

This weekend we begin a series of articles and pictures to commemorate St. Boniface's 175th

Wisconsin territory was established in 1836. Town 9 (Germantown and Richfield) opened for settlement in 1839, the same year that the Diocese of Detroit established Milwaukee's first parish, St. Luke. By the end of 1842, there were five parishes in southeastern Wisconsin. As the population of immigrants increased, the need for a separate diocese and more parishes became necessary. The diocese of Milwaukee was established in 1843. Our first bishop, John Martin Henni, and his colleague, Rev. Michael Heiss, arrived on May 3 of the following year. Some sources say that Heiss visited Town 9 that same year.

Although the deed to Archbishop Henni wasn't filed until 1847, some sources indicate a small log church was erected near the John Knetzger home in section 17 of Town 9, by autumn 1843 or 1845 while Fr. Michael Heiss was serving the settlers northwest of Milwaukee. The property was deeded to the Archbishop of Milwaukee in August 1847 when Joseph Salzmann became the first resident priest. This property is a small part of the *JW Speaker* property. A tiny cemetery of 10 people may still be there. The wooden crosses that marked the graves are long gone. St. Boniface was the 18th parish established in the Diocese.

St. Luke (later St. Peter Cathedral)	1839-1887	Milwaukee
St. Matthew	1841-	Oak Creek
St. James	1841-	Menomonee Falls
St. Mary	1842-	Hales Corners
St. Francis de Sales	1842-	Lake Geneva
St. Michael	1843-1904	Granville
St. Finbar	1843-1890	Newberg
St. John	1843-2006	Monches
St. Francis Borgia	1844-	Cedarburg
St. Luke/St. Ignatius	1844-1862	Racine
Immaculate Conception	1844-	Burlington
St. John the Baptist	1845-	Johnsburg
Holy Cross	1845-	Holy Cross
St. James	1845-2005	Mequon
St. Mary	1845-?	Racine
St. Mary Magdalene (later Holy Name)	1845-	Sheboygan
St. Joseph	1845-	Waukesha
St. Boniface	1845-	Germantown

These parishes and missions shared a missionary or pastor with St. Boniface. The approximate dates of their existence are in parenthesis. St. Joseph closed. St. Augustine burned and was replaced by St. Mary of the Hill Parish, Holy Hill. St. Mary and St. Hubert merged with St. Columba, Lake Five, to form St. Gabriel Parish.

St. Joseph, Polk (1849-1862)

St. Mary, Richfield (1854-2002)

St. Hubert, Hubertus (1847-2002)

St. Augustine, St. Augustine (1846-1922)

An example of housing in the 1800s.

Germantown, Washington Co., WI. Christian Turck House built in 1835 by Turck, who was a German immigrant.

Today, the structure is located at Old World Wisconsin in Eagle, WI.

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