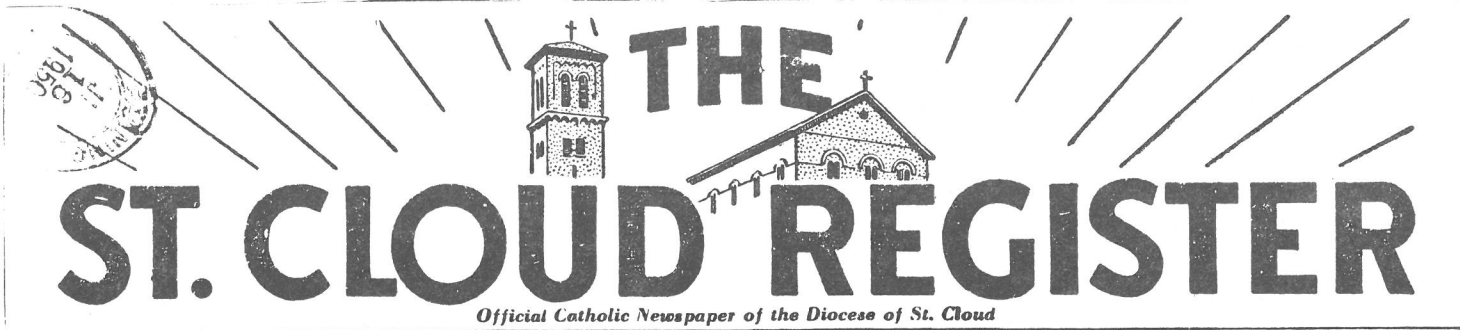


There are about 28 families in the Henning parish now. The parish was organized several years ago as a mission of Wadena. It became a mission of Bertha in July, 1948, when Father Brandl was appointed pastor in Bertha. Up to last month parishioners attended Mass in a local funeral parlor.

Parishioners have spent much time and effort in preparing their church for the Sacrifice of the Mass. They assisted in excavating for the basement and foundation and in remodeling of the church interior. The church has an oak altar. The stations of the cross came from Our Lady of Victory church in Fergus Falls. Kneelers were put in by parishioners. The church has a full basement and it is heated by oil.

The Catholic Church Extension society has promised a \$5,000 donation to Henning--a gift from Mrs. Edward Ennis of Chicago.



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By Bishop O'Brien of Extension Society Henning Church to be Dedicated June 21

Henning-- The Most Rev. William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, will come to Henning, Wednesday, June 21, to bless and dedicated the first Catholic church in this town of Otter Tail County.

Bishop O'Brien comes to Henning representing the Catholic Church Extension society, of which he is the president.

The Extension society has given a \$5,000 donation to the Henning parish--a gift of Mrs. Edward Ennis of Kennilwood, Ill. Mrs. Ennis is expected to attend the dedication ceremonies.

Bishop O'Brien will also deliver the sermon in the Solemn Mass and will confirm a class of 28 children and seven adults after the Mass. He will be accompanied to Henning by Coadjutor Bishop Peter W. Bartholome, who will address the parishioners and visitors.

Monsignor August Plachta of Wadena, who directed the founding of the mission in Henning in June 1945, will be celebrant of the Solemn Mass at 10 o'clock. He will be assisted by Father Robert Voigt, Worthington, O., deacon; Father Walter



ST. EDWARD'S CHURCH, first Catholic church in the history of Henning in Ottertail county, will be blessed and dedicated Wednesday morning, June 21, at 10 o'clock. Auxiliary Bishop William D. O'Brien of Chicago, president of the Church Extension society, will officiate at the Ceremonies. The Henning Catholic church was once a Lutheran church in Bertha.

Bednark, Collis, subdeacon; and Father Allen Speiser, Wadena, master of ceremonies. Father S. J. Schirmers of Urbank will lead the chanting for the blessing ceremonies.

St. Edward's church in Henning is a "converted" Lutheran church which was transported here last summer from Bertha--a distance of 28 miles. Father Leo Brandl, pastor of Bertha and Henning, offered the first Mass in the church Nov. 27, 1949. The church has a seating capacity of 170 persons.

St. Edward's parish now numbers about 30 families. Much of the renovation work on the church was done by volunteer work of the parishioners under the direction of Father Brandl.

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.

Before becoming eligible for the donation from the Extension society, the Henning parish had to raise \$5,000 to match the donation.

Henning has a population of about 1,000 and is located in the midst of the many lakes that attract vacationists to Ottertail county.

At the time the mission was opened, Father Voigt was assistant in Wadena and offered Mass every Sunday and on holy days in the Henning funeral parlor. St. Edward's became a mission of Bertha in July, 1948, when Father Brandl was appointed pastor of both places.

Religious instructions are given to the children every Sunday after Mass by Father Brandl. A vacation school of two weeks is also conducted each summer with the assistance of the Benedictine Sisters.

Women of the parish will serve a dinner for visiting clergy and parishioners after the dedication Mass.

From News Clipping...

Henning--Another building was set aside last week for the honor and glory of God when Bishop William D. O'Brien of Chicago blessed and dedicated St. Edward's church here.

St. Edward's is the first Catholic church to be erected in the history of this Ottertail county town. "May God bless you a hundred fold for what you have done here in Henning," Bishop O'Brien told the little band of parishioners and their pastor, Father Leo Brandl. The church, once a Lutheran church in Bertha, was filled to capacity. Approximately 60 priests attended the ceremonies. Many parishioners and guests "assisted" at the dedication and Mass outdoors. A public address system carried the Mass and the addresses of Bishop O'Brien and Coadjutor Bishop Peter W. Bartholome to those who were unable to get inside.

Bishop O'Brien, who is president of the Extension society, said: "Everyone of you here in Henning from this day forward must be a strong Catholic and a good example to others."

He reminded the people, and especially those he was about to confirm, that "You are not graduates of the

Assist at Henning Ceremonies



PICTURED AT THE CORNERSTONE of St. Edward's new church in Henning are, left to right, Father Leo Brandl, pastor; Monsignor August Plachta, Wadena; Mrs. Edward Ennis of Chicago, who donated \$6,000 toward the church in memory of her late husband; Auxiliary Bishop William D. O'Brien of Chicago, president of the Church Extension society; Coadjutor Bishop Peter W. Bartholome; Monsignor Edward Mahowald, Pierz; and Monsignor Richard R. St. John, Chicago.



A SOLEMN MASS followed the dedication ceremonies. Monsignor Plachta, who was in charge of the establishment of the Henning parish in 1945, was the celebrant of the mass and is pictured here incensing the altar at the Offertory. Behind him is Father Robert Voigt, who was deacon.