

April 10, 1941

Father August Zink



Father Zink was born Nov. 13, 1862 in St. Nicholas, Ind. He was ordained July 2, 1893 by the Most Rev. John Foley, bishop of Detroit, for the Cleveland diocese. He served four parishes during his 22 years in Ohio.

In 1915, he came to Kansas in the hope of bettering his health and was accepted by Bishop Schwertner.

Father Zink was appointed the first resident pastor of “new” St. Joseph, a country parish located three miles west of Offerle. He lived in the sacristy while a rectory was being built. He served this parish until the sudden death of Father Joseph Bogner at nearby Windthorst.

Father Zink’s pastorate at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Windthorst, extended from 1921 to 1939. During this time he served as principal of the school, built a new convent for the teaching Sisters (1922), began high school education and constructed a new two-story brick school (1927). Bishop Schwertner dedicated the new school on May 23, 1928 during the parish’s Golden Jubilee celebration.

“Six feet tall, Father Zink’s big-boned, robust-looking body gave no indication of the ills that afflicted him; neither did he complain. He did his work faithfully, albeit towards the close of his active career sickness had slowed him down until the celebration of the Mass became for him a physical test.” (AR April 18, 1941)

In 1939, Father Zink’s health forced him to resign. He lived at Mt. San Rafael Hospital in Trinidad, Colo., for about a year and a half before he died on April 10, 1941, at the age of 79. His funeral was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church in Trinidad by the Jesuit Fathers stationed there. Burial was in the Trinidad Catholic Cemetery.