

Rectories

Saint Boniface Church became the first mission for Subiaco Abbey. Under the direction of Fr. Pius Boehm, the first pastor assigned to the parish, the church, school, and pastor's house were built. The first rectory was built on the northeast corner of North 18th and North B Streets. In 1937, when it was decided to build the new church on that same corner location, the rectory had to be moved. J.S. Davis and Sons moved the pastor's home to the center of the block and the new address became 210 North 18th Street. It ended up being a costly move as \$5000 was spent to renovate and make the house suitable to live in. In 1954, additional work was done on the house. The entire building had to be painted, and extensive improvements were required in the kitchen.

In 1960, the parish was debt free. The Bishop expressed his desire that the parish should start making plans for a new rectory and parish hall. The old rectory had become inadequate in size and arrangement. Rooms were needed for instructions as well as counseling. It was also in need of more repairs.

In 1961, the Sicard family generously agreed to sell their property on North B Street, directly across from the school, for \$12,000. It was the family's wish that their property be used for religious purposes. After extensive discussion and planning, it was decided to use this property for the much needed new rectory and church offices. The house located on that property had to be removed, and after all the demolition expenses, the parish netted \$400 for materials from the building.

Architect Kenneth F. Cockram, located at 3015 Free Ferry in Fort Smith, was chosen for the project. Plans were drawn and bids were taken. Of the three bids received, a general contractor, Mr. Charles Sanford, from Sanford Construction Company, was chosen. He came in with the lowest bid of \$75,440, with 160 days of construction. Work on this project began on March 30th, 1964. The total cost for the completed project was \$92,379.21. This included some upgrades, fencing, paving of the alley, landscaping, furnishings, and architect fees. At that time, it was built to house the church offices, the pastor, assistant pastor, housekeeper, and the Bishop when he would come to visit. The address for this one story brick building is 1820 North B Street.

In 1999, under the direction of the pastor, Fr. Bill Elser, the west wing of the rectory was turned into a city wide Perpetual Adoration Chapel. On November 28th of that year, after renovations were complete, a dedication was made, and the chapel was opened. In this chapel, there is the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament displayed in a monstrance. This chapel is open for prayer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



The first church was located north of the original pastor's house which was built on the corner of North 18th & North B Streets.



This is the northeast view of the pastor's house after it was moved to build the new church.



The pastor's house and church offices are located at 1820 North B Street.