



Holy Cross Parish

309 Desnoyer Street
 Kaukauna, WI 54130
<http://www.holycrosskaukauna.org>

Our Parish History

Mid 1800s	Catholics from Kaukauna worshipped at St. John Parish in Little Chute. Mass was also frequently celebrated at the Grignon Homestead in Kaukauna.
1869	A group of parishioners received permission from Bishop Melchor of Green Bay to erect a Catholic Chapel. This chapel was to serve all of Kaukauna, the north side, and the south side (known as Ledyard)
1873	On December 26, on the Feast of St. Stephen, the Holy Cross Chapel was dedicated. It was built with lumber from nearby woods. The foundation was stone and was donated by Mrs. Mary Grignon. Fr. Joseph Hackl of Darboy celebrated the first mass. An English homily was given by Fr. Ackley of Menasha, and a German Homily was given by Fr. Stern. From 1873 1878 the Holy Cross Chapel was a mission served by the pastors of Holy Angels Parish of Darboy.
1876	Fr Nicodemus Buschle began the first school in our parish. It consisted of 61 students meeting in the sacristy of the church. Miss Fannie Grignon was their teacher. That same year Fr. Buschle also built the first rectory.
1878	A small school house was completed in the summer. On September 21 Fr. Julius Rhode, a newly ordained priest, was assigned as the first full time pastor to Holy Cross Parish. He was pastor for 29 years.
1881	The School house was enlarged and a convent was built. Fr. Rhode brought in the Franciscan Sisters to run the school. The church was badly damaged by lightning and fire. The church was enlarged, remodeled and frescoes were added
1884	A new pipe organ was purchased for \$900. This began the long tradition of beautiful music at our parish.
1886	The foundations for a new brick school were laid. The new school cost \$9000. There were four teachers who made \$700 per year, and the school taught 265 students.
1888	The Dominican Sisters of Racine began years of service to our Parish.
1894	A new rectory was built at the cost of \$3,500.
1897	Holy Cross church was lengthened and widened. At this time it was formed into the shape of a Cross. A new brick face and a brick bell tower were added. The

	church also received new stained glass, electric lights, new pews and steam heat. The cost was \$18,000.
1907	Fr. August Dushold was assigned as the first associate to the parish to help Fr. Rhode, who was failing in health. On January 1, 1908, Fr. Rhode died and was replaced by Monsignor Peter J. Lochman.
1909	The church was remodeled again. The old pine floor was replaced with concrete and hardwood
1913	On October 29 the church burned to the ground. They dug a new church basement. The basement served as a chapel from November 1914 until the new church was completed
1916	The new church was completed & dedicated in May. The church was built for \$65,000, and because of the generosity of the parishioners the debt was only \$12,091.
1931	In June Msgr. Lochman celebrated his 50th anniversary of priesthood. On April 25, 1932 he passed away. He served Holy Cross Parish for 24 years.
1940s	Fr. Peter Grosnick was the pastor during WWII. During that time he established a fund for a new school. In 1943 he had a fund raising drive.
1941	Organ rebuilt.
1947	Fr. Grosnick died, and was replaced by Fr. Andrew Quella. Although a period of postwar material shortages delayed the project, excavation began on a new school in 1952. Classes began on March 8, 1954 and the school was dedicated by Bishop Stanislaus Bona on May 30, 1954. During Fr. Quella's 19 years as pastor he also built the present rectory and offices in the early 1960s.
1966	Fr. Andrew Linsmeyer became the pastor. Fr. Linsmeyer began to implement the reforms of the Second Vatican Council. He began a church renovation fund in 1966.
1973	The new pastor, Fr. Roy Crain, led the renovation of the church. The parishioners worshipped in the school cafeteria for six months. On Christmas Eve, the centennial of the first Holy Cross Chapel, the renovated church was opened for the Christmas masses. The project included a new heating/ventilation system, new side entrances, a renovated organ and new carpeting. It cost \$200,000.
1986	Fr. John Mullarky became the new pastor. He was more commonly known as Fr. Jack. At this time the church basement was remodeled and renamed "Friendship Hall." It is now the center of many parish activities. The furnace systems in the church and the school were replaced and the school gym received a new roof
1990	The church received an extensive interior renovation which included a unique fiberglass and paint sealing process, new carpeting and replacement of the marble alter with oak alter fixtures.
1993	After almost five years of discussion and careful study, the leaders of the three

	Kaukauna Catholic parishes agreed to form the Kaukauna Catholic School System: KCSS
2000	On June 6 construction began on a new addition to the church. A new gathering space was added with a carport and handicapped accessibility. The beautiful St. Cecilia window was brought from behind the organ to eye level so everyone could see it. This space was dedicated by Bishop Morneau on March 5, 2001
2003	Organ rebuilt and expanded.
2007	Fr. John (Jack) Mullarkey retired in July. Fr. Tom Pomeroy became the new pastor.
2008	The Holy Cross parish website (http://www.holycrosskaukauna.org) was launched on our Parish feast day, The Feast of the Exaltation (Triumph) of the Holy Cross on September 14, 2008.
2009	In December of 2009 Fr Tom became the first priest at Holy Cross Parish to have a Blog.
2011	Holy Cross was blessed to welcome Deacon Bruce Corey to our parish community in July of 2011. Sept 2011 First Annual Holy Cross Walking Pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, WI. On December 8th, 2010 Bishop Ricken officially approved the Marian apparitions that occurred on the site of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help (<i>Reading from his decree, the Bishop stated, "I declare with moral certainty and in accord with the norms of the Church that the events, apparitions and locutions given to Adele Brise in October of 1859 do exhibit the substance of supernatural character, and I do hereby approve these apparitions as worthy of belief (although not obligatory) by the Christian faithful."</i>). Less than 1 year later, in Fall 2011 , Holy Cross Parish began an annual 50 mile walking pilgrimage from Kaukauna to the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion. This pilgrimage of love started with just Holy Cross Parishioners the first year, but since that time has evolved to include Catholics from many different parishes. This is the only approved Marian Apparition site in North America.
2013	March 2013 Fr. Tom and Deacon Bruce lead a group on a 10 day trip to Italy. While there, the "seat of Peter" was empty (Pope Benedict XVI had retired and a new pope had not yet been elected). Cities visited: Rome, Norcia, Assisi, Siena and Florence. In May 2013 Holy Cross was blessed to have a Holy Cross parishioner, Dr. Mark Ebben, ordained a deacon. November 30 – Dec 8 – Adoration before the blessed Sacrament was held 24 hours a day for 9 days – (a novena) at Holy Cross. Parishioners came and prayed before the Blessed Sacrament for our parish, city, country, world and a renewal of faith, in honor of the 140 th Anniversary of Holy Cross Parish (dedicated on December 26, 1873). Holy Cross Parish also celebrated its 140th Jubilee the weekend of December 14th and 15 th by holding a chili supper on Saturday Dec 14, as well as a pancake breakfast on the 15 th after the 9:15 mass. As part of the celebration, we had coloring pages and trivia questions for

	parishioners to try their luck at answering. There was also a potluck supper and caroling on the bus on the evening of the 15 th .
2015	<p>Summer 2015: With the input of parishioners and the councils, a plan was formulated what will allowed us to address present needs of our 100-year old current Church building and also planning for the future generations of Holy Cross. Fundraising began for this need.</p> <p>November 2015 Fr. Tom and Deacon Bruce lead a group to the Holy Land.</p>
2016	<p>July 1, 2016 The name of our school was changed from Holy Cross school (KCSS) to St. Ignatius Catholic School.</p> <p>July 2016 – repairs began on the Church Steeple. New roof, clock face and hands. In September the interior needs of the church building began to be addressed</p>

Pastors of Holy Cross Parish	
1878 - 1908	Rev. Julius L Rohde (Rhode)
1908 - 1932	Rt Rev. Msgr. Peter Lockman
1932 - 1940	Rev. August Garthaus
1940 - 1947	Rev. Peter Grosnick
1947 - 1966	Rev. Andrew J. Quella
1966 - 1971	Rev. Andrew G Linsmeyer
1971 - 1976	Rev. Roy L. Crain
1976 - 1979	Rev. John Bergstadt Rev. Mike Hoffmann (co-pastors)
1979 - 1985	Rev. Mike Hoffmann
1985 - 1986	Rev. Philip Hoffmann
1986 - 2007	Rev. Jack Mullarkey
2007 - Present	Rev. Thomas Pomeroy

