



1912 2012

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ST. ROBERT PARISH

The Eighth Decade

1982-1992

- **Fall 1981** - The S.A.M. (Share a Meal) program was initiated by the Human Concerns Committee.
- **RENEW**, an Archdiocesan-wide program of parish and individual renewal, began in 1981 and continued in 1982 and 1983.
- **March 1982** - The St. Robert Resurrection Choir, a ministry to the bereaved of the parish, began.
- **June 13, 1982** - Girl altar servers were assigned for the first time for weekday Masses.
- **December 24, 1982** - The 4:30 Mass on Christmas Eve was planned as a Children's Christmas liturgy. Children 8-13 years of age were invited to participate.
- **October 1, 1983** - The Altar Society celebrated its 70th anniversary with a special liturgy, a champagne brunch, and a donation of \$4,500 for restoration of the chime system in the steeple. The chime system was up and running in July 1987.
- **1984** - The Communications Committee initiated *The Spire* newsletter.
- **1984** - Asbestos removal and/or encapsulation, from the 1958 addition and renovation of the school, was estimated to cost \$61,000.
- **June 17, 1984** - Kathy Devitt and Susan Casper began a Funeral Hospitality Ministry.
- **November 4, 1984** - Fr. Richard Cerpich received the Msgr. Frank M. Schneider Memorial Vocation award from the Serra Club of Milwaukee. Monsignor was pastor of St. Robert Parish from 1965 to 1973.
- **December 23, 1984** - Construction of the handicap access to the west entrance of the church was near completion.
- **June 30, 1985** - The last live-in housekeeper in the rectory, Billie Stout, retired.
- **August 25, 1985** - "Say Yes to St. Robert" was the theme of the Capital Fund Drive mounted to raise funds to clean and paint the church.
- **Fall 1986** - The first St. Robert School Annual Fund Drive was initiated with Terry Wakefield as Chair.
- **June 17, 1987** - "A Wedding Reception" was held as part of the 75th Anniversary celebration of the Parish. The gathering featured wedding dresses and photos loaned by St. Robert brides representing over 40 of the more than 3,000 weddings performed in 75 years. Wedding cake, champagne and coffee were served.



Artist Conrad Schmitt's rendition of St. Robert Church's restoration. Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B. rededicated St. Robert Church on June 10, 1990, after five months of restoration and renovation work.

1982 - 1992

St. Robert of Newminster Parish

- **June 1987** - Sr. Helen Martin, O.P. resigned as principal of St. Robert School, the last Dominican sister to occupy that position.

- **November 1, 1987** - The North Shore Lay Ministry Formation was begun as a program of the four North Shore Parishes to train lay men and women who volunteer their time and talents in ministry to the church.

- **January 12, 1988** - The restoration/renovation proposal from the ad hoc committee of the Parish Council was presented at a special meeting of the Council. The committee had been working since fall 1985.

- **October 22, 1988** - The first St. Robert Hall of Fame celebration was held at the UWM Alumni House following 4:30 p.m. Mass.

- **September 10, 1989** - Fred Perez, music and liturgy director at St. Robert since 1977, died.



Parishioner Ben Otero, a commercial artist, designed a new school logo in summer 1984. The open book symbolized the foundation received at St. Robert School. With its arms extended, the child represented each student growing from this knowledge and guidance.

- **December 30, 1989** - A Mass was celebrated in memory of those of St. Robert who died during 1989. This was the first event for the newly formed Bereavement Ministry founded by Mary Lynne Collins.

- **January 2, 1990** - The church was closed for renovation. Weekend Masses were held in the gym. Daily Masses were celebrated in the convent chapel.

- **May 27, 1990** - The Dominican Sisters decided to vacate the convent occupied by the sisters since 1924.

- **June 24, 1990** - Bingo was discontinued after operating for 16 years. John O'Connor began the program in 1974.

- **October 21, 1990** - The RCIA program at St. Robert began.

- **December 16, 1990** - Habitat for Humanity was introduced and work by the St. Robert group began in January 1991.

- **August 1991** - St. Robert was chosen as one of the recipients of the annual Pride of Shorewood Award for excellence in the exterior appearance of the church.

During the Eighth Decade:

Pope: John Paul II (1978-2005)

Archbishop: Rembert George Weakland, OSB (1977-2002)

Pastor: Richard J. Cerpich (1980-92)

Associate Pastors: Thomas Trepanier (1978-83), Charles T. Hanel (1983-84), Gale Leifeld, OFM. Cap. (1984), Richard R. Walsh (1984-88), Henry G. Mueller III (1989-94)

Principals: Sr. M. Helen Martin, O.P. (1976-87), Consuelo Roybal (1987-89), Laurence Patterson (1989-99)

Parish Trustees: Treasurer Jerald H. Schmitt (1981-95), Secretaries William J. Mulligan (1979-85), David R. Olson (1985-86), Margaret Mathews Sankovitz (1986-92)



October 4, 1987 - St. Robert Parish celebrated its 75th Anniversary with a special liturgy celebrated by Bishop Richard J. Sklba and concelebrated by former pastor Msgr. Harold O. Prudell, Fr. Richard Cerpich, Fr. Richard Walsh and Fr. Richard Breitbart, and many priest sons and former associate priests. A reception and open house followed in the gym, attended by 100s of parishioners, former parishioners, school alumni, and friends of the parish. The 75th Anniversary Book, hot off the presses, was presented for sale.