

Catholic Church just because you have been confirmed." He urged them to continue an earnest study of their religion and the history of the Church.

"This church is being opened," said Bishop O'Brien, "through the charity of a good woman who wanted to have the right kind of memorial for the dead."

**He was referring to Mrs. Edward Ennis of Chicago, who donated \$6,000 toward the purchase and completion of the Henning church in honor of her late husband. Mrs. Ennis, accompanied by her son-in-law, was present for dedication ceremonies and had a special place of honor in the church.**

A brass tablet placed over the inside entrance of St. Edward's church reads: "Pray for the soul of Edward Ennis in whose memory a generous donation was made to this church through the Catholic Church Extension Society of the United States of America in 1950."

"You will be surprised how much your parish will grow," Bishop O'Brien said to the parishioners. "I hope that many of you will see the day when you will have your own Catholic school."

**Bishop O'Brien regretted the fact that "many millions of dollars are wasted annually by our Christian people for monuments and mausoleums that do no good for the dead and only cater to the pride of the living."**

**"This church," he emphasized, "is a living memorial, one that will bring many spiritual benefits to both the living and the dead."**

Accompanying Bishop O'Brien to Henning from Chicago was Monsignor R.R. St. John, also of the Extension society.

The Chicago Auxiliary Bishop administered the sacrament of Confirmation for the first time in the history of Henning. In the class were 31 children and six adults.

**Bishop Bartholome Speaks**

Bishop Bartholome, who was also in the sanctuary during the Solemn Mass, spoke briefly at the close of the ceremonies.

"This is indeed a happy occasion for the Bishops, priests, and people of the Diocese of St. Cloud to have a new parish started and a new church erected for the Kingdom of Christ."

He expressed thanks to Bishop O'Brien for coming to Henning and also for the important work he is doing as president of the Extension society.

Bishop Bartholome thanked Mrs. Ennis for her important part in this start of the Henning church: "We extend our most heartfelt thanks and appreciation to them and assure them of our remembrances of them in the future years of the diocese."

He referred to Monsignor August Plachta of Wadena, who was in charge of the beginnings of the Henning parish in 1945, and to the several assistants to Monsignor Plachta, who ministered to the Henning Catholics, and to Father Brandt, pastor of the Henning parish since July, 1948.

To the Henning parishioners he said: "I trust that God's blessing will come upon you in the years to come."

Monsignor Plachta was celebrant of the Solemn Mass, assisted by Father Robert Voigt as deacon, Father Walter Bednark, sub-deacon; and Father Allen Speiser, master of ceremonies. Both Father Voigt and Father Bednark, when they were assistants in Wadena, offered Mass for the Henning Catholics in a funeral parlor here every Sunday. Father James Mohm, Osakis, led the chanting for the dedication ceremonies.

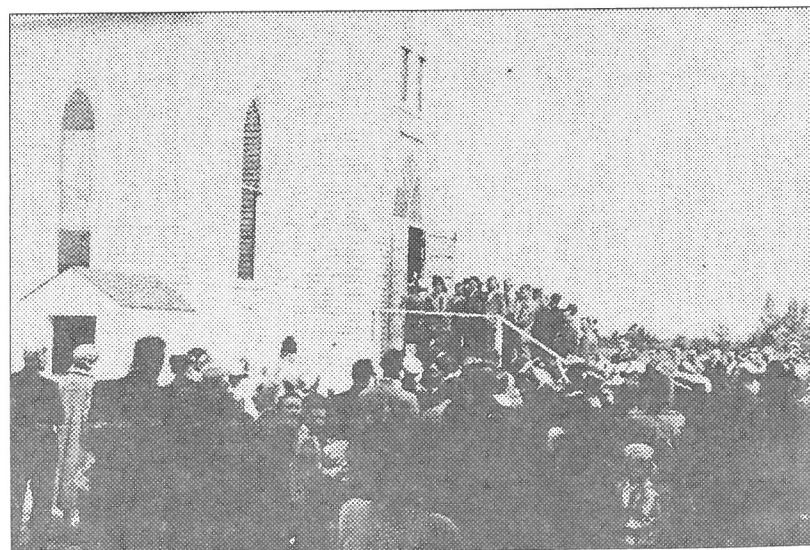
A group of girls from St. Ann's parish, Wadena, under the direction of Sister Ubalda, sang for the Mass. Altar boys from Wadena served.

Women of the Henning parish served a cafeteria dinner in the public high school to all visiting clergy, other guests, and parishioners at noon.

Children in the Confirmation class were Floyd Anderson, Marvin Bellmore, Ronald Bellmore, Benjamin Bellmore, Marlyce Bellmore, Eilein Cote, Charles Egan, Ellen Egan, Valarian Johnson, Rodney Johnson, Dennis Johnson, Alton Klimek, Lawrence Klimek, Allen Koep, Dennis Koep, Yvonne Koep;

Duance Koep, Robert Reger, William Reger, Patricia Reger, Constance Rehm, Vernon Stich, Thomas Stich, Jr.; Elaine Stich, Helen Turchin, Joseph Turchin, Ethel Turchin, Joan Schlanger, Donald Jesonoski, Gerald Lindberg, and Stanley Kruta.

Adults confirmed were Earl Carter, Mrs. Viola Dusa, Mrs. Sylvia Egan, Harold Pikal, William Stone and Mrs. Donna Mae Stich.



12 1950 scene The St. Edward's Catholic Church as it looked in the spring of 1950. The congregation pictured were observing the official dedication ceremonies.

From June 28, 1950 News Clipping...

## Dedication At Henning Held Sunday

**Many Hundreds Attend Dedication of Catholic Church By Rev. Fr. O'Brien**

HENNING--The Most Rev. Wm. O'Brien, auxiliary Bishop of Chicago was at Henning Wednesday and dedicated the Catholic

church at Henning in the presence of several hundred people. Father Leo Brandt, pastor of Bertha and Henning offered the first Mass in church Nov. 27, 1949. The church has a seating capacity of 170.

The parish now numbers about 30 families. Much of the renovation work of the church was done by volunteer work of parishioners under the direction of Father Brandt. The church has an oak altar. The stations of the cross came from Our Lady of Victory church in Fergus Falls. Kneelers were installed by the parishioners. The church has a full basement and is heated by oil. Women of the parish served dinner for visiting clergymen and parishioners after the dedication.



13 **THE NEW MEMBERS** recently received into St. Edward's parish, Henning, are shown above with their pastor, Father Raymond Donnay. They are, front row, left to right: Dale Ostrander, Mrs. Dale Ostrander, Father Raymond Donnay, Mrs. Lucille Lindberg, Miss Leona Christensen; back row, left to right: LeRoy Lang, Lawrence Irish, Albert Anderson and William Christensen.