

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.

Bon Homme Sacred Heart

Emmet St. Joseph

BONHOMME, Bonhomme County Sacred Heart
 22 miles west of Yankton on the Missouri R.; 6 miles west of the county line.

1858 A party from Minnesota on its way to Pike's Peak was attracted to the excellent location and crossed over from the Nebraska side. They laid out the town of Bonhomme and put up some buildings.

1858, June-July U.S. troops from Ft. Randall drove out the trespassers on Indian land and burned their buildings. The would-be settlers crossed to the Nebraska and waited for developments.

1858 By the Treaty of 1858 with the Yankton Indians, Zenhier Remontre, in reward for having helped to induce the Indians to sign the treaty, was given a choice of a section of land. He chose the Bonhomme townsite. Peterson, HISTORY OF CHARLES MIX COUNTY, pp. 40f.

1859, June After the signing of the treaty the original party recrossed the Missouri and again took possession, retaining the original name. Briggs, FRONTIERS..., p. 360

1860 The first school house in the Dak. Ter. was erected. 10 pupils.

1862 Bonhomme County was organized, but during the Indian scare abandoned for some time.

1862, Sept. There were 27 families, a population of 200.

1869 Bonhomme the county seat, contains besides the county office, a stores, 2 hotels, a steam saw mill, a blacksmith shop, shoe store, wagon shop, and several other mechanic shops. The U.S. District Court for the 3rd Judicial District holds its sessions here. Foster, "A History..." SEC. XIV, 138 THE YANKTON PRESS, Aug. 10, 1870

1869 The old stage road passed through the village on its way to Ft. Randall.

1873 A courthouse and several other buildings are nearing completion. THE YANKTON PRESS, July 30, 1873

1879 The Catholics of Bonhomme have agreed to build a church 6 miles northwest of the village of Bonhomme. YANKTON PRESS & DAKOTIAN, June 21, 1879

1879 The Ch. Milw. & St. Paul failed to pass through Bonhomme and gave it its death blow. People moved with their buildings to the railroad. Peterson, p. 174 f.

1880-1881 Rev. A. Carolan was pastor and cared for three stations.

1880's Bishop Marty would come by stage from Yankton to Bonhomme and offer Mass in Cogan Hotel. He would then proceed west with a team accompanied by Bernard Cole. (Reported by Rose Hoyer, nee Cole)

1881-1894 Catholics were attended from Springfield
 1894 No further reference. The cemetery alone remains.

The first Catholic church in the area was Sacred Heart Church, built in 1879, less than five miles to the southeast of what was to become Tyndall, on a five-acre site donated for the purpose by Mrs. Mary Conroy Dwyer. Tyndall was founded along the Milwaukee Road in 1879. Catholics attended Mass at Sacred Heart Church whenever a priest stopped by. In 1881, when Father C. Hospenthal offered Mass in the Tyndall public school, the parishioners decided in favor of a church in the town. They delegated Steve Heitgen to ask the Bishop for permission to build a church in Tyndall. In the summer of 1883, a small church was erected. Sacred Heart Church was then closed and the building moved to Springfield; the cemetery still witnesses to this early place of worship, where the people had been privileged to have Christmas Mass, 1881, celebrated by Bishop Marty.⁵⁴



FIRST CHURCH AND RECTORY
 The first church was erected in 1874 on land that was donated by Patrick Reedy. The first resident pastor was the Most Reverend F. X. Lawler. There is little knowledge of the early beginnings of the parish, but it is known that in 1892 a two room school house was erected directly across the road from the Church and Rectory. It was known as the Emmet School, and the people of Emmet had high hopes that this school would one day be staffed by Sisters. However, this was not to be, and in 1908 the district was divided and the school house was moved to its present site, District 44, two miles northwest from the original site, and still is known as the Emmet School, but is no longer in use.

Directly south of the present Rectory, Miss Josephine Patterson, great aunt of Joseph Dolan, operated a general store and served as Postmistress. The parishioners picked up their supplies and mail when they came to church on Sundays. In 1901, when Miss Patterson retired, the Post Office was discontinued and Miss Patterson moved her house to 300 So. 1st Street, Beresford, where she lived until her death. The house is still in use today.

Father M. Traynor was appointed pastor in 1895. He found the first church to be inadequate and immediately urged the parishioners to provide better facilities. The people of Emmet responded to his plea and the present church was completed in 1896. The congregation was then one of the largest in South Dakota with the enviable number of sixty-four families. The Church in those days played a very important role in the lives of the settlers. The Church bell was tolled to announce a death in the parish - the Angelus was rung at noon and the settlers stopped their work to pray. This also "told them that it was time for the noon day meal".



Lakeport St. John the Baptist

Running Water St. Bernard

RUNNING WATER, Bonhomme County St. Bernard

1880, Jan. 17 YANKTON PRESS & DAKOTIAN
 The townsite of Running Water, the Missouri river terminus of the Springfield branch of the Milwaukee road, has been platted. The railroad depot has been finished.

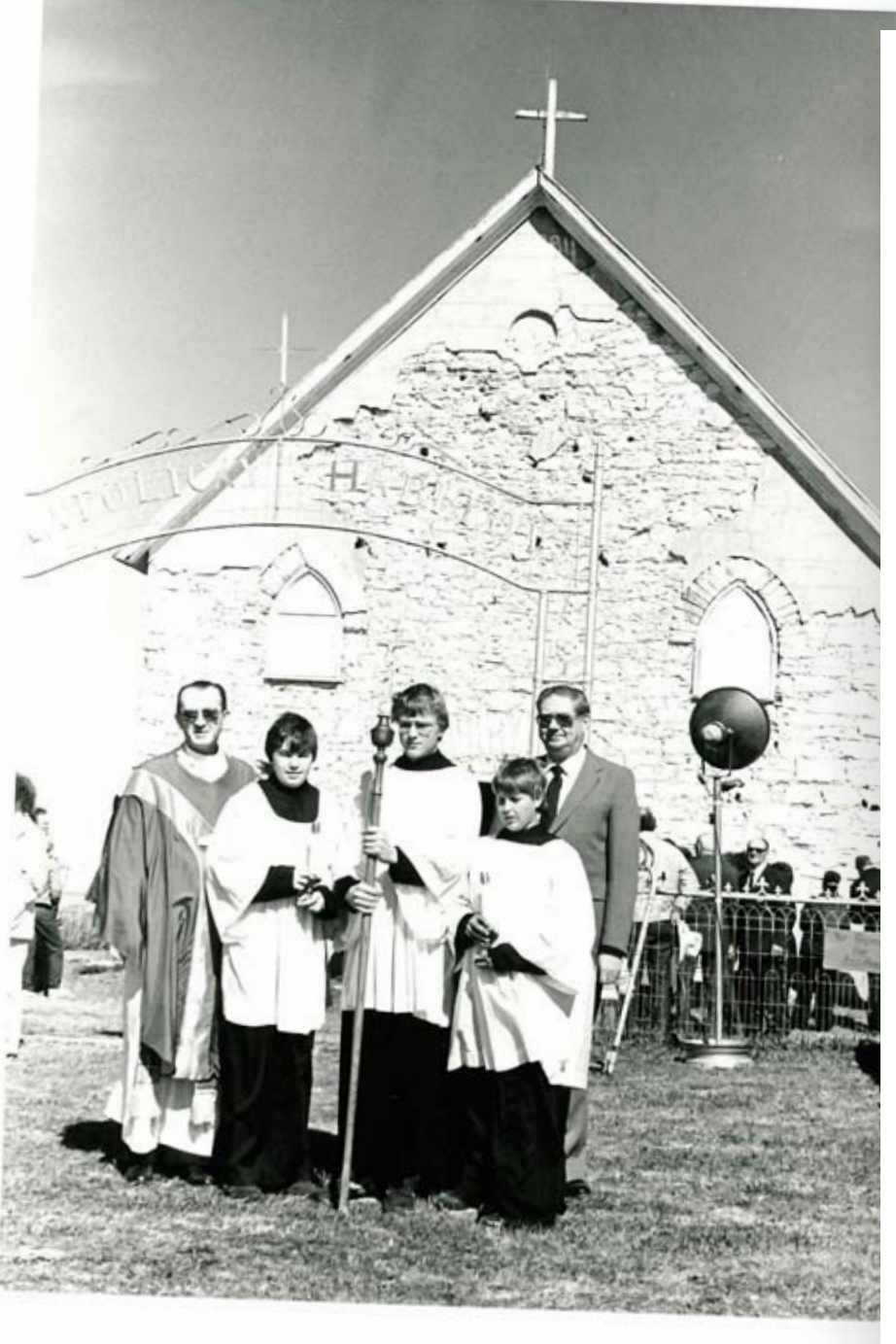
1881 St. Bernard Church was organized if not built. Attended from Springfield

1881-1928 Always a mission, it is about 10 miles up the river from Springfield.

1916-1921 Rev. J.J. McGrath came from Platte to offer Mass. "Historical Sketch of St. Peter the Apostle Church, Platte, S.D." p. 12

1928 The mission was closed.

* 1897 25 Catholic Irish families



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH HISTORY LAKEPORT, SOUTH DAKOTA, YANKTON COUNTY 1987

St. John the Baptist parish, Lakeport, South Dakota (10 miles west of Yankton) was started early in the 1870's on land owned by Frank Nedved. No resident priest was assigned to the parish and so the priest from Tabor came to serve the people. Around 1880 the Bishop wished to have the land and church assigned to the diocese. The people of the parish refused, the church was closed and then sold. The Nedved cemetery is still used and is all that remains at the site. The small frame church was moved to the Albert Mudloff farm west of Tabor and used for a granary for many years. The Czech Heritage Preservation Society of Tabor acquired the old church in 1984 and restored it to its original condition. It was moved to the Vancura memorial Park in Tabor.

The second St. John the Baptist Church was constructed of chalk rock. On December 23, 1881 a ten acre piece of land was donated for the construction of a new church by Anton L. and John P. Feiffer. Construction of the new chalk rock church was begun in the spring of 1882 and was finally completed for services in 1884. The first interior furnishings were all homemade. When the new church in Tabor was completed in 1899 the interior furnishings of the old chalk rock church were moved to the Lakeport church. There was no steeple to hold the bell so it sat in front of the church until the early 1940's when it was moved to Tabor and is housed in an attractive stone tower located just east of the church.

Weekly services were discontinued around 1907 and the church abandoned. In 1920 Vaclav Mrvik took pity on the church and raised money to help preserve it. In 1980 a group of interested people repaired and cleaned the church and made arrangements to hold a Mass each year in the church. Henry Adam, the Tabor church groundskeeper, also maintains the Lakeport church and grounds. A fund raising social preceded by a Mass has become an annual affair to help raise funds to restore the Lakeport Church. The church is under the jurisdiction of the St. Wenceslaus parish of Tabor. Bishop Paul Dudley celebrated Mass in the rural Lakeport church in 1987.

The continued existence of the Lakeport church is based entirely on contributions from persons interested in preserving the chalk rock church. Much more repair is needed and a little is done each year. The church with the smiling face as many people have commented as they drive by on Highway 50 can continue smiling for many more years now that it has been rediscovered.

Walshtown St. Brigit

WALSHTOWN, Yankton County St. Brigit
 Location: 4 miles east and 8 miles north of Yankton.

1881, Jan. 8 Rev. George Sheehan took charge. Among the early settlers were: George Sigel, Barney Slowey, Joseph Meff, Anton Klimesch, Francis Walsh, John Kelly, Michael Gavin, Neil Maloy, John Baptist Ladlanc, Thomas Noonan, Patrick McGillick, Otto Hirsch, John Ryan, William Niescher, Bernard Maloy, Francis Buck, Robert Marshall, Joseph Gable, Maurice Fitzgerald, Thomas Hickey, Francis Riseman.

1881, Jan. 29 YANKTON P & DAKOTIAN
 Catholics have taken the initiative towards erecting a church next summer. The German Evangelicals intend to build house of worship near Walshtown.

1881, May 31 YANKTON P & DAKOTIAN
 A pony raffle for aid in the erection of the new church in Walshtown was won by Mrs. Duff of Yankton. The new Catholic church is to be located upon a hill on a site of 20 acres donated for church and cemetery. A pastoral residence will follow.

1881, May A number of persons from Walshtown were confirmed by Bishop Marty in Yankton because the new church is not yet completed.

1881, Sept. 29 P & D
 On Thursday, the 29th, the cornerstone for the new church of St. Brigit was laid by Bishop Marty, assisted by Rev. George Sheehan.

1881, Dec. 6 P & D
 The new St. Brigit Church was dedicated by Father O'Donnell, a priest of Galway, Ireland, who is visiting Father Sheehan.

1881 A rectory was built after the erection of the church building.

1882, June Bishop Marty confirmed a class of 23 persons, including 5 adults.

1883, Oct. 3 St. Brigit Parish was incorporated with Rev. George Sheehan signing as pastor.

1884 Walshtown was one of 13 postoffices in Yankton county.

1890, Nov. 9 Bishop Marty confirmed 16 persons.

1892, SCHEMATTERUS, 1892 In Walshtown there were 4 German and 23 English (Irish) families. Pastor: Rev. George Hepperle. Stations: Jamesville, Mayfield, Idylwilde

1896, Nov. 28 Rev. Thomas W. Kearney, pastor. Missions: Mayfield, Jamesville, and Idylwilde.

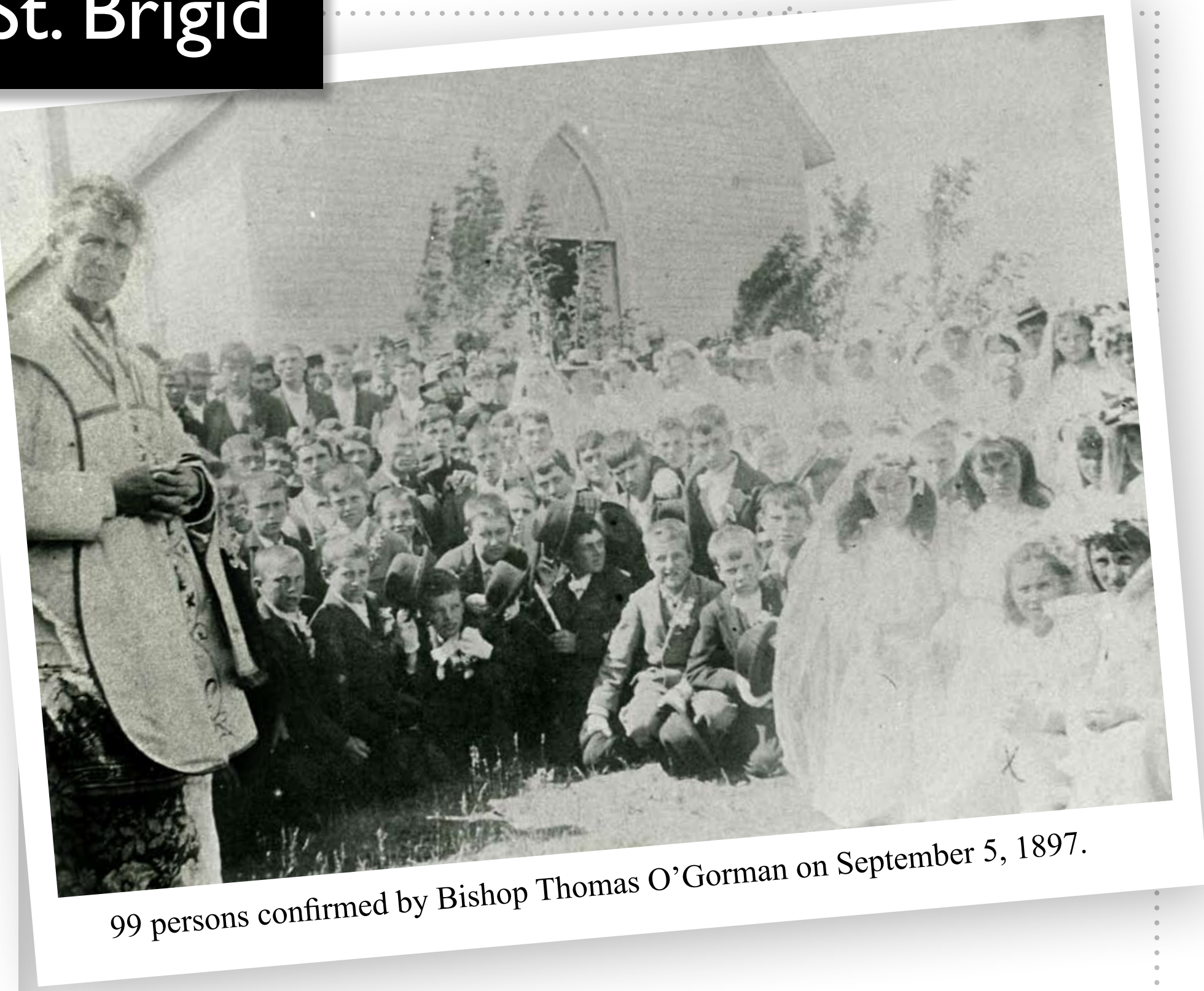
1896-1897 Baptisms are recorded at Yankton, Nov. 8, 1896 and June 28, 1897.

1897, Sept. 5 Bishop O'Gorman confirmed 99 persons.

1901-1902 Catholics were attended from Yankton.

1902 The Irish do not usually take kindly to farming so a number of families drifted to Yankton. Walshtown was no longer able to support a resident priest because of this loss. Inf. by Rev. Patrick O'Connor

1902 Mayfield succeeded Walshtown



99 persons confirmed by Bishop Thomas O'Gorman on September 5, 1897.

Childstown Idylwilde

Childstown became Idylwilde

Jamesville Sigel

Jamesville became Sigel