

# Sioux Falls Our Lady of Guadalupe

## OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

**December, 1995**  
Sioux Falls Hispanic Catholics celebrated The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on a Sunday in December of 1995, in the Cathedral chapel. This is the event after which their new church is named. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is an annual celebration of the patron saint of Mexico.

This will be the last Mass for them in the chapel, as in the following month, the Catholic Hispanic community - 100 to 200 people - will begin holding weekly Mass at St. Therese Catholic Church, 3220 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Hispanic Catholics have been meeting twice a month at St. Joseph for several years, but will have weekly service by their own Spanish-speaking priest every Sunday, beginning Jan. 21, 1996.

The same Sunday, parishioners from St. Therese will be able to attend an 11 a.m. Mass at the new Washington High School in northeast Sioux Falls. By mid-1996, on June 30, St. Therese's other Masses will move to Washington High and parishioners will await construction of a new church near the school.

OLG will hold one Spanish Mass every weekend and hold other services in English. Rev. John Rader, the diocesan priest who will be pastor at OLG, has been living near the Mexican border and working in a Spanish-speaking congregation. Members of St. Therese parish have to decide whether they want to stay at OLG or move on to the new St. Therese. This church is the second oldest Catholic community in the city, begun in 1917. With second, third generations together in the same neighborhoods, there is excitement and there is grieving both in this transition.

**August, 1996**  
On June 30, Cardinal William Keeler, Archbishop of Baltimore, dedicated Our Lady of Guadalupe during Mass. During his homily he proclaimed in English and in Spanish, "With great joy I celebrate this Church, dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe." Throughout the homily, Cardinal Keeler invited the more than 400 families who are members of the parish to receive the sacraments.

## Cardinal lauds Our Lady of Guadalupe for fostering diversity



Frank Robertson/Argus Leader



# Sioux Falls St. Katharine Drexel

## SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL

Dates taken from the timeline of the building of the parish

**November, 2003:** Diocese purchased 20 acre building site. Property was land being used for farming.  
**February, 2004:** Diocese formally announces the ninth parish of Sioux Falls to be named Saint Katharine Drexel.  
**July 3-4, 2004:** Saint Katharine Drexel Parish first Masses celebrated at Good News Reformed Church and O'Gorman Junior High gym with a community of 385 families.  
**October 23, 2005:** First Bonfire/Blessing at building site with 250 pioneers braving the cold winds.  
**May, 2006:** Diocese approves loan request. Door-to-door campaign is kicked off with over 5,000 households visited and invitations given to worship with the parishioners of Saint Drexel Parish.  
**October, 2006:** Information Sunday with Mass, food and games. Architectural master plan presented to parish family. "Foundation for the Future" building campaign is kicked off. First Mass under the big tent and the second annual Bonfire at the building site. Placement of large cross at the end of the building site. Youth have penny drive to raise funds.  
**January, 2007:** Bishop Swain present for the groundbreaking ceremony in subzero weather.  
**October, 2007:** Restoration begins on Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross were passed on to Saint Katharine Drexel from St. Joseph Church of Wellington, SD, which was built in 1894. Stations were purchased in 1947, but had been in storage with the diocese until 1988 when the church closed. The smaller Stations of the Cross in the chapel are from Sacred Heart Church of Chelsea, SD, that were blessed by Bishop O'Gorman in 1910 when the church opened its doors. They were originally ordered from "The Extension" magazine in Chicago. When church closed in 2004, the Stations were made available. Both sets required restoration and color updating.  
**June, 2008:** Altar, baptismal font, pews and statues installed in Nave. Crucifix and Stations of the Cross placed in Nave.



# Sioux Falls St. Lambert

## HISTORY OF SAINT LAMBERT PARISH

The history of St. Lambert Parish began in 1955 when Bishop William Brady, acting for the Diocese of Sioux Falls, purchased ten acres of land on the east side of Sioux Falls.

Originally a mission of St. Therese Parish, St. Lambert Parish came into existence on the Feast of All Saints, 1958. We still have around 40 Charter Members of that first community of faith. Our first house of worship was a gift from the parish of St. Mary. It had previously been a chapel at the Sioux Falls Airbase during World War II, and subsequently served as their parish hall until the construction of the new parish center. Moving the building was not without problems. It had to be moved across a cornfield at the east end of 33rd Street and across the Big Sioux River. To get the building over, the river was filled in twice. A weekend rain destroyed the first fill and fearing more rain and higher water the movers worked feverishly the entire weekend to finish the task. After crossing the river the building had to be brought through a forest of trees, a melon patch and across the railroad track. Ever since we have been known as a "parish on the move".

Mark Thomas Wilfahrt was to first baby baptized in the newly established church. Mary Pat Wright was the first girl baptized. Since the Parish was established there have been 2250 children baptized. From the beginning, St. Lambert Parish has always been known as a "young parish".

Our first major building project was to construct a grade school building which opened its doors to 150 children in 1959. As our numbers grew, space limitations in the converted chapel called for a second building project. In 1966 four classrooms were added and our present house of worship was built to seat 650.

These facilities were financed largely by dowries of \$10,000 each from the parishes of St. Joseph Cathedral and St. Therese; and bequests from Edward J. and Fred J. Muller, identical twins and members of the parish, who bequeathed their estate of approximately \$380,000 to the parish. In addition, Mr. Frank Olson, prominent Sioux Falls lumber dealer, bequeathed \$10,000 to the parish and this too was applied towards our building projects.

A third building project brought the parish center to its present size with a new community center, chapel and office space.

The pastors have been Father Casimir Mociun, Father Thomas Ryan, Father Jerome Holtzman and Father Ed Pierce. Our present number of families is 1130.



# Sioux Falls St. Mary

## SIoux FALLS ST. MARY

In the post war boom in Sioux Falls, Bishop William D. Brady decided a third parish was needed in Sioux Falls. Many Catholics were moving to the rolling hills in the South of town. Woodlawn Cemetery sold off 40 acres of land for development. Records from Cathedral and "Little Flower" (now St. Therese) showed almost 200 families in this area. Thirteen residential lots were purchased by the diocese between 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Streets and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Some residents objected and hired lawyer Richard Belski to oppose the rezoning from a residential area for the Church-school. Tom Kirby was the counsel for the Diocese. He assisted the Chancellor, Lambert A. Hoch, in acquiring the property. When the city council voted in favor of rezoning, Bishop Brady announced that he would appoint a pastor and begin construction of a church and school on this site, when building materials were available. (Factories had difficulty keeping up with the demand in the post-war building.) In September 1947, Bishop Brady appointed Father Leonard Sullivan founding pastor of St. Mary's. Fr Sullivan was a native South Dakotan from Cavour. He moved the Bridgewater St. Stephen's to Sioux Falls. A temporary church was placed on the site, having been the Chapel at the Air Base. First Mass was celebrated in this chapel on November 30, 1947. In 1955 that same chapel moved again, across the Big Sioux River at 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, and served as the first home for St. Lambert's Parish at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Hanson Avenue. The chapel made its final move to the southwest corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Phillips Avenue to function as a two story office building.

Construction of the present 450,000 permanent church structure began in the Fall of 1956; the first Mass there was on May 19, 1958. The 800 seat church building was consecrated by Bishop Lambert Hoch on September 15, 1959. Such consecration is permitted only after a church building is debt free, a testimony to the generosity of the people of St. Mary's. From the 200 families, the parish grew to over 1350 families when it was divided to begin Holy Spirit Parish in the Southeastern part of town in 1988.



# Sioux Falls St. Michael

## ST. MICHAEL PARISH OF SIOUX FALLS

St. Michael Parish was established by Bishop Paul Dudley on July 1, 1979 in western Sioux Falls. The parish began with 550 households, 400 from Christ the King and 150 from St. Joseph Cathedral. Within 12 years the parish grew by 250% in number of households. Fr. James Michael Boyle was the founding pastor.

The name "St. Michael" was chosen because 1979 marked the centennial year of Catholicism in Sioux Falls, one hundred years since the first Catholic Church, named St. Michael, was dedicated in Sioux Falls. The first St. Michael church burned down in 1881, and a new pro-Cathedral of St. Michael was dedicated in 1882. It lasted until 1915 when it was replaced with St. Joseph Cathedral on the same site.

From 1979-1981, parish business was conducted and daily Mass celebrated at the pastor's residence, and Sunday Masses were celebrated at O'Gorman High School and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on 41<sup>st</sup> Street. In 1981 ground was broken for the new parish center. Mass was first celebrated in the new building on Christmas Eve. In March of 1982 the center was dedicated. Total cost of the new complex, land, parking lot, furnishings, pastor's residence and landscaping amounted to \$1.6 million.

The parish members, wishing to follow the teachings of Vatican Council II, emphasizing lay involvement, began to build community according to a new model. This model was the creation of smaller faith communities which could then come together into the larger parish community on Sundays and other days for worship and celebrations. Thus, St. Michael was divided into "title parishes", at first six, then eight, which ranged in size from 150-200 households. U.S. Catholic, a national magazine, in October 1984, referred to the new concept at St. Michael in Sioux Falls as an example of how a larger parish can be more personal and effective.

