

Jim Zimmerman, Who Lost Wife and Six Children Two Years Ago, Weds Hayfield Widow With Six Youngsters

Two persons who have experienced sorrow and tragedy in losing loved ones, were married Saturday morning in a quiet wedding ceremony at the new Sacred Heart Catholic church in Hayfield.

They are James Zimmerman, 37, Waseca farmer who lost his wife and six young children in a car-train crash here Sept. 11, 1959, and Vivian Kraus, 30, Hayfield, whose husband died of cancer six weeks before the Zimmerman accident, leaving her with six children.

FIRST WEDDING IN CHURCH

The couple spoke their vows before the Rev. Peter Coleman in the first marriage ceremony performed in the church. Father Coleman played a major role in bringing the two together.

The bride, wearing an ice blue, nylon lace dress and matching veil hat, was preceded down the aisle by her six children: Joan, 10; Jim, 7, Steven, 6; twins, Richard and Ronald, 5, and Tom, 3.

An article in the February 1960 issue of Catholic Digest, reprinted from the Minneapolis Tribune, telling of the Zimmerman accident, originally brought the pair together. Mrs. Kraus' aunt, Mrs. N. D. Hoffman, who was matron of honor at the wedding, read the article at her home in Sacramento, Calif.

Knowing of her niece's loss of her husband, she wrote to Zimmerman and told him about Mrs. Kraus and

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COUPLE UNITED BY TRAGEDY, SORROW—Mr. and Mrs. James Zimmerman pose with their six children at the altar of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hayfield Saturday noon after speaking their marriage vows. Zimmerman, 37, Waseca farmer, lost his wife and six

Edward Kraus of Hayfield, lost her husband six weeks earlier when he died of cancer. Her children from that marriage are, left to right, Steve, 6, Joan, 10, Tommy, 3; Jimmy, 7, and twins Richard and Ronald 5. They will be at home on the farm east of Waseca.—Rochester Post.