. Father McLeod has served as mission priest since its formal reopening.

Other Priests

Other priests who have served the Jacksonville church are the Rev. J. E. Hermans, 1887; Father Leonard, 1888; Father Noel, 1889; the Rev. C. Clark, 1889-1891; Father Watry, 1891; Father Boever, 1892; the Rev. Dominic Faber, 1893-1895; the Rev. L. P. Demarais, 1895-1899; the Rev. J. M. Hickey, 1899; Father LaCroix, 1899; Father Berthianne, 1900-1902; Father Bitter, 1902; Father Faber, 1902; the Rev. James D. Murphy, 1902-1904; the Rev. Arthur Lane, grandson of the first governor of Oregon, 1904-1905; the Rev. Theodore J. Mattingly, 1905-1907; the Rev. Francis Van Clarenbeck, who served as the last resident pastor at Jacksonville, 1907-1911; the Rev. A. J. Van Spreybroek, 1911-1912; the Rev. J. M. O'Farrell, 1912-1913; the Rev. Joseph M. O'Neill, 1913, and the Rev. William J. Meagher, 1913-1940.

Between 1940 and 1956 masses were held in Jacksonville once each year in connection with the Gold Rush Jubilee. Mass is now read each Sunday at 9 a.m.

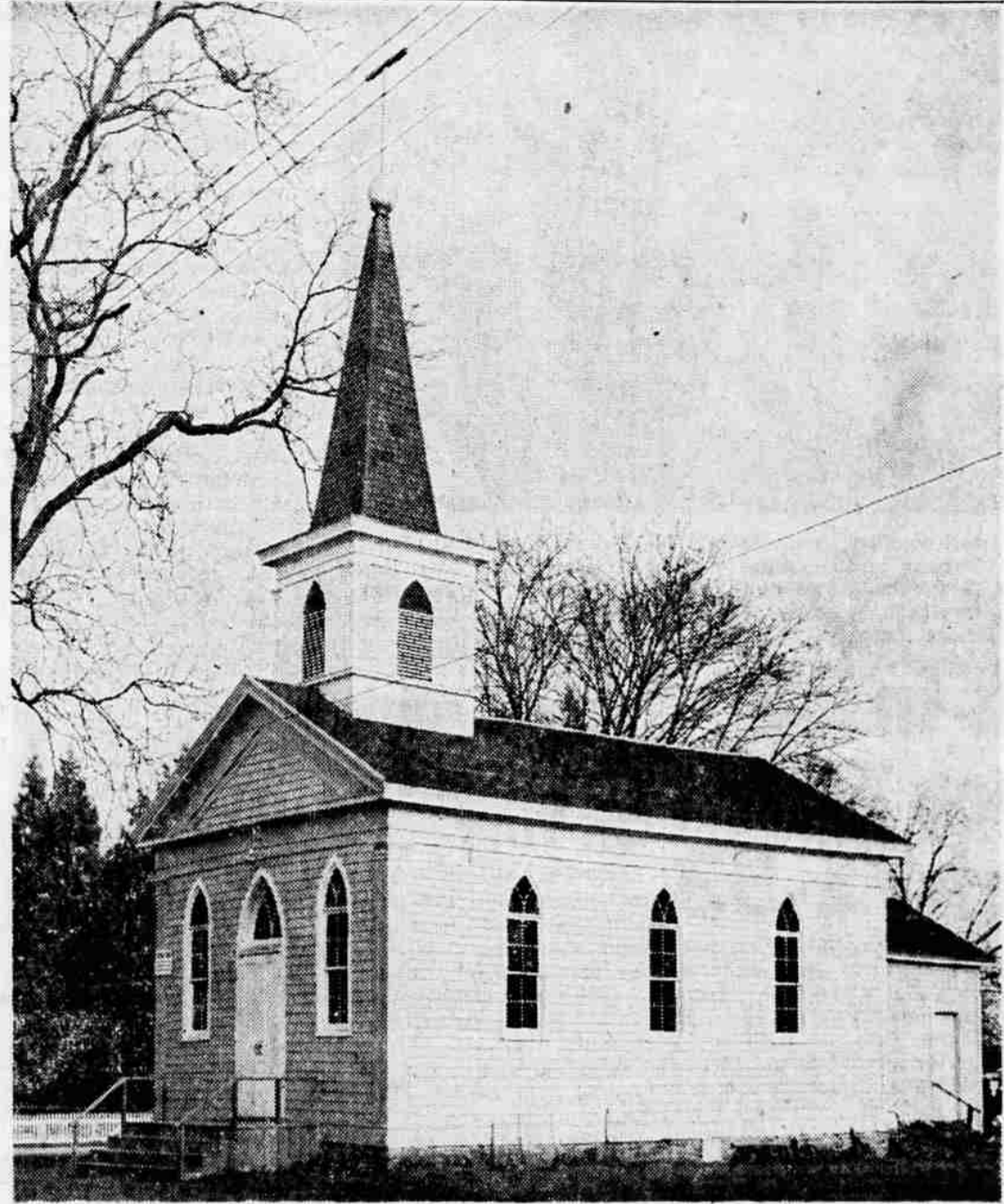
All of the original statuary and vestments were sent to the Jacksonville church from Montreal. Today the baptismal font of native stone is still in use and the original statues of Virgin Mary and of St. Joseph, patron saint of the church, have been restored for use.

Steven Installed 20/30 Club Head

Gordon Steven was installed president of the Medford chapter of the 20-30 International club at installation ceremonies at the Rogue Valley Country club recently.

Other officers installed include Bert Rostel, first vice president; Keith McLean, second vice president; and Dick O'Dell, tall twister.

Bill McCully, Phil Huntley, Bart Garred and Del Lewellyn were installed as directors. Harold Wall, past president of the local club, was installing officer.



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, JACKSONVILLE - Dedicated Nov. 1, 1858, by the Most Rev. Francis Norbert Blanchet, Archbishop of Oregon City, St. Joseph's Catholic church still stands today. Mass was read in the church weekly until 1940 when it was closed, only to be renovated in 1956 by priests of the Sacred Heart

Archbishop Will Take Part in Church Ceremony

The Most Rev. Edward D. Howard, DD, Archbishop of Portland in Oregon, will be in the Medford area Feb. 1 and 2 to participate in the Centennial celebration of the blessing of St. Joseph's Catholic church, Jacksonville.

Sunday, Feb. 1, Archbishop Howard will offer the sacrifice of the mass at the Jacksonville church. That evening he will be guest of honor at the Centennial banquet to be held in St. Mary's school gymnasium.

Monday, Feb. 2, the Archbishop will be celebrant of a pontifical high mass in Sacred Heart church, Medford. Following the mass he will be honored at a program presented by students of St. Mary's High school.

Monday evening the Archbishop will attend a dinner in Ashland given by Our Lady of the Mountain parish there. He is also scheduled to visit the site of the proposed new Ashland church.

While in Medford, the Archbishop will present the Ad Altare Dei awards to the seven first class, life and Explorer Scouts of Sacred Heart parish who completed the necessary requirements and tests for earning this Catholic service award.

The capital city of Pakistan increased in population by about 400 per cent in five years, from about 300,000 to more than 1,200,000 residents.

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Residents Reminded of Proper Form Filing

Portland - Employers and employees in Oregon district of the internal revenue service have been reminded by District Director Ralph C. Granquist of the importance of the W-2 withholding certificate in the proper filing of 1958 Federal income tax returns.

Employers, he pointed out, are obligated by law to furnish copies of this form to their employees by Jan. 31. Employees, in turn, must attach the copy of the W-2 to their Form 1040 or 1040-A when filing.

Granquist urged employees to prepare their returns as soon as they receive their withholding certificates and to file them as soon as possible thereafter. Larger employers can help by providing their workers with the W-2 form before the deadline date.

Granquist also reminded employees who have worked for more than one concern during 1958 that all W-2's received during the year must be included with the 1958 income tax return.

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Our new 1959 Alice Brooks Needlecraft Catalogue has a many lovely designs to order: crocheting, knitting, embroidery, quilts, dolls, weaving. A special gift, in the catalogue—a child happily occupied—a cutout doll and clothes to color. Send 25 cents for your copy of the book.

Charles Inskeep Is Named to Position

Eugene-Charles Inskeep of Medford has been elected president of the University of Oregon chapter of Chi Psi fraternity.

Inskeep is a junior liberal arts major. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. L. D. Inskeep, 2401 Hillcrest rd., Medford.

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Speech Therapists Said Needed in Area Counties

Ashland - "The need for speech therapists in Jackson, Josephine, and Curry counties is appalling," Leon C. Mulling, director of the Southern Oregon speech and hearing center, said at the January meeting of the Gold Hill Parent Teachers association.

Mulling, associate professor of speech on the Southern Oregon college, added, "Communities such as Eagle Point, Central Point, Grants Pass,

Phoenix, Brookings, and Cave Junction have large numbers of children with speech defects who are not receiving speech therapy."

Need Assistance

According to Mulling, approximately 10 per cent of the children in the public schools are in need at some time or other for the assistance of a speech therapist.

Although most of the problems encountered in the public schools are functional or psychological, he said, the children often can be aided by skillful cooperation on the part of parents and teachers with the guidance of a speech therapist. He pointed out that only a small per cent of speech problems are actually caused by organic or physical reasons.

Even though a waiting list exists, it was explained, parents or teachers who have children in need of speech help are encouraged to telephone or write Leon C. Mulling, Southern Oregon speech and hearing center, Southern Oregon college, Ashland. There is no charge for the service which is sponsored by the Oregon state department of education and the Oregon state board of higher education.

Education Units Contribute Funds

Ashland - Jackson County Oregon Education association units have contributed \$100 to the student loan fund, Donald E. Lewis, assistant to the president and business manager at Southern Oregon college, has announced.

This sum is in addition to the \$75 donated to the fund by the Ashland OEA organization which was announced last week, and the \$7,000 residue from the estate of the late Amalia Britt of Jacksonville. The latter sum has been called the "Amalia and Emil Britt Memorial Loan Fund," according to Lewis.

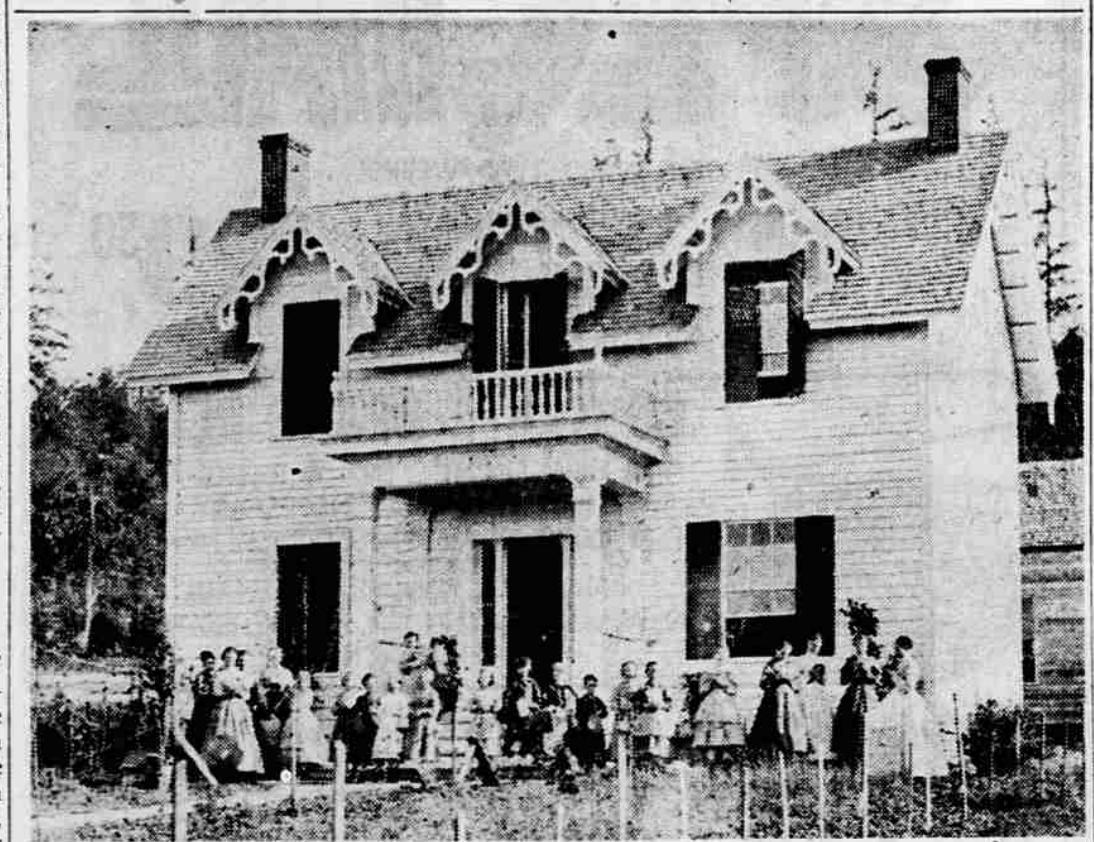
"Any sum, large or small, will be gratefully accepted for this loan fund," Lewis said, "as a number of our most worthy students are desperately in need of such a service throughout the academic year."

Explaining that the loss from such loans was almost negligible, but that the fund on hand, being small, was constantly in a state of depletion, he said that the college should have at least \$25,000 earmarked solely for the use of worthy students in obtaining loans.

Union Pacific Names Southern Oregon Agent

Portland - Leland J. Ziesmer, Union Pacific traffic agent at Portland, has been appointed general traffic agent for southern Oregon serving Medford, Ashland, Grants Pass, Coquille, Coos Bay and North Bend.

He succeeds Robert D. Toomey, who has been promoted assistant to the traffic manager at Portland. The appointments are effective Feb. 1.



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY - A group of students stand in front of the home of James T. Drum which was purchased and later enlarged for St. Mary's Academy. The school was started in 1865 at the request of the Rev. F. X. Blanchet and operated by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. The first scholastic year was attended by 12 resident students and 33 day students. The Academy was moved to Medford in 1908 and was purchased by the Sacred Heart Parish in 1951.