



*The following is the finding aid for the Holy Spirit Parish, Milwaukee collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted. [Genealogists should consult our genealogical resources guide.](#) [Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)*

**Holy Spirit Parish (Milwaukee, Wis.)  
Records, 1902-1999  
MC 143**

**Volume**

8.45 cubic feet

**Access**

Open/unrestricted, except personnel records and marriage prenuptial files.

**Historical Note**

Holy Spirit Parish was incorporated on January 21, 1902, with the cornerstone for the first church building laid on May 28, 1902. This church building also contained the school and rectory. The dedication ceremony of the church, conducted by Archbishop Katzer, was held on November 23, 1902. Father Michael J. Graettinger was the first pastor of Holy Spirit parish, who quickly established several groups and societies to aid in the welfare of the congregation. The first classes in the new school were held in January 1903 with 3 School Sisters of St. Francis teaching a student body of 119 children.

Through the years, the parish grew and thrived. In 1912, a new church building was begun, along with an addition to the school. This building served the parish well until 1929 when it was replaced with the existing church building of stone and brick. The construction of the new church was finished in 1930, and was dedicated by Archbishop Sebastian Messmer. In 1961 a new rectory was constructed of Lannon stone containing offices, meeting rooms, and living quarters. This was followed later that year by the construction of a new convent. Both of these buildings were blessed on April 8, 1962 by Archbishop William Cousins.

The parish changed its name from "Holy Ghost" to "Holy Spirit" on January 1, 1977, following a referendum that was held on June 6, 1976 with a majority of parishioners favoring the change and after receiving permission from Archbishop Cousins. In 1999, Holy Spirit merged with St. Barbara parish to form St. Rafael the Archangel Parish in Milwaukee.

**Scope and Content** *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection contains books, documents, photographs, negatives, and slides of administrative and historical nature pertaining to the parish of Holy Spirit church located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Box and Folder List** *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders are listed alphabetically. "B" is an abbreviation for box and "F" is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>
B 3	F 1	Anniversary Booklets, 1952, 1977
B 3	F 2	Anniversary, 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1977
B 3	F 3	Annual financial reports, 1959-1966, 1978, 1980
B 3	F 4	Appraisals, 1959-1960
B 3	F 5	Building expense vouchers, 1959-1960
B 3	F 6	Building expense, convent and rectory, 1960
B 1	F 1-12	Bulletins, 1972-1984
B 2	F 1-13	Bulletins, 1985-1997
B 3	F 7	Inter-Parish staff meetings, 1996-1999
B 3	F 8	Insurance, picnic tent accident, 1971
B 3	F 9	Insurance policies, 1934-1985
B 4	F 1	Joint Parish Council, meeting minutes, 1987-1991
B 4	F 2	Letters of resignation, 1987-1992 (restricted)
B 4	F 3	Loan, tuck-pointing and roofing, 1975-1976
B 4	F 5	Merger Task Force Committee, 1998
B 4	F 5	Parish Council, constitution and by-laws
B 4	F 6	Parish Council, guidelines and members
B 4	F 7-11	Parish Council, meeting minutes, 1980-1995
B 4	F 12	Parish Council, registry
B 4	F 13	Personnel, background check, 1994 (restricted)
B 5	F 1-2	Personnel, payroll (includes teachers), 1972-1985 (restricted)
B 5	F 3	Policies
B 5	F 4-5	Photographs, church
B 5	F 6	Photographs, church life
B 5	F 7	Photographs, clergy
B 5	F 8	Photographs, negatives
B 5	F 9-10	Photographs, parishioners
B 6	F 1	Photographs, parishioners
B 6	F 2	Photographs, slides, church
B 6	F 3	Photographs, youth
B 6	F 4	Publications, 1909, 1920, 1953
B 6	F 5	School photographs, class pictures, 1973-1978
B 6	F 6	School photographs, miscellaneous, undated
B 6	F 7	Status Animarum (parish annual report), 1980-1992
B 7	F 1	Status Animarum (parish annual report), 1994-1997
B 7	F 2	Status Animarum (parish annual report), 1999
B 8-12		Preuptial Files (restricted)