

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

75th

DIAMOND JUBILEE

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

1889-1964

SATURDAY and SUNDAY

AUGUST 15th and 16th, 1964

WHITE SWAN, WASHINGTON



HISTORY OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH

White Swan, Washington

The history of St. Mary's Church, White Swan, had its beginning seventy-five years ago. In July of the year 1889, the Yakima Indians held a meeting in North Yakima. At that meeting, Charley Mann publicly gave four acres of his land for the erection of a Church. The Right Rev. Aegidius Junger, D.D., was the Bishop of Nesqually at the time.

A note in an old expense account kept by the Rev. Victor Garrand, S.J., Superior of St. Joseph's Mission and Church at North Yakima, would seem to indicate that the Bishop was present at the meeting and publicly accepted the land in the name of God for the Church. The Yakimas agreed to furnish the material and necessary man power for the building of a Church. Early in the year 1890 they completed a frame building about 300 yards south-east of the present Catholic Burial Grounds at White Swan. This served as a Church for the Yakimas for thirty years.

On May 15, 1929, negotiations were begun for the acquirement of a new location for the erection of a new church. Simon Goudie had offered two and one-half acres of his land for a new Church in exchange for the four acres on which the old church stood. It was not until March 1, 1930, however, that word was received from the Department of the Interior approving the exchange. Work was begun immediately on the new structure. The Indians of the Yakima Tribe furnished much of the material and much of the help which went into the building of the Church. On July 8, 1930, the Most Rev. R. J. Crimont, S.J., Bishop of Alaska, dedicated the new Church to Mary the Sorrowful Mother.

Father Michael Simpson is at present Pastor of St. Mary's Church, White Swan. He succeeded Father John N. O'Dea who was the first Pastor of St. Mary's.

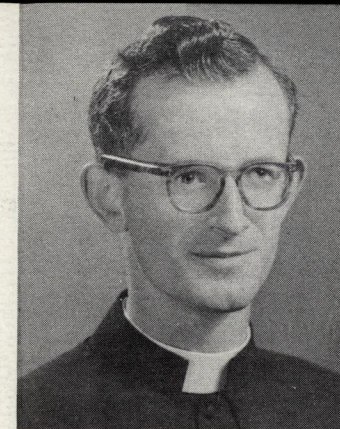
Program

SATURDAY

- 2:00 p.m.—Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Band Concert
- Viewing of Indian Crafts and Displays
- Indian Pony Races
- Games and Contests
- Swimming
- 5:00 p.m.—Indian Dancing Contest
- 7:30 p.m.—Mass in St. Mary's Church
- 9:00 p.m.—Dance at Grade School Gym

SUNDAY

- 8:00 to 11:00 a.m., Breakfast at St. Mary's Parish Hall
Served by St. Mary's Men's Club
- 12 Noon—Outdoor Mass, at School Grounds
Celebrant: Most Rev. Joseph P. Dougherty
Bishop of Yakima
- Speaker: Rev. John Goudy, S.J.
Gonzaga Prep., Spokane
Former Pastor, White Swan
- 1:00 p.m.—Viewing of Indian Crafts and Displays
Exhibition of Indian Encampment
- 2:00 p.m.—Venison Barbecue — Outdoor Picnic, courtesy of Anniversary Comm.
- 4:00 p.m.—Finals, Indian Dancing Contest
- 5:00 p.m.—Indian Pony Races, Games and Contests
- 6:00 p.m.—Historical Pageant
- 7:00 p.m.—Closing Ceremony and Farewell message by Rev. Michael P. Simpson



ST. MARY'S CHURCH

P. O. BOX 406
WHITE SWAN, WASHINGTON

August 15, 1964

Dearly Beloved,

Seventy-five years ago the Holy Faith was brought to the Yakima Indian people in the White Swan area, when at their request a Church was built in which they could worship God. Your ancestors welcomed the first priests who came among you to preach the Holy Gospel. They embraced the faith, had their children baptized and instructed, and were themselves truly devoted to our holy mother the Church.

On this occasion, as your Pastor, I wish to congratulate you, and to invite you one and all together with your friends from the neighboring Tribes to join us here in White Swan for the celebration of our Diamond Jubilee. To non-Indian people of the area, and outside, to whom we are deeply indebted for their unbounded generosity, I also extend a very warm invitation.

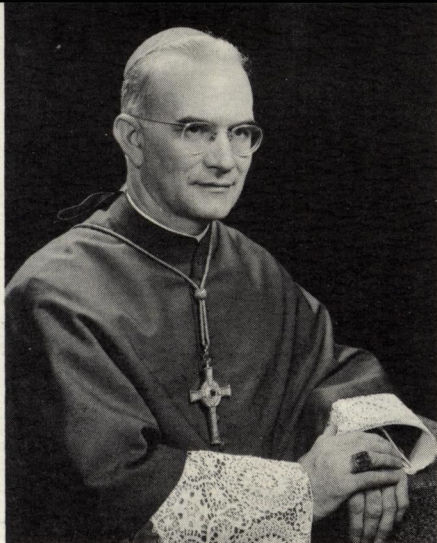
While the celebration will be one of many features, it will be first and foremost an act of gratitude to God for His goodness and for the blessings which He has showered upon our people in the White Swan area during the past seventy-five years.

Our next duty is to render an act of thankfulness to those who have gone before us, who from the beginning until now have made this day possible. Down through the pages of history, on through the moldiness of years, touched with the glory of the Son of God, march the figures that have made this day possible. Out of the life of yesterday, out of the annals of things gone by, they step into our lives today.

Amid the joys of this Diamond Jubilee, it is meet and just that we pause reverently to recall the noble men and women now departed. May they sleep the sleep of peace! May the dead from their high places near God look down upon us and bless us. May their heirs carry on their noble enterprise. It is their duty and their privilege to prove themselves worthy in the present and in the future years.

Let us all then, in this year of Jubilee rededicate ourselves to the design of Divine Providence, and in the tradition of our forefathers be determined to preserve our generation, strong in Faith, loyal to God and His Church.

Sincerely in Christ,
FATHER MICHAEL SIMPSON
Pastor



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF YAKIMA
LIBERTY BUILDING
P. O. BOX 901
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

THEIR FAITH IS LIKE A DIAMOND

The Diamond Jubilee of St. Mary's Church, White Swan, commemorates the abiding faith of the Catholics among the Yakima Indians. It was their faith that prompted them to ask their Bishop of seventy-five years ago for a church where they could worship God. They donated the land, provided the materials, and did the work themselves. Also to the credit of their faith they donated the property for the present St. Mary's Church to replace the first church which had become inadequate after forty years of service, and again they contributed materials and much of the labor for the new church. On this day of jubilee the Catholics of the White Swan parish offer thanksgiving to God and to the memory of their forefathers for the faith which was bequeathed to them from the days of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate whom Bishop A. M. A. Blanchet of Walla Walla sent to this region 117 years ago. Additionally they have a special feeling of gratitude in their hearts today for the sixty-nine years of service which the Jesuit Fathers rendered them in their mission church under the direction of the Bishops of Nesqually, Seattle, and Yakima.

To reward the faith of the Yakima Indians, it pleased me six years ago to elevate their mission to the status of a parish with a resident pastor. And the generous faith of the Yakimas finds its reward today in the presence of Father Michael Simpson, who lives among them as their pastor and who gives voice and gesture to Christ the High Priest, Who continues His life on earth through the priesthood.

The non-Indian members of St. Mary's Parish are the grateful beneficiaries of the faith of the Indians. On their part they have also contributed much to the development of the faith within the parish. Thus the Yakimas and the newcomers are all one in Christ before God's altar.

Over these seventy-five years our Blessed Lady of Sorrows, to whom the church is dedicated, has looked kindly upon the members of her church at White Swan whose faith has been like a diamond. It is strong and lasting, and it shines for all men to see.

May the faith remain and increase among the Yakimas and all who worship God in St. Mary's Church, White Swan.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

James P. Blanchet
Bishop of Yakima

Feast of the Assumption
August 15, 1964



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Use of School Grounds . . . Mt. Adams School District

Refreshments available on School Grounds
Served by St. Mary's Guild

Sourwine-Merritt Funeral Home

Owned and Operated by John S. Merritt

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WAPATO, WASHINGTON



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