

CHURCH HISTORY

The first Anglican missionary to Odanak, the Reverend Joseph de Moulpied, who visited the village in the spring of 1858, must have been happily astonished at the welcome he received. He found himself impelled to hold three services that first Sunday - "as their particular wish was that the whole day should be devoted to religious services" he notes with satisfaction - and another the following day, all in French. Perhaps he was harvesting the seed of Protestantism sown earlier by a member of the tribe educated at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, who had returned to the village with the message of a new faith and had gained a number of followers. The Reverend Joseph de Moulpied continued to serve the village which had welcomed him as visiting minister for some time.

The first resident missionary of the Anglican faith was Mr. Octave Fortin, later Archdeacon on Winnipeg, during whose ministry the present church was erected.

A proud and treasured memory is the personal contribution by Queen Victoria of £50 toward the building fund.

Sponsored by Her Majesty, served by the dedication of zealous ministrants and the devotion of a small but faithful membership, our Church bears its heritage of inspiration into this new day

by Margelit Laurent.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Our grateful thanks and appreciation to all our friends, whose kindness and generosity has made it possible for the erection of this Plaque commemorating the building of the St. Francis Mission Church One hundred years ago.

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PROCESSIONAL
HYMN