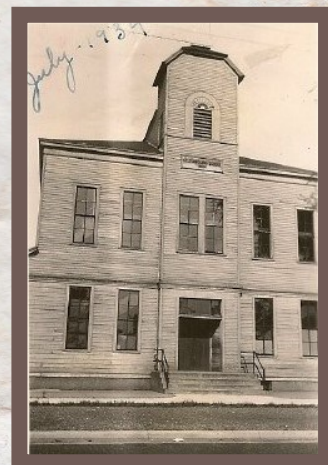




1890 - Rev. Emanuel J. Wrobel was tasked with organizing a Polish Catholic parish for Michigan City's Polish families, which number approximately 90, and would be named Saint Stanislaus Kostka.

In 1892 he erected a two-story wooden building serving as church, school, and residence for Sisters of the Holy Cross.

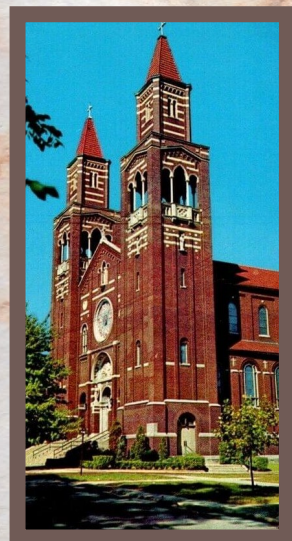
Rev. Wrobel served our parish until 1909 when he left due to ill health.



1909 - Rev. Msgr. Joseph Bolka takes over as Pastor and in 1916 commissioned the construction of the present church building at the corner of Washington and Ann Streets, with a seating capacity of 1,000. The project does not begin until all money for completion is raised.



1916 - The cornerstone is laid! Parishioner time and talent was used to create our magnificent church and stories of families donating their hard earned nickels and dimes to fund this massive project still circulate today.



1926 - The photo to the left depicts the church from 1926 until 1967 when the upper steeples were removed and replaced with copper roofs. (See photo below.)

That same year, glass doors replaced the heavy wooden exterior doors.

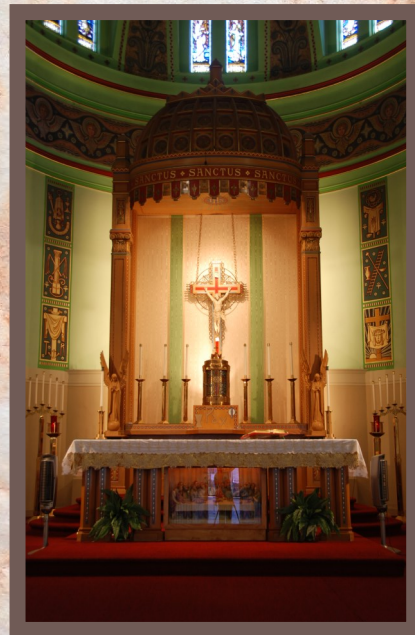


1945 - Msgr. Doktor, the third Pastor (1940-1965) commissions extensive remodeling to create the dignified and inspiring sanctuary we have today. In 1945, nineteen years after the 1926 completion of the church building, the sanctuary was decorated at a cost of \$4,500, and a new altar was purchased costing \$5,500. Decoration of the body of the church was completed in 1947 by John Kirsch of Mishawaka. During his tenure, Msgr. Doktor also began a remodel of the downstairs hall.



1955 - The cement tracery above the front entrance to the church was filled in with colored ceramics to simulate stained glass windows. The cost of the ceramics, labor, and brickwork was approximately \$7,000.

New side altars were also installed to unify the sanctuary in 1955, with imported wood carved statues installed above the altars which were donated by the Saint Joseph Society and the Rosary Society. Candelabras for each altar were donated by the Saint Stanislaus Ladies Club.



1971 - Rev. Stanley Dominik, who became Pastor in 1969, continued repairs and remodeling of the hall, adding a kitchen, air conditioning, and restrooms.

Father Dominik served at Saint Stanislaus Parish through 1984, during which time construction of new church front stairs is completed and the interior of the church is painted green.



The stained glass windows of Saint Stanislaus Kostka are exquisite! They depict the Mysteries of the Rosary. Each window expresses the joy, suffering, and glory of Our Lord's life in vibrant colors. It is impossible not to feel those same emotions when gazing upon their beauty! We have been unable to locate records regarding the origin of these magnificent pieces of art, but several stories have been told by longstanding parishioners, who say they remember family members telling of the windows coming across Lake Michigan to Michigan City on barges. Some say they came from Italy, others say they came from Germany. Those of us who live our lives being inspired by them are less concerned with where they came from, but are exceedingly grateful that we have been blessed with their beauty and inspiration.

Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church