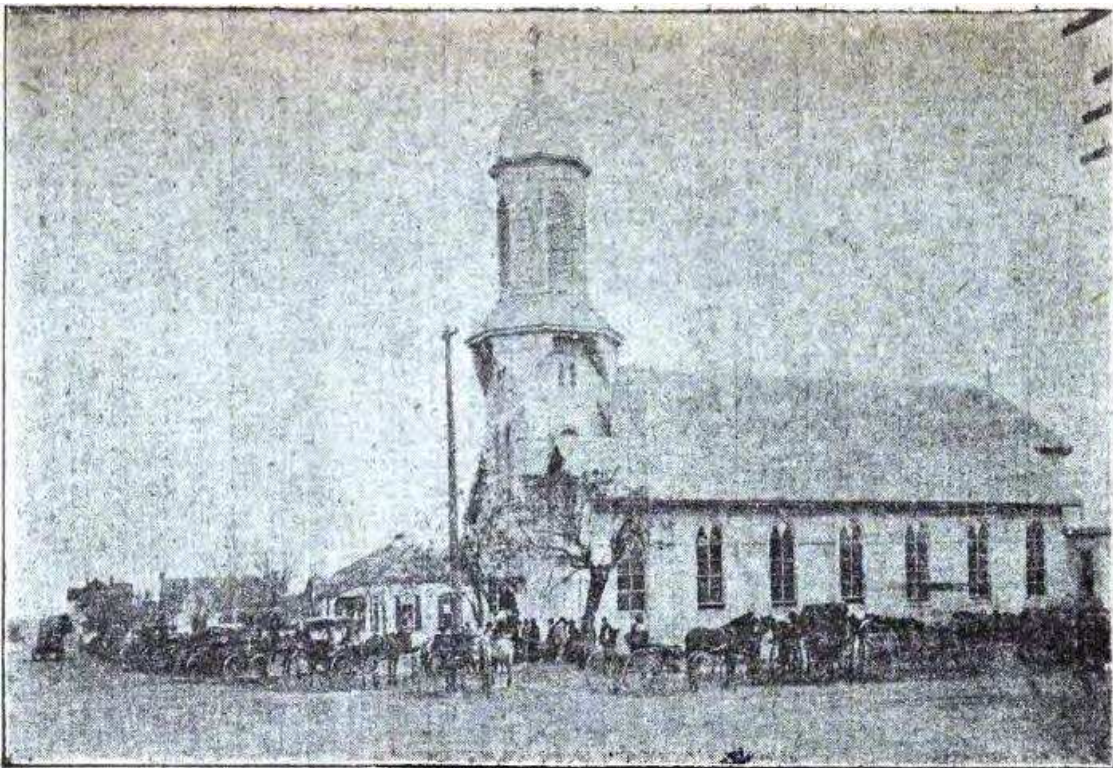


St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bryan, Texas Established in 1876

By Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz

The parish of St. Joseph's was established in 1876 by several ethnic groups: a French family named Bonneville, Bohemian (Czech) families of Luska, Vymola, and Horak; a German family named Koelsch, and a Polish families of Krzezesinski, Chmielewski, Grabowski, Bulmański and Staszewski.

Mr. A. Krzezesinski was the first Pole to settle in Bryan, Texas in 1873 and Mr. P. Chmielewski, Mr. L. Starzewski, Mr. J. Grabowski, Mr. J. and Mrs. F. Bulmańscy came a few months later. Mr. J. Borucki came to Bryan in 1882 and Mr. Fl. Stec came Bryan in 1885. From a book "Travel Notes" written by Stefan Nestorowicz, published in 1910 about the Polish immigrants that came to Texas between 1831 and 1909.



St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bryan. Photo taken some time before 1909 and published in "Travel Notes" by Stefan Nestorowicz.