

Church of the Holy Name

1916 – present

In the fall of 1915 a number of families felt a need for a new parish to serve the community. A committee was formed to call on Archbishop John Ireland, in order to make their need known. He granted their request for a new parish. The Church of the Holy Name was founded on July 5, 1916. Twelve lots were purchased on 37th street between 11th & 12th Avenues. An old building from a disbanded church was purchased and torn down. Some of the materials were used for the construction of the church building. The first Mass in the new church was held on December 5, 1916. The church of the Holy Name was blessed by Archbishop Ireland on January 21, 1917.

The original school was erected in 1923. In 1953, after Reverend John B. Garvey became pastor of Holy Name, it was determined that the school could not adequately serve the children of the parish. The need for a larger school became paramount, and the money that had been saved for a church was given to this cause. Six classrooms, a gymnasium and a social hall were added to the school, and it was finished in the spring of 1955. Even then, however, there was a promise of a new church and there was an intention to hold Mass in the school hall while a new church was built. Shortly after the new school was opened, it became imperative that Holy Name provide a convent for the Sister's of St. Joseph. All this time, while teaching at Holy Name, they had made their home at Holy Angels Academy and traveled back and forth between the two by taxicab. And so the convent was built just north of the school and playground, and it was blessed on February 21, 1957.

The parish was growing larger and a need for a new, larger church was a reality. One building fund drive was followed by another. There were pledges and prayers, and in 1959, a Building Committee was formed specifically for the development of a new church. The dream of a quarter century was soon to become a reality. The groundbreaking was finally held on October 9, 1960. The blessing and dedication of the bells, which hang over the front door, was held on September 23, 1961. They were named Patrick and Timothy (for the first and second pastors) and Bernadino (the middle name and a favorite saint of Father John B. Garvey, who was pastor and a driving force during this time).

The first rectory was built in 1961. The second floor, used for living quarters, contained space for three priests, with one room for a visiting priest. In the center was a commons room with a fireplace and kitchenette in the next room. In the late 1980's the west upper level of the rectory was remodeled to make an apartment for the pastor. The remaining rooms were to be used as offices for some of the staff, and one large meeting room. The west half of the main floor now remains as office for staff. The east half (previously housekeepers quarters, kitchen and dining area) are now rented out as office space. Archbishop Leo Binz blessed the present church on April 29, 1962.

The establishment and the growth of Holy Name parish have been achieved by hard work, sacrifice and a common goal that continues today. The various organizations and

committees that were established years ago - Altar Rosary, Men's Club, Ushers Club, Building Committee, Senior Club may have either disbanded or changed their names (i.e. Women's Club, Hospitality Ministry, Maintenance Committee), but the existing committees continue to carry on the legacy of fellowship and concern for the well-being of the parish that the first organizations began. Through the years, the members of the parish have been part of a spiritual family, which continues to grow in faith and love of God and each other. We strive to reach out to all neighborhood residents and share our love for Jesus Christ with them.

We continue to be a supporting parish for Risen Christ Catholic School, which was established in 1993 as a result of the consolidation of the Catholic schools from Church of the Holy Name, Holy Rosary, Church of the Incarnation, St. Albert the Great, and St. Stephen Catholic Church. Operating on two campuses (Holy Name & Incarnation), our school has hosted up to 500 students annually.

The 2003-2004 academic year marked a huge transition for the student body & staff. The school began operating in one building here on our campus. New construction (and renovation of the existing school building) was completed in the summer of 2003. The Risen Christ school community reflects the social and cultural diversity of our city and the greater south Minneapolis neighborhood.

Risen Christ Catholic School is committed to teaching and promoting Catholic values and traditions, developing spiritual, academic, social, physical and personal integrity in each student and nurturing civic and church leaders of tomorrow.

Risen Christ school is a dedicated peace site and that means all involved with our school are committed to seeking peace within ourselves and with others, protecting the environment, promoting multicultural understanding, reaching out in service to others and working toward world justice. The active support of many people from inside and outside the school's geographic boundaries, make it possible for the school to prosper, grow and deepen its roots.

Today, in the year 2014, the Church of the Holy Name continues to be a strong and vital presence in the Powderhorn community, always striving to become a more caring, outgoing and hospitable community, where God's love is abundantly present. Outreach and evangelization have become a key focus for the staff & parish community in the long range and yearly planning. As a parish, Holy Name works for justice and peace in our neighborhood. We celebrate a Mass for peace each week.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT HOLY NAME!