

ST. STANISLAUS B. & M. PARISH

1900 - 1950

The following information was taken from the Church Golden Jubilee Book.

In 1855, St. Rose of Lima Parish, Kankakee, was founded of which the Reverend Louis Cartuyles was the first pastor. This parish enjoys the honor of having been the mother of many other parishes which grew up and about her in the course of her long history. For many years the parish of St. Rose embraced not only all the territory of the city, but Goodrich, Pilot and Irwin, and the pastors from St. Rose attended these growing outlying districts until they could form parishes of their own.

In 1865 the German Catholics became numerous enough by this time to form their own parish, but not until 1873 did they erect their own church, the Immaculate Conception, BVM. Most of the Polish people spoke German as well as their own mother-tongue and decided to join the German Catholics. On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1900, the frame building was destroyed by fire, which necessitated the pastor, Father Sixt, to build the present edifice.

Shortly before this disaster the Polish Catholics became numerous enough to establish their own parish. In the fall of 1900 a group of Polish Catholics gathered at the home of Ignatius Wiatroluk for the purpose of raising funds towards the erection of a church. It was in the month of November, 1900, that the parish of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, was founded by the Rev. Maximillian Kotecki under the direction of His Grace the Most Rev. Patrick A. Feehan, D.D. first Archbishop (1880-1902) of the diocese of Chicago. Rev. Kotecki and his "building committee" decided to "erect a church at the corner of First street (now Birch street) and Dearborn avenue, in the Fraser subdivision". The frame two story building was designed by the Kankakee architect, the late C. D. Henry, was to be "40 x 60 feet in size, with a seating capacity of 200 and to cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000".

During the course of the building, services were held in the basement of St. Rose church. The first baptism of the parish was that of John Kunigowski, born November 7, 1900, and baptized November 18, 1900. The Sacrament of baptism was administered by Father Kotecki. The first marriage of the parish was between Charles Kalczynski and Alexandra Matiulas on January 7, 1901. The first death was that of Stephen Spiewak, April 5, 1905. The parish consisted of twenty-four families and two single men. The following year on July 4, 1901, the church was dedicated by Monsignor J. Lange and Father Paul P. Rhode delivered the sermon.

Father Kotecki served as pastor for one year; having been retired, he was succeeded by Rev. F. Nowacki in December, 1901. Father Nowacki served the parish well until the summer of 1905; he became ill, so that he was unable to perform his parochial duties. He returned to his home in Manistee, Mich., to recuperate. In the New Year he took a turn for the worse and on January 25, 1906, he passed away at the age of 29. Before coming to St. Stanislaus parish, Father Nowacki served as assistant to St. Mary's Church in Chicago.

Rev. E. A. Kowalewski was assigned to replace Father Nowacki. Father Kowalewski labored in the parish for five years when he was assigned to St. Mary Magdalene Church in Chicago. In June, 1910, Rev. F. G. Ostrowski was offered the parish. During Father Ostrowski's pastorate the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth were given charge of the parochial school. Previous to this time classes were held in the home of Isadore Link on North Seventh Ave. and classes were conducted by laymen, some of them being Paul Szypniewski, Martha Zolinski and Walter Maniszewski.

In 1912 Father Ostrowski was assigned to the Holy Rosary Parish in Chicago, and Rev. F. Feldheim was assigned to St. Stanislaus church. Father Feldheim served only a short six months when he was assigned to Ascension Church in Evanston, Illinois. He was replaced by Rev. A. Koytek in that same year.

Father Koytek served the parish two years, when in 1914 he was retired and Rev. B. J. Orlemanski was given charge of St. Stanislaus parish. It was Father Orlemanski who saw the need of a convent for the sisters, for at this time they occupied two rooms on the first floor of the church. In 1916 Father Orlemanski purchased the home of Mr. Ignatius Kocinski, directly north of the church, to be used as a convent for the sisters. He also enlarged the sanctuary, erected a new altar through the generous offering of the Altar and Rosary Society and had the church decorated. Father Orlemanski was a tireless worker. During the great Spanish Influenza epidemic of 1918, Father Orlemanski was stricken and within a week he passed away, on October 17, 1918, at the age of 35. He was born in Erie, PA, and was ordained in Chicago.

On October 30, 1918, Rev. B. K. Szudzinski was offered the charge of St. Stanislaus parish. During Father Szudzinski's pastorate the entrance to the church was altered in order to enlarge the school rooms. Father Szudzinski served the parish five years when he was assigned to St. Valentine's Church in Cicero, IL. In 1923 Rev. Paul Sabota succeeded Father Szudzinski. Father Sabota served the parish only a short time. In 1925 he was assigned to St. Tecla Parish, Norwood Park, IL.

Father Sabota was succeeded by Rev. John Mencikowski. Father Mencikowski served the parish six years, when due to ill health he was relieved of his parish duties and assigned to St. Mary's Hospital, Kankakee, as chaplain.

In 1931 Rev. Stanislaus Koralewski was assigned to St. Stanislaus parish. Father Koralewski was pastor of the parish for the longest period of time in the history of the parish, having served twelve years. It was during his pastorate that the annual Homecomings were instituted. Many of these Homecomings were held on the campus of St. Viator College, Bourbonnais. On June 16, 1943, Father Koralewski passed away after a brief illness. Father Koralewski, a native of Posen, Poland, came to the United States at the age of 3, was educated in St. Adalbert's parochial school, St. Stanislaus College, Chicago, and St. Francis seminary, St. Francis, WI. In July, 1943, the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch appointed Rev. F. C. Scieszka to the parish. Father Scieszka has established the first catholic Kindergarten in the city. In the summer of 1950 Father Scieszka launched a great venture by announcing his intention of publishing a historical account of the St. Stanislaus parish by way of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the parish.

Pastors:	Rev. Maximillian Kotecki	1900 - 1901
	Rev. F. Nowacki	1901 - 1905
	Rev. E. A. Kowalewski	1905 - 1910
	Monsignor F. G. Ostrowski	1910 - 1912
	Rev. F. Feldheim	1912 (6 months)
	Rev. A. Koytek	1912 - 1918
	Monsignor B. K. Szudzinski	1918 - 1923
	Rev. Paul Sobota	1923 - 1925
	Rev. John Mencikowski	1925 - 1931
	Rev. Stanislaus Koralewski	1931 - 1943
	Rev. F. C. Scieszka	1943 - 1950

Original Founders of the St. Stanislaus B. & M. Parish

Mr. John Boguszewski	Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Marczak
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Chaplinski	Mr. Bruno J. Mathews
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Golowski	Mr. & Mrs. Louis J. Monik
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Helta	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Murawski
Mr. & Mrs. August Kalczyński	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Osenglewski
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kalczyński	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ostrowski
Mr. & Mrs. John Kalczyński	Mr. & Mrs. John Ostrowski
Mr. & Mrs. John Klawta, Sr.	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ostrowski
Mr. & Mrs. John Klonowski	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Ostrowski
Mr. & Mrs. Ignatius Kocinski	Mr. & Mrs. John Putz
Mr. & Mrs. Marion Kravat	Mr. & Mrs. Valerian Palczyński
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kulpinski	Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Silka
Mr. & Mrs. Isadore Link	Mr. & Mrs. Ignatius Wiatrolik

Men of St. Stanislaus Parish who have Served Their Country

World War I:

August Chinski
Bernard Chinski
Sigismund Dluzak*
George Dominiak
Frank Golowski
Rev. Walter Gulczynski
Stanley Jozwiak
George Kirstein
John Klemczak
John Kocinski
Leon Krusinski
Walter Kryzanowski
Ignatius Kubiak

Stanley Kuklinski
John Laponia
Paul Luczak
Walter Luczak
Charles McNash
Frank Murawski
John Murawski
Ignatius Kurczeski
Andrew Osenglewski
Anthony Ostrowski
Conrad Ostrowski
Frank Ostrowski
Leo Ostrowski

Thomas Ostrowski
Paul Palinski
Joseph Papierski
John Pelchowski
Joseph Piechak
Vincent Potczebski
Robert Pretty
John Roswinski
Frank Sabatowicz
Joseph Slovikoski
Frank Szeverenko
Casimir Wiatrolik

*Killed in action 2nd Battle of the Marne, July 31, 1918, age 17.

World War II:

Edward Achramowicz
Edward Mrozowicz
Walter Achramowicz
Lavern Adams**
Edward Bisluk
John Boguszewski
Stanley Boguszewski
Octave Botary
Varnum J. Bydalek
Bruno Cieryca
Casimir Cieryca
Elden Fox
Joseph Giardina
Franklin Giasson
Harry Gill
Albert Golowski
Frank Golowski
Kenneth Golowski
Sigismund Golowski
Florian Janczak
William Janczak
Edward Januski
John Januski
Alex Juska
Casimir Juszka
Edward Kalczynski
Harry Kalczynski
George Kalczynski
Edward Klonowski
Jerome Klonowski
Leo Klonowski
Philip Klonowski
Vincent Kaminski
Walter Kaminski
John Kisiel
Leslie Klafta
Joseph Klafta
Chester Koza
Edwin Koza
Joseph Kubiak

Daniel Kiklinski
Edward Kulpinski
Daniel Kryznowski
Floyd Kryznowski
Raymond Kryznowski
Stanley Leszczewicz
William Lovell
Edward Marczak
Daniel Mathews
Frank Mathews
Chester Monik
Alphonse Murawski
Bernard Muirawski
Albin Noramczyk
Sigismund Olesinski
Frank Osenglewski
Louis Osenglewski
Conrad Ostrowski
Leonard Ostrowski
Ambrose Palinski
Chester Palinski
Paul Palinski
Lib Panichi
John Parasinski
Edward Piotrowski
Harry Piotrowski
John Piotrowski
David Pretty
Sigmond Pretty
Bernard Pyzdrowski
Edward Pyzdrowski
Walter Rokus
Anthony Silk
Raymond Silk
Robert Smith
Leonard Sowinski
Victor Sowinski
Sid Stanaski
Henry Stanek
C. Stanieszewski
Frank Stanieszewski
Joseph Stankunas

Bruno Steinke
Walter Steinke
Aldona Szafranowski
Casimir Szafranowski
Veronica Szafranowski
Joseph Szeverenko
Joseph Tusinski
Raymond Tyralski
Anthony Usewicz
John Usewicz
Leonard Wiatrolik
Leonard Wisniewski
Victor Wisniewski
Chester Zasada
Sigismund Zasada
Casimir Zaucha
Joseph Zaucha

**Killed in action
Mayenne, France, August
16, 1944, age 20