

Remembering the Past
Historic Sketch of
Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Kimberly Wisconsin
Now known as Holy Spirit Parish

December 11, 1906 - The people of Kimberly petitioned Joseph J. Fox, Bishop of Green Bay, requesting the formation of a parish.

December 13, 1906 - Bishop Fox responded by requesting Fr. Lawrence Henn, O.F.M. Cap., pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Appleton, a priest to form a mission in Kimberly. Fr. Luke Rasch was selected. He traveled to Kimberly and gathered the 45 families who petitioned the Bishop and began a parish.

December 28, 1906 - Father Rasch used a lodge hall near the mill which he called "The Catacombs." This served as the first church.

January 1, 1907 - Father Rasch celebrated the first Mass for the Kimberly Parish. The first official meeting of the parish was held after Mass. It was decided, at the suggestion of Fr. Rasch, to name the parish after the Holy Name of Jesus.

January 6, 1907 - A Building and Maintenance Committee was elected.

February 7, 1907 - A two-acre site of land was purchased.

April 20, 1907 - Brilmaier & Sons Architects of Milwaukee completed plans and specifications for the two-story combination church & school building. The men of the parish cleared the site and dug the foundation.

September 1, 1907 - Dedication of the new church and school took place.

1908 - First permanent rectory was built.

1911 - A house for the Sisters was built.

1914 - A church building separate from the school was built.

1929 - An addition to the school was completed

1930 - A new rectory was built. The old structure was moved across the street.

August 9, 1957 - Father Vanden Borne along with the janitor, John Vanden Berk, died of burns from a gas explosion in the school.

1958 - An addition to the school and a gym were built. The rectory also had an addition.

1960 - A new convent was built.

1962 - The first Mass was celebrated in the new Church.

1969 - Part of the convent was converted into the Religion Education Department.

1978 - The complete convent was utilized by the Religion Education Department

1987 - New Priest's residence was built. The old building was razed. The new building is a private home for the priests.

1987 - All offices were moved to the former convent which was named Holy Name Parish Center housing Religion Education Offices and Parish Offices.

2005 - On January 1st, 2005 Holy Name of Jesus merged with Holy Angels to become Holy Spirit Parish.

2007 - The church roof was replaced