



The following is the finding aid for the St. Adalbert 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.](#)

St. Adalbert Congregation (Milwaukee, Wis.)

Records, 1908-1974

MC 46

Volume

2 cubic feet

Access

Open/unrestricted

Historical Note

The first meeting of St. Adalbert's (Wojciech in Polish) Roman Catholic parish was held late in March 1908, with formal incorporation and designation of a patron saint made on March 30th of that year. Rev. Michael Domachowski presided over the first meeting, and became the first pastor of the new church. In June 1908 five lots at the corner of Beecher Street and Fourteenth Avenue were purchased for construction of a church and school, which were completed and opened in February 1909. Rev. Domachowski was succeeded in September 1909 by Rev. Wenceslaus Kruszka who held the position until his death on November 30, 1937. As the parish increased in membership, a rectory, home for the Sisters of St. Joseph who taught in the school, and additions to the school building were added. In 1909 a new church building was begun, and the first Mass was said in the new building on April 23, 1931.

Rev. Clement J. Zych was appointed pastor of St. Adalbert's on December 22, 1937, to succeed Rev. Kurszka. Rev. Zych served as pastor until his retirement in 1968, celebrating the golden jubilee of his ordination with a testimonial dinner in 1957, and his 25th year at St. Adalbert's in 1963. He was followed by Fr. Arthur V. Krawczyk. The church itself was consecrated in 1951, and underwent extensive renovation prior to the golden jubilee of its founding. St. Adalbert celebrated its 65^h anniversary in 1974.

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

The collection consists of partial records of St. Adalbert's Church, primarily financial reports ("sprawozdanie") and weekly bulletins. The financial reports, of which there is a very complete file, list individual annual totals of regular and special donations by church members, as well as financial statements of the church, and of its parish and social groups. Some of these were the priest's own copy, and bear handwritten corrections and annotations. Additional financial records are fragmentary, mainly pertaining to mortgages and bank loans required by the church throughout its history, and to renovation of the rectory in 1966. The weekly bulletins are complete from 1948-1965, except for 1951, and list in English and Polish daily church services, upcoming meetings, and special events. Other records of St. Adalbert's Church are especially fragmentary. These consist of a parish history and statistics of membership, probably compiled for inclusion in Thaddeus Borun's *We, the Milwaukee Poles* (1946), Articles of Incorporation (1908); and programs commemorating the golden jubilee of Mother M. Felicja of St. Adalbert's School (1940), and 1941 consecration of the church bells, Msgr. Zych's golden jubilee in 1957, and the 65th anniversary of the church (1974). Of interest in the folder of scattered

correspondence and other papers are several letters, 1908-1916, from the Archbishop of Milwaukee discussing parish boundaries, the creation of new Polish parishes, eligibility for membership, and proposed additions to St. Adalbert's School. There is also a constitution, written in Polish and undated, of the Towarzystwo Marszalkow Aniola Stroza Przy Kosciele Sw. Wojciecha.

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.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 5	F 1	Articles of Incorporation, 1908
B 5	F 6	Constitution of Towarzystwo Marszalkow Aniola Stroza Przy Kosciele Sw. Wojciecha, n.d.
B 5	F 2	Correspondence and other papers, 1908-1918, 1938, 1946, 1952, 1964, 1979
B 1	F 3-9	Financial reports (Sprawozdanie), 1908-1960
B 2	F 1-2	Financial reports (Sprawozdanie), 1961-1966, 1968, 1970, 1972
B 1	F 2	Jubilee and anniversary programs, 1940, 1941, 1957, 1974
B 5	F 3	Legal papers and minutes of meetings regarding mortgages and bank loans, 1908, 1909, 1911, 1917, 1924, 1930, 1936
B 5	F 4	Miscellaneous financial records, 1909, 1938, 1946, 1952-1955, 1969
B 1	F 1	Parish history and statistics, 1945
B 5	F 5	Rectory renovation, invoices and financial papers, 1966
B 2	F 3-9	Weekly bulletins, 1948-1950, 1952-1955
B 3	F 1-7	Weekly bulletins, 1956-1962
B 4	F 1-3	Weekly bulletins, 1963-1965