



The following is the finding aid for the Holy Angels 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 Angels Congregation (Milwaukee, Wis.)
Records, 1914-1994
MC 101**

Volume

12 cubic feet

Access

Open/unrestricted except for legal correspondence, financial statements, marriage records, and teacher personnel records.

Historical Note

In 1913, Archbishop Messmer requested Fr. George Meyer organize a parish “beyond the northern reaches of the city.” Land was purchased in what used to be a large potato and cabbage patch on what is now 11th and Capital. This property was purchased specifically at the highest elevation on the northern edge of the city. At the time there were no sidewalks, sewers, or streets. A small wooden chapel with a seating capacity of 130 was soon completed, and in 1916 a more permanent church was built in the Tudor Gothic style. The government worried the structure was being built too rapidly and suspected it of being a German stronghold. The army was sent in, but of course no armaments were found.

The 1920s proved to be a boom for the parish as houses sprung up in the neighborhood. In 1925, another new combination church and hall was built, and an addition to the school was needed by 1931. For a short time (1933-1934) St. Nicholas parish was a mission parish of Holy Angels. As the demographics of the neighborhood began to change in the 1960s and 1970s the parish became more involved with Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied for Hope, Crossroads Interfaith Program for the Elderly, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Emergency Food Pantry Network, and sponsored the Central City Catholic School System. By 1991, the parish was about 60% black and 40% white. Holy Angels is considered the first Catholic Church in the US to have gospel music and a gospel choir providing worship to a largely Black congregation.

Holy Angels closed in 1994. Parishioners of the former St. Agnes, St. Anne, Holy Angels, St. John de Nepomuc, and St. Thomas Aquinas tended to join the new All Saints parish, which was created on November 1, 1994.

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

Holy Angels Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was founded in 1914. The collection includes bulletins from 1943-1993, correspondence from 1973-1993, parish council materials from 1974-1994, and a large number of photographs. Holy Angels Church merged into All Saints Church, Milwaukee, in 1993.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged 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.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 1	F 5	Abstract of title, 1921
B 1	F 1	Abstract of title, 1925
B 1	F 2	Abstract of title, 1931
B 1	F 4	Abstract of title, 1935
B 1	F 3	Abstract of title, 1939
B 1	F 21	Abstract of title, 1940
B 1	F 20	Abstract receipt, 1939
B 20		Album, United We Stand
B 20		Album, We Want to Live (2 copies)
B 2	F 1	Architectural documents, 1939-1940
B 2	F 2-14	Bulletins, 1943-1955
B 3	F 1-13	Bulletins, 1956-1967
B 4	F 1-7	Bulletins, 1967-1975
B 5	F 1-4	Bulletins, 1976-1985
B 6	F 1-6	Bulletins, 1986-1991
B 7	F 1-2	Bulletins, 1992-1993
B 7	F 3	Bylaws, constitution, 1976
B 20		Calendar, 1949
B 7	F 4	City of Milwaukee, reports/appeals, 1931-1987
B 7	F 5	City of Milwaukee, taxes, 1975-1979
B 7	F 6	City of Milwaukee, waiver/proxy, 1946-1991
B 7	F 7	Committee, collaboration, 1985, 1991-1994
B 7	F 8	Committee, finance, 1950-1992
B 8	F 1	Committee, MICA, 1988-1989
B 8	F 2	Committee, MICA, 1990
B 8	F 3	Committee, MICA, 1991
B 8	F 4	Committee, St. Vincent de Paul, 1951-1952
B 8	F 5	Committee, services, 1988
B 8	F 6	Committee, worship, 1978-1990, 1993-1994
B 8	F 7	Confirmation classes, 1938-1969
B 9	F 1	Construction project, 1931
B 9	F 2	Construction project, 1939
B 9	F 3	Construction project, 1977
B 9	F 4	Correspondence, 1973-1988
B 9	F 5	Correspondence, 1989-1993
B 9	F 6-11	Crossroads Interfaith, 1978-1990
B 10	F 1-2	Crossroads Interfaith, 1991-1992
B 10	F 3-12	Estate records
B 10	F 13	Financial records, 1957-1979
B 10	F 14	Financial records, 1990-1993
B 11	F 1	Financial reports, annual, 1926-1939
B 11	F 2	Financial reports, annual, 1940-1951
B 11	F 3	Financial reports, annual, 1952-1956
B 11	F 4	Financial statements, 1980-1989
B 1	F 6	Fire insurance policies, circa 1940

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 11	F 5	First communion classes, 1935-1969
B 1	F 7	Gaudian will, 1964
F 11	F 6	History, 1923-1989
B 1	F 8-9	Incorporation documents, 1920
B 11	F 7	Legal correspondence, 1986-1992 (restricted)
B 15	F 4	List of parishioners, 1951-1957
B 15	F 5	List of parishioners, 1982
B 15	F 6-8	List of parishioners, 1986-1993
B 11	F 8	Newsletters, 1983-1989
B 11	F 9	Newsletters, 1990-1993
B 11	F 10	Parish council, 1946-1952
B 12	F 1	Parish council, 1974-1976
B 12	F 2	Parish council, 1974-1979
B 12	F 3-9	Parish council, 1977-1983
B 13	F 1-6	Parish council, 1983-1994
B 14	F 1-5	Parish council, 1990-1994
B 14	F 6	Parish documents, list of parishioners/financial, 1915-1921
B 14	F 7	Parish documents, list of parishioners/financial, 1920-1921
B 15	F 1	Parish meetings, 1913-1981
B 15	F 2	Parish reports, status animarum, 1950-1971
B 15	F 3	Parish reports, status animarum, 1972-1993
B 22	F 1	Photographs, first communions, 1956-1980
B 21		Photographs, graduations, 1920s-1943
B 22	F 4-6	Photographs, graduations, 1937-1990
B 22	F 2-3	Photographs, parish, 1930s-1990s
B 23	F 1-3	Photographs, school, 1957-1981
B 20	F 7	Photographs, St. Vincet de Paul Society, 1930
B 1	F 10	Property appraisals, 1939-1940
B 1	F 11	Property documents, 1915-1977
B 16	F 2	Property documents, 1915, 1940, 1944
B 16	F 1	Receipts, 1932-1996
B 1	F 12	Sale of home, 1972
B 16	F 3	Sale of rectory, 1984-1991
B 1	F 13	Satisfaction of mortgage, 1914
B 16	F 4	School attendance lists, 1920-1921
B 16	F 5	School attendance lists, 1968-1969
B 16	F 6	School attendance lists, 1979-1986
B 16	F 7	School attendance lists, 1986-1988
B 17	F 1	School communication, 1974-1983
B 17	F 2	School documents, 1980-1990
B 17	F 6	School faculty lists, 1986-1990
B 17	F 7-8	School family lists, 1974-1989
B 17	F 3	School finances, 1977-1986
B 17	F 9	School graduation classes, 1917-1989
B 17	F 4	School meetings, 1977-1979
B 18	F 1	School record of grades, 1917-1928 (restricted)
B 17	F 10	School register, 1919-1922
B 17	F 11	School register, 1919-1923
B 17	F 12	School register, 1919-1923

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 17	F 13	School statistical reports, 1934-1977
B 30		School teacher personnel records (restricted)
B 17	F 5	School vacation bible, 1984
B 20	F 1	Scrapbook, 1985-1990
F 17	F 15	Tax exemption status, 1962-1987
B 1	F 14	Tax receipts, 1919
B 1	F 15-16	Title guaranty policy, 1944
B 1	F 17	Waiver of mechanics lien, 1939
B 1	F 18	Warranty deeds, 1920
B 1	F 19	Wisconsin telephone dispute, 1972