

SACRAMENTO DIOCESAN ARCHIVES

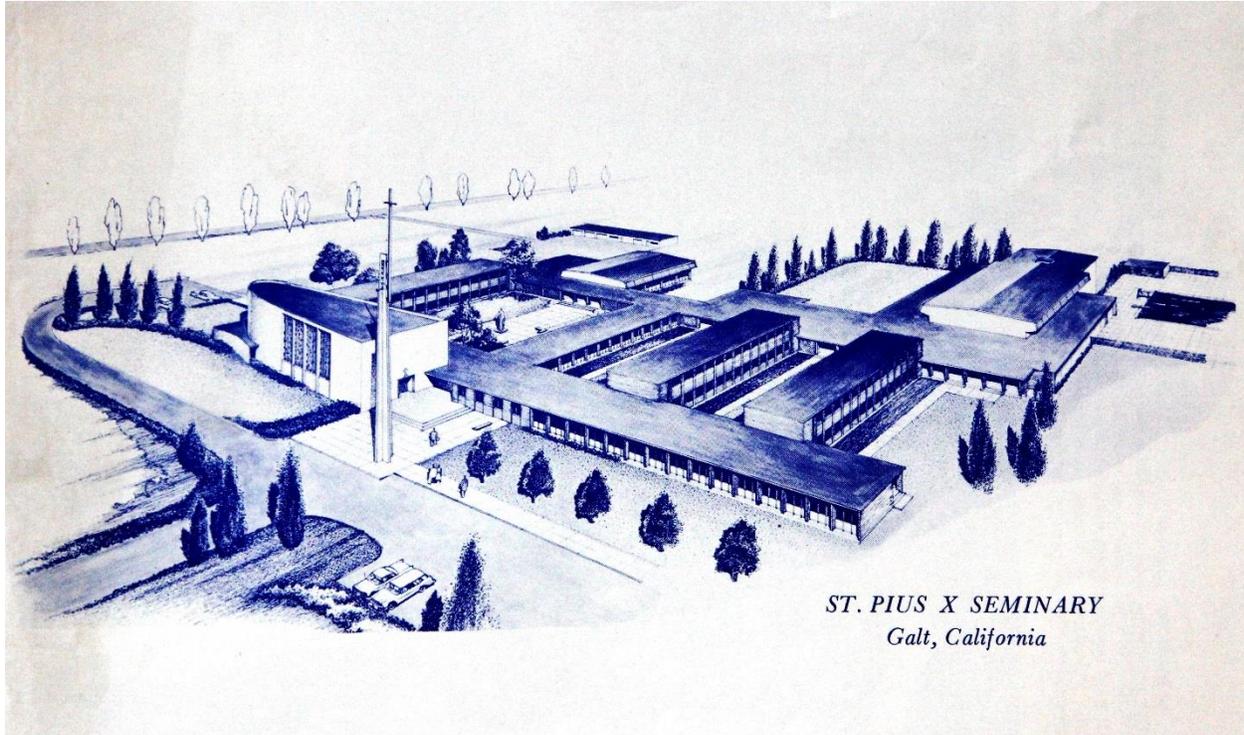
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THE DEDICATION OF SAINT PIUS X MINOR SEMINARY April 23, 1961

Front Page Article of the Catholic Herald, Thursday, April 20, 1961



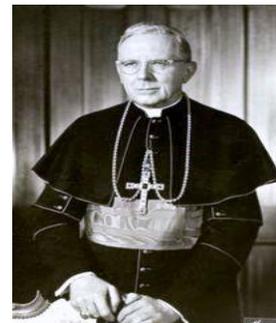
ST. PIUS X SEMINARY
Galt, California

A Solemn Pontifical Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph T. McGucken before the altar of St. Pius X Seminary, Galt, will culminate the afternoon dedicatory rites this Sunday of the new two million dollar facilities for future diocesan priests.

Preparations have been made, under the direction of the Serra Club, to handle thousands of visiting clergy and laity, who are expected to start arriving by 12:30 PM for the open house. All are invited to witness the actual blessing ritual, performed by Pope John's official representative in the United States, Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi, followed by an outdoor welcoming ceremony.

Cardinal McIntyre to Attend

Leading a host of Western prelates will be His Eminence James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles.



Cardinal James McIntyre of Los Angeles

In preparation for Sunday's historic occasion, earlier this week Bishop McGucken consecrated the seminary altar and offered the first Mass from it for St. Pius X seminarians and the Salvatorian community which instructs them.

Because the chapel area is limited to approximately 300, this Sunday's Mass will be attended only by the visiting prelates, clergy, religious and seminarians.

3:30 PM Dedication

Bishop McGucken has announced the dedication ceremony is scheduled to commence at 3:30 PM, following the conducted tours of the seminary facilities. Leading the tours will be parents of the seminarians, who previewed the facilities earlier this month.



Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi

A procession will assemble in the main courtyard, entering the chapel for prayer, while the St. Pius X Seminary Choir, led by Father Nicholas, S.D.S., chants the *Miserere*.

As the Apostolic Delegate intones the word of blessing for the chapel and attached facilities, four other visiting bishops will simultaneously bless the remainder of the facilities. Participants in this ceremony will be Bishop Joseph P. Dougherty of Yakima, Washington, Auxiliary Bishops Hugh A. Donohoe and Merlin J. Guilfoyle, both of San Francisco, and Bishop Harry A. Clinch of Monterey-Fresno.

All will then re-assemble in the main vestibule where Archbishop Vagnozzi will bless the wall crucifix, then continue outdoors before the main entrance for a special welcoming.

Sacred Music

Prior to the introduction of dignitaries by Monsignor Cornelius P. Higgins, diocesan chancellor, Anton Dorndorf will lead a massed student choir in sacred musical numbers. To be formally presented to the assemblage will be M.J. Heller of Continental Construction Company, which built the seminary, and Harry J. Devine, Jr., son of the architect, the senior Devine, now vacationing in the Mediterranean area.

Bishop Dwyer to Speak



Following a brief welcome from Bishop McGucken, the principal address will be delivered by Bishop Robert J. Dwyer of Reno. Greetings will also be extended by Archbishop Vagnozzi and Cardinal McIntyre.

As the laity disperse, the hierarchy, clergy and various sisterhoods will enter the chapel preparatory to the Solemn Pontifical Mass of Thanksgiving.

Two Serra Club representatives are general chairmen of Sunday's event, which is the result of the most far reaching fund drive ever

conducted in the Sacramento Diocese. They are Roger J. Slakey, who served as chairman of the successful multi-million dollar campaign in 1958, and George W. Artz.

All Groups Assist

In addition to fellow Serrans, they have been joined by representatives of all Catholic organizations, diocesan in scope, in preparing for the open house. Participating as ushers will be Leo Granucci, chairman, Frances Bunker, Steve Danel, Robert Figenshu, F.E. LaDuke, John Kastl, Thomas Mernor and Charles Ravellette.

Decorations are being arranged by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, with Mrs. Laurie Rader as chairman. She is assisted by two Catholic laymen, Armand Guidotti and William Morebeck, as well as Mrs. Frank Galli, council president, and Mmes. Arthur J. Gay, Raymond Benetti and Nicholas Domyancie.

Hospitality Team

Hospitality for the visiting Nuns is being planned under the leadership of all chapters of the Young Ladies Institute throughout the diocese. General co-chairmen are Miss Hattie McEnerney, district deputy, and Mrs. D.B. Baratini, past grand president.

An elaborate musical program has been arranged by Dorndorf, accompanied by a 20 man band, financed by the Music Performance Trust Fund of the Recording Industries through the American Federation of Musicians, Local 12.

Vocalists include the Bishop Armstrong High School Chorus, Loretto High School Chorus, St. Joseph Academy Choral, St. Francis High School Glee Club and Bishop's Boys Choir.

Two Mass Choirs

The latter and St. Pius Seminary Choir will sing during the Solemn Mass. They have chosen Verheist's Ecce Deus, Salvator Meus, and Ab Ortu Solis, as well as the Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei.

Officers of the Mass, assisting Bishop McGucken, will be Monsignor Raymond Renwald, assistant priest; Monsignor James D. Poole, deacon; Father Edmund O'Neill, subdeacon; Fathers William Slakey, Leo McAllister and Ernest Walter, S.D.S., masters of ceremony; Father Christopher Neary, processional Cross bearer.

Delegate's Aides

Assisting Archbishop Vagnozzi will be Monsignor Thomas A. Kirby, assistant priest; Very Rev. Provincial Jerome Jacobs, S.D.S, and Very Rev. Daniel Carroll, S.D.S., seminary rector, chaplains; Very Rev. Msgr. Gerolamo Prigione, master of ceremonies.

Assistants to the Cardinal will be Msgr. Thomas Horgan, V.G., assistant priest; Msgrs. Patrick Donnelly and Gerald O'Driscoll, chaplains; Msgr. Benjamin G. Hawkes, master of ceremonies.

Message from Bishop McGucken

This edition of our diocesan newspaper is rightly dedicated to our new St. Pius X Seminary. Happily, the Solemn Dedication of this institution coincides with the commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of the establishment of the Diocese of Sacramento by Pope Leo XIII in 1886.

Our Diocese is now equipped and prepared to perpetuate the Priesthood and the Church through its own permanent preparatory seminary and its own fecundity. The dedication of our new seminary by our beloved Apostolic Delegate, the representative of Pope John XXIII, is a fitting climax to the greatest united effort of our people in the history of the Diocese.

I shall never cease to be grateful to God for His help, to my priests for their loyalty and labor, and to my beloved people for their inspiring generosity.

**+ Joseph T. McGucken
Bishop of Sacramento**



Catholic Herald Photo

Bishop McGucken Blesses the Ground at the Seminary Ground Breaking Ceremony