

## **Brief History of St. Michael the Archangel Parish**

St. Michael the Archangel Parish was founded when immigrants arrived in Radom, IL on St. Michael's Day in 1873. Early immigrants to Radom included such family names as Mikolaj, Madojowie, Kowalski, Kozierek, Pieszchalski, Kurzynski, Nowak, Grajek, Zgonina, Labuda, Franc, Kwiatkowski, Wita, Pero, Minda, and Glaskowski. The first church was completed in one year with a rectory, convent, school, and even a high school soon following. Franciscan Priests served St. Michael Parish in the early years, with Franciscan and then Notre Dame nuns teaching in the school. One interesting fact of history is that in 1933 during the Depression, there was a threat of a run on Ashley State Bank, St. Michael Church agreed to leave 30% of the parish account in the bank as a [loan](#) so the bank could reopen. This is just one instance of St. Michael Parish and parishioners seeking to be a vital part of their community and world.

The above is a picture of the Parish Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Radom, Illinois. This is the second church of the Parish of St. Michael the Archangel since the founding of the parish in 1873. The present church was completed and dedicated on September 29, 1924. The present church is 60 feet wide at the front and 156 feet, 6 inches long, in the Roman/Byzantine style. There were 32 tons of steel used in the roof's framework, but thanks to that, there are no inner supporting columns. The highest point inside the church measures 33 feet from the floor. The exterior walls raise 23 feet above the foundation, and the bell tower raising 90 feet into the air. At the time of its completion it was the largest church in Southern Illinois with a seating capacity of about 700.

Historia parafii:

<http://boards.ancestry.com/surnames.radom/22/mb.ashx>