

Little Flower Catholic Church Leader, Saskatchewan

The first Roman Catholic church at Leader was built in 1916. The Catholic population was first served by Father Reindl and Father C. Meyer, O.M.I., missionaries from Lethbridge, Alberta. Starting in 1919, the Catholic congregation was served by the private priests who were in residence at Prelate, Saskatchewan.

Among the priests that served this congregation were Fathers Joseph Riedlinger, Ernes Nelz, Alphonse Schaller, Charles Ackermann and Peter Bieler. In 1944 the Little Flower parish merged with the Mendham parish with Reverend Father Joseph Schneider, O.M.I. as pastor.

In 1950 Father Rheidt served the parish, followed by Father Alphonse Klein in 1955. October 1957 saw the Little Flower community erected as a "Parish" and was given a resident pastor in the person of Father Paul Feist, he was replaced by Father Patrick Herbst who served from 1962 to 1967. Father John Peters started serving in 1967.

Sod turning for the new church happened in June 1968, and the first mass in this new edifice was celebrated November 14, 1968.

In 1972 Reverend John Boser, O.M.I. was pastor for the Little Flower congregation and St. Anthony's at Mendham was a mission. Bishop Noel Delaquis from Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, conducted the solemn blessing of the new church May 1975.