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ST. ROBERT PARISH

The Tenth Decade

2002-2012

- **November 8, 2002** - The St. Robert Hall of Fame presentations were made at the Wisconsin Club. Honorees were Susan Casper, Sr. Virginia Honish, SDS, Bruce and Jeanne Kress, Rev. Douglas Leonhardt, S.J., and David Olson.
- **April 24, 2004** - A celebration of Fr. John Pulice's 12 years at St. Robert was held at Saturday evening Mass followed by a reception in the gym.



Fr. John Mary Ssozi and Kate Jurgens

- **May 2004** - Rev. Dennis A. Dirkx was appointed the seventh pastor of St. Robert Parish.

- **Summer 2004 & 2005** - Revs. John Mary Ssozi and Augustine Kalemeera, priests from Uganda and graduate students at Marquette University, became residents in the St. Robert rectory.



Fr. Augustine and Keenan Knight-Boehm

- **March 31 - April 2, 2006** - Emmanuel Cardinal Wamala of Kampala, Uganda, visited St. Robert Parish as fund raising began to help build St. Jude School near Kampala, Uganda.
- **May 5, 2006** - Deacon Dan Zozak retired from his ministerial duties at St. Robert Parish.
- **October 15, 2006** - InLight, an intergenerational lifelong faith formation program for all St. Robert parishioners began.
- **December 9, 2007** - A farewell celebration was held for Mary Schroedl, business manager, who retired after 27 years at St. Robert Parish.

- **March 2008** - Archbishop Dolan appointed Fr. Dirkx as shared pastor of St. Robert and Holy Family, Whitefish Bay, parishes.

- **June 2008** - The parish prayer garden was dedicated to Mary, Our Lady of Grace. The project was funded by a bequest from Anne Busalacchi. David Olson, volunteer landscape designer and gardener, directed the project in the courtyard between the church and the rectory.

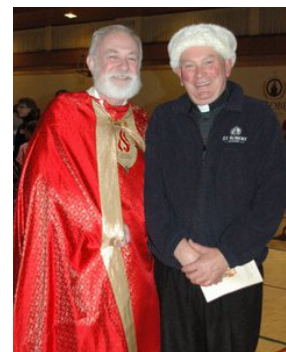
- **June 2008** - A group of parishioners, including Fr. Dirkx and Pastoral Associate Claire Anderson, traveled to Uganda to visit St. Jude School that St. Robert Parish was helping to build in Fr. Augustine's diocese.

- **Fall 2008** - The Multi-Purpose Room was renamed Reilly Hall in honor of Msgr. Farrel Patrick Reilly (1912-1958) founding pastor of St. Robert Parish.

- **Fall 2008** - Faith in Our Future, an Archdiocesan program to raise funds for the Archdiocese and individual parishes, began.

- **Fall 2008** - Dan Hull, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, reintroduced a traditional religious education program for K5-8th graders.

- **December 6, 2008** - The first annual St. Nick's Party, planned in conjunction with Faith in Our Future, was held in the gym, featuring a buffet supper, polka band, crafts for kids, and a visit from St. Nick.



St. Nick with Fr. Dennis

2002 - 2012

St. Robert of Newminster Parish

- **September 15, 2010** - St. Robert School celebrated its 95th birthday.

- **September 2009** - Parishioner Kathy Wyatt began our SCRIP program as a way to support the parish.

- **June 2011** - Karin Hansen retired from St. Robert School after 32 years as a middle school math teacher.

- **Summer 2011** - Fr. John Mary moved to Texas to pursue post-doctoral studies at Baylor University. Fr. Augustine returned to his home diocese in Uganda.

- **October 7, 2011** - Eucharistic Adoration began on Friday afternoon/evening in the parish center chapel.

- **November 2011 - First Sunday of Advent** - The new Roman Missal, third edition, featuring new language for the priest and congregants, was introduced.

- **December 4, 2011** - A St. Robert Parish Centennial ornament/sun-catcher, a replica of the Rose Window in the church, was offered for sale.

- **January - October, 2012** - St. Robert Parish celebrated its Centennial Year. Weekly bulletin covers featured historic pictures beginning with January 1 - a picture of the parish's first church, a small wooden structure used from July-October 1913. Special Centennial events during the



Frank Almond performs during a Centennial concert. Photo: John O'Hara, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

year included: January 9 - a presentation by Milwaukee historian John Gurda - "The East Side Story"; June 3 - a special feature of the 40th annual St. Robert Fair was the 100th Birthday Cake Contest; September 9 - a concert featuring parishioner Frank Almond, school parent and concert master of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, was held in the church.



Fr. Kevin and John Gurda

- **September 16, 2012** - St. Robert church was included in the Shorewood Historical Society's Tour of Historic Shorewood Churches. A booklet about the stained glass windows marked the occasion.

- **September 20, 2012** - A statue of Robert of Newminster was installed in the main vestibule of the church under the St. Robert windows. Parishioner and school parent John Balistrieri sculpted the statue commissioned by Fr. Dirx.

- **Summer 2012** - Rev. Luke Strand, Vocations Director for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, became a resident in the St. Robert Rectory. He played a part in opening the rectory to men who are seriously discerning a call to the diocesan priesthood.

- **October 3, 2012** - a new carillon bell system was installed in the church, a gift of the Sankovitz Family in memory of Richard J. and Mary McDermott Mathews, parishioners 1933 - 1990.

- **October 14, 2012** - Archbishop Jerome E. Listecky was the celebrant at the Centennial Mass in St. Robert Church. A reception followed in the gym.



Fr. Dennis and the St. Robert of Newminster statue

During the Tenth Decade:

Popes: John Paul II (1978-2005), Benedict XVI (2005 --)

Archbishops: Timothy Michael Dolan (2002-2009), Jerome Edward Listecky (2005 --)

Pastors: John J. Pulice (1992-2004), Dennis A. Dirx (2004 --)

Associates: Michael Erwin (2000-2002), Russel J. Stommel (2002-2004), Robert Kacalo (2008-2010), Kevin McManaman (2011 --)

Principals: Mary Miller (1999-2004), Lauren Beckmann (interim - 2004), Michael Halstead (2004-2006), Lauren Beckmann (2006 --)



Centennial banners fly on light poles on Capitol Drive during 2012.

Trustees: Michael Schulte (1997-2003), Joseph Rivas (2000-2004), Matthew Connell (2002-2005), Joseph Krueger (2004-2009), David Olson (2005-2007), Joseph O'Neill (2007--), Margaret Mathews Sankovitz (2009 --)