

## Guardian Angels Catholic Cemetery Of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Holy Guardian Angels parish was established in 1910, when it was in the Green Bay Diocese. The first mass was offered in John Walters hall in the east part of the town. On November 22, 1911 Holy Guardian Angels was incorporated and work began on the present church. Mass was said in the new, existing church in 1912 when only one layer of rough flooring was visible, running diagonally across. A big round wood stove stood near the front of the church. The church was dedicated in this year (1912).

Guardian Angels Cemetery was established in 1917 when Martin and Cacelie, husband and wife deeded .523 acres of land to Holy Guardian Angels Congregation on December 31, 1917 for the sum of \$1.00.

The cemetery is located at 6706 Laura's lane in the Township of Almond in Portage County, Wisconsin . It is located between County Road BB on the west and Two Lakes Road on the east.

Stephen Petruska was one of the first residents to die in this area. He died in March of 1917 and was buried on March 5, 1917. Anna A. Petruska was the second resident to die and be buried in 1917.

In 1996 the parish was merged with three other area parishes into the Catholic Community of St. Maximilian Kolbe. On December 28, 2002 the last Mass was celebrated at the church. The church was then put up for sale. In 2008 the church building was sold and is now being used as a private home.

In 2016 it was found that there were very few records pertaining to Guardian Angels Cemetery. Since then more records have been found.

The cemetery was resurveyed and plotted out in 2016. At this time it was found out that Joseph and Beatrice Wheeler owned land that the cemetery was using. The piece of land is .033 acres. After talking with them they graciously donated this piece of land to the Guardian Angels Cemetery. The .033 acres brought the total size of the cemetery to .556 acres or close to  $\frac{3}{4}$ 's of an acre.

The sign by the entrance to the cemetery was also erected in 2016.

There are currently 55 people buried in Guardian Angels Cemetery.