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**HOLY ROSARY CHURCH  
DEDICATED OCT. 4, 1891**

By the Rt. Rev. A. M. Mosler,  
V. G., now of Havelock

The first Catholic Bohemian known to reside in Plattsmouth was the Rev. Francis Bobal, pastor of St. John's church. He had charge of all Bohemian settlements in the state, which he used to visit in turn on the fourth and fifth Sundays of the month. In September, 1875, he was transferred to Omaha.

The next Bohemian resident was Joseph Hrasky, who came in 1875 and was followed by John Svoboda, John Nashil, John Korecky, James Skoumal, Joseph Kalasek, Joseph Novotny, Anton Kanka, John Fiala, John Krouhlik, Frank Rezanina and Andrew Nitka in 1876, and Thomas Janda in 1877. These had been employed at the stone quarry at LaPlatte, and moved to Plattsmouth. These and others who came later formed part of St. John's parish until 1891. Bohemian priests were invited once or twice a year to administer to the spiritual needs of these people. Among them were Fathers W. Kocarnik, O. S. B., from Omaha and Plasi in 1878; T. Turk, S. J., from Wilber, 1880-82; Philip Maly, S. J., Wilber, 1882-84.

In June, 1884, the Rev. Jordan Stutz was made assistant at St. John's for the German and Bohemian members until October, 1885, when Father Maly came again from October, 1885, to September, 1889, followed in October and November by the Rev. Joseph Koutek, who agitated for the building of a church.

The Rev. Emmanuel Bouska next came from Crete from 1889 to 1891 and from Wahoo until January, 1892. Under his directions, three lots in Duke's Addition to Plattsmouth were bought from John Svoboda for \$300 and a frame church, 75 by 40, was erected, costing about \$2,400. The church was dedicated October 4, 1891, by Bishop Bonacum and the congregation separated from St. John's to begin its own career.

The Rev. Mathias Bor succeeded Father Bouska at Wahoo and visited here regularly from 1892 to 1899, when the Rev. W. Pokorney of Crete was given charge until February 1, 1902. Then the Rev. Joseph Bartik, first resident pastor, had a rectory, 20 by 20, erected in 1902, costing about \$800. When he left March 1, 1905, the charge was given to the Rev. John Novotny of Prague, who stayed two months, and then to the Rev. Anton Bednar of Crete until February 1, 1906. The Rev. J. Hancik was the second resident pastor, serving from that time until November 16, 1908. Then the Rev. M. A. Shine, pastor of St. John's, was given charge of both parishes from that time until May 3, 1910.

The Rev. John Vlcek was the third resident pastor, staying until October 15, 1919. The rectory was enlarged to 28 by 20 at this time and gas, city water and electricity were installed, the interior of  
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