

These are parishes that have closed, but the dates of when they did so, is uncertain. Information that we have included is just an excerpt of history that we have found.

Bendon Holy Trinity



BENDON HOLY TRINITY

About 14 miles from Kimball, a Catholic Church named St. Prokopa was built in 1883. It was broken up, and people began attending Red Lake, until in 1894 a church was built, now called Holy Trinity, close to Kimball, and 5 years later a parish house. In 1900-1901, the church was served from Kimball, and in 1901 Bendon Holy Trinity received a resident priest. There was a resident priest also in 1906-1908, and 1910-1911, until the parish was closed September 7, 1911. The people were attached to the Kimball St. Margaret's Parish, and Mass was offered at Bendon once a month.

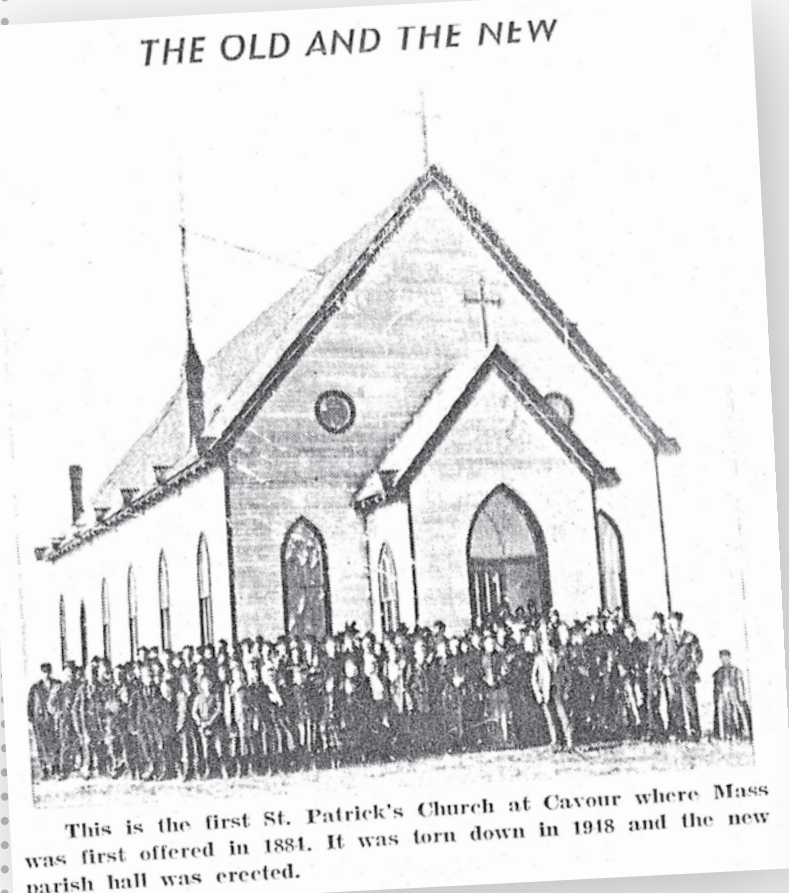


THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH OF BENDON AT ITS PRESENT LOCATION NEAR ST. MARGARET'S CEMETERY.

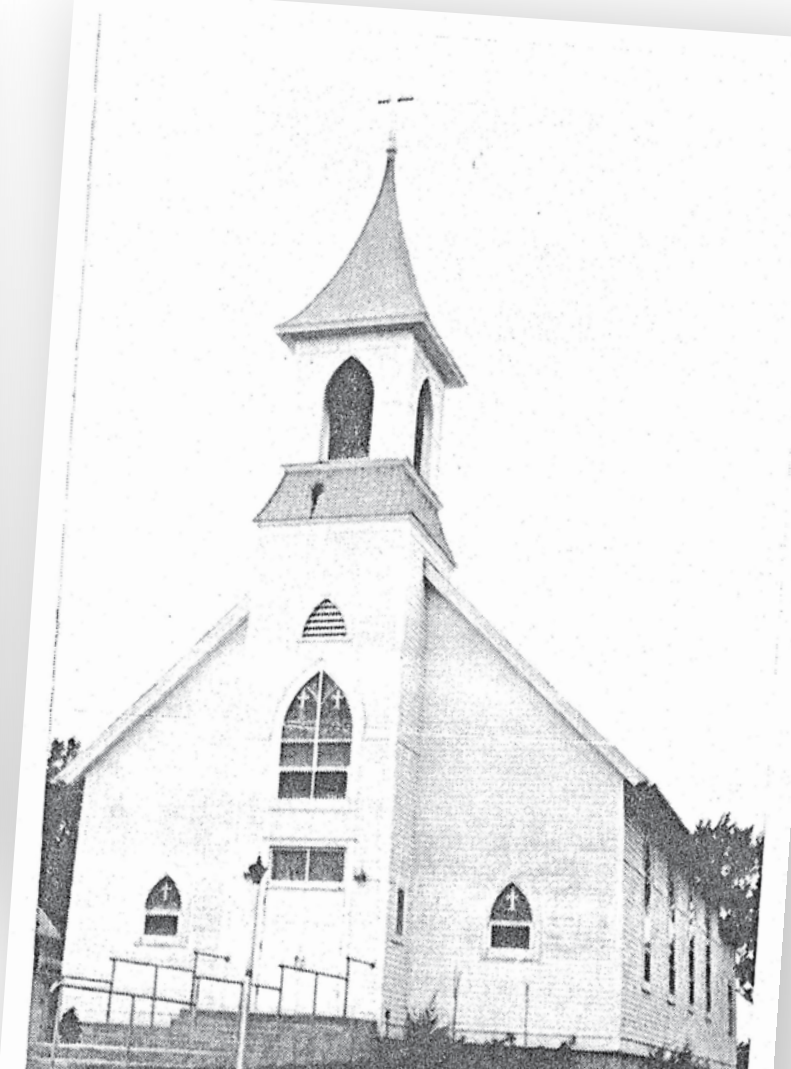


A SPECIAL OCCASION AT BENDON CHURCH, AUGUST 18, 1923. IT APPEARS TO BE A FIRST COMMUNION. COMPARE THE STEEPLE WITH THE ONE IN THE PICTURE BELOW. IT WAS LOWERED AT SOME POINT. NOTICE THE RECTORY TO THE RIGHT. IN ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION, IT FACED EAST. THE CEMETERY IS LOCATED SEVERAL HUNDREDS TO THE LEFT OF THE CHURCH AND DOWN A SLOPE. THE CASNET WAS CARRIED FROM THE CHURCH TO ITS PLACE OF REST BY THE PALLBEARERS.

Cavour St. Patrick



This is the first St. Patrick's Church at Cavour where Mass was first offered in 1883. It was torn down in 1918 and the new parish hall was erected.



Photograph above is the new church that was moved from Vienna in 1906. Under the direction of Rev. Cushman Moeck it was completely renovated.

St. Patrick's Parish 1883 - 1903

The history of St. Patrick's, Cavour, South Dakota, began in the days of oxen drawn wagons crossing the lush prairies of this area. Among the early travelers were Father Haire, a Missionary, who offered Mass for the first time at Byrnes Hotel November 9, 1884. Masses were later offered at the homes of Thomas Costello and Laurence Berg.

St. Patrick's was attended by Priests from Huron who were Father Mahoney, Father Maddock, Father Nolan, Father Shea and Father Desmond.

The first baptism was Mary Ann Barrett O'Brien, 1884. Also found on record is that Laura Coughlin Maag was baptized at the same time and the baptisms were in the Cavour school house. The first marriage was William Rudy and Catherine Sweeney on January 22, 1889, by Father S. Maddock, C. C. The first grave was Bridget Dunne, 1884 - 21 years old.

In 1886 the Church was built in Cavour. The first \$100.00 was subscribed for the new Church. Between 1884 and 1888 \$100.00 was subscribed and the building was to be 80 x 38'. At the same time \$700.00 was subscribed for a church to be built north of Yale, and to be known as St. Williams.

Lesenhuth made the plans for the Cavour Church. Matt Gabel and George Morse were the chief contractors for the building of the Church. Most all work was done by volunteer workers. Some of the names found were Pete Stokkes, John Bradderick, Bill Marsh, Jack Lacey, John Gabel, Frank Baye and Leo Balza.

In 1894 the cross was put on the Church by Roerig.

Harrold St. John



Harrold (Hughes County) St. John (the Evangelist)

Harrold had been visited as early as 1884 by Father Bernard H. Bunning of Pierre. He recorded 19 Paschal Communion for that year. The number of Catholics remained small. From 1888 to 1900 Father Ambrose Mattingly, OSB, came periodically from Stephan to offer holy Mass in different homes. In 1892 there were 25 Catholic families in Harrold. Through the efforts of Father J. J. O'Neill's father and of F. J. Laughlin, a Catholic church was erected in 1900.

Father E. J. Coyne (1928-31) and Charles Kappeman (1931-40) were pastors at St. John's. On Dec. 6, 1940, Father Kappeman was killed in an auto accident near Ipswich as he was returning from taking a priest to the train in Aberdeen. He was 39. St. John's then returned to mission status of Highmore. The 35 families had to be content with Mass offered in their church only twice a month. Nonetheless, they planned the erection of a more conventional church building, assisted by a donation of \$5,000 from the Extension Society. Guided by Father Richard J. Gorman, they proceeded in 1945 to erect a \$10,000 church edifice seating 225 persons. There was a full basement for parish activities. Sisters and students of Immaculate Conception Mission, Stephan, sang at the dedication services on Nov. 5, 1945. By 1947 the parish was debt-free. (CD)

Broadland St. Ann

BROADLAND, Beadle County

1885-1889 Attended from Huron
1889-1891 No record
1891-1894 Attended from Huron
1894-1901 No record
1901-1903 Attended from Huron
1903-1906 Attended from Woonsocket
1906-1915 Attended from Huron
1915-1922 No record
1922-1924 Attended from Huron

N.B. It was difficult to separate this place from Yale, St. William's so there might be a discrepancy in dates.

No further record.
1914 When Huron built its second church in 1913, Mass was offered once a month in their church; on other Sundays the people attended either at Miller or Stephan. Inf. Rev. Timothy Sexton, OSB, Stephan

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1922-1952 Attended from Huron

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In 1913 Huron built its second church, and in 1914 donated the stained glass windows from their first church to Broadland St. Ann's.

Cedar Blessed Sacrament

Cedar

Our Sister Parish was Cedar Catholic Church. The parish began in 1897. Mass was held in the homes sometimes. These families would also go to Stephan or come to St. Placidus Church for mass.

In July, 1922, Father Pius reported to the Extension Society that these 10 Catholic families needed a house of worship. The Extension Society sent \$500. Paul Blaseg donated some land. He was a carpenter. Many men helped him erect a church in 1923. It was located about 3 1/2 miles northwest of Kenneth Werdeles. There are several dozen graves there.

Mass was held at St. Placidus the first and third Sundays. Many Cedar folks came here. Then, on the second and fourth Sundays, St. Placidus parishioners went to Cedar Church. One priest served both churches. Cedar closed in the early 1950's.

The two Allar Societies worked together, donating to both bazaars and having picnics together. On July 19, 1940 Cedar came to Duncan and presented a home talent play. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

Blessed Sacrament

CEDAR, Hand County

1897-1964 Attended by the Benedictines of Stephan, 13 miles away.
1897-1922 Mass was offered in private homes. 10 Catholic families Rev. Pius Boehm to Msgr. Kelley of Cath. Ch. Extension Soc. July 19, 1922
1924 A Catholic church was erected at a cost of \$8,000. CCB gave \$500. People are Bohemian, Irish, or German. Mass was offered every two weeks.
1944 25 Catholic families--all white Mass was offered once a month in their church; on other Sundays the people attended either at Miller or Stephan. Inf. Rev. Timothy Sexton, OSB, Stephan
1964 No longer served by Stephan

Duncan St. Placidus Gann Valley



Beautiful cemetery at Saint Placidus!

Duncan (Hand County) St. Placidus

Approximately 30 Catholic families -- Bohemian, Irish and German -- lived in and around Duncan which was 26 miles from the nearest railroad -- a discontinued postoffice, 30 families, all farmers. For nearly 32 years I have visited Duncan monthly. On June 24, a tornado destroyed the church building. I ask for a donation. A church, costing about \$2,500.00, is a necessity.

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In answer to this request, the Society sent \$500 and a building was erected the same year. A priest from Stephan drove the 30 miles to Duncan once a month on a Sunday. These people could enjoy their new church only until 1928 when a fire destroyed it. With laudable perseverance the parishioners constructed their fourth church in 29 years.



Despite setbacks, Gann Valley Catholics have kept their faith

GANN VALLEY -- Neither tornadoes, droughts, fire or lightning has deterred the Catholics at St. Placidus Duncan Parish, located 13 miles northwest of Gann Valley. All of the above catastrophes and more have befallen the tiny country parish since it was founded in 1867. But the local people kept the faith, and on August 11 they joined Bishop Paul Dudley to celebrate their church's centennial.

St. Placidus Parish began in 1867 when the Rev. Pius Boehm, OSB, came from Stephan Indian Mission. He traveled 26 miles by horse and buggy to the Duncan area once a month. In the winter a sleigh was used.

The parish began with just a few families. Mass was said at Charles and Honora Cain's sod house, which was one and one-half miles southwest of the present church.

Ella Hayes Will, 94, the oldest parishioner, remembers attending Mass at the Cains and also recalls some of the first families in the church -- the Burns, Benahues and Gevers -- who would travel 10 miles from the northeast (these were relatives of Lottie Gevers Thompson).

Her parents, Richard and Mary Jane Hayes, also invited Catholic families to their home for Mass. The sod house included a room with an altar in it that was always ready for the Catholic priest to say Mass. Even after the first church was new church only until 1928 when a fire could to beat the church. The house, which is a quarter mile east of the present-day church, still stands.

Also during the early years, Mass was said at the Finckens located several miles southeast of Duncan church. The original house stood the test of time and most recently was the home of the Donald Speck family.

First Church Built
As more Catholic families moved to the area, it was decided to build a church. Patrick B. Hayes donated two and one-half acres of his homestead for a church and cemetery.

His daughter, Mrs. Mary Johnson, 88, Rapid City, remembers the sacrifices made by these early parishioners who gave whatever they could towards building the church. When the farmers would take a load of wheat to town to sell, they would bring back a load of lumber for the church, for example.

Mrs. Will was about six years old when she remembers the large work bees that would assemble to build the first church in 1868. Some of the family names of that period include the Schlates, Burns, Donahues, Harts, Hayes', Etbauer, Abernathy, Werdeles, Gevers, Kocs, Machovecs and Tuas.

During those early years, everyone worked together keeping the living money to pay expenses. Barn dances were held at the Richard Hayes' farm a quarter mile east of the church. Lanches were sold to raise money.

The "little church on the prairie" fell victim to a tornado on June 14, 1924, turning it so it faced east instead of south. The church was beyond repair, and plans were made to start all over again by building a new facility.

The basement was dug by using horses attached to digging equipment. The men held onto the handles while the horses pulled a load of dirt out.

Less than a year later, tragedy struck again. On July 1, 1926, lightning hit the church; fortunately, the beautiful altar and large cross of Jesus Christ were saved.

Evidence of the fire can be seen on the back of the altar which was blackened by the flames. The altar was given to the church by the Catholic Extension Society and is still part of the church.

The cross which withstood the 1926 disaster can also be seen today at the church. It was painted by George Werdel in his younger years. He now lives in Colorado.

The third church was built in 1927 and is currently in use today.

In its centennial year, the parish includes residents of Hand, Jerrald and Buffalo counties.