

A short account of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

1860~~9~~ 1910

To Commemorate the Golden Jubilee of their permanent establishment on the mainland of British Columbia.

...The Congregation was founded at Aix in Provence, France by the Rev. Charles Joseph Eugene de Mazenod, a distinguished young priest, the last male descendant of a noble family of Provence.

The labors of the Congregation were at first confined to the poor humble peasants of the south of France, who as a result of the French revolution of 1789-1793 were buried in ignorance and spiritual neglect. Their success was marvellous, but their numbers too few to meet the constant demands for their service. In the year 1841, however, an occurrence, quite unexpected, led in the designs of Divine Providence, to the rapid increase and spread of the Oblates of Mary, not only in France but also in America and various other parts of the world. In that year Bishop Bourget, of Montreal, begged the Founder to send some of his missionaries to Canada to evangelize the Indians scattered along the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the banks of the Ottawa and the shores of the Hudson Bay. In response the venerable Monseigneur de Mazenod sent him a little colony of missionaries. This was the first step in the work of foreign missions which the Oblate Fathers now carry on so extensively and with so much success.

In 1847 a similar request came to Monseigneur de Mazenod from Bishop A.M. Blanchet, then at the head of the diocese of Walla Walla in Oregon. His wish was likewise acceded to and the Rev. Father Pascal Ricard, superior to the band, Casimir Chirouse, Charles Pandosy and George Blanchet, accompanied by Brother Vernet, set out for their long and wearisome journey across the American continent, reaching Walla Walla on the 5th of September, 1847. Other Fathers and Brothers followed them at short intervals. Several

missions, in what is now the State of Washington date from this period. The mission of Yakima was founded in October, 1847; that of Olympia in May, 1848. In March, 1852, a mission was also established among the Cayouses, and later in September, 1858, one among the Snohomish tribe at a place where Tulalip now stands.

The work of the Oblate Fathers on Puget Sound was a difficult but very successful one. It was, in the strictest sense of the word, a pioneer undertaking among roaming native tribes, whose survivors cherish to this day the memory of the old missionaries who have long since gone to their reward. It may be said here in passing that it was Father Casimir Chirouse, O.M.I. who assisted old Chief Seattle in his dying moments and afterward conducted the funeral service of the church over his remains. The Metropolis of Washington will forever perpetuate the name of the old chief.

When in 1857 the Oblates were called to British Columbia, the headquarters for their missions were transferred from Olympia to Esquimalt, near Victoria, on Vancouver Island and as opportunity allowed the Fathers gradually withdrew from their missions on the Sound and began to labor with undiminished zeal in the diocese of Bishop Modeste Demers, titular of Vancouver Island. His diocese then comprised the whole of what is known as British Columbia.

From Esquimalt as a centre, Rev. Father d'Herbomez, afterwards Bishop d'Herbomez, directed the various missions and supplied both the mainland and island with Fathers and Brothers. The mission on Okanagan Lake was founded in 1857 and at that time the only inhabitants were half naked savages who led a miserable life. In 1860 the Rev. Father Fouquet, O.M.I. established the first mission on the Fraser River on a small village which had been built by the earliest white settlers who had been attracted there at the time of the gold excitement in 1850. This

village has since developed into the thriving town of New Westminster.
It was also Father Fouquet, O.M.I. who founded another mission
thirty miles farther up the Fraser at St. Mary's Mission. These two
establishments were intended as centers of civilization for the five
thousand Indians scattered along the banks of the great waterway.

Note--our friends and readers will be pleased to know that the Rev.
Father Fouquet, O.M.I. is still in our midst and actively at work.
He has now reached the ripe age of eighty and continues.....to
minister to several churches in the Fraser Valley.....
(rest of page mutilated excepting at edges.

notes from Mission centennial

Fr. Joseph Diomed

Charley Mann , meetin in N^W h Yakima July, 1889 (offered land)

4 acres. Rt. Rev. Aegidius Junger, D.D. Bishop of Nesqually

St. Joseph mission and church.

Church completed early in 1890, 300 yards southeast of Catholic graveyard.

May 15, 1929 negotiations began for exchange with Simon Goudy

who offered 2 1 2 acres in exchange for old.

Exchange f~~0000~~ confirmed March 1, 1930 by Dept of Interior, work begun by Indians. July 08~~k~~ 8, 1930, Most Rev. R.J. Crimont S.J.

Bishop of Alaska dedicated the church to Mary the Sorrowful Mother

Fr. Louis B. Egan, SJ, died Sept 1945.

Rev. Clare Hayes SJ of Marquette in charge of mission until 1947

secular pastor

1867 Rev. L.N. St Onge, Vancouver, sent to re-start Ahtanum St Joseph's

Sent by Bishop Rt. Rev A.M.A. Blanchet

St O left for west from St . Cesaire Quebec, to missionary among Indians

in 1868 blocks cut of wood, letters, printed to teach Indians.

Returned in 1870. Ill. Pack Canada, Europe. Died Nov. 26, 1901

6 feet 4 inches. March, 1868 brought bundle of 40 or 50 fruit trees

Indians came from reservation camped,

St. Onge reopened Mission St J Sept 1867, 10 years after departure of

Father Pandosy, OMI

St O succeeded by Fr. Joseph Caruana

Victor Garrand, Yakima City, moved St. Mission to North Yakima in 1886 and St. Joseph abandoned.

Further Urban Gr_ussi, traveled among Indians, far north, down to Co umbia.

Father Louis Egan, pastor for 15 years at SJ until his death in 1945

Logs were cut, brought out of hills by teams to sawmill where partly worked and then brought to site. Carpenters worked August 1889 under Joseph. In addition following helped:

Charles Wannassy, Albert Andrew, Ambrose Mark, John Mark,
Women workers: Mrs. Catherine Mann and Barbara Mann, Mrs. Lucy Mann, Mrs. Julia Lube, Mrs. Prexade Homi. Completed in 1890

At that time Father Gerrand pastor at St. Joseph.

Mother Drexel of Philadelphia ~~for the~~ furnished nails, paints, windows for the church.

Bishop Juniger (sp) of Nisqually diocese (Seattle) furnished the bell. Statues of Sacred Heart, Mary and St. Joseph

Catholic Indian Bureau donated air organ.

St. Onge had Stations of Cross sent from Montreal. Edward Collville framed them

When Father Gerrand left Father Griva came, in his memoirs said ~~the~~ church was not finished completely in 1891.

Louis Mann made three altars and erected stations of Cross

The mission was 66 x 24 feet and was 14 feet high. Small house near creek, where first resident priest of White Swan lived.

Learned language during this period and Griva established mission at Moxee 1898, Prosser 1899

Work begun on new church May 15, 1929 and completed and dedicated July 8, 1930. Rev. Edward M. Griva S.J. responsible for Holy Rosary, Moxee, 1899, and Sacred Heart, Prosser, completed 1901 (note difference in dates) St. Peter Claver, of Wapato; St. Patrick's Granger, 1906; St. Aloysius, Toppenish, 1909; Sunnyside, St. Joseph's 1910.

Rev. Victor Garrand S.J. established Holy Trinity at Goldendale, 1884 1890 moved the headquarters of his work from St. Joseph's Mission at Yakima to St. Mary's at White Swan (for Indian mission work)

On Sunday, Feb. 3, 1957, Bishop Joseph P. Dougherty of Yakima blessed the new parish.

Jesuits (Society of Jesus) who have served St. Mary's (not necessarily stationed there) F.X. Laure, Alex Diomedi, Al Ragaru, E. Griva, Henry Urebosch Louis Egan, Clare Hayes, Frank Schoenberg, John Goudie, Francis McGuigan, ~~Mick~~ Michael Collins,

(From records of Gonzaga, Oregon Province Archives at Gonzaga.

Original Stations of Cross in present church; Organ is in California; same altar. Organ ~~is~~ owned by Mrs. Paul Koenig of Tillamook, Oregon.

Mrs. Esther Harvard is present organ player, she played the old one.

White Swan--Catholic

Notes: St. Mary's Catholic Church (re: historical background) Aug 1/64

White Swan

Rev. Michael J. Simpson

Pastor at White Swan two years. Came there from St. Aloysius Church, Toppenish where he had been pastor two years. In U.S. 4 years Ordained by Bishop John Scanlon, auxiliary bishop of Honolulu at all Hallow's College, Dublin, Ireland, came directly to Toppenish. Unfamiliar with Indians, didn't know what to expect.

St. Mary's given status of parish six years ago, Ahtanum ridge on North; S. mcoe Ridge on south; east to Brown Road, west to West of Cascades. Area roughly 100 families .

Original Mission was on Toppenish Creek, one-fourth mile southwest of present church, served by Jesuits. Account of Charlie Mann. Four acres of his land. Bishop Juniger, (bishop of Nisqually)

Rev. Victor Garrand, S.J., supervisor of St. Joseph Church, Yakima, accepted land. Completed in 1890.

Completed frame building, 300 yards southeast of present graveyard.

There such names of families as Northover, Adams, Goudy, Mann In 1929 Simon Goudy property of two and one-half acres exchanged , with approval of Department of Interior March 4, 1930

Indian families helped build. On July 8, 1930, Rev. R.J. Crimont S.J., bishop of Alaska, dedicated the new church.

Louis Mann, son of Charles Mann, lived over the hill at Ahtanum, his father owned original mission property.

Meeting held last part of 1888.

Indian carpenter, Joseph Yahotalwit (Patrick) and others helped build. No one worked for pay. Work begun January, 1889 Louis Mann recalled. Capt. Charles Mann, Louis, son; James Goudy, S. mcoe Jim, Charlie Selistah, Laurent Barlow, Louis Ambrose, Francis Eneas, Morris Smith, James Infedel,