

December 4, 1920

Father Joseph Bogner



Father Bogner was born June 1, 1879, in Bavaria, Germany. When he was six years old, his parents moved to Oklahoma and then to Andale. After studying for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephium in Columbus, Ohio, he was ordained on June 9, 1906. He celebrated his first Mass at St. Joseph Church in Andale on June 14.

He was appointed the first resident pastor at St. Mary, Garden City and cared for the mission stations at Lakin, Syracuse, Folsom and Ulysses (1906-09). During his first pastorate he built two churches and started a third: St. Anthony, Lakin, and St. Raphael, Syracuse (both in 1907), and St. Mary, Folsom (1910).

In his next pastorate, he served St. Mary, Moline, with the missions St. Paul's, Eureka, and St. John, Hamilton (1910-12).

Father Bogner was appointed pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary, Windthorst, in October of 1912. He completed the church there dedicated by Bishop Hennessy on June 12, 1913. He served the Windthorst community for nearly eight years. He died at St. Francis Hospital in Wichita on Dec. 4, 1920, from complications following an operation for stomach cancer.

Msgr. Bernard Schmiehausen celebrated the funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church, Andale. A large Windthorst delegation was present. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

During Father Bogner's priesthood, he suffered greatly from illness. "It is said he contracted stomach troubles in the work of his first missions, the long severe fasts, the irregular hours, the endless trips to and fro, can undermine even a strong and rugged frame." (AR Dec. 11, 1920)