

John Matthias Herriges

John Matthias Herriges, son of Nicholas Herriges and Barbara Rodenkirch, was born on May 17, 1871, in Kewaskum Township (Washington County), Wisconsin. He was baptized on May 27, 1871, in St. Michael Church in St. Michael (Washington County).¹ His sister, Agnes (†1909), was a Franciscan Sister of Charity (Silver Lake, Manitowoc County).² He was a son of St. Michael Parish in St. Michael.



John attended St. Michael Grade School, St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee and St. John Seminary in Collegeville, Minnesota.³ He was ordained for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee by Bishop Martin Marty, o.s.b. on June 24, 1896, at St. John's Abbey Church in Collegeville. He celebrated his first solemn mass on June 30, 1896, in St. Michael Church in St. Michael.⁴

Father Herriges was assigned as assistant pastor at St. Peter Parish in Beaver Dam after his ordination. In 1898, he was appointed pastor of St. Ignatius Parish in Mount Horeb (Dane County) and St. Salvadore (Holy Redeemer) Mission in Perry and St. James Mission in Vermont. From 1900 to 1908, he was pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Nenno (Washington County). In 1908, he was appointed pastor of St. Lawrence Parish in Jefferson. He remained there until November 1921 when he took a sick leave. He rested in California and his hometown.⁵ He began ministering again in August 1925 when he was appointed pastor of St. Boniface Parish in Germantown.⁶ He stayed at St. Boniface until 1931, when he was sent to St. Mary Parish in Lomira. Poor health forced in him to give up that pastorate in 1938. He retired in Fond du Lac.⁷

Father Herriges died on January 12, 1946 at St. Agnes Hospital in Fond du Lac.⁸ He was 74 years old. He is buried in St. Michael Cemetery, St. Michael, Wisconsin.⁹

¹ St. Michael Baptism Register, St. Michael, Wisconsin.

² <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/98575470/m-agnes-herriges>.

³ *Retired Priest Expires at 74; Rites Planned*. Fond du Lac Commonwealth Reporter, January 14, 1946, p. 14.

⁴ *Diözesan-Nachrichten*. Der Nordstern, St. Cloud MN, Thurs. June 25, 1896, p. 5.

⁵ *Kirchliche Nachrichten*. Kirchenprovinz Milwaukee. Sonntagsbote un Der Seebote, Sun. Nov. 13, 1921, p. 5; *Last Rites for Revered Pastor Held at Barton*. The Sheboygan Press, Tues. June 26, 1923, p. 6:7.

⁶ *Wisconsin Happenings*. The Bloomington (WI) Record, Wed. Aug. 19, 1925, p. 2:1.

⁷ *Retired Priest Expires at 74; Rites Planned*. Fond du Lac Commonwealth Reporter, January 14, 1946, p. 14.

⁸ Wisconsin Death Index.

⁹ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/34957665/john-m.-herriges>.