

July 25, 1924

Father John Huna



Father Huna was born July 12, 1869 at Purkarec, near Budweis, Bohemia (Czechoslovakia). He was ordained Jan. 15, 1893 by Rt. Rev. Louis Mary Fink, OSB, bishop of Leavenworth, at Kansas City, Kans.

In his first assignment he served as an assistant at St. Francis de Hieronymo, Osage Mission (now St. Paul).

He was appointed pastor at St. John Nepomucene, Pilsen in 1894 and also served the Marion County mission stations of Marion, Mud Creek and Tampa. During this pastorate he erected a churches at Pilsen and Tampa.

In 1900 he would begin his 24-year pastorate at St. Ann, Olmitz. He assumed the additional responsibilities of serving Holy Trinity, Timken, as a mission in 1911.

During his pastorate at Olmitz, the rectory was built and the parish school was started. On Jan. 27, 1913, a fire of unknown origin broke out and reduced the frame church and school buildings to ashes. Through Father Huna's leadership a school of native stone (1913) and a brick church were constructed (1914).

“(Father Huna) is master of the Bohemian, German and English languages... and he has often made addresses on occasions not with the strict limits of his professional interests. During the war (World War I) he was one of the popular speakers in Barton County in behalf of Liberty loans and Red Cross campaigns.” (*A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, William E. Connelley, 1919)

Father Huna died July 25, 1924, at St. Rose Hospital in Great Bend following an operation for appendicitis.

Bishop Schwertner celebrated the funeral at St. Ann's Church. Burial was in the parish cemetery.