

Prairie Du Chien



ST. JOHN'S

- 1891**—Parish established with erection of new church;
- 1893**—First rectory built;
- 1899**—Art-glass windows installed in church;
- 1902**—Two-classrooms school built; two Sisters of N. Dame instructors;
- 1905-1918**—Father Anthony Bilik was appointed pastor; church was enlarged, sanctuary remodeled and entire church redecored.
- 1921**—Addition to school completed with a connecting convent;
- 1938**—New rectory built;
- 1941**—Golden jubilee;
- 1944**—St. John's, deanery parish for Prairie du Chien Deanery;
- 1951**—Dedication of new church took place;
- 1961**—A modern one-story grade school erected.

St. John's Church: Bishop John P. Treacy replaced the church built in 1891. Monsignor Paul Monarski is pastor. dedicated this beautiful new church 11 years ago (Nov. 4, 1951). It

ST. GABRIEL'S



St. Gabriel's Church, with its Gothic facade and spire built in 1839, was the fulfillment of the dreams of Father Samuel C. Mazzuchelli who founded the parish. Since it was built, the facade has been

changed, the interior refurbished and a modern sacristy added, but the church proper is the original building of 1839. Father Earl L. Burns, SJ, is pastor.

- 1683**—First Mass offered in the vicinity of Prairie du Chien;
- 1817**—Trappist Father Marie Joseph Dunand became the first priest in Prairie du Chien;
- 1836**—St. Gabriel's acquired plot of ground upon which the parish buildings now stand;
- 1839**—Cornerstone of first church was laid by Bishop Matthias Loras;
- 1840**—The first resident pastor arrived;
- 1869**—Franciscan Sisters of La Crosse opened the first school;
- 1877 - 1880** — St. Gabriel's passed from diocesan hands to care of the Benedictines;
- 1891**—Parish returned to diocesan clergy;
- 1907**—Under pastorate of Father Peter Becker an addition was made to church;
- 1908**—New school erected;
- 1916** — Jesuits returned to St. Gabriel's;
- 1935**—New wing to school;
- 1961**—Bishop Treacy dedicates new school.