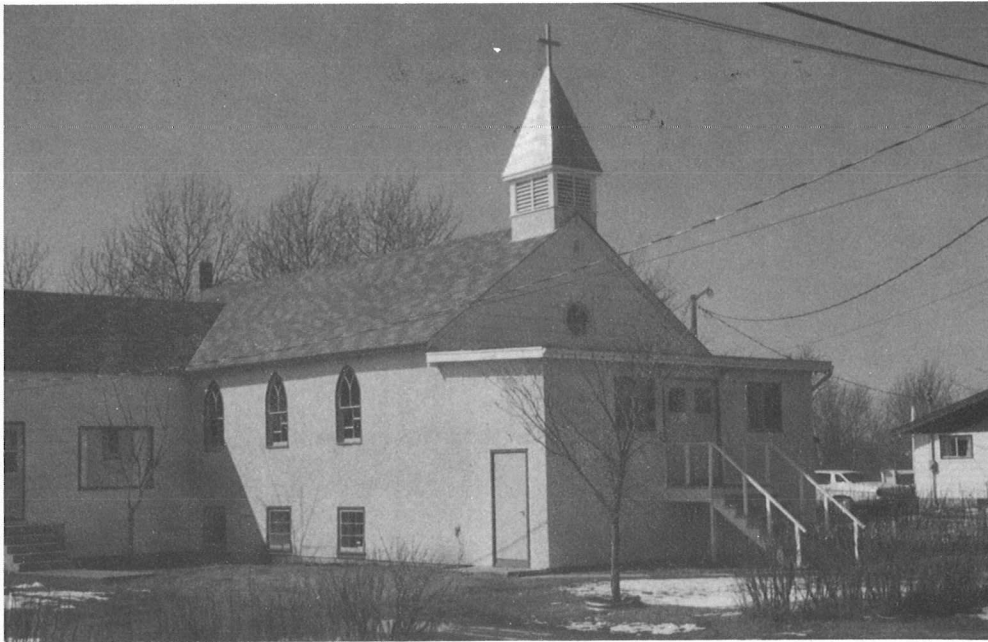




Amaranth Gospel Mission, 1981.

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

submitted by Tom Thompson



In the early 1950s there was a desire by Catholics in the area to build a church in Amaranth and have a priest in residence. Pearl Thordason, a devout Catholic and her husband, Gisli, donated land to the north end of town (part of sec. 2 - twp 19 - Rge 10 W) for the construction of a church. Much of the material that was eventually to go into the church came from a church that was being torn down in Sandy Bay. The following are excerpts from a dairy kept for the first few years of the Church in Amaranth in its beginnings.

May 23, 1953

On the twenty-second day of May, 1953, Rev. Father P.E. Tetrault, O.M.I. was named Parish Priest of Amaranth, Man. and missions. A church is to be built in Amaranth as soon as possible. The visit of the

families has to be started immediately

The little church on Silver Ridge some 20 miles north of Amaranth is to be re-opened.

May 31, 1953

Mass was said in Silver Ridge Church for the first time on Sunday. Mass was not said in that church for many years, perhaps ten. The number of people attending Mass was ten, a humble beginning, five communions. These people were very happy to have mass said in their little church.

June 7, 1953

High Mass sung in Silver Ridge Church, fifteen persons attending, a progress on the previous Sunday, more are expected for Sundays to come. Two sisters and two Indian girls came with Father Tetrault, to