

Lac Ste. Anne Parish Fonds
1842-1984

ARCAE - 118

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Lac Ste. Anne Parish Fonds

1842-1984

38 cm of textual records.

Administrative History:

In 1842, at the request of some Métis people, Bishop Provencher of St. Boniface sent Fr. Jean Baptiste Thibault, a secular priest, to visit the western plains. He left on April 20, 1842, and offered his first Mass at Fort Edmonton on June 19, 1842. Lac Ste. Anne, known then as Manito Sakahigan, was not visited by him that year as he had to go back to St. Boniface to give his report. Records show that he blessed marriages and baptized in Oct. 1843 at Manito Sakahigan.

Father Joseph Bourassa joined Fr. Thibault in 1844 to mission in the prairies; they were to work alongside one another for eight years. On Sep. 8, 1844, Father Thibault blessed the lake and renamed it Lac Ste. Anne. Together, they built the first house-chapel at Lac Ste. Anne in 1844.

The first regular church was completed in 1852 and blessed by Fr. Bourassa on July 25, 1852. It measured 40' x 25' and stood where the second church at the Lac Ste. Anne Mission was erected in 1888 by Fr. Zéphirin Lizée, OMI and blessed by Bishop Vital Grandin, OMI on Feb. 10, 1889. It was destroyed by fire on Dec. 2, 1928.

Fr. Albert Lacombe, a secular priest, arrived at Fort Edmonton on Sep. 17, 1852. He spent the winter of 1852-53 among the Cree and Métis people at Lac La Biche and later at Fort Edmonton. He then settled at Lac Ste. Anne following the departure of Fr. Bourassa. Fr. René Rémas, OMI came to Lac Ste. Anne in mid-Sep. 1854 to be the Master of Novice of Fr. A. Lacombe. On Sep. 28, 1856, the latter pronounced his vows and thus became a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate.

On Sep. 24, 1859, three Grey Nuns of Montreal arrived via St. Boniface at Lac Ste. Anne Mission to teach, take care of the sick in the homes and see to the cooking and housekeeping of missionaries. With the founding of St. Albert in 1861 as a mission, Lac Ste. Anne lost most of its people.

In 1930, a building 22' x 40', previously used as a dance hall, was purchased, transported and reconditioned by Fr. P. Lebre. It is the actual church.

The first pilgrimage to Ste. Anne was organized by Fr. Joseph Lestanc, OMI superior of St. Albert Mission, in 1889. There were 45 participants at the first pilgrimage.

The pilgrimage sanctuary was begun in 1925; enlarged in 1926. On November 11, 1930, a hurricane demolished the whole building.

In 1931 the erection of a big church began, to be used during pilgrimages. Rev. Father Ubald Langlois, OMI Provincial, blessed the "Pro-Basilica of Ste. Anne" on July 29, 1936. This pilgrimage sanctuary was demolished in 1980.

Father Hudon saw to the building of a new one which was blessed by Archbishop J.N. MacNeil on Aug. 17, 1980, on the Golden Anniversary of Lac Ste. Anne Church.

Lac-Ste. Anne Parish presently serves Our Lady of the Lake (Alexis) and Alexander Mission.

Scope and Content: Fonds consists of sacramental registers including combination Baptism, Marriage, Burial registers, 1842-1916; Baptism registers, 1916-1933; Marriage registers, 1917-1986; Burial registers, 1917-1984; Confirmation registers, 1871-1982 and First Communion registers, 1897-1985 (predominantly 1897-1899; 1930-1985).

Archival/Custodial History:

The records formed part of the holdings of Archives of the Oblates of Missionary Immaculate (OMI) that were housed at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

When the Provincial Archives of Alberta was negotiating the donation/acquisition of all OMI Lacombe Canada records, it became very clear to the Oblates that they did not consider the sacramental registers to be Oblate records. Hence the decision by both OMI Lacombe Canada and the Provincial Archives to facilitate their return to the appropriate dioceses.

The registers of parishes within the present jurisdiction of the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton were obtained from OMI Lacombe Canada on June 28, 2017.

Legend:

RR – indicates that a register contains records that are restricted from public access due to privacy legislation. Restrictions will be lifted on an annual basis to make records available.

Os – Oversize record

Accession No.	Box-file	File description	Dates
2017/302	1-1	Lac Ste. Anne including Forts des Prairies Vol. 1 Baptisms, Marriages and Burials	1842-1851
	1-2	Lac Ste. Anne including Forts des Prairies Vol. 2 Baptisms, Marriages and Burials	1844-1859
2019/489	1 of 1 Part 2	St. Joachim Parish Copy of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials	1858-1884
	1-7	Lac Ste. Anne including Forts des Prairies Vol. 3 Baptisms, Marriages and Burials Confirmation First Communion	1860-1903 1871-1897 1897-1899
	2-1	Lac Ste. Anne including Forts des Prairies Vol. 4 Baptisms, Marriages and Burials	1903-1916
	2-5RR	Lac Ste. Anne Vol. 5 Baptisms	1916-1923
	3-1RR	Lac Ste. Anne Vol. 5 Marriages	1917-1948
	3-2	Lac Ste. Anne Vol. 5 Burials	1917-1984
	3-3RR	Lac Ste Anne Confirmations First Communion 1923	1871-1923
	4os	Lac Ste. Anne including Forts des Prairies Baptisms, Marriages and Burials Transcription of 1-1 and 1-2	1842-1859