

## **HISTORY OF QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Our church was established on July 1, 1991, as the result of the consolidation of three local churches, with Father James E. Merold as its Founding Pastor. A brief history of these three churches is provided below.

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH** was organized as a mission church of Immaculate Conception Parish in 1901. The first Mass was celebrated by Father E. W. Gavin on October 20, 1901, in the North Chicago Land Association Building. By Christmas of that year there were 42 Irish and German parishioners registered.

A frame structure was moved to the site at 19<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln in 1902, a frame rectory was built in 1903, and Father Michael Luby was appointed the first pastor in 1903. The first Mass was celebrated in the new church in 1915. In 1916 Archbishop Mundelein dedicated the new church, and in 1927 Cardinal Mundelein participated in the Silver Jubilee of Holy Family Parish and also dedicated the new school.

During its ninety years of service, Holy Family Parish was guided by fourteen pastors, including Father Peter Cameron, who served for twenty-five years. The pastor at the time of the consolidation was Father Ron Anglim, who served from 1981 to 1991.

**MOTHER OF GOD PARISH** was organized in 1903 to serve immigrants from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Original parishioners were Slovenes from Verhnika in Carniola, plus Croatioans and Slovaks who were not numerous enough to support a separate church. On Thanksgiving Day, 1903, Archbishop Quigley dedicated a frame church at 10<sup>th</sup> and Wadsworth.

In 1904 Father John Plevnik was appointed the first Pastor, and a frame rectory was built at 520 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street. A two-story frame school was built adjacent to the church in 1906.

In 1915 a new school and gymnasium were built, and in 1928 the church was remodeled and brick siding was added. (Because of the soil composition, the site could not withstand the weight of a brick building.)

In 1938 a two-year coeducational High School was established, which was in existence for five years. A new convent was built in 1958, and property was acquired in 1958 for the playground and the Father Hiti Center.

During its eighty-eight years of service, Mother of God Parish was guided by seven pastors, including Father Matthias Hiti, who served for thirty-three years. The pastor at the time of the consolidation was Father Albert Adamich, who served from 1971 to 1991.

In 1903 Father Joseph Zivierchowski was appointed to serve the Polish Catholics in North Chicago and Waukegan. In 1904 **HOLY ROSARY PARISH** was established with Father John Jendrzejek as its first pastor, and a frame church was built on the corner of 14<sup>th</sup> and Victoria. In 1905 a school was opened using two rooms in the church.

In 1910 a brick school, a convent and a brick rectory were built. In 1925 the permanent brick church was completed, and the school opened a two-year degree program in Business Administration, which continued until 1937.

In 1968 the parish hall and gymnasium were built, and in 1979 the parish celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary with Cardinal Cody.

During its eighty-eight years of service, Holy Rosary Parish was guided by eight pastors, including Father Julius Grezezinski, who served for forty-three years. The pastor at the time of the consolidation was Father Frank Nikliborc, who served from 1973 to 1991.