

Building on Our Legacy...Why this project matters to me!

It has been over 122 years since our very beginning where young women traveled by horse and buggy collecting donations for the building of a church in Sugar Camp. That church is St. Kunegunda. As we continue to stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, we too look to the future for this very special place.

Over the past 30 years, members of our parish envisioned an addition and renovation to our building. People worked tirelessly in meeting after meeting to put together a plan and never gave up on the vision. One of those dedicated individuals was my mom, Irene Thorn. She was born, raised, married, and lived her life in Sugar Camp with St. Kunegunda being the only parish she ever knew and belonged to. With parents who were immigrants of Poland, she was so proud of her Polish heritage and strongly devoted to St. Kunegunda of Poland Catholic Church. She represents so many who came before us and now we are building on their legacy as we move forward with our building project.

Although no longer the original building, we have a beautiful quaint church. When we celebrated our 100th year, how fortunate we were to find and receive the original Stations of the Cross, scripted in Polish, all of which currently adorn our church. Most recently, the family of a longtime parishioner gifted us the Blessed Mother statue that was placed in an alcove in the front of the original St. Kunegunda Church. When I saw her again after so many years, tears welled up in my eyes. For me there is a special connection... at the tender age of seven, I was the one picked to crown her with a crown of flowers to honor her.

How blessed we are in this small community to have this church, this faith community in our midst and especially the deep roots of our ancestors. St. Kunegunda has been a part of so many lives and will continue to be.

St. Kunegunda is my spiritual home.

Cynthia (Thorn) Wallis, lifelong resident and parishioner