

Remembering the Past
Historic Sketch of
Holy Angels Parish, Darboy Wisconsin
Now known as Holy Spirit Parish

- 1850** - Holy Angels Parish was organized on July 24th, and was known as St. Martin's Community of Manhattan.
- 1855** - The first church was built. It was dedicated in honor of the Guardian Angels by Bishop Martin Henni.
- 1864** - Holy Angels first parsonage (rectory) was erected. At this time, the mission was alternately served by priests from Little Chute and Menasha.
- 1874** - Holy Angels present brick church was built under the direction of Fr. Joseph Hackl, at a cost of \$12,000.
- 1882** - Holy Angels first parochial school was built at a cost of \$1,626. It was staffed by Sisters from Holy Family Convent of Manitowoc and was under the administration of the Franciscan Capuchins.
- 1885** - The first parish picnic was held on July 4th. The proceeds were \$450, while the expenses were \$175.
- 1886** - Holy Angels second parsonage was built under the direction of Fr. Michael Schoell. This building was torn down in 1973 when the present rectory was erected.
- 1895** - The annual report recorded how many families of each language belonged to Holy Angels: English, 2; German, 92; Dutch, 12; for a total of 106.
- 1899** - Quoted from the annual report was the number of Catholics: 99 men, 112 women, and 470 children. Total members: 681.
- 1910** - The school was closed for one year when the Sisters from Manitowoc left. It was then reopened with the Franciscan Sisters from the Bay Settlement.
- 1911** - The stained glass windows were installed, along with the two bells in the church tower. The larger bell is named St. Clemens and the smaller one is Ave Maria.
- 1915** - The Stations of the Cross were erected at a cost of \$775.
- 1919** - On July 2, Father Linder passed away. He is the only priest buried in Holy Angels Cemetery. The graves in Holy Angels Cemetery date back to the "George Washington Era"; the late 1700's.
- 1920** - While Father Kersten served as Pastor of Holy Angels, the buildings were wired for electricity, and running water was installed in the rectory.
- 1935** - The convent was built under the direction of Father Emil Schmidt for \$8,000. Up until that time, the Sisters were living in part of the old school. The convent was torn down in 1998.
- 1940** - This is the year the oldest part of the existing school was erected, at a cost of \$27,760.

- 1950** - The observance of the centennial of Holy Angels Parish took place. It opened with a Solemn High Mass offered by Father Andrew Linsmeyer in the newly refurbished church.
- 1964** - The school was increased by adding eight more rooms and enlarged the convent with four additional rooms.
- 1968** - February 26 was a sad day for Holy Angels Parish. This was the day of the church fire. Services were held in the school for seven months.
- 1975** - Holy Angels had a four day celebration for its 125th anniversary consisting of a parade, a day designated for the elders, one for the school, and a chicken dinner at the Darboy Club.
- 1985** - The 100th church picnic was celebrated with a parade and a weekend long picnic.
- 1990** - The front entrance of the church was constructed under the direction of Dennis Uitenbroek.
- 1997** - Holy Angels School was enlarged and remodeled.
- 1999** - The interior of the church was painted.
- 2000** - Holy Angels brought in the millennium with the 150th anniversary, celebrating a vast and rich heritage.
- 2005** - On January 1st, 2005 Holy Angels merged with Holy Name of Jesus to become Holy Spirit Parish.
- 2007** – The school roof was replaced