

The **Rev. F. J. Kettenhofen**, pastor of Visitation Church in Verboort, purchased, in 1908, the property now bordered by Cedar Street and 17th Ave in Forest Grove.

His work was cut short when he contracted influenza in the epidemic which claimed a half-million victims in the United States. After a three-day illness, he died on Jan. 8, 1919, one of many in the area who succumbed to the illness.

Rev. J. P. Buck

Father Buck was born in a little log cabin located on the banks of the Minnesota River. His parents were both Presbyterians and he was raised in a strict Calvinistic home. It was after he had joined the Catholic Church that he decided to serve the Lord as a priest. He attended the St. John Seminary in Collegeville, Minnesota, and later transferred to Mt. Angel Seminary.

In 1909 Father Buck was appointed as the first resident pastor of the St. Philip's Parish, Forest Grove, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Christie. The name of the parish was changed from St. Philip's to St. Anthony's by Father Buck at the request of the Catholic Extension Society, through which organization Father Buck received a large donation toward the cost of building a new church. During Father Buck's pastorate in Forest Grove, he was instrumental in building churches in Forest Grove, Cornelius and Gaston.

Father Buck served St. Anthony's of Forest Grove and the attached missions of Cornelius and Seghers (located 3 miles east of Gaston). A few years later, a chapel was built in Gaston with funds received from the Extension Society. In 1910, the mission of St. Alexander and in 1912, the mission of St. John had become attached to the Forest Grove Parish.

When he was first appointed pastor in Forest Grove, a census of Catholics disclosed seven families - three of which were mixed marriages.

He served the Forest Grove parish for 8 years and was then assigned to the St. Joseph's Church in Salem. During his pastorate in Forest Grove he was assisted by the Holy Cross Fathers.

History of Forest Grove High School

The first students at Forest Grove High School began classes in 1907 in the old Central School building (now the Central Administration Center). Four years later the first class graduated with 11 members. In 1913, the students moved into the South Park High School building, and classes were held there until 1953. The high school was then moved to a new building on West Pacific Avenue.

From 1953 to 1975, the building underwent numerous changes, including the addition of band and music rooms, a new wing in 1963 for counseling, language and reading labs, and a new art room. In 1958 an addition to the library was built. The final addition was in 1975, which included an automotive lab, drafting room, power lab and agricultural classroom. As the community continued to grow, voters supported a move to the current site on Nichols Lane, including ninth graders for the first time. This building was completed and dedicated in 1983 and included 235,000 square feet on 38 acres.

The age of technology and continued growth led to more changes. Voters supported a technology bond which resulted in the addition of 35,000 square feet with 15 new classrooms. The school has eight computer labs. This beautiful new addition was dedicated at the beginning of the 1998-99 school year.