

# BOSCO, ALOYSIUS (LOUIS) MARIA

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BOSCO, Rev. ALOYSIUS (Louis) MARIA, born in Italy, April 5, 1915; became a member of the Society of Jesus at Chieri, Province of Turin, September 24, 1833; studied philosophy at Turin, 1836-38; taught in the Jesuit College at Nice, France, 1838-41; teacher at the Jesuit College at Voghera, Province of Pavia, 1841-42; studied Moral Theology at Turin, 1842-44; ordained a Priest, 1844; Assistant Prefect at the Jesuit College at Genoa, 1845-47 when he was transferred to the College at Cagliari, Sardinia.

The Jesuits were expelled from northern Italy in 1848 and no catalogs were issued but there is a record of him as Instructor at Spagna, Province of Turin, in 1849 and as tutor in a private family at Tortosa, on the Ebro, in Spain, 1850-51; Spiritual Director, Mimer Seminary at Stazzano, Province of Alessandria, 1851-52; stationed at Cosenza, in Calabria, 1852-55.

Came directly from Italy to California in 1856 and was assigned to Santa Clara College where he taught Spanish until 1859; made a tour of Mexico and Central America in the interest of that college, 1860-62; naturalised as an American citizen in the District Court of Santa Clara County, January 13, 1863.

Left Santa Clara with Rev. Carlos E. Messa and arrived at Fort Yuma in time to perform 10 baptisms at that Post between December 20 and 29, 1863; they went from there to Tucson where he took charge of the parish; the register of San Augustine Church shows that he baptised the infant daughter of Lucia Yaqui on February 17, and that Rafael Pacheco was married by him to Carmen Castillo on February 25, 1864; the following passage is copied from a pamphlet written in 1880 by Bishop J. B. Salpente relative to the Mission of San Xavier del Bac:

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' In March 1864, the Eight Reverend Bishop J.B. Lamy came to Arizona and made a pastoral visitation of the Mission of San Xavier and the new parish of San Augustin, at Tucson. These churches were administered at that time, the former by the Rev. C. Messea, and the latter by the Rev. L. Bosco, both priests of the Society of Jesus.

J. Ross Browne was with them on the trip from Fort Yuma to Tucson and in his book "Adventures in the Apache Country", made up of articles that he wrote for Harpers Magazine, Browne says:

Nine miles from Tucson we came to the fine old church of San Xavier del Bac. This is one of the most beautiful and picturesque edifices of the kind to be found in North America.

At the time of our visit two Padres from Santa Clara, California, who had come as far as Tucson with the Command, had just taken up their quarters at the Mission. From my acquaintance with them on the road, I judge them to be very sincere and estimable as well as intelligent men. We furnished them with a Pima grammar, published by Mr. Buckingham Smith, late American Secretary of Legation to Spain; and they are now studying that language with a view of holding more advantageous intercourse with the Papagoes, who are originally a branch of the Pimas, and speak the same language.

The Reverend Fathers entertained us during our sojourn with an enthusiastic account of their plans for the restoration of the Mission and the instruction and advancement of the Indian tribes, with whom they are destined to be associated for some years to come.

The book that was given to them was published in New York in 1862 and is entitled "Grammar of the Pima or Nevome, a Language of Sonora" (Arte de la Lengua Nevome que se dice Pima); Padre Bosco was listed in the Territorial Census taken in April or May, 1864, at Tucson, age 48, resident in Arizona 4 months, occupation - Parish Priest; the last marriage and the last baptisms recorded by him were on August 8, 1864 so that it may be assumed that he and Padre Messea left there soon afterwards to return to California.

Served as Assistant Pastor, Parish of Santa Clara, from 1865 to 1879; except for a time in 1871-72 when he accompanied Bishop Milge on a collecting

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tour in Mexico and Central America in the interest of the Missions in Kansas.

Died @ \$ Santa Clara, California, January 3, 1879, aged 63, buried, Catholic Cemetery in Santa Clara.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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 Letters from Rev. Edward R.A. Bolland, S. J., Librarian, University of Santa Clara.  
 Data supplied by Monsignor G.B. Montani, Under Secretary of State, the Vatican, Rome.

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Alta California, San Francisco, 9/27/64, 1:5

Our letter from Hermosillo. Jesuit Fathers, C. Masea and L. (sic) Bosquet (sic) arrived here from the Mission of San Xavier in Arizona, where they have been at work among the Papagoes. Father Bosquet (sic) is very sickly.