



ST. ANTHONY

Dedication
 OF THE NEW
St. Anthony's
Catholic
Church
Ely, Minnesota



JUNE 8, 1958



DEDICATION PROGRAM

3:00 P.M.

Solemn Blessing

of Church and Altar The Most Rev. Lawrence A. Glenn, D.D.

Chants and Responses High Mass Choir

Processional, "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" Combined Choirs

Solemn High Mass

Celebrant Rev. Frank Mihelcic

Deacon Rev. Michael Popesh

Sub-deacon Rev. John Golobich

First Master of Ceremonies Rev. Bernard Popesh

Second Master of Ceremonies Rev. Frank Melovasich

Censer Bearer Rev. Robert Senta

Deacons of Honor Rev. John Jershe, Rev. Joseph Vovk

Sermon The Most Rev. Lawrence A. Glenn, D.D.
Auxiliary Bishop of Duluth

Music for the Solemn High Mass High Mass Choir

The Proper of the Mass by LaBoure

The Ordinary of the Mass "Missa In Honoris Nominis Mariae" by Mitterer

Offertory Motet "O Bone Jesu" by Getum

Benediction "O Salutaris" by Oberhoffer

"Tantum Ergo" by Marsh
"Te Deum"

Recessional, "Jubilate Deo" by Schehl Combined Choirs

Miss Mary Hutar, Organist and Director



A HISTORY OF *St. Anthony's* Church



Published to Commemorate
the Solemn Dedication of

The New *St. Anthony DePadua* Church

ELY, MINNESOTA



2nd Sunday after
Pentecost
June 8, 1958



Bishop Welch

Bishop's House
2215 East Second Street
Duluth 5, Minnesota

May 8, 1958

Reverend Frank Mihelcic
St. Anthony's Church
Ely, Minnesota

Reverend dear Father,

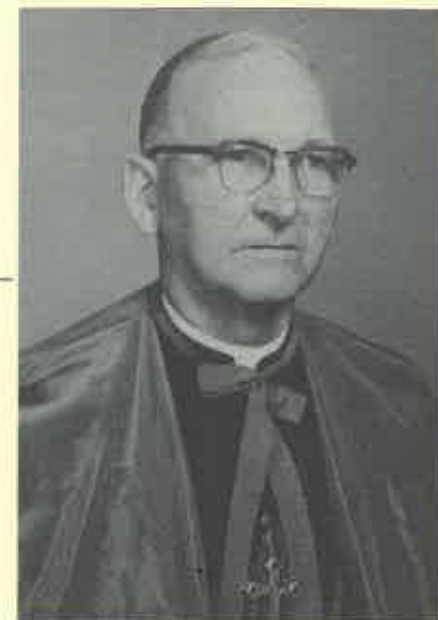
My hearty congratulations to you,
to Father LaPatka, and to the Faithful of
St. Anthony's Parish on the occasion of the
Dedication of the new parish church.

The erection of this attractive
structure bears testimony to the ardent and
active faith of the priests and people of
St. Anthony's Parish.

May this achievement be an inspi-
ration to all for generations to come.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Wm. A. Welch*
Bishop of Duluth



Bishop Glenn

THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES
721 North 57th Avenue West
DULUTH 7, MINNESOTA

May 6, 1958

Rev. Frank Mihelcic,
St. Anthony's Church,
Ely Minnesota.

My dear Father Mihelcic:

I share the happiness of yourself and the
parishioners of St. Anthony's Parish upon the
completion of your new beautiful and commodious
church building. It is a fitting culmination to
your ministry of forty years in Ely, and it is a
monument to the sacrifices of the people. All of
you must feel most grateful to Almighty God on this
occasion.

Please accept my sincere congratulations and
kindly extend them also to the members of the parish.

Assuring you of my prayers, I am,

Yours in Christ,
+ *Lawrence A. Glenn*
Auxiliary Bishop of Duluth



Rev. Mihelcic

St. Anthony's Church
REV. FR. MIHELICIC
Ely, Minnesota

June 8, 1958

My dear Parishioners,

Not often in a lifetime is it one's humble privilege to have for his example and inspiration a holy, zealous, and God-fearing man like Monsignor Joseph Buh. It is in his sacred memory that we, today, solemnly dedicate and bless this beautiful church, the Saint Anthony de Padua Church of Ely, Minnesota. Monsignor Buh, who, like the saintly Bishop Frederic Baraga, left his native Yugoslavia, suffered much and labored endlessly with one burning purpose uppermost in his heart and mind, namely, to bring the word of Christ to these northern parts of America, is the undisputed founder of this parish. To follow in the footsteps of the venerable and unforgettable Monsignor Buh was my mission in Ely, Minnesota.

The past forty years of my life in St. Anthony's parish have been eventful and challenging ones, filled with sorrows and joys. Time has brought vicissitudes; as the parish changed in personnel, size, wealth, but mostly in spirituality, the dream of a new, larger, and more convenient place of worship to meet the growing needs was ever in our hearts and minds. This magnificent structure, worthy of your fondest, deepest, and most heartfelt pride, then, is the fulfillment of that dream. May its members continue to grow in faith and in virtue; may they ever be mindful to put their trust in Him through Whom all things are possible.

Extensive planning, much sacrifice and prayer, many anxious hours on the part of many saw this great and worthy project transform from a dream to a reality between June 1956 and June 1958. I am grateful, appreciative, and aware of the sacrifices and cooperation of you, my Parishioners. Let me express my thanks to all the priests who have been associated with me during the last thirty years. I wish to thank especially Father Gerald J. LaPatka, my assistant the last two years, whose keen interest and informal supervision of our project was most helpful.

This edifice built by you will stand down through the years as a true symbol of your love of God, your faith, and your devotion. In the same spirit may you continue the good works, sacrifices, and prayers that your church will need in the future; may you bear in mind that all is in vain if it is not done for the greater "honor and glory of God". "Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it."

May God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Frank Mihelcic

Rev. Frank Mihelcic
Pastor



The Reverend
Gerald LaPatka

ASSISTANT
PASTOR

Ordained June 2, 1956
Assigned to Ely July 9, 1956



ANTON LOZAR

TRUSTEES

St. Anthony's Church



OSCAR T. FRIEDSBURG



Past Trustee
DR. J. J. CALL



Past Trustee
JOHN BUCCOWICH



FIRST CHURCH — 1890 — REV. JOSEPH BUH, PASTOR — 1888-1922

REV. ANDREW SMREKAR
1897-1900



HISTORY OF ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

St. Anthony's parish, founded in 1888, is considered the daughter of the oldest parish on the Vermilion range, St. Martin's, in Tower.

When Monsignor Joseph F. Buh was appointed pastor of St. Martin's in Tower, he extended his zealous care to the souls of the 177 people then living in the tiny settlement of Ely, located about 22 miles to the north. Religious services were first held in the lumber office operated by Thomas Fottrill.

The earliest recorded baptism was that of Catherine A. Byrne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Byrne on November 27, 1888. Mr. Byrne was a mining captain here.

Monsignor Buh visited Ely once a month and services were held at the Frank Lozar home on Camp Street until the first St. Anthony's church was built.

The first St. Anthony's was situated on the site of the new rectory and administration building. It was dedicated November 27, 1890 by the Most Rev. James McGolrick, bishop of Duluth. Installed in the small tower was a bell weighing 665 pounds and it was blessed that same afternoon. According to the inscription the bell was cast by the McShane Foundry, Balti-

more, Maryland and was dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary.

The old church was later used for a meeting hall and religious instruction classes were conducted in it. It was sold in 1924.

Early missionaries and parishioners reported that there was a real spirit of living faith among the Ely people. The miners attended mass nearly every morning on their way home from the night shift at the mines.

The parish grew rapidly. Monsignor Buh was able to attend the mission only once a month, so he succeeded in getting the Rev. Mathias Bilban, (later Monsignor Bilban) into the Diocese of Duluth to assist with the work. Father Bilban had been among the number of Slovenian students whom Father Buh had brought into this country to work in the mission territory. Father Bilban came in 1893 to Ely and took care of the Ely parish until 1897.

In that year the Rev. Andrew Smrekar was appointed resident pastor of the Ely parish. The congregation was growing and the original church was unable to hold the crowds. The parish then included 1900 souls.

Some of the founders of St. Anthony's Parish were:

Joseph Mathias Agnich
Frank Arko
Jacob Butala
John Butala, Sr.
John Butala, Jr.
John Bartol
John Adlesich
John Horvat
Joseph Mihelich
John Musich
Matt Mauser
Jacob Mayerle
George Movrin
John Mesojedec
Joseph Fir
John Lamuth
Matt Boldine
John Rom
Casper Rom
John Erzar
Frank Lesar
John Globokar
Mathais Deyak
John Govze
John Vertin
Joseph Skala
John Rauch
Joseph Peshel, Sr.
Stefan Vertin

Joseph Skala
Jacob Klobuchar
John Zalec
Paul Lobe
Martin Petek
Frank Lozar
Lawrence Lozar
Simon Oblak
Louis Veranth
John Buccowich
John Preshiren
Stefan Preshiren
John Smrekar
Joseph Stepic
Frank Gervas
John Pluth
John Srnjak
Frank Samec
Joseph Pluth
John Kapsch
Mathias Kapsch
Peter Bezek
Anton Kochevar
John Kochevar
Matt Kure
Frank Veranth
John Kotchevar
Matt Muhvich

It was under Father Smrekar's direction that building funds were raised and the church built. It was constructed in the summer of 1900.

It is the present St. Anthony's church which has served the parish faithfully, but not adequately, until now. It was one of the largest frame churches in the Northwest. It is 90 feet long and 50 feet wide and has a seating capacity of 500. Rising above the front and main entrance is an imposing steeple 125 feet high.

Installed in this steeple was the small bell from the first church, and two larger bells weighing 2,500 pounds and 1,400 pounds respectively. Some of the older parishioners recall when the bells were installed and report that the steeple had to be reinforced to take care of the tremendous weight.

Names inscribed on the bell which were recorded at the time of its removal to the new church were probably the donors. They included: J. Butala, Frank Lozar, Steve Preshiren, J. Preshiren, J. Rauh, J. Koce, J. Agnich, M. Agnich, Steve Agnich, J. Bartol, M. E. Gleason, J. Globokar, J. Govze, J. Butala, Jr., J. Smuk, S. Skala, M. Muhvic, J. Lovsin, Jr., A. Kochevar, W. Smrekar, J. Sarabon, E. Skubic, J. Rozic, L. Virant, Frank Wagner, M. Weinzierl and Steve Zgonc. Also there appears the names of a number of lodges, Monsignor Buh, and the pastor, Rev. Smrekar.

The cost of the building was approximately \$20,000. The dedication of the new church took place November 30, 1900.

PARISH PIONEERS

SURVIVING FOUNDERS
OF ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH



JOSEPH PESHEL, SR.



MARTIN SKALA, SR.



JOSEPH ZOBITZ



JOSEPH GERZIN, SR.



JOSEPH MANTEL



FRANK KOSCHAK, SR.



REV. FRANK MIHELICIC, Pastor
1917-1958



ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH — 1900-1958

Shortly thereafter Father Smrekar was transferred to Tower and Father Buh came to Ely as resident pastor. He paid off the parish debt and bought additional equipment including a new organ which has served satisfactorily down to the present time.

Monsignor Buh ordered a clock for the church steeple which was handmade in Yugoslavia in 1902. During July, 1908, the Rev. John Schiffrer came to Ely to assist Monsignor Buh. He also took charge of the parish for eight months while the missionary returned to his home in Europe. In this period Father Schiffrer was active in giving religious instruction to the children and made improvements to the main altar. He installed a new set of candlesticks, two pieces of statuary beside the tabernacle and purchased an ostensorium.

When Monsignor Buh returned, Father Schiffrer left to do mission work around Carlton. It was 9 years later in 1917, that the Rev. Fr. Frank Mihelcic was appointed assistant to Father Buh who was then 85 years of age. In August of 1922, Father Mihelcic was appointed pastor but he actually had taken charge of the parish as administrator.

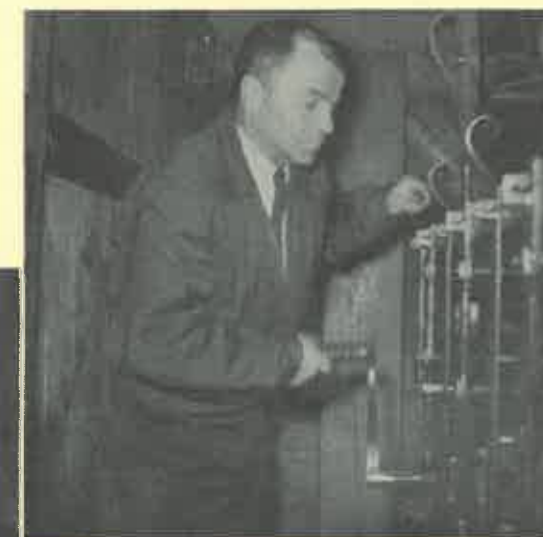
IMPROVEMENTS

The present pastor has added many improvements to the church property in his lifetime of service and has directed the Catholic activities of the parish.

- 1918—The Rectory was remodeled and a furnace installed.
- 1919—A central heating system was installed in the church at a cost of approximately \$6,000.
- 1920—Additional improvements made to rectory.
- 1930—The church interior was redecorated with some improvements made and the exterior was also painted.
- 1932—Church grounds improved with volunteer parishioner labor.
- 1940—Stained Glass Windows installed.
- 1948—Church interior was redecorated and exterior painted. Rubber tile was placed in the center aisle of the nave of the church and later that year, outside aisles and other sections were tiled. The money for this remodeling was provided by the Ely Council of Catholic Women.
- 1948—Father Mihelcic negotiated purchase of additional plots at the Ely Cemetery and improved the grounds. Construction of a 20-foot marble, wood and granite monument featuring the Crucifixion group, reminds us of the scene at Calvary. All individual plots now have grave stones, but no monuments.
- 1951—New concrete steps extending across the entire entrance of the church were constructed. This project was also made possible by a contribution of the Ely Council of Catholic Women.
- 1952—The Benedictine Convent on Camp Street was purchased from Anton Lozar. Many improvements were made to the home before turning it over to the sisters. One of the rooms was converted into a chapel.



THE LARGE BELL



WINDING THE OLD CLOCK



PIPE ORGAN IN OLD ST. ANTHONY'S

OUR GUIDING SPIRIT



REV. MSGR. JOSEPH FRANCIS BUH
BORN MARCH 17, 1833 — DIED FEBRUARY 2, 1922

Ely and St. Anthony's parish claims the distinction of having been home to the Rev. Msgr. Joseph Francis Buh, beloved pioneer northern Minnesota missionary, for 21 years, the longest period of time that he spent in one locality in his entire lifetime.

Characterized as a man of flaming zeal, Father Buh, as he was commonly known in the early days of the 1900's was venerated and loved and this bond of affection has been passed along to the present generation.

Monsignor Buh was sent to Ely as pastor in 1900, but he served this parish as a mission while at Tower in 1888. Having spent much of his early life with the Indians, he shared their privations. He was right at home with the Chippewas of the Vermilion range,

learned their language, taught their children and, even conducted missions in their native tongue.

His loyalty to the Chippewas was much in evidence in his early life at Ely. Pioneers tell that the rectory was always open to them for eating and sleeping. The early settlers relate how he ministered to the entire community, acting as a doctor in dispensing a large variety of medicines. He baptized, married and buried people of all faiths and won their respect and devotion for his wonderful acts of kindness.

Monsignor Buh's first trip to Ely was made in 1888 when he baptized the baby of a mining captain. He stayed to establish a mission on the site where the new rectory is now located. He offered his first Masses at the Frank Lozar home on Camp Street. He was then 57 years old.

In recognition of his services to religion in Northern Minnesota, Bishop James McGolrick appointed Father Buh Chancellor and Vicar General. When the Duluth bishop visited in Rome during the summer of 1899, he obtained from the Holy See another honor for the aged missionary, the title of a Domestic Prelate of His Holiness.

After Bishop McGolrick's death, Monsignor Buh was appointed Administrator of the Diocese of Duluth until the appointment of Bishop John T. McNicholas. In this time he resided in the parochial residence of the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

With the coming of the new bishop he returned for a short time to Ely and then spent considerable time with Rev. John Schifferer at Chisholm. When he returned to Duluth he lived at the Sacred Heart Institute. In January, 1922 he became ill and was taken to St. Mary's hospital for treatment. He died on February 2, 1922, at the age of 90. Funeral services were conducted at the Sacred Heart Cathedral with Bishop McNicholas preaching the eulogy.

The noted missionary, Joseph Francis Buh, was born in Lucne, Slovenia, Yugoslavia on March 17, 1833. He completed his studies for the priesthood in the Diocese of Ljubljana, Yugoslavia and worked among the peoples of his native land for six years. In answer to Father Pierz's call he came to the Indian missions of Minnesota in May, 1864. For a short time after his arrival in St. Paul he directed the studies of five of the more advanced theological students who had come as his fellow workers. The Most Rev. James Trobec was one of these priests and he later became bishop of St. Cloud.

On November 10, 1864, accompanied by the Rev. John Zuzek, he set out from St. Paul for Crow Wing. The railroad extended only to Elk River. From there he took the stage to St. Cloud, then a city of 3,000 inhabitants. He left St. Cloud by stage for Crow Wing which was a days journey. He was greeted by Father Pierz who was then 80 years old, and lived in a log house 12x16 feet. Two 10x14 additions accommodated his assistants. Their meals consisted of wild rice, potatoes, crackers and tea.

Monsignor Buh left his fellow workers to spend the winter with a half breed at Lake Winnibigoshish. It was there that he learned the language of the Chippewas and taught their children.

His great dreams of making many conversions were not fulfilled. He found that the Indians were more interested in their games and dances and that they were strongly attached to their pagan superstitions. They were friendly and allowed the missionary to instruct and baptize their children. Conversions among the older Chippewas were few, but their love and respect for Father Buh was great.

With the immigration of many White people into the northern part of the territory, Father Buh was assigned to care for both the Whites and Indians. He accomplished this task by working among the Whites

in the summer and the Indians during the winter, for he found that the Chippewas did not wander so much in this season of the year.

So the missionary elected to travel when it was too difficult for the Indians to do so. He took many trips in Minnesota blizzards and many times his life was in peril. All this he endured for the love of Christ.

The missionary was a great church builder. The exact number he erected cannot be determined. He did build the first concrete church at Belle Prairie in 1877 and it is said that he poured much of the concrete himself.

From this point he started missions at Little Falls, Brockway, Rich Prairie, Long Prairie, the Polish church at Perham, St. John's in Benton county, Holy Cross in North Prairie, White Earth, Fort Ripley, Brainerd, Sauk Centre, Red Lake, Leech Lake, Cass Lake, Sandy Lake and many others.

He accompanied the then very aged Father Pierz to Otter Tail City and their experiences were typical of the hardships of those pioneer days.

Monsignor Buh returned to Europe to celebrate his silver jubilee of his ordination in the Diocese of Ljubljana, Yugoslavia in 1883. He returned with seven young men, Simon Lampe, Roman Homar, Mathias Bilban, Corbinian Hermanutz, Francis Bajec, George Scheffold and Francis S. Kosmerl, who later became priests in this diocese and in the state.

Discovery of ore at Tower attracted a large number of Slovenian immigrants and Father Buh was sent there because of his knowledge of the language. This was in January, 1887. From Tower he attended Ely, Two Harbors, Eveleth, Mt. Iron, Biwabik, Virginia and Hibbing. It is said that he spoke as many as four different languages at one service and never forgot to make remarks in Chippewa when he saw any of his Indian friends around.

The missionary gave much assistance to the immigrants. Because it was so difficult to reach the many people who were under his jurisdiction, he bought a printing press, one of the first in the area, and published a newspaper in the Slovenian language. He published his sermons and religious stories.

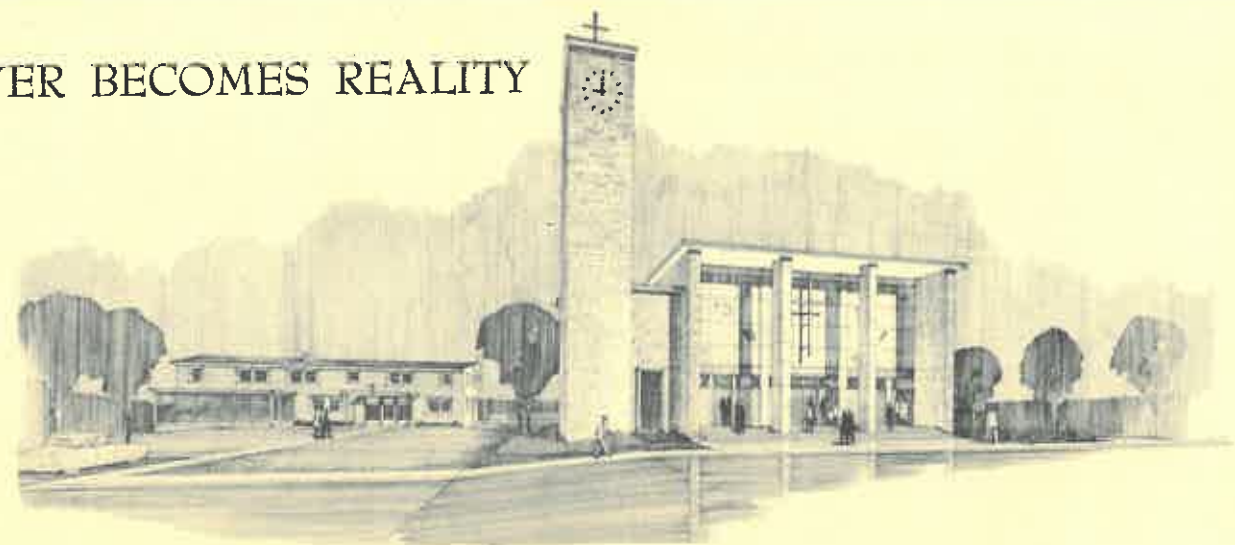
St. Anthony's church was completed by Monsignor Buh in 1890 when he was appointed pastor here. He also had a mission at Winton which was then a flourishing community.

The Monsignor celebrated his golden jubilee in 1908 when he was 75 years old.

In a state of semi-retirement he was appointed chaplain at the Sacred Heart Institute. In 1921 the Monsignor Buh Mission House was established in Duluth by Bishop McNicholas and the aged missionary was made its superior.

It has been said that everyone in the diocese owes something to Father Buh for his pioneer work. He was a man of whom no one was afraid and whom everyone loved.

PRAYER BECOMES REALITY



The Story of St. Anthony DePadua Unfolds

This story has its beginning in the prayers and ambitions of our pastor, the Rev. Fr. Frank Mihelcic, and his faithful parishioners who have looked forward to this day for many years. According to a summary provided by the architect, R. V. McCann, A.I.A., Minneapolis, actual building plans were discussed and dated back in 1951. From his notes we are informed of the following:

- 1951—Program discussed with the Architect and plat plan furnished in late 1951.
- 1952—Sketches were begun and program written. Studies continued to be made intermittently during 1952 and 1953.
- 1954—Contract signed with Architect. Detail sketches begun.
- 1955—Working drawings started in September with

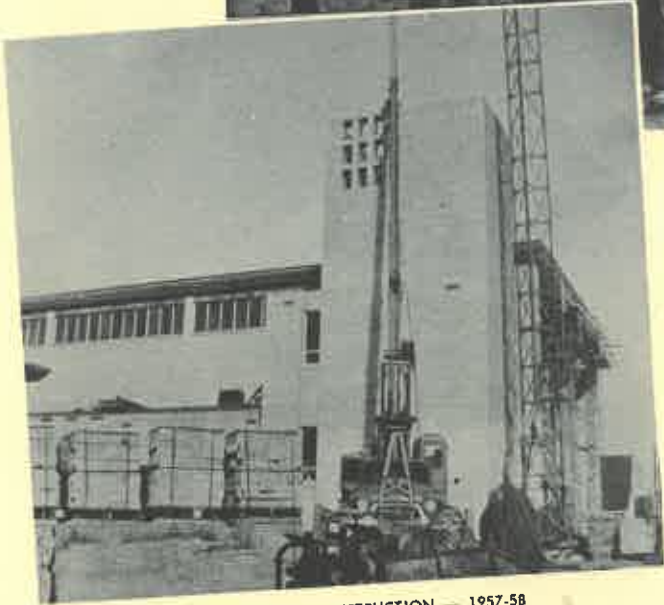
- building fund drive conducted during October and November of that year.
- 1956—On January 1, 1956 a total of \$358,280 had been subscribed to the building fund. Working drawings completed May 11, 1956. Bids on the project taken during May and the contract was awarded to Kileen & Wille Construction Co. of Superior, Wis., May 15, 1956.
- 1956—On June 11, 1956 the old rectory was moved from the site of the new church to its present location a block west of the church. It was occupied by the pastor and his staff until November 9, 1957 when they moved into their new home.
- 1956—On June 20, 1956 ground was broken for the new church and the rectory-church program was launched.



FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
Matt Vertin, Rev. Fr. Frank Mihelcic, Rev. Fr. Wm. Lutar, Victor Veranth, Oscar Friedsburg, Joseph Gerzin, Jr. and Talbot Jessup, director.



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY — JUNE 20, 1956



ST. ANTHONY'S UNDER CONSTRUCTION — 1957-58



REMOVING TREES FROM OLD RECTORY SITE



MOVING THE BELLS FROM THE OLD CHURCH



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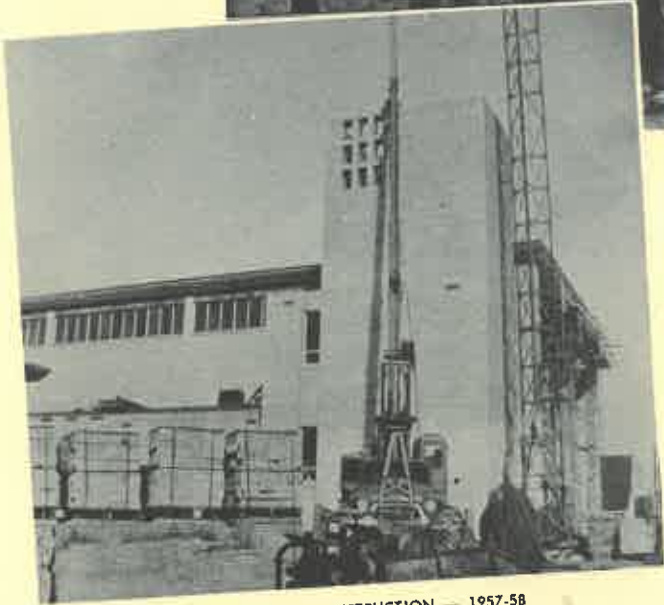
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GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY — JUNE 20, 1956



ST. ANTHONY'S UNDER CONSTRUCTION — 1957-58

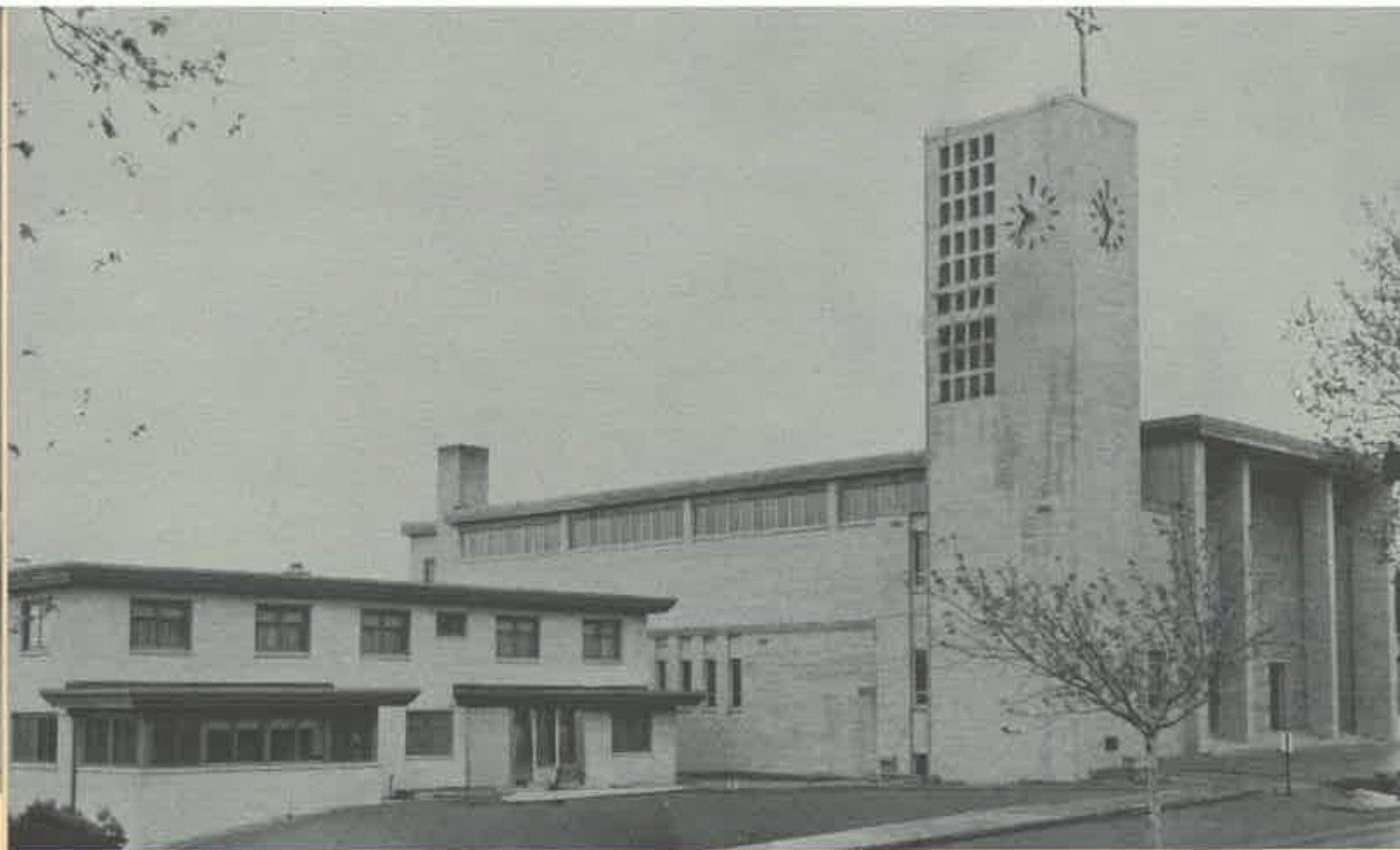


REMOVING TREES FROM OLD RECTORY SITE



MOVING THE BELLS FROM THE OLD CHURCH





ST. ANTHONY'S
— 1958



THE MAIN ALTAR

DESCRIPTION OF CHURCH

CHURCH AND RECTORY

GROUND FLOOR

- Parish school for religious training, three classrooms, one large one which can be divided by folding doors, making a total of four classrooms. All the rooms have slate boards and storage cabinets.
- Parish Hall and kitchen, fully equipped with tables, chairs, dishes, silverware, utensils, and modern equipment. The walls are covered with glazed tile, the ceilings have acoustical tile, and the floors covered with asphalt tiling. Lavatories, cloak rooms and storage rooms are also located in the basement. It has its own speaker system.

SUB-BASEMENT

- Three stall garage, storage and mechanical rooms.

FIRST FLOOR

- Nave of the church seating 800 persons. Upper walls of baptistry, nave and sanctuary are of honed finish Roman Tavertine marble. Communion Railing, altar tops and credence table top are of polished marble. The front faces of the altars are Casino rose marble.
- Woodwork
Pews of Red Oak, with fruitwood finish manufactured and installed by Indianhead Wood Products of Milltown, Wis.
- Columns
Ceramic Mosaic imported from Italy with Gold Glass inserts.
- Confessionals
Especially designed by Architect McCann, are of sound-proof construction, have separate ventilating ducts in each compartment, hearing aids and lights which indicate when occupied.
- Floors
In Narthex (vestibule), nave, sanctuary, sacristies, stairwells and baptistry are of terrazzo.

Clerestory

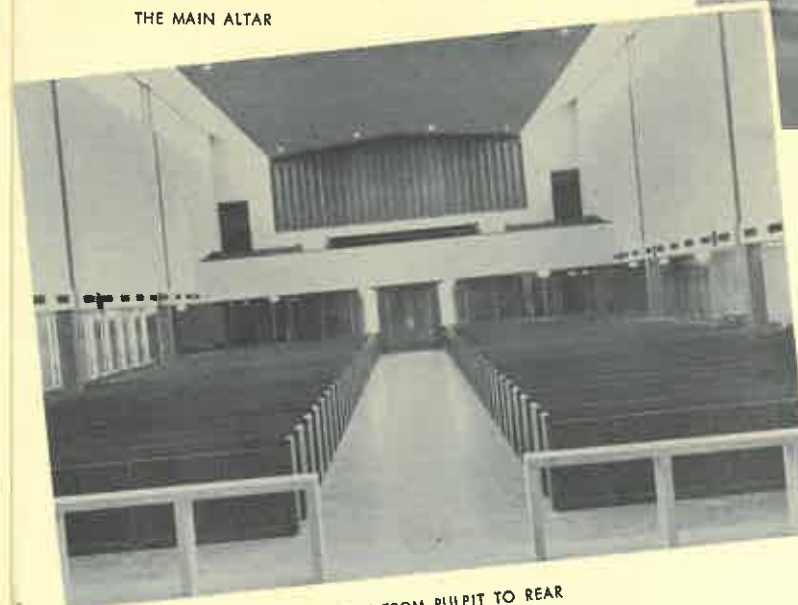
- Both high and lower windows in nave and baptistry are tinted cathedral glass and were installed by St. Germain, Duluth.
- Votive Light stands
Made of aluminum consisting of 100 lights and 8-day lights in each niche.
- Ceiling of nave and narthex.
Sprayed acoustical plaster with recessed lighting.
- Baptistry Font
Polished Casino rose marble. It drains directly into the ground.
- West Sacristy or Priests' Sacristy
Vestment cases by Hackner of LaCrosse, Wis. Piscina and Sacramarium for disposing of blessed liquids. Fire-proof incense cabinet. Dimmer control panel for lights in church. Speaker amplifying system. Ambulatory or passage way to boys' sacristy.
- East Sacristy for Altar Boys
Flower preparation room and lavatory.

BALCONY

- Pipe organ and organ chambers made by Wicks, Highland, Ill. It has over 800 pipes and two manuals.
- Seating for choir.

KITCHEN

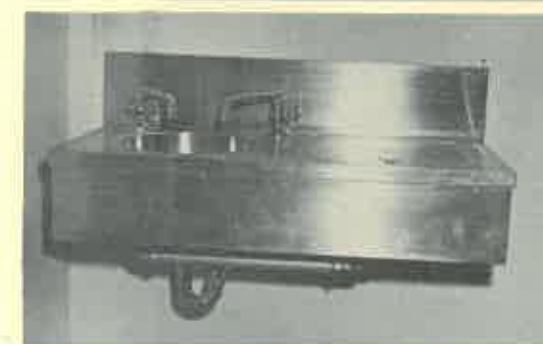
- Furnished by Aslesen Company, Minneapolis. Floors of quarry tile.
- Equipment includes: 62 cubic ft. refrigerator, storage table with hardwood top for meat and bread cutting and food preparation. Three ranges, two with full griddles, one with five heating units. Three ovens. 12 quart mixer, moist-dry steam table, spray rinse and garbage disposal, dishwasher (Hobart model), pan sinks, vegetable sinks, exhaust hoods over ranges and dishwasher.



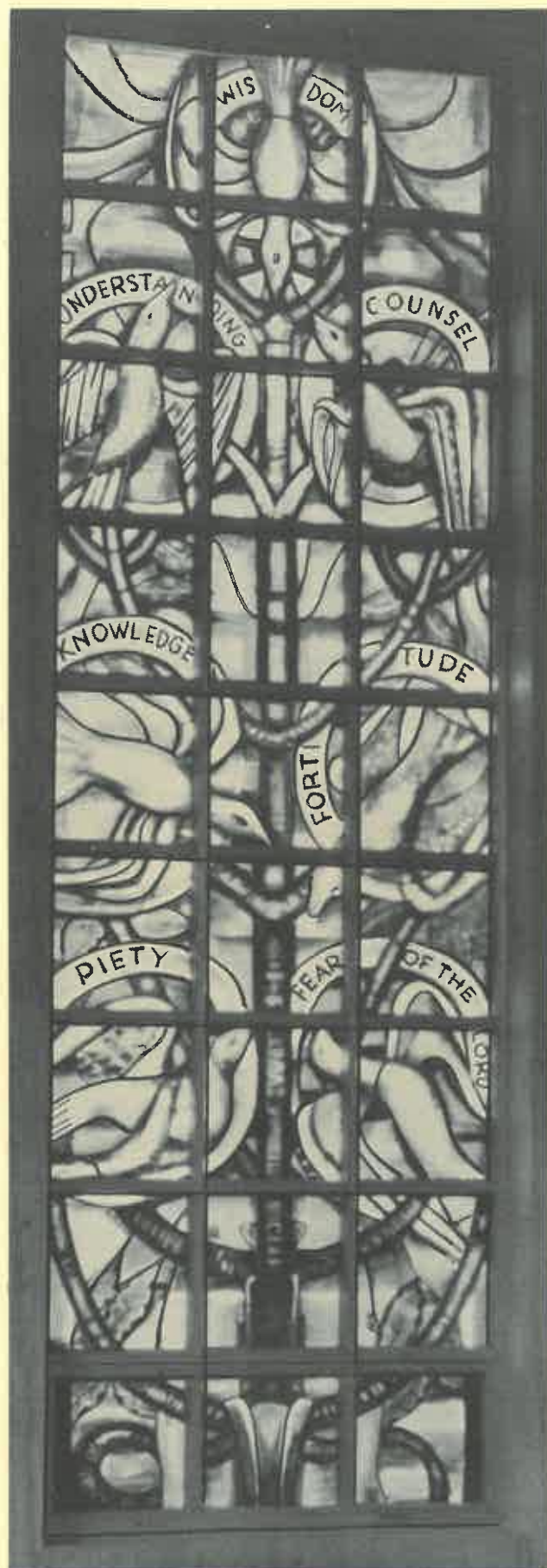
CHURCH VIEW FROM PULPIT TO REAR



MAIN HALL



SACRISTY WITH SACRAMARIUM



7 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

SANCTUARY STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

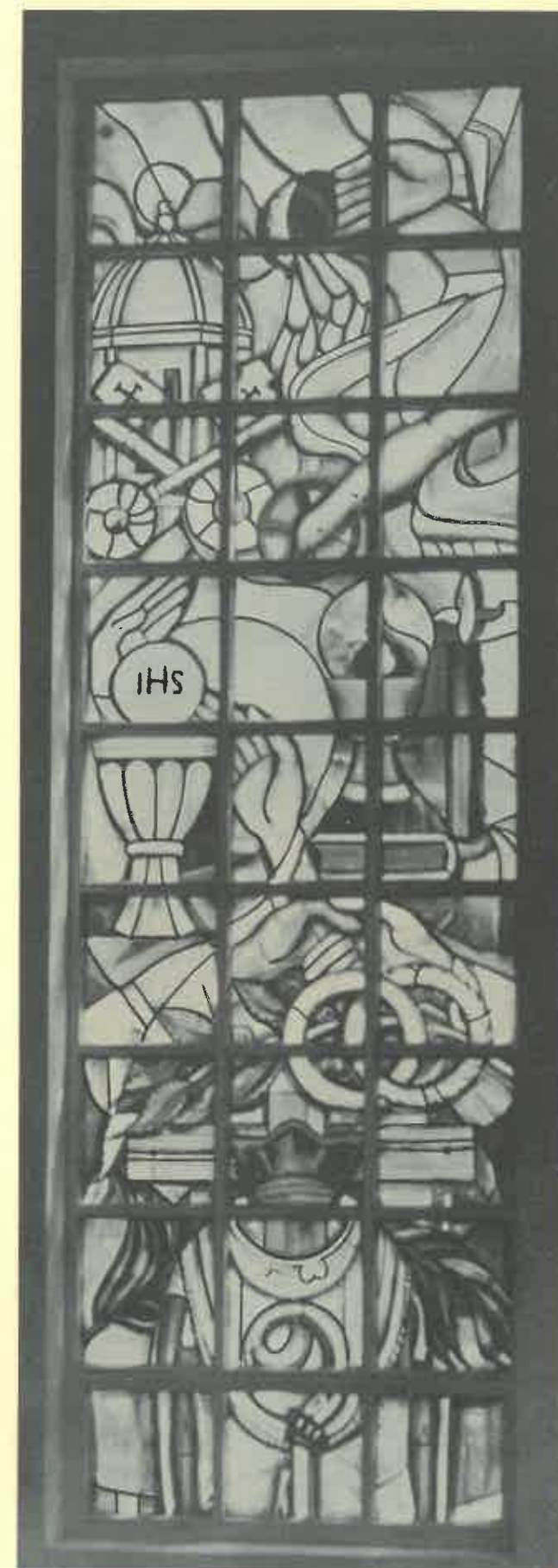
Antique glass imported from Czechoslovakia and Belgium design is painted on then fired to a cherry red which makes the paint integral with the glass. Designed by Albert Henselmann, Chicago, and executed by him at the Eberhardt studios, Chicago. They symbolize the Seven Sacraments and the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit.



CRUCIFIX

CRUCIFIX AND SIDE ALTAR STATUES

The Cross is of walnut, and the Corpus of Pine, crown of iron rod with brazing. The statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph are carved of pine. The three are designed and sculptured by Albert Henselmann.



7 SACRAMENTS



WHERE WE WILL ATTEND MASS

The church exterior is masonry construction over a steel frame. The brick is 12 inch suntan Norman brick. The front face stone is all Mankato Cream stone as are the sills. The steps are of granite.

The statue of St. Anthony de Padua, is constructed of four blocks weighing a little less than a ton apiece. It is carved in high relief by Mr. Bertosi, age 75, of the Minneapolis Tile and Marble Company.

The cross on top of the bell tower is constructed of two 13-foot "I" beams, covered with aluminum sheets.

Three bells, removed from the old church, have been electrified by the I. T. Verdin Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. The combined weight of the bells is 4,600 pounds.

The clock which faces the four sides of the tower is fully automatic, striking the quarter hours and hours, and the Angelus. Tolling of the bells is controlled from the sacristy.

Marble Furniture by Twin City Tile & Marble Company.

Scott Whitnah, mechanical engineer.

Tom Roche, electrical engineer.

\$700,000 is the total estimated cost of construction and equipment of the rectory and church.



LAKE VIEW FROM RECTORY



RECTORY MEETING ROOM

RECTORY DESCRIPTION

December, 1957—Completion date for Rectory and Administration building. It provides:

GROUND FLOOR

1. Heating and Laundry facilities, storage.
2. Recreation and meeting room.
3. Two instruction Rooms.

FIRST FLOOR

1. Pastor's private office, church office and waiting room.
2. Living room, dining room and kitchen.
3. Housekeeper's suite, bedroom and sitting room.

SECOND FLOOR

1. Pastor's suite, bedroom and study.
2. Two suites for Assistant Pastors, bedrooms and studios.
3. Guest Rooms.



LIVING ROOM



DINING ROOM



THE BENEDICTINE CONVENT

ST. ANTHONY CONVENT

On September 20, 1952, Sister Antonia, Sister Alicia, and Sister Camille, Benedictine Sisters from Villa Sancta Scholastica, Duluth, arrived in Ely, to open the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine School of Religion.

School began on October 6, 1952 with an enrollment of 624 students. The students were released at different periods during the week, and included grades one through nine. Kindergarten classes were held on Saturdays on the front porch of the Sisters' Convent. The other classes were held in the Church and in the sacristy.

The St. Theresa Club and the High School Discussion Clubs began meeting sometime in November.

The first Mass was celebrated by Rev. Frank Mihelcic, at the Sisters' Convent on October 31, 1952. The three Sisters sang the High Mass. The Blessed Sacrament was here to stay.

It is spiritually and historically significant that the first masses offered in Ely were celebrated at this exact location in 1888 when it was the home of one of the



SISTER ANTONIA

Sister Antonia, Ely convent superior and religion school principal. Sister Antonia organized the school six years ago. In addition to her teaching duties she inspired the CCD Discussion clubs and acts as their moderator. She designed the cabinets for the classrooms and assisted with the planning of equipment for the sacristies.



CONVENT ALTAR

parish founders, Frank Lozar, and his sister Miss Agnes Lozar.

Open house was held at the Sisters' Convent on December 14, 1952. Parents were given an opportunity to meet the Sisters and see the newly furnished home and chapel. The Council of Catholic Women was in charge of arrangements.

The first Christmas was celebrated by having three Masses at the Convent. The Midnight Mass was a High Mass sung by the Sisters. It was followed by two low Masses. During the last Mass the Sisters sang beautiful Christmas hymns. A very inspiring sermon was delivered by the celebrant, Rev. Bernard Popesh.

The Summer Religion Classes continued as in other years, beginning June 8, 1953. The garage at

the Sisters' Convent was used for the Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten children, while the other students had classes in the Church.

Since the organization of the School of Religion, classes have steadily increased, so that to date we have an enrollment of 670.



SISTER DEVOTA



HIGH MASS CHOIR

Front row—Mrs. Frank Veranth, Mrs. Charles Merhar, Jr., Mary Ann Vranesich, Theresa Zupancich, Patricia Sayovitz, Mrs. Kenneth Korpi, Mrs. Dale Forsman. Second row—Robert Arola, Mrs. George L. Pulis, Margaret Merhar, Annette Marsnik, Amelia Oberstar, Mary Hutar, director, Mrs. Frank Pengal, Mrs. Urho Hokkanen, Mrs. Dominic Elioff, Mrs. Gerald Korte, Joseph Kuznik. Third row—Peter Hutar, Frank Melovsich, Charles Merhar, Jr., Robert Zbasnik, Frank Shepel, Jr., Bernard Hutar, Edward Ruzic, Raymond Marsnik, Robert Kovall, Mrs. Walter Newman was absent.



MISS MARY HUTAR,
Director and Organist

CHOIR

"Now Everybody Sing!" Sit tall — take deep breaths — and open your mouths — Famous last words — you know whose.

Whether you sing for the glory of God or whether it's just "Row, Row Your Boat" you love every minute of it, when you are doing it in a community sing with Mary Hutar.

This is what Mary Hutar has been doing in Ely for the past 35 years and her popularity has spread throughout all of the range towns. Her love of music is contagious.

She has won even greater recognition for the outstanding choirs she has developed along with her interpretation of church music. Those of us in Ely have only to listen to the fine compliments paid to the choirs by many visitors here to realize how fortunate we are in having such a capable director.

The entire community has benefited from her unselfish talent. She has taken active part in promo-

tion of concerts, singing in combined church performances, preparing choral groups for a countless number of public appearances. All this she does because of her sheer love of music and willingness to share it with others.

Throughout her entire career, as director as well as organist at St. Anthony's church, Mary Hutar has prepared three different choirs for three masses each Sunday of the year. They are the girls' choir made up of high school students, the Slovenian Women's group and the high mass mixed choir made up of adults in the parish.

Throughout this time she has studied hard to improve her talent by taking private lessons in voice, piano and organ.

Mary is the daughter of a pioneer Ely family, Mr. and Mrs. John Hutar. In addition to her music interests, Mary has served as housekeeper at the rectory.



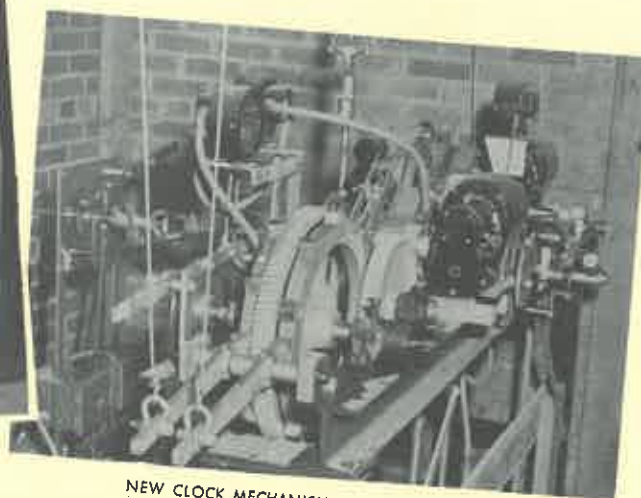
SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S CHOIR

Front row—Mrs. Stanley Boldine, Mrs. John Rosandich, Mrs. Anthony Skradski, Mrs. Louis Ravnika, Mrs. Frank E. Zgonc, Mrs. Joseph Starkovich. Second row—Mrs. Ann Boldine, Mrs. Joseph Novak, Sr., Mrs. John Marinsek, Sr., Mary Hutar, director, Mrs. Rudolph Sever, Mrs. Joseph Godec.

BEHIND THE SCENES . . .



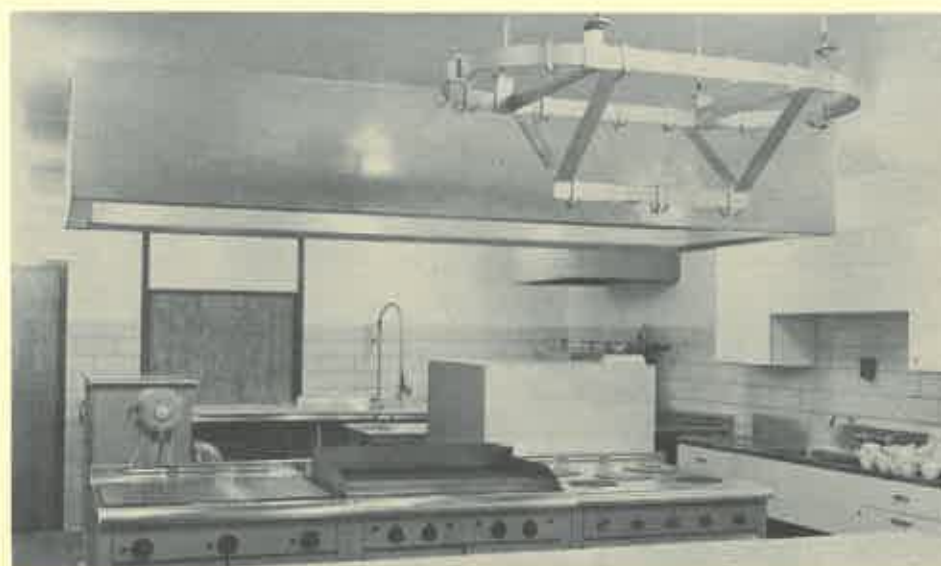
ORGAN IN NEW CHURCH



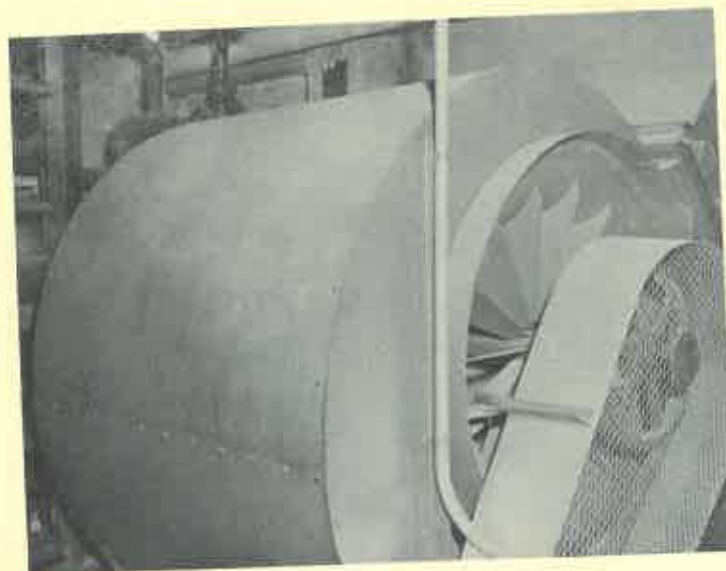
NEW CLOCK MECHANISM OPERATES AUTOMATICALLY



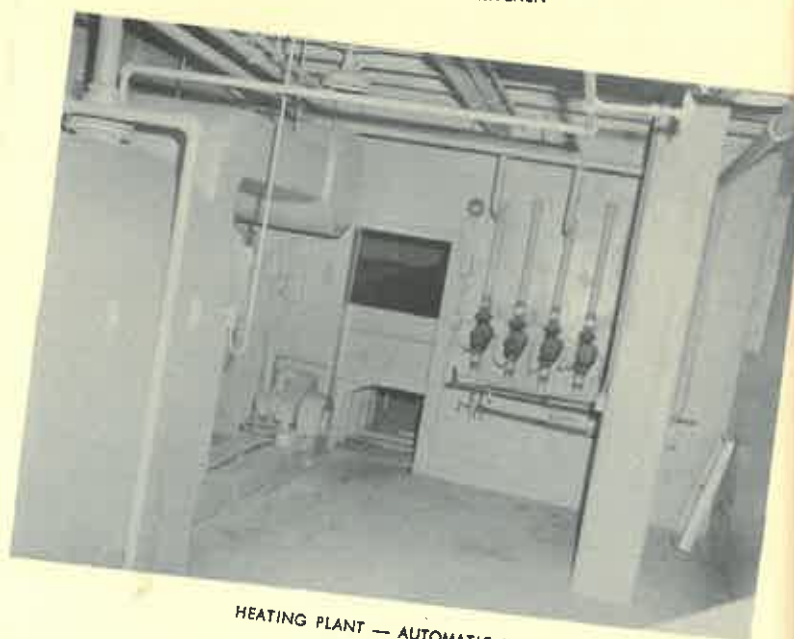
THE SWELL ORGAN CHAMBER



KITCHEN



VENTILATING FAN, AIR CONDITIONING UNIT



HEATING PLANT — AUTOMATIC STOKER



MARY GOLOBICH



JOHN GOLOBICH

Mary and John Golobich, faithful custodians of St. Anthony's parish for the past 13 years. They will continue to serve us in our new church with the good wishes of the entire parish.

ORGANIZATIONS

The parish has a large number of active organizations which make both spiritual and financial contributions to the church. They include:

The Knights of Columbus which has a membership of more than 300. It was organized in 1950.

Ely Council of Catholic Women, one of the oldest councils in the diocese, which has a membership of 280. It was organized as the St. Anthony's Ladies Club in December, 1925, and became affiliated with the National Council in May, 1929.

Six Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Discussion clubs, of which Sister Antonia is moderator.

Catholic Women's Order of Foresters, organized November 21, 1926.

Catholic Men's Order of Foresters, St. Francis Court, organized April 22, 1906, with a charter membership of 26.

St. Therese Club, a spiritual group for junior high school girls, organized in 1933.

Boy Scout Troop No. 174, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Organized about 1935.

St. Anthony's Altar Society, organized in 1955, included a group of approximately 100 women and was active until recently.

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Parent-Educator program which assists parents of new born infants to the age of three years in instructing their baby to know and love God, and be aware of His Presence. This is sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women.

The combined membership of the three choirs, high mass mixed, Slovenian Women and high school girls, have a total membership of 60. These groups have been active continuously since Miss Mary Hutar, director and organist, took over her duties 35 years ago. Not only have they provided music for masses over this period of years, but also sponsored numerous fund raising activities for the church. It is in their honor that the new church organ has been memorialized.

Other organizations which were active in the past were the Christian Mothers Society, the Holy Name Society and the Catholic Youth organization.

St. Anthony's parish has grown from 177 members before the 1900's to 3,696 souls and 895 families recorded in 1958.

BABBITT

Babbitt became attached to St. Anthony's church as a mission on April 5, 1953 and continued as such until June 16, 1957. The spiritual duties, such as offering mass every Sunday, first at a meeting hall and later at the school, was conducted almost solely by Father Mihelcic. On special occasions confessions were heard by visiting priests and especially at Easter and Christmas. The Rev. Fr. George Krypsin was assigned to Babbitt and took over his duties June 23, 1957. The Babbitt parishioners expressed their appreciation to Father Mihelcic at a dinner in his honor and he was presented with a gold wrist watch.

Ely Minn. Baptismata 1888

Cathy Die 27 Novembris 1888 baptizavi Catha-
riza Abbie nata 25 Novbris 1888 ex
Byrne Pat. Henry Byrne & Victorie Genau.
Patris: Pat. Vail; Clara Genau
Ely J. Bush Rector

Mary Die 28 Martii 1889 baptizavi Mary
Helleur nata 25 Martii 1889 ex William
Lebeau & Ellen Cashen.
Patris: Pat. Byrne & Victorie Byrne
Cathy Die 29 Martii 1889 baptizavi Catherine
nata ex Joseph Vertin & Cath. Stange
Vertin lead. Patris: Stanislaus Le Jar-
din; Marie Larriive
Ely J. Bush

Mate Die 16 May 1889 baptizavi Mathias
natus 9 April 1889 ex Mathias
Judnic & Maria German.
Patris: Joseph Judnic & Joseph Klug
Ely J. Bush

VOCATIONS

St. Anthony's Parish has been blessed abundantly with religious vocations. From its ranks has come five priests, who are serving this diocese and one candidate for the priesthood. All were altar boys before they began their studies for the priesthood. Also from this parish has come four professed nuns, one novice and one candidate.



THE REV. MICHAEL POPESH,
son of Michael and the late Mrs.
Popesh, ordained in May, 1935



THE REV. JOHN GOLOBICH,
son of John and Mary Golobich,
ordained June, 1948



THE REV. BERNARD POPESH,
son of Michael and the late Margaret
Popesh, ordained in June, 1949



THE REV. FRANK MELOVASICH,
son of Frank and Mary Melovasich,
ordained in June, 1950



THE REV. ROBERT SENTA,
son of Louis and Hannah Senta,
ordained in June, 1955

PATRICK MESTNIK,
son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Mest-
nik, is a seminarian at the Crozier
Fathers Seminary at Onamia, Minn.

Sister Marjeta is a member of the Franciscan con-
vent in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The former Rose Peter-
nel is the daughter of George Peternel and the late
Mrs. Peternel.

Sister Miriam Magdala is a member of the Mary-
knoll Order and is now assigned in Chicago. She is
the daughter of Mrs. Peter Svetich and the late Mr.
Svetich.

Sister Josette, OSB, Villa Sancta Scholastica, Du-
luth. She is the former Patricia Klug, daughter of Mr.
and Mrs. Joseph Klug.

Sister Andre', OSB of St. Paul's Priory, Minneapo-
lis, which is a branch of the Benedictine order. She is
the former Mary Ellen Goulet, daughter of Mr. and
Mrs. Raoul Goulet.

Sister Janice, OSB, of the Villa Sancta Scholastica,
Duluth. She is the former Marilyn Muhvich, daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. John Muhvich. Sister Janice is a
novice.

Sister Jean, a candidate for the novitiate this fall
at the Monastery of Angels, a cloistered Dominican
Order in Los Angeles, Calif. She entered the convent,
February 2, 1958. She is the former Barbara Kovach,
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kovach.

ASSISTANT PASTORS IN ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

THE REV. ANTON SCHIFFRER
August, 1927 to May, 1928

THE REV. THOMAS DURKIN
June, 1929 to December, 1931

THE REV. MICHAEL HAYES
December, 1931 to July, 1935

THE REV. WILLARD SPEHN
July, 1935 to September, 1939

THE REV. HARRY LARKIN
September, 1939 to June, 1940

THE REV. CARL PRILEY
June, 1940 to January, 1946

THE REV. EDWARD OETIKKER
January, 1946 to August, 1948

THE REV. JOSEPH VOVK
August, 1948 to August, 1955

THE REV. WILLIAM LUTAR
August, 1955 to July, 1956

THE REV. GERALD LaPATKA
July, 1956, present assistant



ALTAR BOYS

Front row—Jerome Johnson, Robert Kovall, Michael Erzar, Anthony Lozar, David Merhar, Gary Omerza and Michael Forsman. Second row—Richard Debelitz, Eugene Stukel, Paul Zupancich, Gregory Hutar and Larry Shepel. Third row—James Call, James Veranth, John Artisensi, Tom Koivisto, Larry Lozar and Louis Gerzin, Jr. Fourth row—John Rosandich, Joseph Jamnick, Jerome Kuznik, John Paul Skubitz, Edward Lesar, John Hutar.



GIRLS' CHOIR

Front row—Barbara Klobuchar, Paulette Pishler, Shirley Klun, Sandra Gotchnik, Kathleen Schwegel, Kathleen Kromer, Sandra Simonick. Second row—Mary Beth Jenko, Janice Smrekar, June Seliga, Jean Ryan, Bonnie Gerzin, Miss Mary Hutar, director, Carole Elioff, Mary Lozar, Josephine Tratinik, Dorothy Delak, Mae Seliga. Third row—Venora Anderson, Kathleen Zgonc, Jeanette Pishler, RoseAnn Ferderber, Mary Lou Skule, Elizabeth Niemi, Judy Popesh, Nancy Tomsich, Genevieve Pirtz, Mary Jean Kotchevar. Nancy Lesar and Sandra McDonald were absent.



CLASS ROOM, NEW CHURCH



RELIGIOUS TEACHING EMPHASIZED

Ely was one of the first parishes in the diocese to have a religious vacation school. It was started in 1928 with more than 500 children attending. These classes have been continued for a month each summer with the aid of 4 to 6 sisters from the Villa of St. Scholastica, a Benedictine Community in Duluth. In these early years the sisters stayed at the Cyrille Fortier, Sr., home for many years, next at the James Moonan home and later they occupied the John Lozar residence.

As soon as the Minnesota legislature made it possible for release of public school time to teach religion, Father Mihelcic, his assistant and lay teachers conducted classes, first in the school classrooms and later at the church.

Large communion classes registered every year. The sacrament of confirmation is administered every second year to more than 150 candidates and in recent years the group has almost reached the 200 mark. A large number of adult converts are among those confirmed.

Missions in either the Slovenian or English languages have been conducted almost yearly in the parish and when missions have not been possible a Forty Hour Devotion was held.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

John Buccowich
Dr. J. J. Call
Cyrille Fortier
Oscar Friedsburg

Charles Merhar, Jr.
John Muhvich
Victor Veranth
Frank Vranesich

*A deep gratitude for what
they have achieved*

ST. ANTHONY'S USHERS

Joseph Mestnik
John Vidmar
Anton Lozar
Matt Zgonc
John Mihelich
Joseph Mistek
Albert Kovall
Joseph Gerzin, Jr.
John Artisensi
Dr. J. J. Call
Matt Cherne
Matt Marolt

Anthony Klancher
John G. Kotchevar
Peter Moroni
John Rosandich
Anthony Kotchevar
Joseph Kalan
Matt Stukel
John Hutar
Frank Veranth
Dr. R. J. Kalan
Fred Povhe
John M. Lobe

Joseph Shikonya

We Thank You

Contribution Acknowledgments

The following is a listing of parish organizations which have contributed for designated memorials in the new church.

St. Anthony's Parish Circles.

Ely Council, Knights of Columbus.

Ely Council of Catholic Women.

St. Francis Court, Catholic Men's Order of Foresters.

Catholic Women's Order of Foresters.

Slovenian Women's Union.

Immaculate Conception Lodge.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary K.S.K.J. Lodge.

St. Therese Club.

St. Anthony's Choirs.



REV. FRANK MIHELICIC

IN LOVING TRIBUTE TO OUR PASTOR

In humble gratification to the founder of the Ely parish the Rev. Fr. Frank Mihelcic set the keynote to this majestic dedication observance with these words, "The shadow of Monsignor Buh will ever linger in gracious helpfulness over our parish. While among us he was always an inspiration and now, that he lives with God, we feel that many of our blessings come from his constant petition".

And we, as parishioners of St. Anthony's parish, feel a loyalty, love and admiration for our pastor, Mihelcic, who has guided his flock wisely and well, in reverential fear and love of God, through times of privation as well as prosperity.

He has shared with us our personal joys, and in time of sorrow has given us, as individuals, that intangible substance of His consolation and courage. Father is bountifully blessed with these gifts.

Father Mihelcic is firmly indoctrinated in the belief that we honor and glorify God with the best and so nothing cheap, artificial or gaudy has ever been a part of our parish. He has carried out this conviction in our new church where we can be proudly confident that it is theologically correct, dignified and reverent.

Ely is home to Father Mihelcic. Last November 9th he observed his 40th year in this parish and it was a proud and happy occasion because it was the day that he moved into the new rectory. His joy will be complete with the celebration of the solemn dedication of the new St. Anthony's church.

Father Mihelcic was appointed to the pastorate here by the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, then Bishop of Duluth, on August 22, 1922. He had been in charge of the parish officially as assistant to Monsignor Joseph Buh since 1918.

Father Mihelcic was born in the village of Nadlesk, St. George's parish at Stari trg in Carniola, Yugoslavia. His parents were John Mihelcic and Mary Telich. The only interruption in his duties at St. Anthony's came in 1921 when he took a four-month trip to Europe, where he offered Mass for the first time in the presence of his parents, who had not seen him since he left Europe.

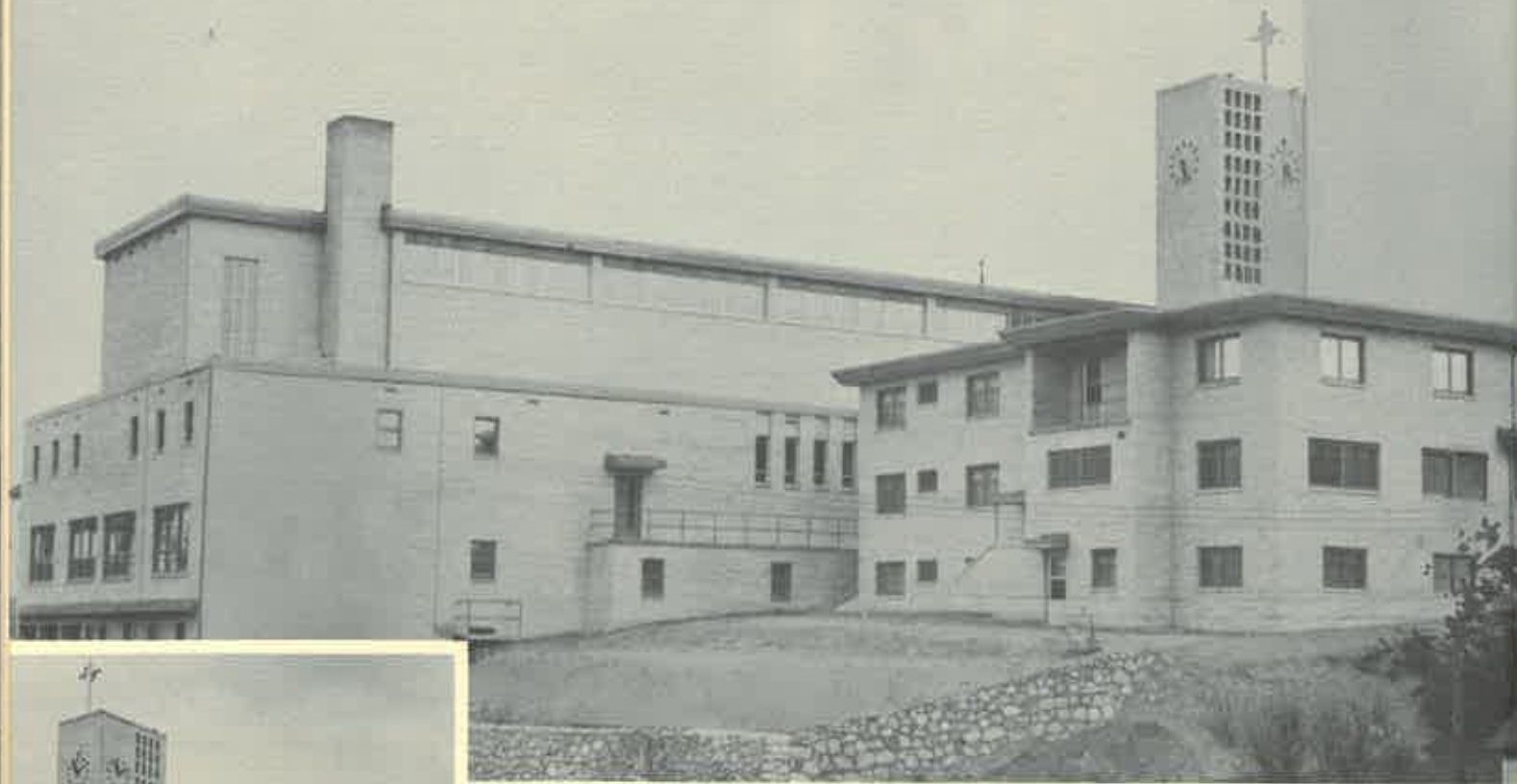
He came to this country in 1910 and entered the Jesuit College of St. Ignatius in Cleveland for one year. He entered the St. Paul seminary in St. Paul, Minn. in 1911. Having finished his philosophy and theology course, he was ordained June 12, 1917 for the Diocese of Duluth by the Most Rev. John Ireland, Archbishop of St. Paul. He was in the last class ordained by Archbishop Ireland.

Father Mihelcic offered his first Solemn Mass June 17, 1917, in Cleveland, the home of one sister and three brothers. He served as assistant at the Sacred Heart Cathedral parish in Duluth until his appointment as assistant to Monsignor Buh at Ely, November 9, 1917.

Father Mihelcic celebrated his silver jubilee at a Solemn High Mass in June, 1942. It was followed by a parish picnic at Sandy Point on Shagawa Lake.

Appreciation

Father Mihelcic expresses his appreciation of the work of those who have been responsible for the many successful years of service.



IMPRESSIVE REAR VIEW OF CHURCH AND RECTORY



CROWD GATHERS FOR GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY JUNE, 1956

Farewell



1900 —  — 1958



REV. FR. GERALD LaPATKA
Organization



SISTER ANTONIA, O.S.B.
Convent Page



MRS. ANTON LOZAR,
Narrator



VICTOR PALCHER,
Victor Studio, Photography



ALBIN ZAVERL,
Design, art and layout of book

W. A. FISHER COMPANY,
Virginia, Minnesota — Printing

R. V. McCANN, A.I.A.,
Minneapolis, Minnesota — Architect

KILEEN & WILLE CONSTRUCTION CO.,
Superior, Wisconsin — Construction

This Book Published under the direction of
REV. FR. FRANK MIHELIC, Pastor

Dedicated in the



CENTENNIAL YEAR of the
SOVEREIGN STATE of MINNESOTA

CENTENNIAL YEAR of the
APPARITION OF OUR BLESSED LADY
at Lourdes, France