Times Picayune

CHURCH TO NOTE
125TH BIRTHDAY

Prelate to Be Homilist at Special Mass

St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Chachaloula will celebrate its 125th anniversary with a special Mass at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

Archbishop Philip M. Hannan will be guest homilist at the service. The Knights of Columbus, Lafourche Council, will serve as guard of honor, and priests from nearby churches will also attend the Mass.

St. Lawrence, located in Terrebonne Parish near Schriever, was founded as a mission some 125 years ago by the Rev. R.M. Pineau of St. Joseph’s Church in Thibodaux. Father Pineau used to travel to the mission on horseback, until he was killed as a result of injuries from a fall off his horse while he was making a sick call in 1858.

The original St. Lawrence building has been replaced a number of times since its founding. The present structure was built after the turn of the century.

The mission church of St. Agnes founded in the early 1920’s in nearby Donner merged with St. Lawrence in the 1930’s when the lumber industry in Donner declined, causing an exodus of people from the area.

From 1939 until 1971 St. Lawrence had no resident pastor because of poor economic conditions. In 1971 The Rev. Michael W. Finnegan was appointed pas-