



# D.C. History Minute

October 2008

## Holy Rosary Church

595 Third Street, NW is the location of Holy Rosary Church which has served the religious needs of Italians and Catholics in the city since 1913. From a small informal chapel in a rented house in a neighborhood called Swampoodle, the congregation grew rapidly and in 1919, the cornerstone of the present building was laid; the full church opened in 1923. In later years, an auditorium and bell tower were added. In 1981, Casa Italiana, a cultural center, opened next door to Holy Rosary Church. There is a social hour at the center each Sunday after mass. And every Sunday, in addition to services in English, there is mass in Italian. Holy Rosary Church is a tangible and potent symbol of the many and substantial contributions Italian Americans have made to the Nation's Capital.



*This D.C. History Minute is brought to you by C.R. Gibbs and the Historical Society of Washington D.C.* **Holy Rosary Church**

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