



The following is the finding aid for the St. Barbara Parish, Milwaukee collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted.
[*Genealogists should consult our genealogical resources guide.*](#)
[*Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.*](#)

**St. Barbara Congregation (Milwaukee, Wis.)
Records, 1921-1999
MC 144**

Volume
14.25 c.f.

Access

Open/unrestricted, except for certain Administrative, Financial, Marriage, and School records. Consult archivist for details.

Historical Note

The first meetings aimed at organizing a new parish on the Southside of Milwaukee west of Layton Boulevard—what would become St. Barbara's Parish—began in early 1921, held at St. Adalbert Parish. Historically an ethnically Polish parish, St. Barbara's was officially consecrated on August 31, 1924, but work had begun well before toward securing land on which to build a place of worship. Organizers, including the new parish's first Pastor, Rev. S.J. Suder, looked for affordable lots in the area between 28th and 33rd Streets to the east and west, and between Becher and Grant Streets to the north and south. The corner stone of a new church at 2075 S. 32nd Street was laid on December 20th, 1923 under the pastorship of Rev. Theodore Lass, who would serve in the position for ten years. The parish grew and solidified largely under the pastorship of Rev. Joseph D. Tutkowski, the longest serving pastor in St. Barbara's history, from 1933-1955. In 1958, work began on a new church building at the corner of 33rd Street and Becher Street. Initiated by Rev. S.L. Bartnicki, the new church was completed in mid-1960 at a total cost of nearly \$750,000. By the early 1980s, Holy Spirit, St. Florian, and St. Ignatius Parishes, in addition to St. Barbara's had begun collaborative efforts especially in educational matters. St. Ignatius Parish merged into St. Barbara over the course of the early 1990s. Not long after, Archdiocesan leaders as well as St. Barbara and Holy Spirit Parish leaders decided to have their two parishes merge into one brand new parish. Parish leaders and parishioners eventually decided on the name, St. Raphael the Archangel, for the new parish and completed this merge on May 23, 1999. St. Raphael the Archangel parish remains active, congregating at the former St. Barbara church building on 33rd and Becher.

Scope and Content *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection contains information about St. Barbara's Parish, active from 1921-1999. The six series in this collection include Administrative, Building, Financial, Historical, Merger, School, and Marriage Case Files. Many official documents and decrees are in Latin and most of the early entries in the announcement books from 1934-1939 are in Polish. Administrative records include minutes and agendas from multiple societies and committees operating at St. Barbara's, as well as bylaws, constitutions, and more general information. Building records include appraisals, blueprints, and mortgage information concerning the church built in the late 1950s. Financial records include Archdiocesan reports, balance sheets, financial statements and Status Animarum, collectively spanning the parish's active history from 1921-1999. Historical records contain the collection's photographs as well as some photographic slides. Merger

records include various administrative and financial records that specifically regard the mergers of the late 1980s and 1990s. School records include class pictures and first communion pictures from 1948-1994, as well as school yearbooks from 1977-1995.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders are listed alphabetically. “B” is an abbreviation for box and “F” is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
<i>Series 1: Administrative Records</i>		
B 2	F 1	Altar Society - minutes, 1926-1953 (Polish language through 1938)
B 1		Announcement books, 1934-1939 (Polish language)
B 5-8		Bulletins, 1941-1999
B 2	F 2	Bylaws and constitutions, 1959-2000
B 2	F 3	Calendars, 1996-1999
B 2	F 4	Committees, minutes and reports, 1996-1997
B 2	F 5	Correspondence, 1955-1999
B 2	F 6	Holy Name Society, important documents, 1964-1986
B 2	F 7-9	Holy Name Society, minutes, 1957-1988
B 2	F 10	Holy Name Society, newsletter, 1982-1987
B 3	F 1	Official documents and Decrees, 1925-1960 (majority in Latin)
B 3	F 2	Parish Council, minutes, 1994-1998
B 3	F 3-4	Parishioner List, 1995-1999
B 3	F 5	Prayer and Worship Committee, 1996-1998
B 3	F 6	Proxies, 1951-1997
B 3	F 7	Publications, 1995-1997
B 3	F 8	Rediscovery Newsletter, 1983-1991
B 4	F 1	Staff meetings, notes, 1996-1997
B 4	F 2	Stewardship Committee, 1995-1999
B 4	F 3	Ushers Society, minutes, 1939-1950
B 4	F 4	Wills and Bequests, 1981-1997 (restricted)
<i>Series 2: Building Records</i>		
B 9	F 1	Appraisal and insurance information, 1956-1998
B 9	F 2	Blueprints, 1959-1960
B 9	F 3	Church construction plans, 1958-1960
B 9	F 4-5	Mortgage and title documents, 1959-1960
B 9	F 6	Mortgage burning, 1993
<i>Series 3: Financial Records</i>		
B 12		Archdiocesan Reports, 1940-1961 (restricted)
B 10	F 1-2	Archdiocesan Reports, 1970-1997 (restricted)
B 10	F 3-4	Balance sheets and budgets, 1964-1999 (restricted)
B 12		Financial statements, 1921-1924 (Polish language)
B 10	F 5-6	Financial statements, 1955-1998 (restricted)
B 11	F 1	Insurance policies, 1956-1979
B 11	F 2	Legal matters, 1979-1988
B 11	F 3-4	Major contracts, 1939-1962
B 11	F 5	Pledge reports, 1997

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 11	F 6	Tuition information, 1989-1993
B 12		Status Animarum (parish annual reports), 1949-1979
<i>Series 4: Historical Records</i>		
B 13	F 1	Biographical, St. Barbara, n.d.
B 13	F 2	Celebrations and dedications, 1957-1997
B 13	F 3	Historical facts of St. Barbara Parish, 1958-1993
B 13	F 4	Newspaper clippings, 1935-1990
B 13	F 5	Photographs, Bishop's visit, 1994
B 13	F 6	Photographs, Christmas parties, 1976-1980
B 13	F 7	Photographs, Church building exterior, n.d.
B 13	F 8	Photographs, Church building interior, n.d.
B 13	F 9	Photographs, Church construction, 1958-1960
B 14	F 1	Photographs, Dedications and Festivals, c. 1970s-1993
B 14	F 2	Photographs, Important People, c. 1950s-1990s
B 14	F 3-4	Photographs, Mass, c. 1950s
B 14	F 5	Photographs, St. Ignatius/St. Barbara Merger, 1996
B 14	F 6	Young Adult Ministry Cookbook, 1984
B 15	F 1-2	Slides, n.d.
<i>Series 5: Merger Records</i>		
B 16	F 1	Archdiocesan Findings and Recommendations, 1989-1998
B 16	F 2	Bereavement Committee, minutes, 1999
B 16	F 3	Collaboration Coordinating Body, minutes, 1992
B 16	F 4	Collaborative School, 1988-1999
B 16	F 5	Collaborative Youth Ministry, 1988-1992
B 16	F 6	Communications Committee, minutes, 1994
B 16	F 7	Correspondence, 1986-2000
B 16	F 8	Facts and Information, 1992-1999
B 16	F 9	Finance Committee, minutes, 1994
B 16	F 10	Financial Statements, 1986-1999
B 16	F 11	Joint Christian Formation, minutes, 1987-2001
B 16	F 12	Joint Parish Council, minutes, 1987-2001
B 17	F 1	Joint Staff, meeting minutes, 1996-1999
B 17	F 2	Merger Task Force Committee, 1997-1999
B 17	F 3	Merging St. Ignatius with St. Barbara, 1992-1995
B 17	F 4	Newspaper Clippings, 1993-1999
B 17	F 5	Near South Side Catholic Schools Association (NSSCSA) Minutes, 1997
B 17	F 6	Parish Listening Sessions, 1998-1999
B 17	F 7	Personnel Committee, minutes, 1999
B 17	F 8	Prayer and Worship Committee, minutes, 1999
B 17	F 9	Renovation Committee, 1997
B 17	F 10	Quad Parish Collaborative Information, 1987-1992
B 17	F 11	Quad Parish Joint Council, Team and Staffs, 1987-1992
B 17	F 12	Quad Parish Sacramental Subcommittee, 1990
B 17	F 13	St. Ignatius/St. Barbara Transition Task Force, 1992-1995
B 17	F 14	Survey, 1999
B 17	F 15	Triduum Planning Meeting, 1999

Box	Folder	Folder Title
<i>Series 6: School Records</i>		
B 18		Photographs, Class Pictures, 1948-1977
B 19	F 1-4	Photographs, Class Pictures, 1978-1994
B 19	F 5-6	Photographs, First Communion, 1966-1993
B 19	F 7	Photographs, School Children and Faculty, 1976-1993
B 20	F 1	Professional Staff, 1976-1987
B 20	F 2	Student Evaluation Forms, 1992
B 20	F 3	Teacher Contracts, 1976-1987 (restricted)
B 20	F 4-5	Yearbooks, 1977-1995