

REVEREND OTHMAR HOHMANN, OSB TIMELINE

- 1/28/1900 Jacob Leo Hohmann born in Richmond, MN.
- 1918 Graduates from Saint John's Prep School.
- 1918-1924 Great Northern Railway.
- 1925 Saint John's Abbey Novitiate.
- 1926 Saint Augustine's Monastery, Bahamas
- 1927-1932 Saint John's University Professor of German, Prefect Greg Hall.
- 9/22/1929 Solemn vows as Benedictine monk of Saint John's Abbey.
- 6/1/1930 Ordained
- 1931 St. Joseph's Church, Waite Park, MN
- 1932-36 St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Bahamas
- 11/13/1933 Father Othmar Hohmann letter to Abbot Alcuin Deutsch OSB regarding an OSB Brother: "Father Bonaventure (Dean OSB) communicated to me suspicions of a more serious nature about a month ago, and hinted to me that it was my duty to watch him. That was indiscretion cum puellis et feminis. I told him that I could not see where I had any responsibility for him" (OSB Hohmann 00109-00111.)
- 12/2/1933 Abbot Alcuin Deutsch OSB responds to Fr Othmar Hohmann's warning about the OSB Brother: "However do not misunderstand me. I am solicitous for the welfare of the Mission and do not want any scandal that can fairly be avoided. I am solicitous also for the spiritual welfare of the Brother. Even if only the latter is endangered by the Brothers refusing to abide by the injunctions which I suggested both to Monsignor and Fr. Bonaventure he laid upon him, I have directed that he be sent North, even though at this time it may prove dangerous to his health."
- "I can do no more from here; I must leave it to the judgment of Father Bonaventure and the Bishop, if Fr. Bonaventure does act previous to the latter's return to Nassau, to take the action which seems proper to the circumstances. I would, however, ask you, and through you the other Fathers, to endeavor to do for the Brother's welfare whatever charity may inspire as possibly productive of good results." (Hohmann OSB 00114-115.)
- 1936 Pastor, Saint James Parish, Mandan North Dakota
- 10/30/1936 Letter from Hohmann to Abbot Alcuin Deutsch OSB: "Being here already a month...the open country in sight, fine diet and just loads and loads of darling children." (OSB Hohmann 00144-00145.)
- 1942-47 St. Boniface Church, Hastings, Minnesota
- 1947 Abbey's Mission Band
- 1948 Saint Benedict's Hospital & St. James Catholic Church, Vernal, Utah.

1949-54 Immaculate Conception, New Munich, Minnesota

2/6/1953 Abbot Baldwin Dworshak OSB to Fr Othmar Hohmann OSB “I wanted to talk with you about something that I would rather not put on paper...I ought to advise you to be more circumspect about letting one certain woman come to the parish house as often as she did.” (OSB Hohmann 00346)

1954-57 St. Boniface, Cold Spring, Minnesota

1957-58 Chaplain, St. Michael Hospital, Oakes, North Dakota

1958-60 St. Michael’s Mahnomen and Mission of Bejou, Minnesota

1960 Holy Rosary, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

March 1960 Hohmann indicates to Bishop of Crookston that in March 1960 someone went to the Abbot with complaints about him (OSB Hohmann 00514)

Undated Hohmann letter to Bishop Lawrence Glenn of Crookston. “Enclosed is a sort of “defense brief”...I wrote all the enclosed to [the Abbot] shortly after leaving Detroit Lakes...I have tried to resign myself to the status of being treated like a vitandus and a lucifugus by my confreres and others... You were indeed put into a very painful and embarrassing impasse...I offer the entire matter as a penance for past transgressions and omissions.” (OSB Hohmann 00508.)

Sept. 1960 Fr. Othmar goes to Our Lady of the Snows in Nevis, Minnesota. Our Lady of the Snows is a Servants of the Paraclete facility. (OSB Hohmann 00526)

11/15/1960 “Defense Brief” from Othmar to Bishop Lawrence Glenn of Crookston:
“I beg you most earnestly, in the name of sweet charity, to delete from the records that indictment sent to Father Abbot last September, where it mentions that sinister word, ‘**molesting**’. In law and newspaper parlance that word leaves little to the imagination...
“As to Mr. [REDACTED], yes I may have been rather fond and affectionate with the kids...
“When this mess broke in September, various laymen came to me with evidence and rumors...
“A very prominent and prudent citizen told me the suspicion or accusation of my being a mental case was started by Father Malachy...he himself had been in a psychiatric ward at Rochester for seven weeks before being assigned my assistant...
“There was a neighbor living close to the rectory, whose kids I like very much...he said that I might be some kind of Jekyll and Hyde character...
“As I mentioned at my interview with you last November, this is a case like carelessly setting a snowball running down a mountainside to end in a devastating avalanche...”

“To exclastrate (leave the monastery) would no doubt mean the forwarding of rumors and charges to any diocese I might want to work in.” (OSB Hohmann 00509-00517.)

1960-1961 Assigned to a parish in Mercer, Wisconsin. (OSB Hohmann 00507, 518-519.)

12/7/1960 Fr Othmar letter to Detroit Lakes Mayor and Parish Trustee: “...last Fall when I was kicked out of your fine parish...I was definitely NOT GUILTY AS CHARGED!” (OSB Hohmann 00507.)

7/7/1961 Abbot Baldwin Dworschak, proposes Saint Joseph Parish in St. Joseph, Minnesota in the Diocese of St. Cloud as an assignment for Othmar. (OSB Hohmann 00533.)

7/23/1961 Fr. Othmar tells Abbot Baldwin Dworschak by letter that he asked both Bishop Glenn of the Diocese of Crookston and the Abbot to remove the allegations against him from the records and “monastic archives.” Othmar tells the Abbot that, “[i]t seems that Bishop Glenn remained intransigent in his attitude of “quod scripsi scripsi, (what I have written I have written) and quod feci, feci (what I have done I have done).” Othmar writes, “you can realize the state of utter embarrassment and chagrin I still find myself in.” (OSB Hohmann 00534)

7/29/1961 Abbot Baldwin to Othmar: “I don’t think your confreres think any different of you because of Detroit Lakes...” (OSB Othmar Hohmann 00535)

8/9/1961 Bishop Bartholome approves Abbot Baldwin’s suggestions for assignments in the Diocese of St. Cloud. The Bishop notes that, “The parish of Saint Josephs, perhaps, is in need of someone of the temperament of Father Othmar.” (OSB Hohmann 00539.)

1961-66 Church of St. Joseph, St. Joseph, Minnesota

1966 Assistant Pastor, St. John’s Church, Grand Marais, Minnesota

1967-1975 Assistant Pastor, Saint Joseph’s, Grand Rapids, Minnesota

1969 Saint Leo’s Abbey, St. Leo, Florida

6/23/1972 Abbot writes to Othmar at Grand Rapids that he hopes Othmar will be able to carry on his work of parochial visits for a long time to come, “**along with your work for the Children’s Theatre during the time of the year when it is not possible to go out for the daily calls.**” (OSB Hohmann 00646)

1976 Bishop Paul Anderson of Duluth writes Fr. Othmar thanking him for 7.5 years in Diocese. Othmar retires to St. John’s Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota. Fr. Othmar assembles collection of poems about children (OSB Hohmann 00658, 00661, 00666.)

1/24/1980 Died