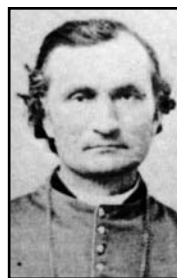


February 13, 1888

Archbishop Jean Baptiste Lamy



Archbishop Lamy was born in Lempdes, Puy-de-Dôme, France, on Oct. 14, 1814. He was ordained during Christmas week of 1838. He obtained permission to come to the U.S., when Bishop John Purcell was recruiting for the Cincinnati diocese. He worked in southern Ohio and northern Kentucky for about 10 years.

When New Mexico became part of the United States after 1846, the American bishops petitioned the Holy See for a bishop for the Great Southwest. Pope Pius IX created the Vicariate Apostolic of New Mexico and named Father Lamy its first bishop. He was consecrated in St. Peter's Cathedral in Cincinnati on Nov. 4, 1850.

He was elevated to archbishop in 1875 and served the Archdiocese of Santa Fe until he retired Aug. 18, 1885. He died Feb. 13, 1888 at the age of 73. He was buried in a crypt under the sanctuary floor in St. Francis Cathedral in Santa Fe.

Archbishop Lamy traveled through Kansas over the Santa Fe Trail approximately 11 times between 1850 and 1880. His trip in 1867 is particularly significant.

The archbishop was returning to his diocese after an *ad limina* visit to Pope Pius IX and a successful recruiting tour in Europe and the United States. His party included 17 priests and Sisters.

On July 24, 1867, a Sister of Loretto died of fright after the wagon train in which they were traveling was attacked by Indians on the north bank of the Arkansas River at Cimarron Crossing in southwest Kansas. Sister Mary Alphonso Thompson is buried in an unmarked grave somewhere in what is now eastern Finney County.