

January 11, 1942

Father Albert Weikmann



Father Weikmann was born in Grosskuchen, Württemberg, Germany on Feb. 10, 1850. After completing his early education in Germany, he came to the United States and entered St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee, Wisc., in 1867. After Father John Cunningham, V.G., visited the seminary and spoke of “the ennobling work in behalf of the Indians and the pioneers of the new west,” he pledged his labor to the Vicariate of Indian Territory.* He was ordained by Bishop Fink in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Leavenworth, on Aug. 27, 1872.

His first parish was St. Joseph Settlement (Irish Creek) in Marshall County. He later served at Hanover, Shawnee Town, Rock Creek, Humboldt, (North) Ellinwood, and Halstead. “He used to cover limitless stretches on horseback. He said Mass in box cars, dugouts, sod houses, stores, warehouses, depots and tents.” (AR Jan. 16, 1942)

Father Weikmann was pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, North Ellinwood, from 1900 to 1912. During that time an addition was constructed that included the apse and sacristies, and the nave was replastered and frescoed.

After his pastorate at Halstead, Father Weikmann retired to Wichita in 1927. He died on Jan. 11, 1942 at the age of 92. Bishop Winkelmann celebrated his funeral at St. Mary’s Cathedral on Jan. 16, 1942. He was buried at Calvary Cemetery in Wichita.

*In 1932 Sister Mary Raphaella Tallmadge, BVM, wrote her master’s dissertation entitled “Father Weikmann, Missionary of the Kansas Frontier.” She conducted 13 interviews with Father Weikmann in documenting his labors.