



THE HISTORY OF SACRED HEART CHURCH, THAYER, MISSOURI

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Thayer, Missouri, celebrated its Centennial in 1992, although the first Mass was celebrated at Thayer in about 1885 by visiting missionary priests.

Mass in the early days was celebrated in a hotel room, and later in the homes of various parishioners, by various priests whenever they could come to the area. The home of the Harvey Boughnou family was one of the first where Mass was celebrated. On permanent display at Sacred Heart Church are the original glass candlesticks used at Mass at the Boughnou home.

On May 29, 1893 a lot on South Sixth Street, Thayer, was donated for the purpose of building a church, which was built under the supervision of Father John Waelterman working out of White Church, Missouri. The Church was first used about 1894. In 1903 the church building was moved about four blocks to the corner of Fifth Street and Walnut Street at the request of Father Francis X. Reker, the first resident priest. A bell, bell tower and vestibule were added to the building after it was moved.

The Walnut Street church was Sacred Heart's home for over 50 years. On March 19, 1958 the Church moved to the current location on Best Circle Drive on 9.7 acres of land donated by Owen and Helen Best. The church was built under the direction of Father Sylvester Bauer.

Sacred Heart Church currently has about 70 families with Rev. James L. Reynolds as pastor.