



THE SEEDS OF FAITH SOWN IN ST. LOUIS PARK

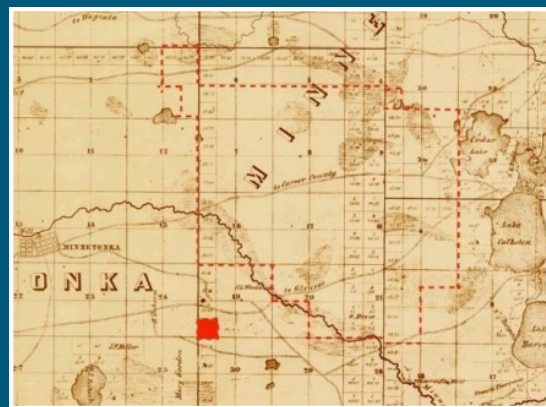
1886-1924

“Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

Matthew 17:20

HISTORY OF ST. LOUIS PARK

In 1886, St. Louis Park, MN was incorporated as a village. At the time, marshes and sparse forests inhabited the land that would later become a thriving city. The first settlers to the area were farmers, who subsisted on wheat and vegetable gardens. Their livelihood grew with the introduction of railroad lines to the village of St. Louis Park.



CATHOLICS IN THE PARK

As the village grew, a population of Catholics, many of whom were Irish, grew with it. In the early days, the faithful walked for over an hour on the train tracks to receive their sacraments at St. Joseph's in Hopkins. Eventually, a mission of St. Joseph's was established in St. Louis Park.

The first Mass in the Park was said in 1924 in the rented upper floor of a store on Broadway (now Walker Street). The first priests to assist with the sacramental needs of the quickly growing population of Catholics were Frs. Hovorka and Nolan. Sunday Mass attendance soon required the use of the lower floor of the storefront as well as the upper. It became clear that a change was needed.