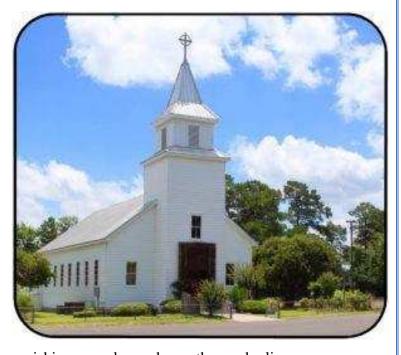
St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stoneham, Texas

Prepared by Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz

St. Joseph Catholic Church was established in 1909 by Polish immigrants from Grimes Prairie, Stoneham, and Plantersville. The land for the present location was purchased from Mrs. J.O. Stoneham and it was located south of Stoneham. The parishioners untied and built a church of modified New England style prevalent and popular at the time and large enough to accommodate the growing Polish population. A small rectory was built near the church for visiting priest to stay the night. Unfortunately, St. Joseph was never fortunate to have a resident pastor. Father Markus Dombrowski of St. Stanislaus in Anderson was its first pastor and established it as a mission of Anderson. The cemetery was also established at this time. Each year



on the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend, the parishioners welcome home those who live elsewhere, but have strong bonds of family and friends to celebrate homecoming with a meal, games, live auction, and Polish music.