

SACRAMENTO DIOCESAN ARCHIVES

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Father John E Boll

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The History of Saint Joseph Parish Sacramento, California



THE FOUNDING PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



On January 1, 1924, Bishop Patrick Joseph Keane, the third Bishop of the Diocese of Sacramento, established Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento and appointed Father Cornelius H Murphy as the founding pastor of this new parish.

The parish was comprised of the whole area north of the Sacramento River. The only other parishes in the area at that time were Roseville, Folsom and Lincoln. The town of Nicolaus was a mission of Saint Joseph Parish in Sacramento until 1930 when it became part of Saint Joseph Parish in Lincoln. This new Sacramento parish included Carmichael, Roseville, North Highlands, Del Paso Heights and Rio Linda.

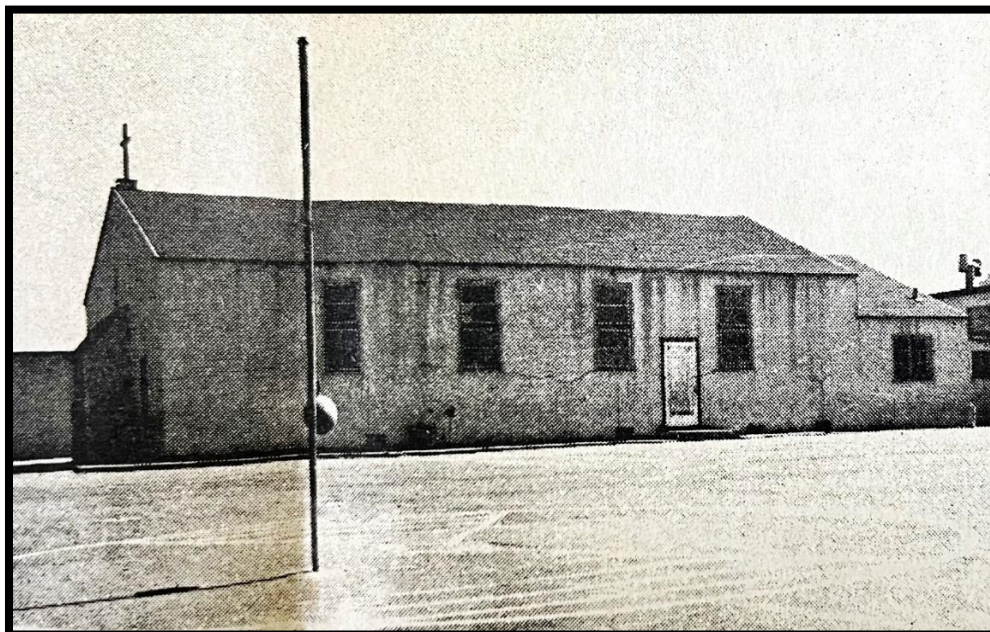
Father Cornelius H Murphy

When Father Murphy arrived on the scene in North Sacramento in

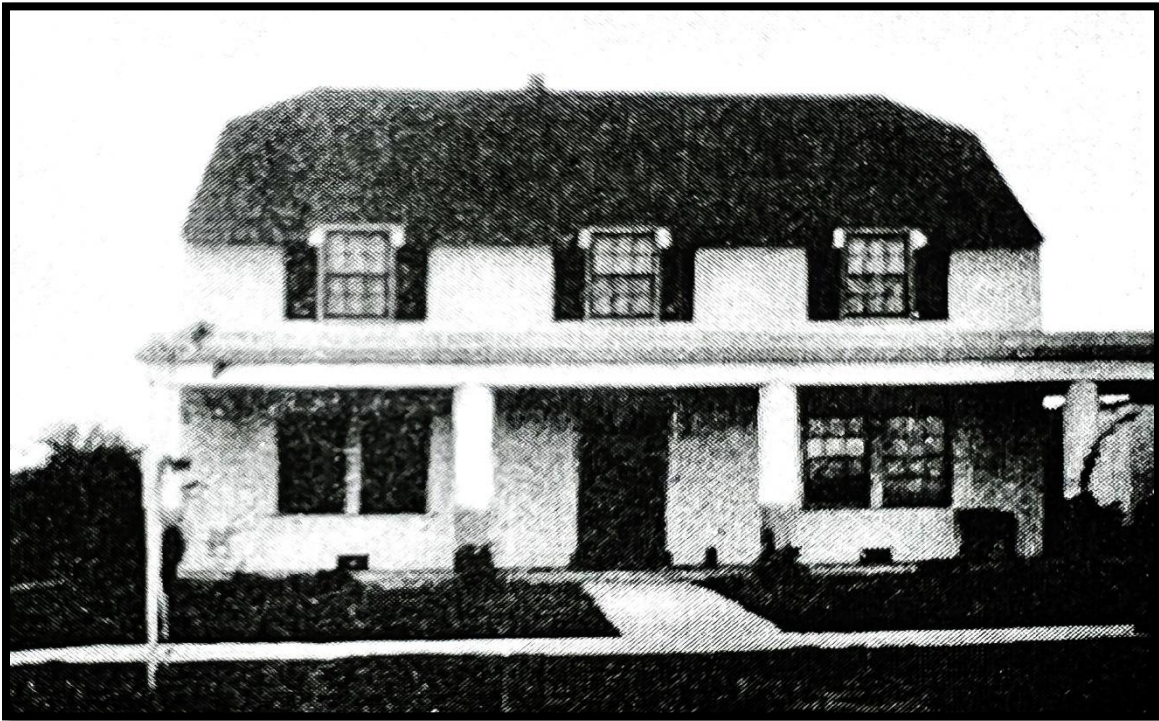
1924, he probably said to himself, "Where do I begin?" Being a priest familiar with Sacred Scripture, he most likely recalled the description of the first church established by the Christian community in Jerusalem, as the Acts of the Apostles says: "They devoted themselves to the Apostle's instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 3: 42)

Over the centuries, Catholics have gathered together in majestic cathedrals, and very often, in the most humble of surroundings, "for the breaking of the bread," where the community celebrated the Eucharistic presence of Jesus who gave his life for them. So too, Father Murphy gathered his people around the altar for the celebration of the Eucharistic Supper of the Lord Jesus.

He immediately set about the construction of a temporary church which was located on the site of the present church, but facing north. That same church later served as a hall and a school, successively. It was finally abandoned in 1960.

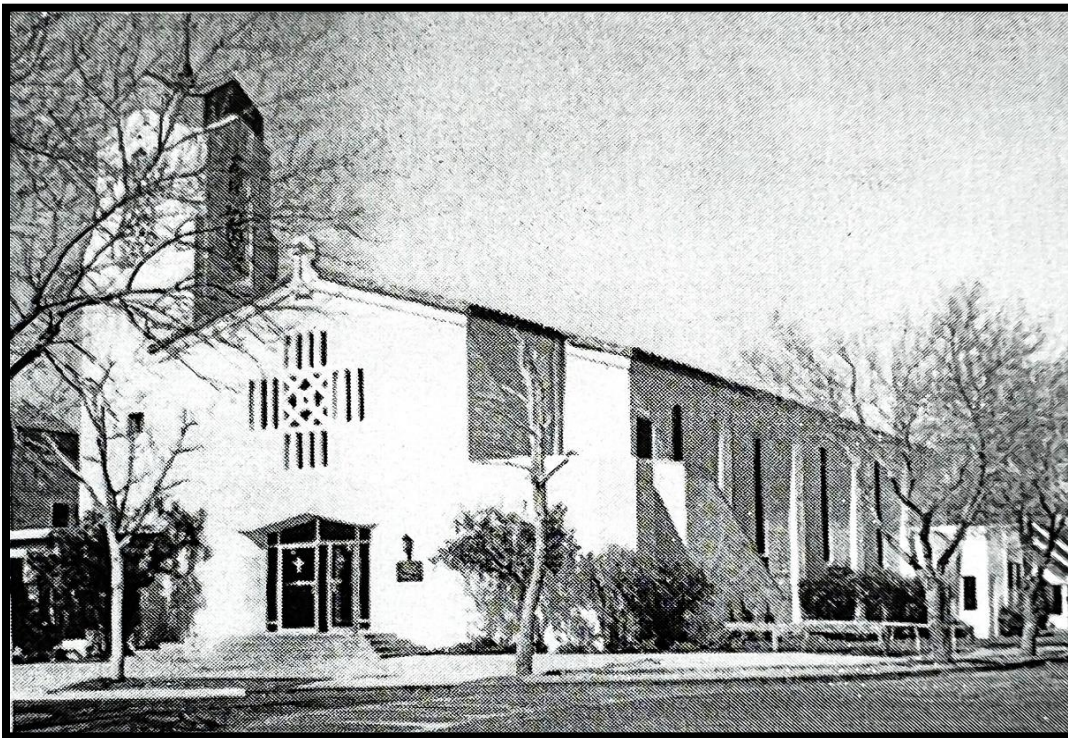


The First Saint Joseph Parish Church in North Sacramento



Saint Joseph Parish Rectory Built in 1925

In 1925, Father Murphy built the parish rectory which had extensions added in 1929 and 1958. Up until 1929, the history of America was a success story, but in 1929 came the Depression. People struggled to exist and to find enough to eat. For many people living in that era, time did not dim the memory of that most difficult period in American history.



Saint Joseph Church, Sacramento, Built in 1935

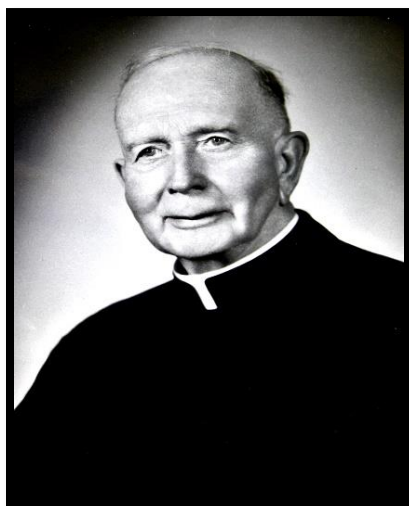
When times improved, Father Murphy began to dream again of a new church. The dream became a reality in 1935 when a new church was built, costing \$31,000. It was dedicated by Bishop Robert J Armstrong on Sunday, November 3, 1935, and continues to serve the parish community to this day in 2024. This year, Saint Joseph Parish celebrates its 100th anniversary since its founding.

After seventeen years as the Founding Pastor, Father Murphy was given a new assignment as pastor of Saint Bernard Parish in Eureka, Humboldt County, in 1947. Father Murphy was named a Monsignor and continued to serve as pastor of Saint Bernard Parish until his death in 1955. He was buried in the priests' section of Saint Bernard – Ocean View Cemetery in Eureka.



Headstone of Monsignor Cornelius H Murphy, Eureka, California

SECOND PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH, FATHER JOHN J MCGARRY



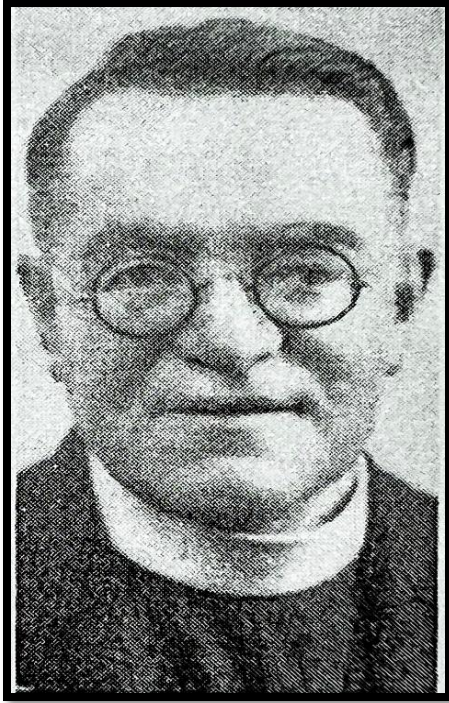
Monsignor John McGarry

In 1941, Father John J McGarry was appointed the second pastor of Saint Joseph Church in Sacramento. During this time, the people were called upon to make great sacrifices because of the Second World War. Many who were called west because of the war, fell in love with California and settled here when the war was over.

The population grew so quickly, that in 1947, the parish of Saint Philomene was established. Sister Benedicta of the Social Service Sisters coordinated the Religious Education of the children of Saint Joseph Parish until the parish school was opened.

In 1947, after serving Saint Joseph Parish for six years, Father McGarry was transferred to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Colusa where he served as pastor for the next 20 years. When he retired as pastor of Colusa in 1967, he continued to live in the parish rectory until his death on February 28, 1978.

FATHER MICHAEL J O'CONNELL APPOINTED THIRD PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



Following Father McGarry's pastorate of Saint Joseph Parish in Sacramento in 1947, Bishop Robert J Armstrong appointed Father Michael J O'Connell as the third pastor of Saint Joseph Parish. Two years later, in 1949, due to the post-war population explosion, Bishop Armstrong created Saint Philomene Parish on Bell Street in Sacramento.

In September of 1947, Father O'Connell opened Our Lady of Fatima School with the assistance of the Sisters of Mercy of Auburn. The original church, which was being used as a hall, now became a school with four grades. In 1948, even the sitting room in the rectory became a classroom.

Father Michael J O'Connell

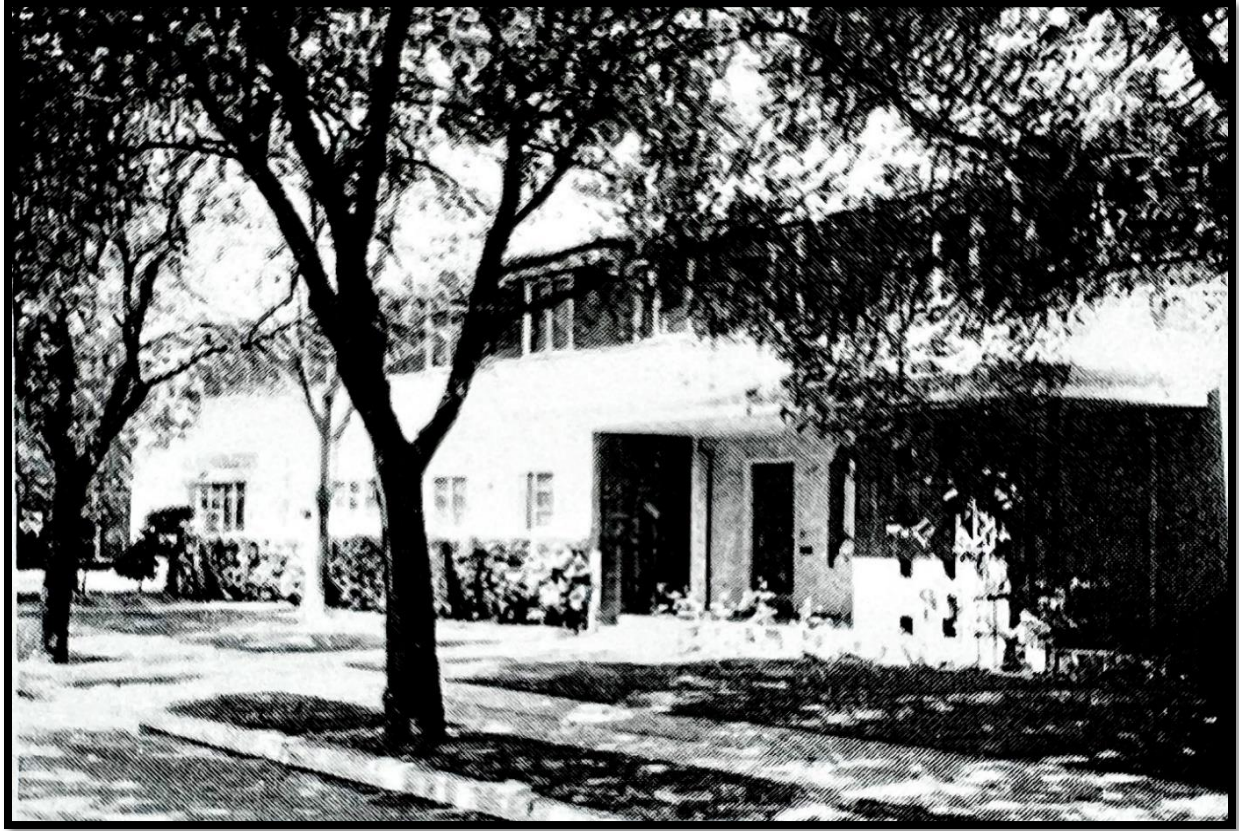


St. Anthony's Church, Rio Linda, on the occasion of the first Mass in the Church: February 1, 1948

Father Michael O'Connell celebrates the First Mass at Saint Anthony Church, Rio Linda, in 1948

BEGINNINGS OF THE PARISH SCHOOL

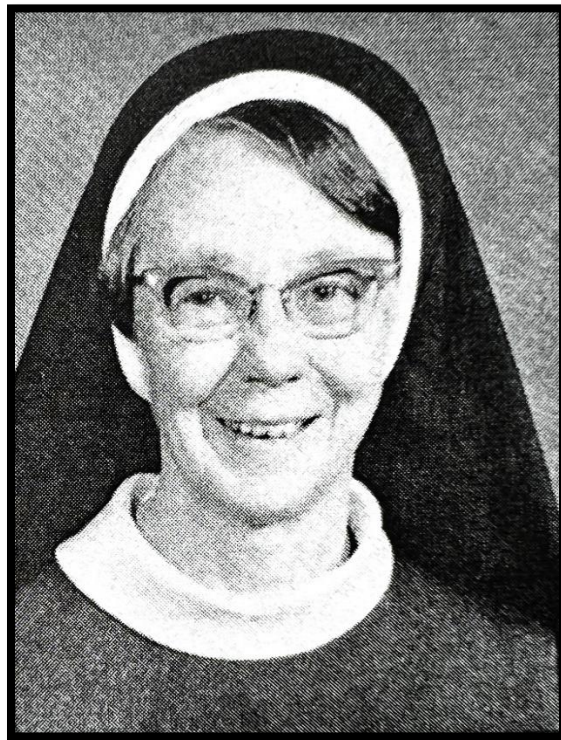
The first three classrooms of the parish school were built in 1949 on Gibson Street; five other classrooms were added to the school in 1951, at which time the total enrollment of the parish school was 365 students.



Our Lady of Fatima Convent

The total cost of construction of the school was \$230,000. Our Lady of Fatima Convent was built in 1955. In 1972, Our Lady of Fatima School celebrated its Silver Jubilee. At that time, approximately 8,000 students had passed through its doors.

As the students graduated from this school and went on to further education and ultimately their professional careers, the parish community hoped that the education they received at the parish school also helped them not only to make a living, but also guided them on how to live a Christian life. The parish community hoped that these students have been true to the message of Jesus which they received from the sisters and lay teachers at Our Lady of Fatima School.



Mercy Sister Mary Finian was the First Principal



Our Lady of Fatima School Faculty of Mercy Sisters in 1954

DEATH OF FATHER MICHAEL O'CONNELL

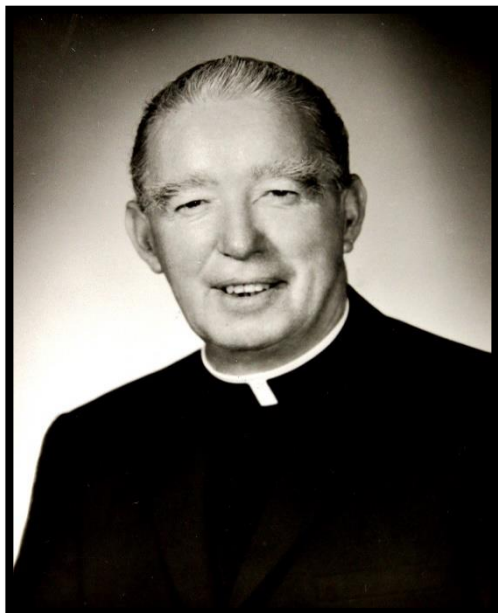
Father Michael J O'Connell, after a life of service to the people of the Diocese of Sacramento, died on September 7, 1957. In that same year, Saint Joseph Parish gave birth to another new parish, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Del Paso Heights. Now,

Rio Linda and Del Paso Heights became a parish and were no longer part of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento.



Headstone of Father Michael J O'Connell, Calvary Cemetery, Citrus Heights

FATHER PATRICK McTAGUE NAMED THE FOURTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



Father Patrick McTague

The fourth pastor of Saint Joseph Parish was Father Patrick McTague. The first thing he had to do was convince the people of the parish that he was not the same Father McTague who served them as an assistant from 1941 to 1949. One could be excused for making that mistake, since Fathers Hugh and Patrick were brothers.

It did not take long for Father Pat to establish his own identity at Saint Joseph Parish in Sacramento. Previously, he had spent five years as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Yreka.

He was appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Sacramento, on November 7, 1957.

On February 3, 1962, Pope John XXIII appointed Father McTague a Domestic Prelate with the title of Monsignor. He and Father Patrick McHugh were both installed as Monsignors by Bishop Joseph T McGucken, then Bishop of the Diocese of Sacramento, on the Feast of Saint Joseph, March 19, 1962.



**Bishop Joseph T McGucken shows Fathers Patrick McHugh and Patrick McTague
the Vatican Letter Appointing them as Monsignors by Pope John XXIII**

The Right Reverend
MONSIGNOR PATRICK McTAGUE
cordially invites you to his
INVESTITURE AS A DOMESTIC PRELATE
OF HIS HOLINESS, POPE JOHN XXIII
at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament,
Sacramento
on St. Joseph's Day, March 19th, 1962, at 4 p.m.
The Most Reverend Joseph T. McGucken, S.T.D.
Archbishop-designate of San Francisco
Officiating

Invitation to Monsignor McTague's Investiture as a Domestic Prelate

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH CELEBRATES ITS 50th ANNIVERSARY IN 1974

Monsignor Patrick McTague wrote the following letter to the Saint Joseph Parish Community of North Sacramento in 1974 about the 50th anniversary of the parish:

My dear friends,

This, our parish of St Joseph, situated on the north side of the convergence of the Sacramento and American Rivers, is this year celebrating its Golden Jubilee—fifty years of vigorous existence. It began humbly, with one priest, Father C.H. Murphy, and a handful of devoted people, and a piece of ground on which stands the church of Jesus Christ, developing and spreading the Christian message of love and worship of God, and love and service of our fellowman – “Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth among people.” It is the story of all parishes in all countries down the years, dedicated priests, nuns and people; hard efforts and sacrifices by all concerned, joyfully and cheerfully undertaken, and carried out in gratitude and loyalty to God, and for the good of the people.

The center of it all is the parish church, the home of the Divine Presence, who stays with us through the days and the years, as the great helper of priests and people. Governments may change, popes and kings and presidents may pass on, priests may be moved, but the parish goes on and on. Fifty years is a long time in the life of a person – it makes one a senior citizen; but in the life of a parish, it is a very small span.

On the fiftieth year of St Joseph's, we think back on the multitudes of people touched by its influence and work in the field of faith in the community: the numbers baptized, first confessions, First Holy Communions, confirmations, marriages, funerals, sick calls, people counselled or advised, instructed, the needy helped – no one turned away from the door. Why go on?

By worldly standards, St Joseph's has never been an affluent parish. However, its people are rich in faith and courage and cooperation, and willingness to help. "By their fruits you shall know them" is the best measuring stick, and all we have to do is to look around at what these hard-working people and priests have produced in fifty years. "The mustard seed has grown to be a tree."

During these fifty years, there have been four bishops and four pastors, many associate pastors, and waves of people of many languages. There have been many changes in society and many changes in the church. Change is part of life and, while we did not like some of them, (e.g. removal of Friday abstinence), we accepted them all as part of the ongoing process. It is the same noble church, dressed in new clothes. When the turmoil calms, it will be more vigorous than ever.

On this year of Jubilee, we all rejoice together, and thank God for his goodness. We are repairing the church and painting it. Let us make bold to remind you that your help for both projects is needed and will be appreciated. We thank you for your cooperation.

We wish you a happy Jubilee year, and God's blessing on you and yours. In God's name we must work to keep what we have, and press on joyfully and cheerfully.

Sincerely,
Patrick McTague

MONSIGNOR McTAGUE RETIRES FROM SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

Monsignor McTague served as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Sacramento for 17 years. When he reached his 75th birthday, he retired from his pastorate and continued living at the parish rectory in North Sacramento. He was stricken with a stroke and lingered at Mercy Convalescent Hospital in Sacramento until his death on October 14, 1981. Monsignor McTague was 79 years and 6 months of age when he died.

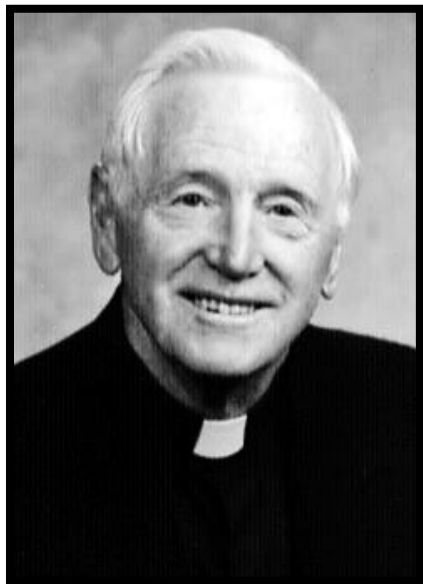


Headstone of Monsignor Patrick McTague, Saint Mary Cemetery, Sacramento



Monsignor Patrick McTague

FATHER WILLIAM BRODERICK APPOINTED AS THE FIFTH PASTOR



Father William Broderick

Succeeding Monsignor Patrick McTague as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish was Father William Broderick. He was appointed to that position by Bishop Alden J Bell in 1977.

Father Broderick was born on June 7, 1925, in Moyvane, County Kerry, Ireland. He entered Saint Michael College, Listowel, in September 1938, and then on to Saint Peter College, Wexford, in 1943 to begin his studies in theology. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Sacramento on June 5, 1949 in the College Chapel of Saint Peter Seminary, Wexford, Ireland.

FATHER BRODERICK BEGINS HIS PRIESTLY MINISTRY

He began his ministry as assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Sacramento on October 27, 1949. Then on January 18, 1952, Bishop Robert J Armstrong sent Father Broderick to Saint Mary Parish in Arcata, Humboldt County, as assistant pastor. A year later, on February 4, 1953, he was assigned by Bishop Armstrong to Saint Rose Parish in Sacramento. Two years later, he was asked to go to Saint Theresa Parish in Al Tahoe, and on April 18, 1956, he was assigned as assistant pastor to Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento with Father Michael O'Connell as pastor.

FIRST PASTORATE OF FATHER BRODERICK

Father William Broderick's first pastorate began on October 7, 1959 when Bishop Joseph T McGucken appointed him pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Fort Jones. He served the Fort Jones parish community for six years and then was appointed pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Dunsmuir from 1963 to 1965 by Bishop Alden J Bell.

FATHER BRODERICK SERVES AS AN ARMY CHAPLAIN

Father Broderick received permission from Bishop Bell to become an Army chaplain and reported to Fort Lewis Army Base near Seattle on June 17, 1965. He became the third priest of the Diocese of Sacramento to serve as a military chaplain. The other two priests serving in the US military were Father Roy Peters at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, with an airborne group, and Father Paul E Roswog, serving the Navy in Okinawa, attached to a Marine Division. While serving as a chaplain in the US Army, Father Broderick served in Vietnam and experienced the horrors of that war.

APPOINTED PASTOR OF HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, FAIRFIELD

When Father Broderick returned to the diocese after serving as a military chaplain, he was appointed pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Fairfield from 1973 to 1975. While pastor in Fairfield, he

took ill and resigned from the Fairfield parish. He went on sick leave for an indefinite period and returned home to Ireland.

FATHER BRODERICK RETURNS TO THE DIOCESE

After regaining his health, Father Broderick returned to the Diocese of Sacramento and was appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento, serving this parish as pastor for eleven years, from 1977 to 1988.

Father Broderick was a kind and gentle priest. He wrote the following statement about his life of ministry in the Diocese of Sacramento which says it all:

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER WILLIAM BRODERICK TO THE SAINT JOSEPH PARISH COMMUNITY

I am glad that I became a part of the Sacramento Diocese in 1949 and to have served in many small towns as well as Sacramento itself. Serving in small rural communities in the shadow of the Siskiyou and Cascade Mountains gave me a clearer understanding of the diversity of the mission of our diocese.

I was always encouraged by the goodness and generosity of the people, whether in Fort Jones or Happy Camp or Anderson or anywhere else. In my time, all the bishops have been really kind, generous and supportive of our priests, and that is why Sacramento is a great place to work.

I enjoyed working with many of our younger priests and I believe I learned a lot from them. It is well known that the priests of Sacramento are good to work with; that they are caring and open; that they support one another, and their people know this.

I am grateful to the Sisters of Mercy of Auburn. I had the opportunity to work with them in school and parish situations. If you want to define what dedication and work really are, I would refer you to the Sisters of Mercy.

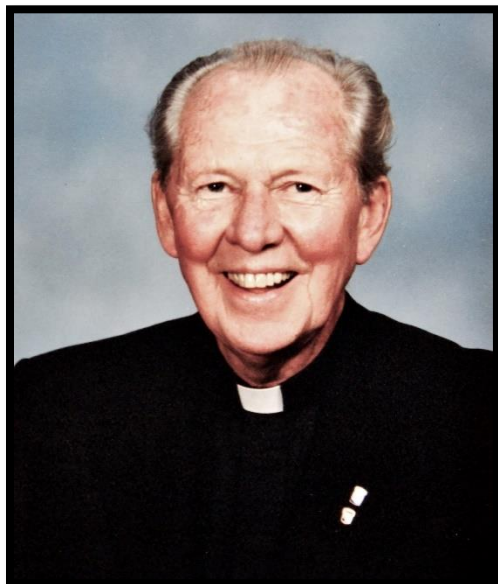
I thank the bishops, priests and people who helped me get this far. My classmates and I were ordained in 1949, so call us the 49ers! Above all, I thank God for His goodness to me and I thank Him for his love and forgiveness.

Father William Broderick



Headstone of Father William Broderick, Calvary Cemetery, Citrus Heights

THE SIXTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH, MONSIGNOR ROY VICTOR PETERS



Monsignor Roy V Peters

Saint Joseph Parish welcomed its sixth pastor, Monsignor Roy V Peters, on Monday, February 20, 1989. After retiring in 1979 from the US Army with the rank of Colonel, Monsignor Peters was associate pastor at Saint Charles Borromeo Parish in Sacramento.

FATHER PETERS WAS A NATIVE SACRAMENTAN

As a native Sacramentan and as a youngster, Father Peters was in the first graduating class of Sacred Heart Elementary School in Sacramento in 1938. He attended Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento until his senior year when he entered Saint Joseph Seminary in Mountain View, CA.

SAINT PATRICK SEMINARY, MENLO PARK

In the fall of 1941, Roy began his first year of college at Saint Joseph College in Mountain View. Then, in 1943, he and his classmates transferred to Saint Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park. In 1945, he began his theological studies at Menlo Park and together with his classmate James Mulligan, Roy was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Sacramento by Bishop Robert J Armstrong on June 12, 1948 in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Roy was only 23 years of age when he was ordained a priest.

FATHER PETERS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY

Father Peters served as associate pastor of Saint Rose Parish in Roseville, 1948-1949 under the pastorate of Father William Daly. He then was assigned to Saint Patrick Parish in Angels Camp, which also include service at the California Youth Authority, Fricot Ranch School for Boys, 1949-1950. He was then assigned to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1950-1958, and to his first pastorate of Saint Patrick Parish, Weaverville, 1958-1961

FATHER PETERS BECOMES A CHAPLAIN IN THE US ARMY

After fourteen years as a priest in the diocese, Father Peters left Sacramento on January 8, 1962 to become a chaplain in the United States Army for a three-year stint. That three-year stint became an exciting life-long career for him.

In a rare holiday leave in December 1981 to visit his mother Ellen and sisters Marge and June, Father Peters was interviewed by Valerie Christiansen, associate editor of the *Catholic Herald*. Valerie began her article by saying "Father Peters was an expansive, outgoing person with an easy manner and ready smile." He quickly opened up to share his experiences as a priest in an unusual apostolate.



Colonel Roy V Peters

Monsignor's army career included service as commandant of the Army Chaplains School and Center, Staten Island, New York.

MONSIGNOR PETERS RETURNS TO SACRAMENTO

After retiring in 1979 from the US Army with the rank of Colonel, Monsignor Peters became associate pastor at Saint Charles Borromeo Parish in South Sacramento, helping his old friend, Monsignor James Poole, at Saint Charles Parish.

SHORT PASTORATE AT SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

Monsignor Peters had a very short pastorate at Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento. After his appointment in 1989, he decided to retire in 1990 and return to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he had his own apartment.

MONSIGNOR PETERS RETURNS TO HAWAII

In 1990, Monsignor Peters decided to return to Honolulu, a place he loved, where he lived in his own apartment. He assisted at the parish of Saints Peter and Paul as well as Tripler Army Medical Center. With help from Father McNeely, he initiated a Beach Mass on Saturday evenings, Memorial Day to Labor Day, held on the lawn next to the Hale Koa Hotel on Fort DeRussy property. He said the place was God's cathedral, more beautiful than anything man had made.

DEATH COME TO MONSIGNOR PETERS

Monsignor Roy became ill and was confined at Queen's Hospital, Sparks Matsunga Center for the Aging, at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu. On Sunday, July 2, 2006, shortly before 4 pm, Monsignor Peters slowly and silently slipped away and returned to God. His two sisters from Sacramento, Marge and June, were by Roy's side when he breathed his last breath.

A TRIBUTE FROM THE PASTOR OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH, HONOLULU

Father Dave Travers, SJ, the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Parish on Oahu where Monsignor Roy helped for 24 years, wrote the following about Monsignor Peters in the July 9, 2006 parish bulletin:

For us here at Saints Peter and Paul, we lost a hard working priest who was beloved by all the parishioners. Monsignor Roy was a kind and considerate man whose first duty was to those in need. He was generous with his time and loyal to his people. He was honored for being the clergyman who buried the dead when no relatives were found to put them in their final resting place with a prayer.

You were never surprised when your request for help was answered with a firm yes! He believed that he was ordained to the priesthood for the good of his flock. He served the Church into his early 80s. I know that I could count on him morning, noon or night; he was at the beck and call to those in need.

Monsignor Roy was a retired Army chaplain associated with Paratroopers. He had many jumps, was injured a number of times but never complained. A diehard Raiders fan and a rooter for Notre Dame Football; in later life he rooted for the Sacramento Kings. You could hear him cry "Airborne", and knew all was well.

We shall miss his priesthood, his humor and his loyalty, but we do not begrudge him to God whom he served for fifty-eight years as a Roman Catholic priest. As pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church, I thank his sisters, Marge and June, for sharing him with us, and I promise them that we at Saints Peter and Paul will not forget him. We will cherish what he meant to us and to those he met during his lifetime. Rest well old friend.

Father Dave Travers, SJ

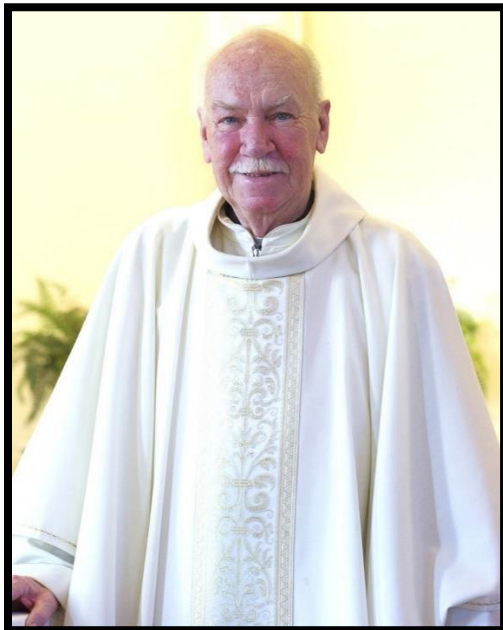
FINAL RETURN HOME TO SACRAMENTO



Monsignor Roy Peters' Grave Marker, Saint Mary Cemetery, Sacramento

After a Funeral Mass for Monsignor Peters in Hawaii, his ashes were brought back to Sacramento where a Memorial Mass was celebrated for him on July 14, 2006 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Monsignor James Kidder presided at that Mass together with Bishop Richard Garcia and the priests of the diocese. At his request, Monsignor Peters was laid to rest in the Saint Joseph section of Saint Mary Cemetery, Sacramento, next to his parents, LeRoy V Peters and Ellen M Peters.

FATHER ROBERT COPSEY APPOINTED SEVENTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



Father Robert Copsey

Succeeding Monsignor Peters as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish was Father Robert Copsey who served as pastor of this parish for thirteen years, from 1990 to 2003.

Robert Copsey was born on June 18, 1943, in New York City to Bert and Ann Copsey. He was raised there and in New Jersey along with his brother Paul and sister Judy.

He entered Holy Apostles Seminary in Connecticut and Immaculate Conception Seminary in Mexico City, as well as Saint Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park, CA.

Before his ordination to the priesthood, he decided to take a break because he had never lived alone. During this time, he worked for the State Bar of California and the San Francisco Chronicle.

ORDAINED A PRIEST FOR THE DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

Bob Copsey was ordained a deacon on December 9, 1977, and six months later, on June 17, 1978, he was ordained a priest by Bishop Alden J Bell in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for the Diocese of Sacramento. The next day, Father Bob's 35th birthday, he celebrated his First Mass at Holy Spirit Church in Sacramento. His first assignment was as parochial vicar of Saint Dominic Parish in Orland.

At the time of his ordination, Father Copsey was one of the few priests in the diocese fluent in Spanish. Father Bob was appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento in 1990, succeeding Monsignor Peters, and served this parish for the next 13 years until 2003.

OF HIS LIFE AS A PRIEST, FATHER COPSEY SAYS THE FOLLOWING

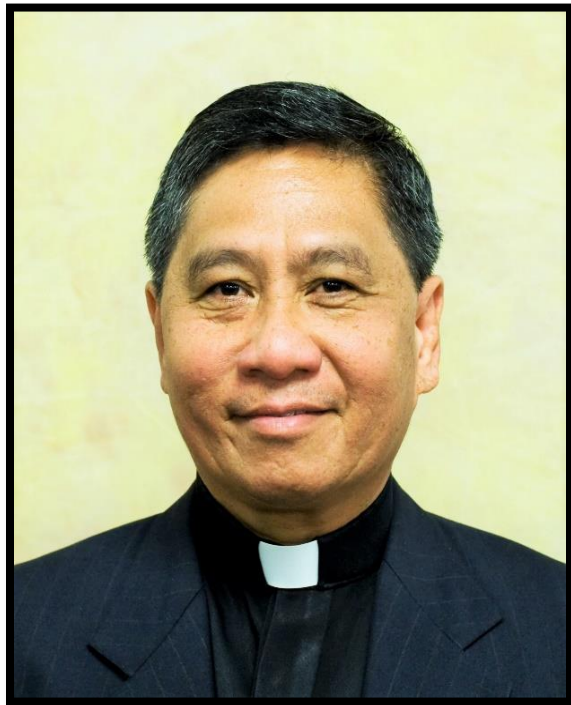
"I am grateful to God for my many years in ministry. I felt privileged to serve people and to share the situations of their lives, and from them I received many blessings in return."

Father Bob died at Mercy Hospital in Sacramento on Friday, April 19, 2024 at the age of 80. He is survived by his brother Paul of Elk Grove, CA and his sister Judy Auld of Fernley, NV. His Funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop William Weigand and the priests of the Diocese of Sacramento at Saint Christopher Parish in Galt on Thursday, May 9, 2024, with burial at Saint Mary Cemetery in Sacramento. May Father Bob be fully alive in the presence of the Lord forever!



The Funeral Mass for Father Robert Copsey at Saint Christopher Church, Galt, CA

THE EIGHTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH: FATHER CESAR R AGEAS



Father Cesar R Ageas

Father Cesar Ageas was a native of Sibutad, Zamboanga del Norte in the Philippines. He entered Pope John XXIII Seminary in Cebu in 1974. He was in his third year of business administration studies in college when he felt the call to priesthood.

Father Cesar was ordained a priest on April 12, 1983 for the Diocese of Dipolog, but he was sent immediately after ordination to the neighboring Diocese of Pagadian for three years, whose ordinary was Bishop Jesus Tuquib.

Father Ageas served as a parochial vicar at Saint Niño Cathedral in Pagadian City and as spiritual director of Holy Child Seminary in the same city.

From 1986 to 1996, at the request of Bishop Tuquib as the new Archbishop of Cagayan de Oro, Father Ageas was assigned as a parochial vicar of Our Lady of the Snows Church, El Salvador City, Misamis Oriental. After a year, he was appointed as a spiritual director for San Jose College Seminary in Cagayan de Oro City. After serving as pastor of two different parishes, he was sent for further studies at Holy Cross Pontifical University in Rome and graduated with a licentiate in canon law.

He returned to the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro to serve as a spiritual director and later as vice rector of San Jose College Seminary, and was also in charge of marriage annulment cases in the archdiocese.

FATHER AGEAS COMES TO SACRAMENTO IN 1996

In November 1996, Fathers Ageas and Alfredo Tamayo were sent by the Archbishop of Cagayan de Oro to come to the Diocese of Sacramento at the request of Bishop William Weigand. Initially, Fathers Ageas and Tamayo were granted permission to minister in the Diocese of Sacramento for only three years. Later on, they were permitted to continue their ministry in the Sacramento diocese. In April 2004, Father Ageas was incardinated as a priest of Sacramento.

APPOINTED PAROCHIAL VICAR IN GALT

Father Ageas served as parochial vicar of Saint Christopher Parish in Galt from December 1996 to June 1997. He then was appointed to Saint Charles Borromeo Parish in

Sacramento from October 1997 to July 2001, while also working in the diocese's Marriage Tribunal. He then was appointed parochial vicar at Saint Basil Parish in Vallejo from August 2001 to September 2003.

PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH, SACRAMENTO

From September 2003 to January 2005, Father Cesar served as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Sacramento. Reflecting on his priestly ministry in parishes and in the Tribunal in 2019, Father Cesar noted: "I was not expecting to serve in the Sacramento Diocese for 23 years. It was God's plan for me to go to Rome and study canon law, and it was part of His plan for me to come here and share my priestly ministry. When my bishop sent me here, he said I was being sent because we had to share resources.

"My years in the Diocese of Sacramento have been a great privilege and led me to experience the American Church and to learn more about different approaches in ministry. I am grateful to God for everything."

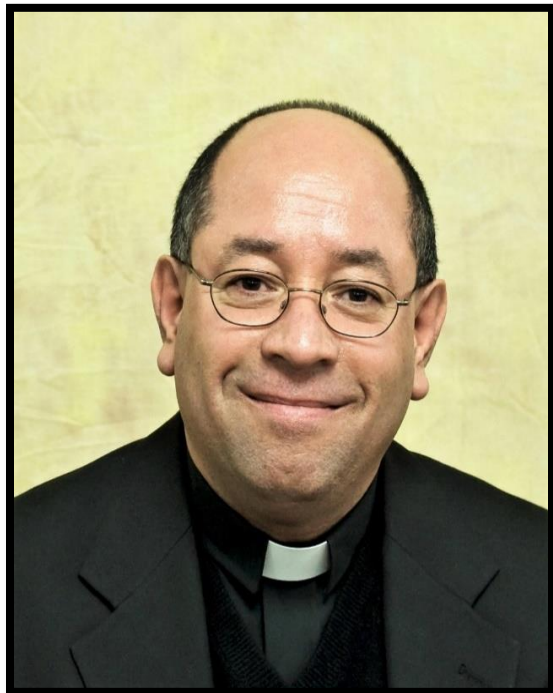
DEATH OF FATHER CESAR AGEAS

Father Ageas died of pancreatic cancer on August 3, 2020 in his quarters at Saint Mel rectorry in Fair Oaks where he was living in retirement. Due to the Covid pandemic restrictions, a Memorial Mass for Father Cesar was celebrated in Divine Mercy Church, Natomas, on October 1, 2021, fourteen months after his death. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in the Philippines where Father Cesar is buried. He is survived by his siblings: Delia Ageas, Deogracio Ageas, Nelson Ageas and Wilson Ageas.



Celebration of the Memorial Mass for Father Cesar Ageas in Divine Mercy Parish, Natomas

NINTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH – FATHER FRANCISCO VELAZQUEZ



Father Francisco Velazquez

Succeeding Father Cesar Ageas as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish was Father Francisco Velazquez who was born in Chicago, Illinois and grew up in San Francisco and Daley City.

While in college at Skyline Community College, Frank had a religious experience in April, 1979. He felt called to the priesthood. He met the Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity in San Francisco at a Youth Mass in Saint Anthony Parish on Army Street. He attended a retreat with Verbum Dei and decided to join them on May 28, 1981. He completed his seminary formation in Valencia and Madrid, Spain and was ordained a priest on July 22, 1990 in Loeches, Madrid, Spain by Bishop Joseph Campmany of the Pontifical Missions of the Catholic Church, (Propaganda Fidei).

After his ordination, Father Frank did further studies in Rome and then did extensive missionary work in places like Portugal, Philippines, Italy and Mexico

FATHER FRANK COMES TO SACRAMENTO

Father Frank first arrived in Sacramento on August 28, 2000 to fill in for Father Joseph Ternullo who went on sabbatical to the North American College in Rome. When Father Joe returned to Saint Lawrence Parish in North Highlands, Father Frank decided to remain in the Diocese of Sacramento and was appointed parochial vicar at Holy Rosary Parish in Woodland for two years.

APPOINTED PASTOR OF SAINT MARY PARISH, SACRAMENTO

After his two years in Woodland, Father Frank was appointed pastor of Saint Mary Church in East Sacramento on January 10, 2003. His pastorate at Saint Mary Parish was only for two years when he was appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento.

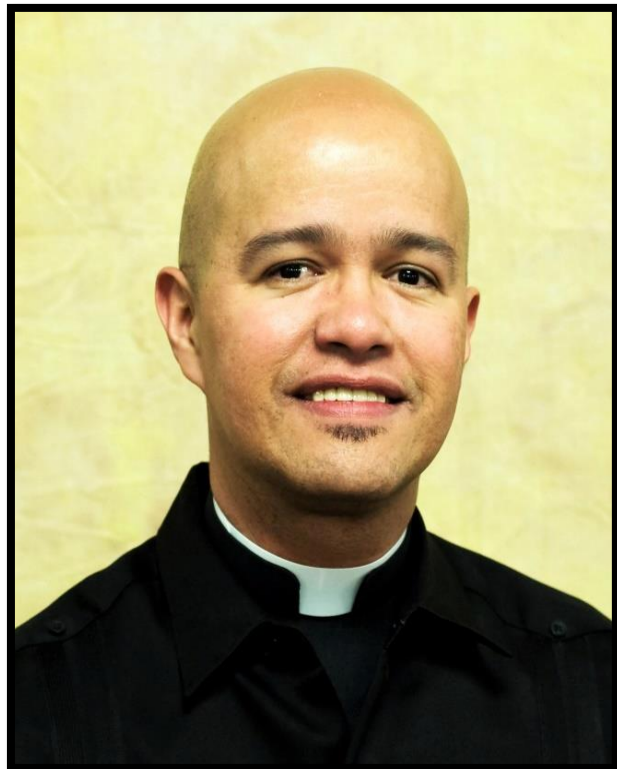
FATHER VELAZQUEZ BEGINS HIS MINISTRY AS PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

After his arrival to Saint Joseph Parish, Father Frank focused his attention on this new parish for him. His primary focus was to serve this bi-lingual community made up of 80% Hispanics and 20% Anglos at that time.

The parish school had a long tradition in the parish. The school was once known as Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School and was under the supervision of the Auburn Sisters of Mercy. The Sisters of Mercy decided to leave the school and the name of the school became Saint Joseph School. During Father Frank's tenure as pastor, the principal was Ms. Patricia Peterson, assisted by the RVM Filipino sisters who were assigned to the school.

Father Frank says the most immediate needs of the parish were to unite the parish, attend to the pastoral and ministerial needs of the school, promote as many ministries and programs as possible, renovate some of the facilities and grounds, meet the financial needs of the parish, and reinvigorate parish life. This became the primary focus for Father Frank for the next four years.

FATHER LUÍS URREGO-CH, TENTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



Father Luís Urrego

Father Luís Urrego was born in San Andrés, Antiochía State, Columbia, South America. He is one of 13 children born to Froylan y Margarita Urrego. Of these 13 children, 10 children still live in Columbia, except Father Luís, who lives in Sacramento.

Father Luís, as a university student, had an interest in philosophy, so he began taking classes in philosophy in a university in Medellín City, Columbia. The Jesuits at the University suggested to Luís that he might want to consider the priesthood. He began thinking about the priesthood and decided to come to the United States in 1994 where he entered the Misioneros de La Salette. However, the Misioneros de La Salette did not work out for him, so he moved to the Diocese of Tyler in Texas.

He attended the Oblate Seminary in San Antonio, Texas, and there met Manuel Ponce who was studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Sacramento. It was Manuel Ponce who recruited Luís for the Diocese of Sacramento.

Luís was accepted by the Diocese of Sacramento and did his pastoral year of training at Holy Rosary Parish in Woodland with Father John Boll as his pastor and mentor. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Sacramento on May 28, 2001 by Bishop William Weigand in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento.

After his ordination, Father Luís was assigned to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament from 2001-2004. He then was assigned to Holy Spirit Parish in Fairfield, serving with the pastor, Father Michael Downey, from 2004-07. Father Luís was then assigned to Saint Anne Parish in South Sacramento, with Father John Boll as pastor in charge. Father Luís lived in Saint Anne's rectory while Father John Boll lived in Saint Anthony rectory in the Pocket Area of Sacramento.

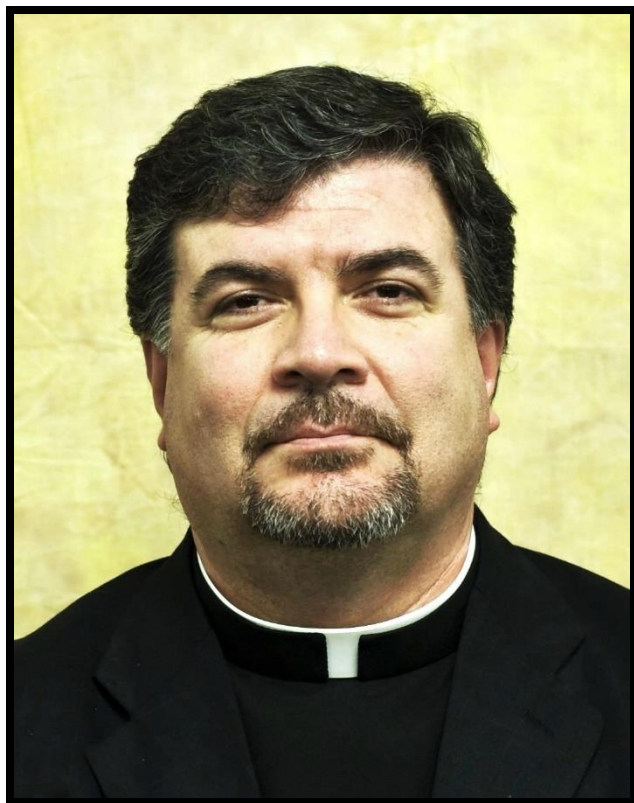
On January 1, 2010, Father Luís was appointed to his first pastorate at Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento and his term was renewed on January 1, 2016 until he and Father Rodolfo Llamas did

a lateral transfer of parishes on July 1, 2019. Father Luís became pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish on Broadway in Sacramento and Father Rodolfo became pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento.

During his 9.5 years as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Father Luís renovated Saint Joseph Church and gymnasium and the kitchen of the gym. The school parking lot was also repaved and a grotto was constructed to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. Father Luís also began another Mass on Sundays for the Spanish speaking parishioners.

Father Luís says that the majority of parishioners were very affirming to him and continue to be the same today. In general, he says that being pastor of Saint Joseph Parish has been a most welcoming experience for him.

FATHER RODOLFO D LLAMAS, ELEVENTH PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



Father Rodolfo D Llamas

Father Rodolfo Llamas was born in Guadalajara, Mexico and attended local primary and secondary schools in Guadalajara.

During Christmas 1981, Rodolfo made a retreat in Guadalajara with the Sister Missionaries of the Verbum Dei Community when he made the decision to consecrate his life to the Lord and become a missionary.

A few months later, he departed for Spain on July 12, 1982. When he arrived at the Verbum Dei Mother House in Siete Aguas, Valencia, Spain, he met Francisco Velazquez who would also become pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Sacramento.

This is how Rodolfo came to know about the Verbum Dei community and his desire to become a member of this religious community.

Father Rodolfo was ordained a priest on July 3, 1993 at the Verbum Dei Motherhouse Chapel in Spain for the Verbum Dei Missionary Community.

Always Go Forward!



Verbum Dei Chapel where Father Rodolfo was Ordained a Priest

VERBUM DEI SENDS FATHER RODOLFO TO SAN FRANCISCO

Soon after his ordination, Father Rodolfo was sent by the Verbum Dei community to begin a ministry in San Francisco, California. Father Rodolfo knew Auxiliary Bishop Richard Garcia of the Diocese of Sacramento who served as his spiritual director. When Father Rodolfo began to have second thoughts about continuing with the Verbum Dei community, Bishop Garcia suggested that he consider coming to Sacramento to serve as a priest.

FATHER RODOLFO LEAVES VERBUM DEI AND COMES TO SACRAMENTO

Father Rodolfo made the decision to come to Sacramento and was assigned to Holy Rosary Parish in Woodland to work with the parish team under the direction of Father John Boll who was the pastor. Father Rodolfo served in Woodland for two years and then was transferred to Chico as a parochial vicar to work with Father Terry Fulton who was pastor of Saint John the Baptist Parish.

FATHERS LLAMAS AND URREGO DO A LATERAL CHANGE IN PASTORATES

While Father Rodolfo was serving as pastor at Immaculate Conception, he was asked by Bishop Jaime Soto to make a lateral move with Father Luis Urrego on July 1, 2019. The two priests switched parishes. Father Rodolfo says this change took him by surprise, and then the Covid Pandemic began to affect the whole world soon after his arrival at Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento.

FINDING NEW PARISH LEADERSHIP

Father Rodolfo found that a lot of the parish leaders were getting older and some of them became ill and could not continue in parish leadership. Consequently, he had to find new leaders in the

parish community and train them to become members of the Parish Council. The membership of the Parish Finance Council remained constant.

CHANGE HAPPENED WHEN DIVINE MERCY PARISH WAS CREATED

Father Rodolfo says that Saint Joseph Parish has many very nice parishioners, and some are willing to help wherever there is a need in the parish. When Divine Mercy Parish was established in the Natomas area, many people from North Sacramento moved into new neighborhoods in Natomas and moved out of Saint Joseph Parish which made it difficult for this North Sacramento Parish.

PARISH UPDATES DONE DURING FATHER RODOLFO'S TIME AS PASTOR

Under Father Rodolfo's leadership, Saint Joseph Church was repainted and the neon lights in the church were changed to LED lighting. As parishioners saw these improvements happening, they were very generous in helping to pay for them.

FUTURE PLANS FOR THE PARISH

Father Rodolfo hopes to install double-paned windows in the rectory and in the parish office. He says that the church sound system needs updating too. He is confident that when parishioners see these improvements, they will want to help pay for them.

He says he already re-roofed the office building which was in need of repair. The new leadership team in the parish has created an Events Planning Committee that plans parish events. The first event to be held will be a pastoral visit by Bishop Jaime Soto in September as part of the parish's Centennial Anniversary in 2024.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER RODOLFO LLAMAS TO HIS PARISH COMMUNITY

Dear Parish Family of St Joseph,

Our parish is celebrating 100 years of its founding. In these last 100 years, we have seen that humanity has reached many extremes for better and for worse. And we, the Catholic Church, are facing very big challenges. Our Diocese of Sacramento has also grown a lot and has been forced to make hard choices regarding the school system, where several schools, including ours, were eliminated. In the last 100 years, our parish has seen its reach reduced due to the fortunate addition of parishes, the latest being the parish of Divine Mercy in Natomas that left our English community reduced, in addition to the hard blow of the Pandemic that took away many of our beloved members, especially the elderly.

Nowadays, the concept of "old" is acquired very quickly. Two thousand years ago, Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the other side of the planet, gave the Apostles the command, "Go into all the world and make all nations my disciples." (Mt 28:19). It took almost 1900 years for the Catholic Church to reach the far West, and our Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament was founded in June 1889, and our parish 35 years later in June 1924.

Most of the founding priests were Irish, but now the priesthood is more diverse. Attendance for our English Mass celebrations are greatly reduced, while Spanish celebrations are plentiful. The challenges are great! On the one hand, the growth of evil threatens our beliefs and our belonging to the Church of Christ. On the other hand, the Holy Spirit does not abandon us. This year, 2024, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has declared National Eucharistic Revival. Our 100th anniversary coincides with this wonderful event.

Dear community, let us continue to grow in our faith as we see our Triune God fulfill his promise to never leave us abandoned. And under the protection of our Patron Saint, Saint Joseph, the mighty protector of Christ's Church, we have our future secured.

I am infinitely grateful to all the ministers who continue to battle, united in the Sacraments and the daily strength of our faith. May God continue to fill us with blessings.

Father Rodolfo D Llamas

BISHOPS OF SACRAMENTO SINCE 1924



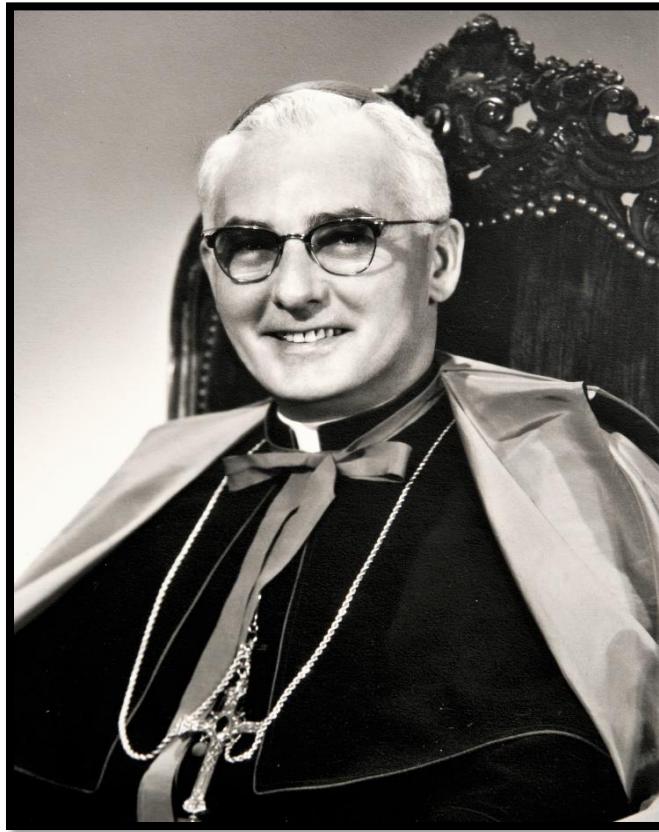
Bishop Patrick Joseph Keane



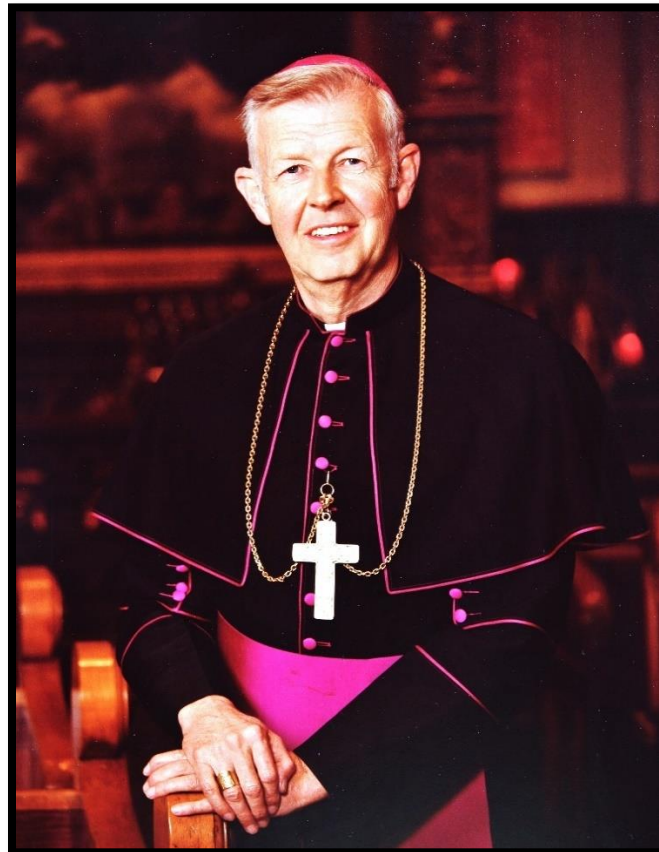
Bishop Robert John Armstrong



Bishop Joseph Thomas McGucken



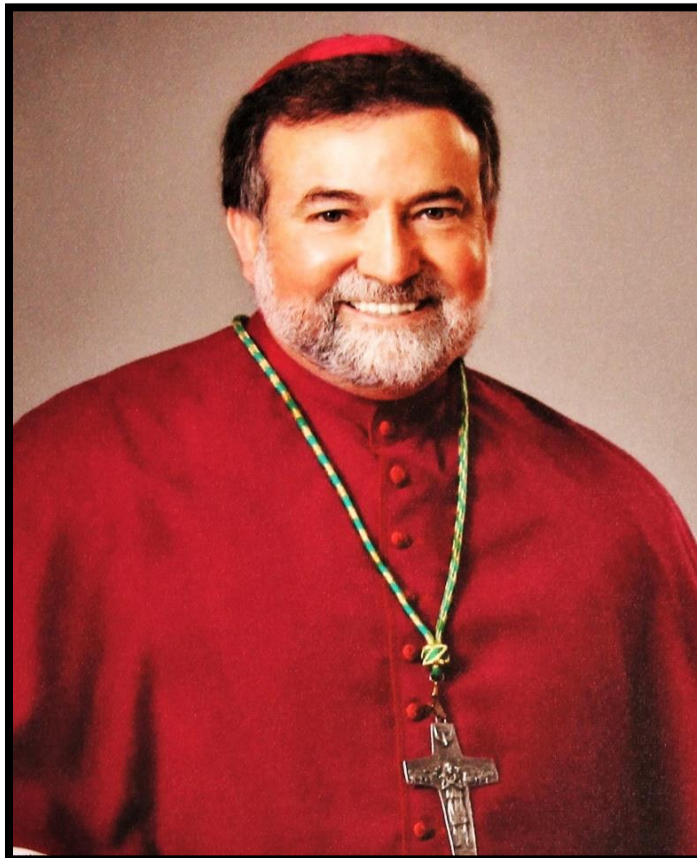
Bishop Alden John Bell



Bishop Francis Anthony Quinn



Bishop William Keith Weigand



Bishop Jaime Soto

PAROCHIAL VICARS OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH OVER THE PAST CENTURY

Although this history of Saint Joseph Parish has focused primarily on the pastors of Saint Joseph Parish during the past century of the parish's life, many assistants or parochial vicars, as we now call them, are equally important to the life of the parish. Listed below are all the parochial vicars who have served Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento over the past century, from 1928 to 2024:

PAROCHIAL VICARS OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

Parochial Vicars of Saint Joseph	Years at Saint Joseph Parish	Present Status, 2024
Father Denis Leen	1928 – 1932	+ May 11, 1946
Father Michael M Hogan	1932 – 1933	+ April 17, 1960
Father Maurice Kiley	1933 – 1941	+ Unknown



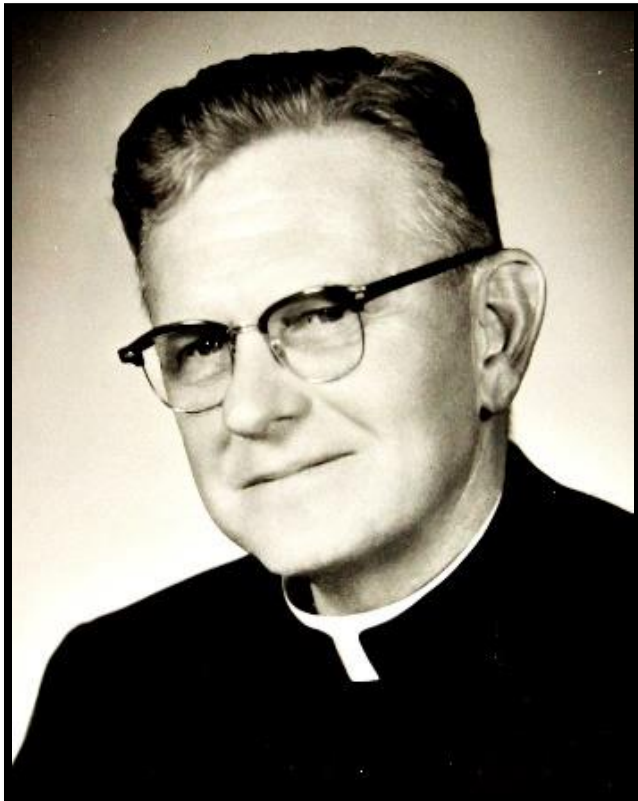
Father Edmund Christen	1939 – 1941	+ September 26, 1990
Father James Casey	1940 – 1946	+ December 29, 1992



Father Hugh McTague

1941 – 1949

+ November 27, 1982



Father Thomas H Markham

1946 – 1951

+ July 12, 1989



Father John G Terwilliger

1949 – 1950

+ October 7, 2000



Father John J Grace

1949 – 1956

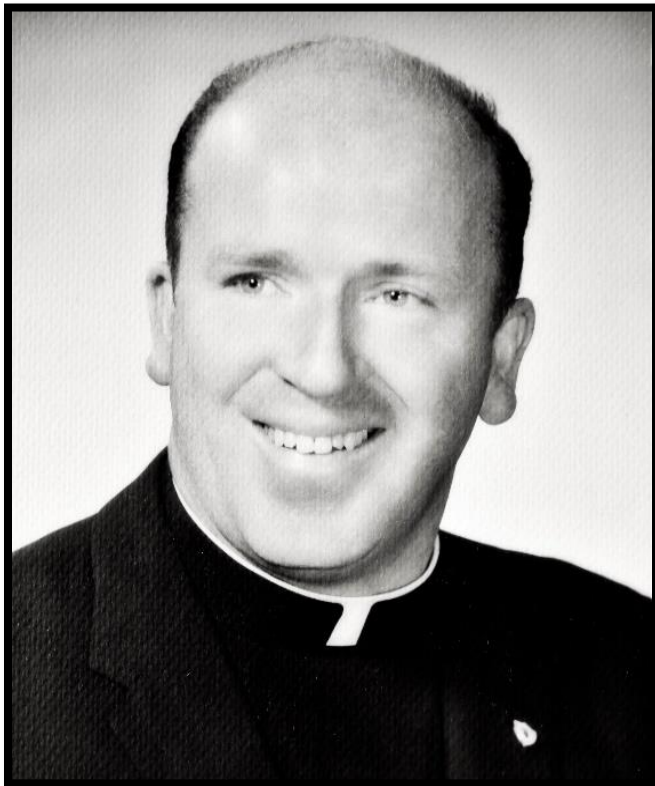
+ May 4, 2019



Father John Kyne

1954 – 1955

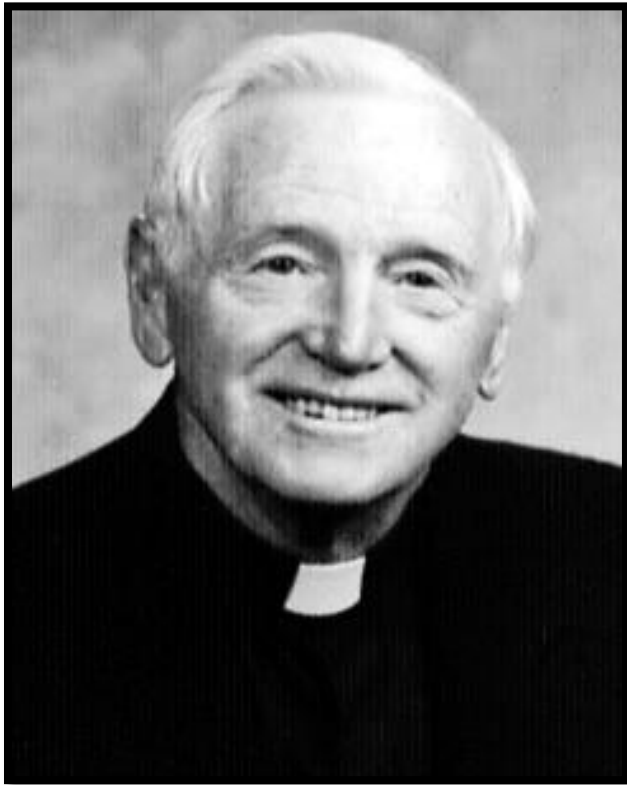
+ November 27, 2001



Father Charles Brady

1955 – 1957

+ March 25, 2020



Father William Broderick

1956 – 1959

+ December 12, 2002

Father John Burke

1957 – 1958

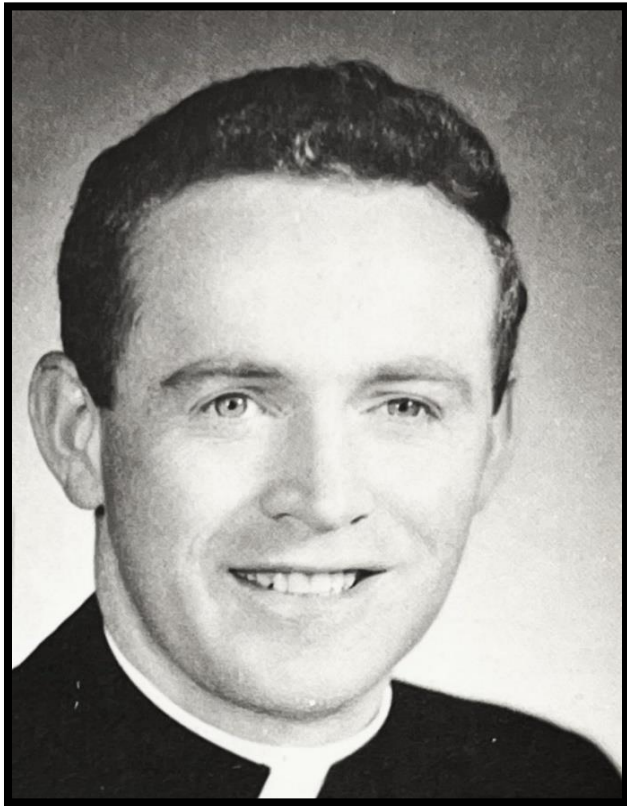
left ministry, deceased



Father Declan O'Sullivan

1958 – 1969

+ August 28, 1995



Father F Ignatius Haran

1959 – 1964

Retired, Folsom

Father John Carrol

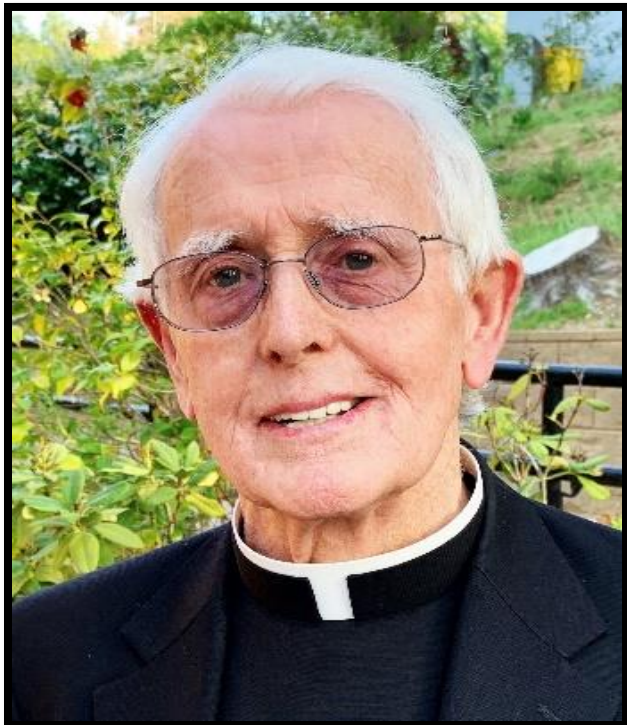
1961 – 1962

Left Ministry / Deceased

Father Robert Lehmann

1964 – 1971

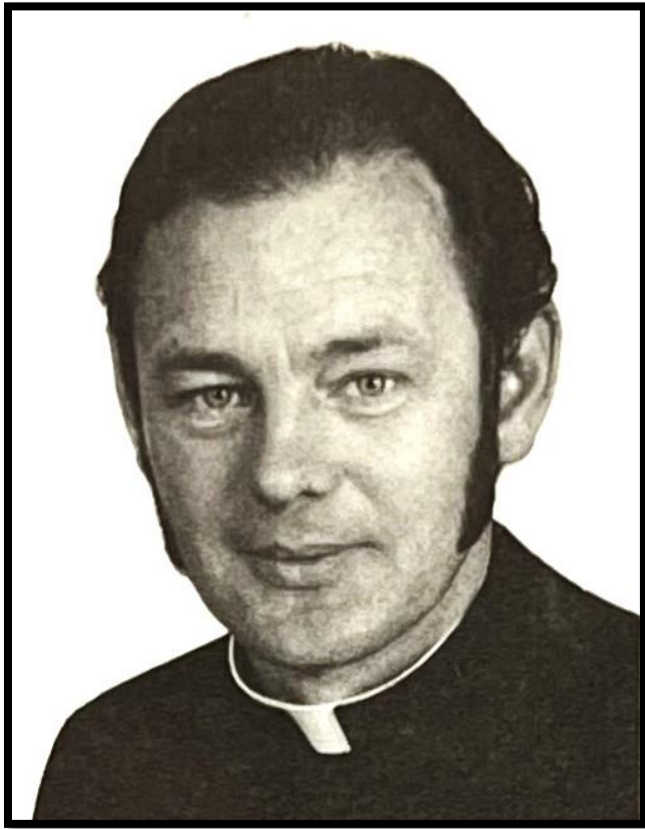
Left Ministry / Deceased



Father Patrick J Leslie

1969 – 1977

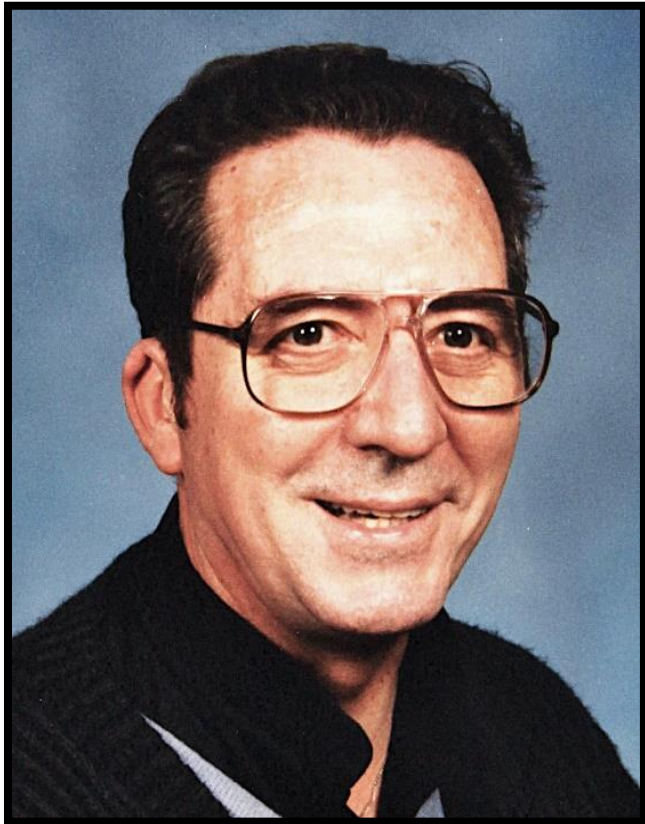
Retired, Sacramento



Father Michael J Dillon

1971 – 1974

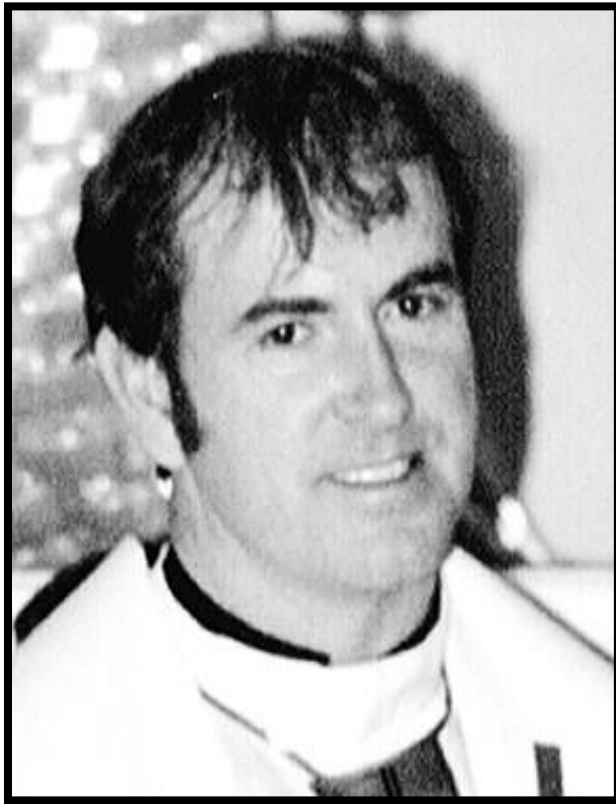
Retired, Rocklin



Father Enrique Sanchez

1971 - 1974

+ October 30, 1999



Father E Francis Lawlor

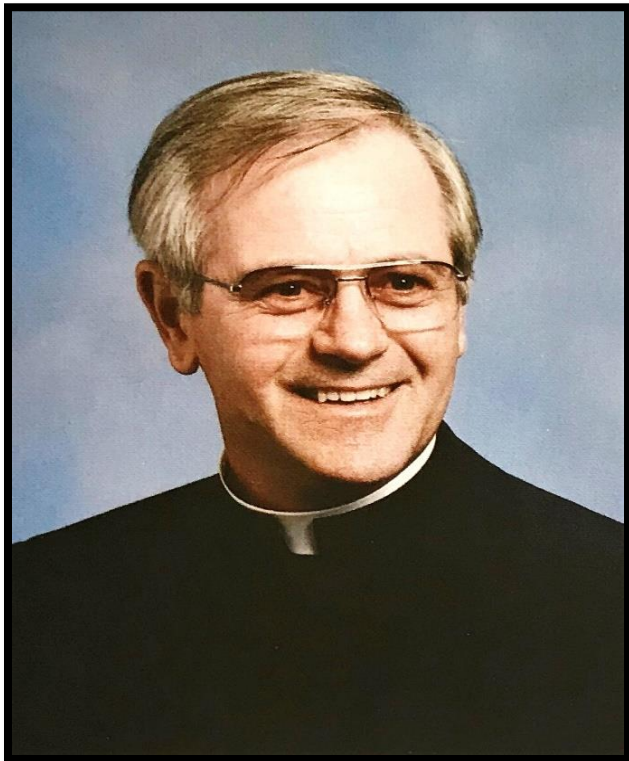
1974 – 1979

+ May 17, 2018

Father Michael G O'Halloran, OP

1980 – 1986

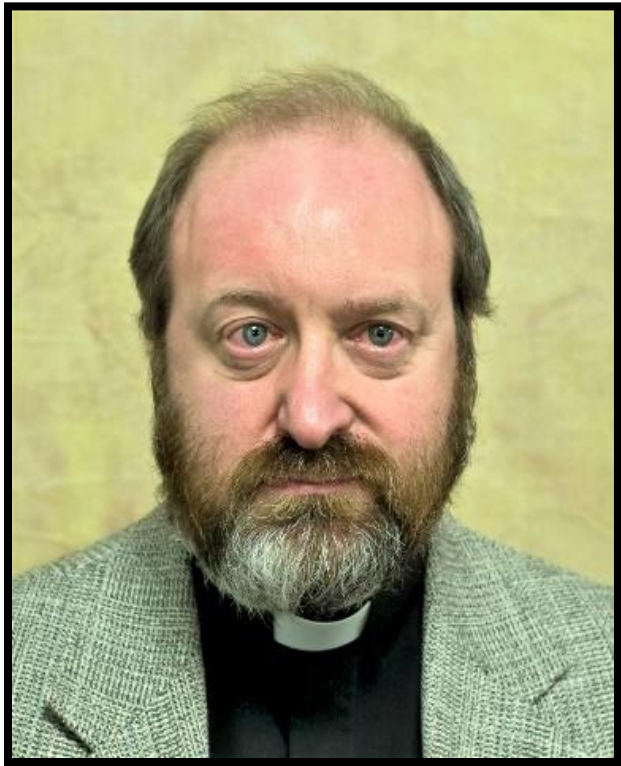
Returned to Ireland



Father Vincent P O'Reilly

01-1988 – 11-1988, Admin,

Retired, Vacaville



Father Andrzej A Koziczuk

1995 – 1998

Retired, Carmichael

Father Jos Karikattil

2000 – 2001

Retired, Sacramento



Father Guillermo Rodriguez

2001 – 2002

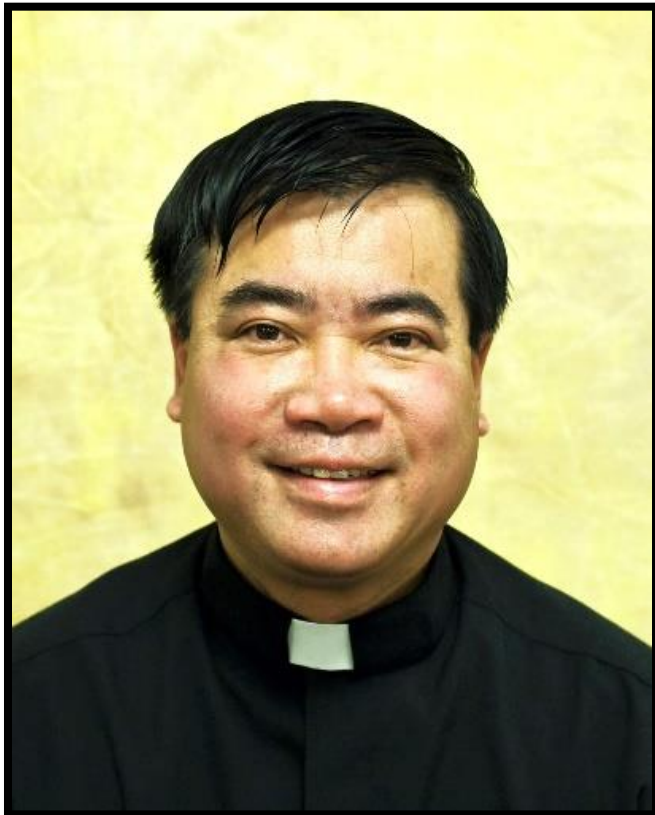
Retired, Mexico



Father Alfredo L Tamayo

2001 – 2002

Retired, Rancho Cordova



Father Joseph Huyen V Nguyen

2002 – 2004

St Joseph, Sacramento



Father Enrique Alvarez

2003 – 2005

Pastor, Vallejo

Father Rolan R Pabellan

2005 – 2006

Philippines



Father Renier C Siva

2006 – 2007

Pastor, Rocklin

Father Edgardo Copado

05-2007 – 08-2007

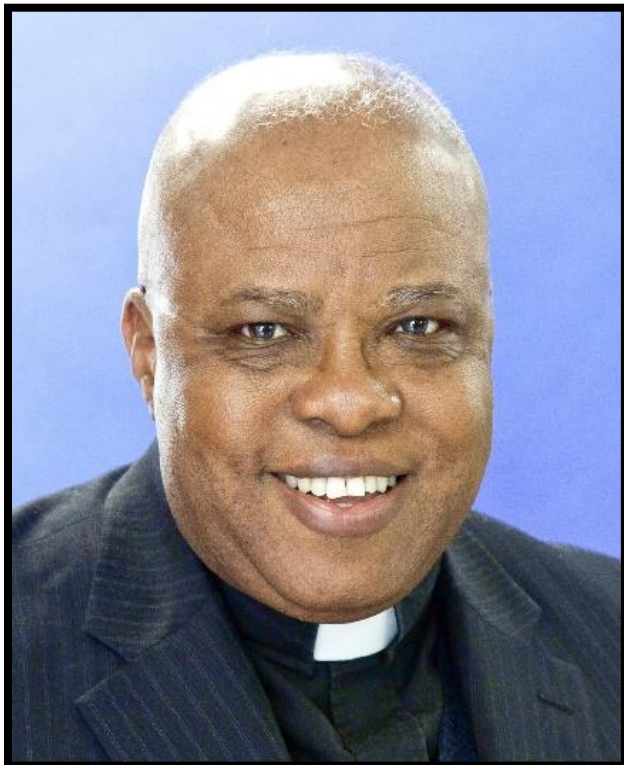
Unknown



Father Arbel S Cabasagan

2007 – 2009

Pastor, Auburn



Father Pius Amah

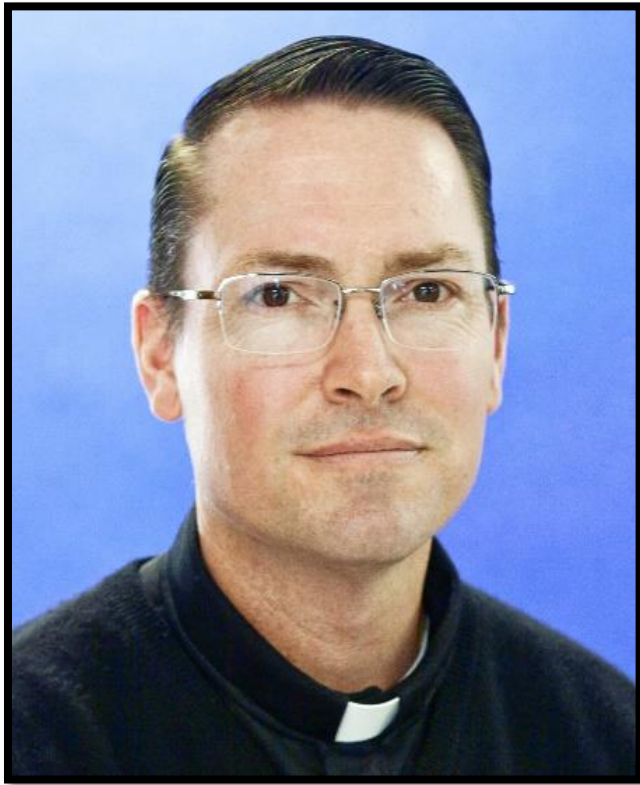
03-2010 – 12-2010

Prison Chaplain, Vacaville

Father Bernard Tape

01-2011 – 06-2011

Left Ministry



Father Michael D Vaughan

2011 – 2012

Pastor, Elk Grove



Father Giovanni B Gamas

2012 – 2013

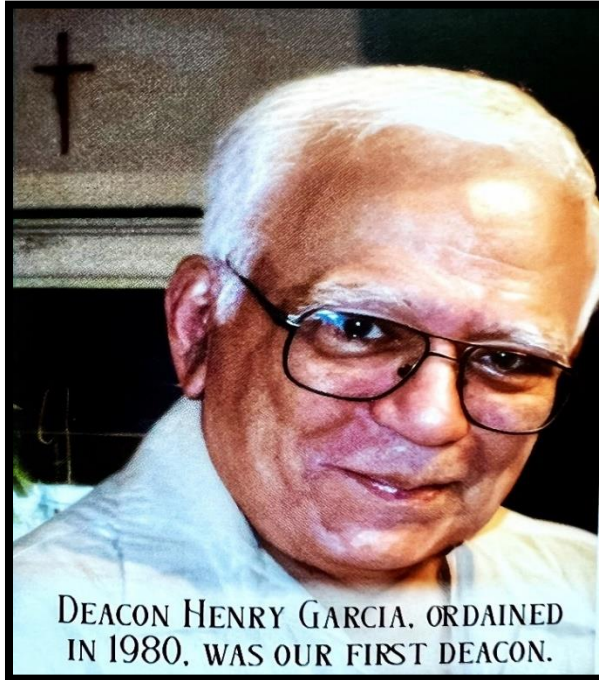
Pastor, Folsom

Father Joseph Huyen V Nguyen

2014– 2024

Retired but helps at St Joseph Parish

DEACONS WHO HAVE OR ARE SERVING SAINT JOSEPH PARISH



DEACON HENRY GARCIA, ORDAINED
IN 1980, WAS OUR FIRST DEACON.

+ April 16, 2022



**Left – Deacon Antonio Ponce, ordained 2012; Right – Deacon Atonio Latu,
ordained 2018; Center – Deacon Rafael Lopez, ordained 2022**

**Following are photographs
taken over the first century of
the life of Saint Joseph Parish
in North Sacramento since its
founding by
Bishop Patrick Joseph Keane**

on January 1, 1924

¡Siempre Adelante!



**First wedding in Saint Joseph Church
May 28, 1924
William A Bishop and Martha F Herman**



Wedding of Mr. & Mrs. William Garrison, June 12, 1947



First Communion, June 24, 1934



**Confirmation and First Communion at Saint Joseph Church on May 17, 1936
with Bishop Robert J Armstrong**



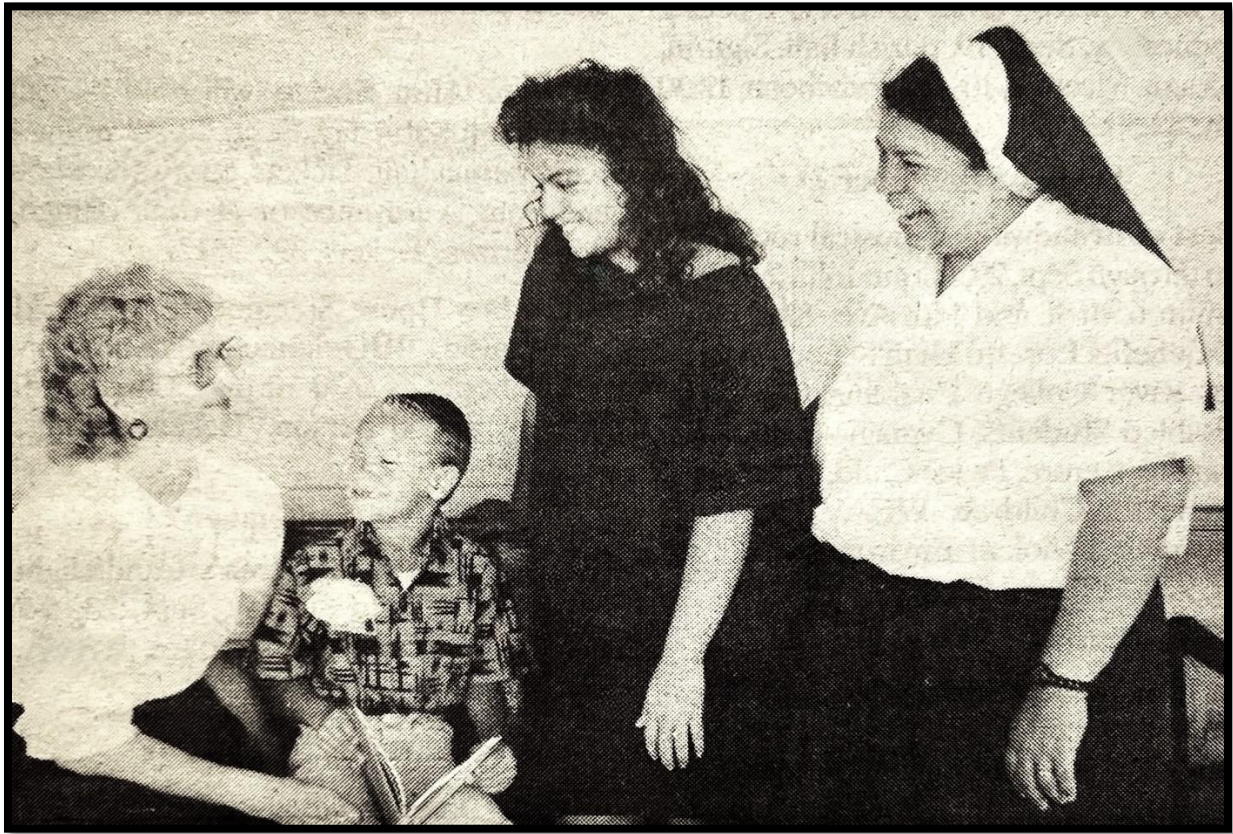
First Communion, May 1953



Our Lady of Fatima Graduation Class of 1973



Father Michael Dillon Speaks with a Parishioner at Saint Joseph Parish



Joyce Howard, First Grade Teacher; Anthony Muñoz, one of her students; Monica Correa, Anthony's Eighth Grade "Big Sisters"; and Sister Rita Irene Esparza, RSM, September 19, 1990



Father Bob Copsey and Sister Ellen Philbin, RSM



Sister Rose is given a ticket to see the Kings Basketball Team play, and she is ecstatic!



MONSIGNOR PETERS, LEFT DURING HIS TIME AS AN ARMY CHAPLAIN

13



Interior of Saint Joseph Church



Father Cesar Ageas getting ready for a Lenten Liturgy



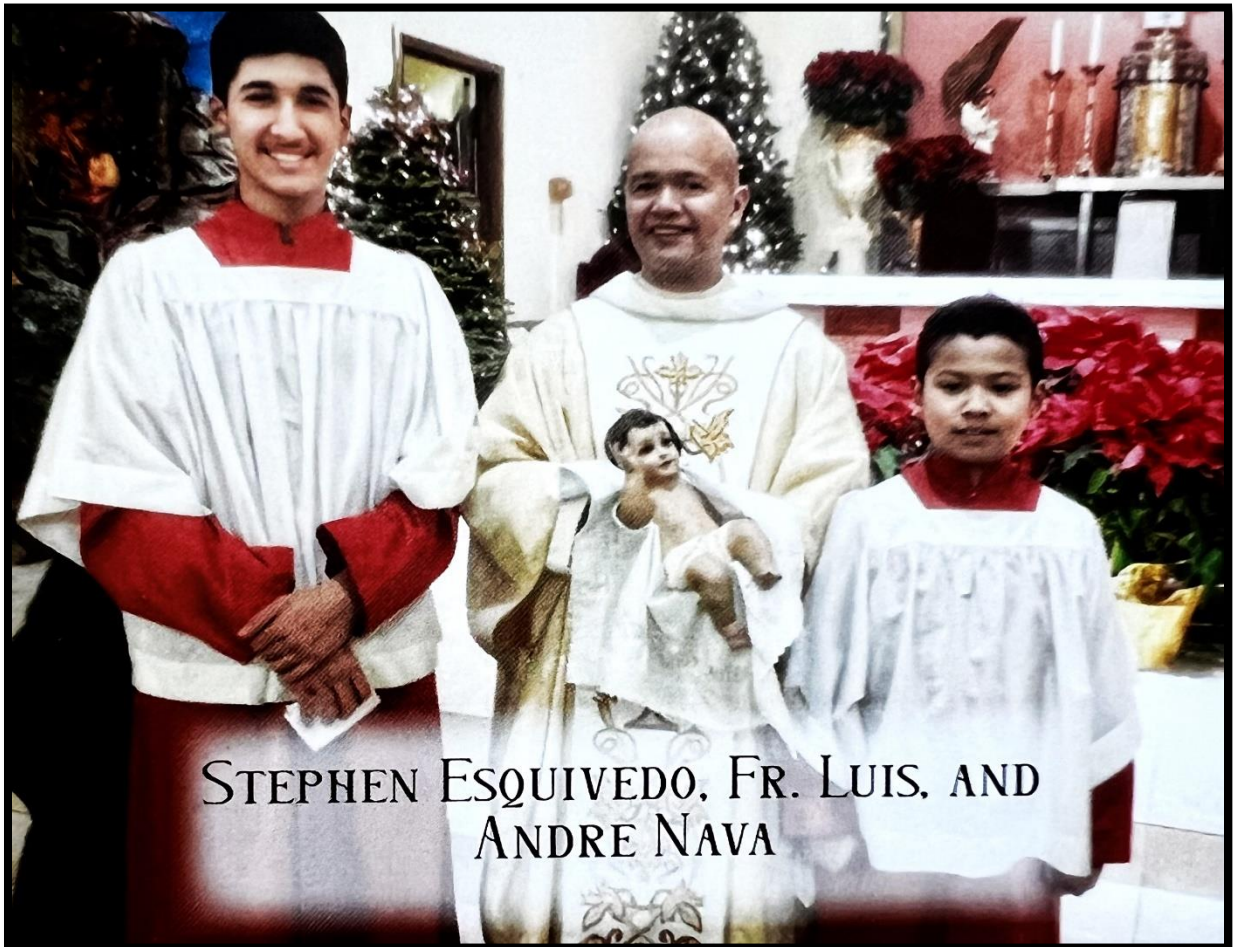
Father Luís Joins the Parish Work Crew for a Photo



Librado Pérez is One of the Workers



Father Frank Velasquez has fun with the Youth of the Parish



STEPHEN ESQUIVEDO, FR. LUIS, AND ANDRE NAVA

Father Luis Receives the Statue of the Baby Jesus at Christmas



Collectors take up the Sunday Collection



A Baby is Welcomed into God's Family at Baptism



Father Patrick McTague is included in this Confirmation Photo in 1960



Bishop Francis Quinn Celebrates Confirmation with the Confirmandi of Saint Joseph Parish



Bishop Alphonse Gallegos Celebrates Confirmation at Saint Joseph Parish



Father Renier Siva Gives First Communion to one of the Communicants



Monsignor Roy Peters with the First Communion Class



Sister Maria Jesus Quesada and Children of the Parish



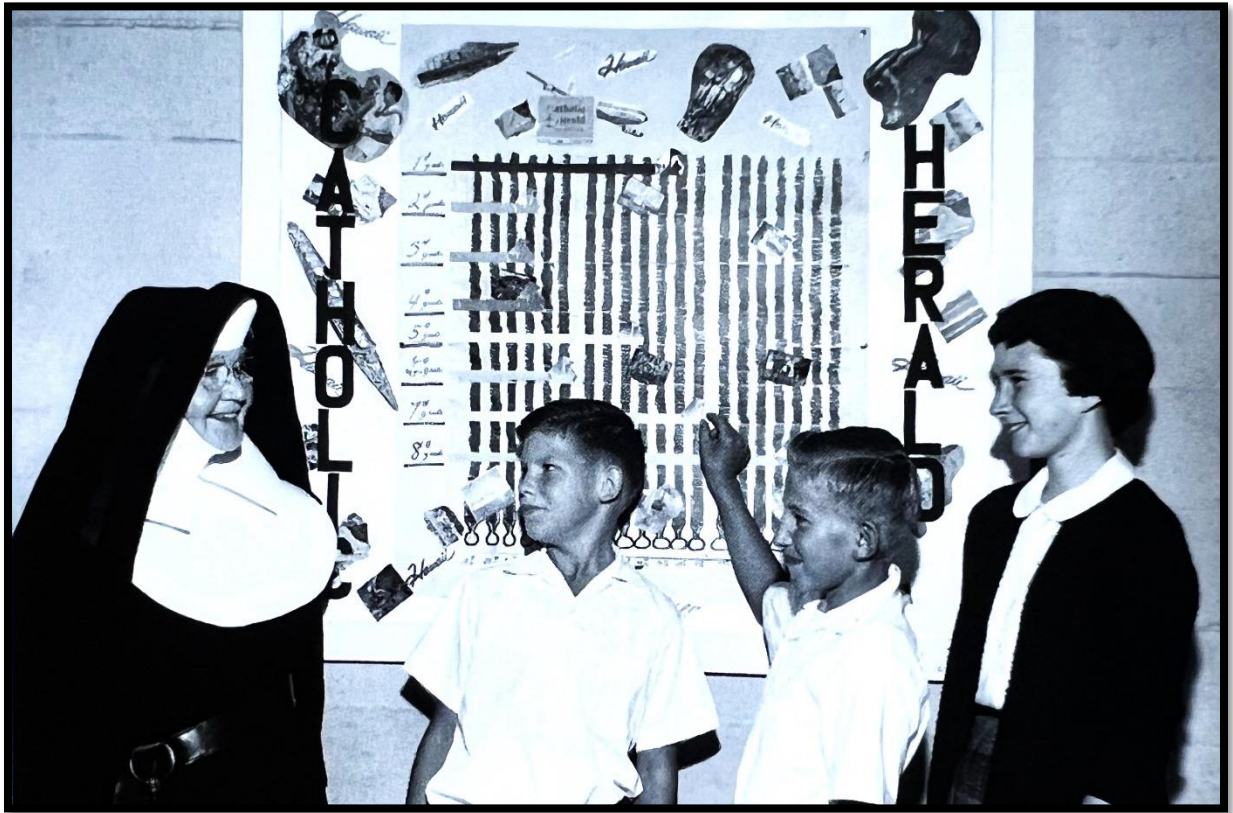
Sisters, in what Direction are you Going?



Future Saints of Saint Joseph Parish



Father Robert Copsey celebrates the Wedding of Norma and Ignacio Morfin de Dios



The Joy of School with Sister



Sister Rose joins in the Fun!



The Original Our Lady of Fatima School



1953 Graduates



Honoring Saint Joseph Parish School



A Mariachi Band Serenades the Community



Deacon Rafael López introduces La Quinceañera to the Parish Community



The Original Parish Saint Vincent de Paul Group



Father Luís Urrego Baptizes a New Member into the Community of Faith



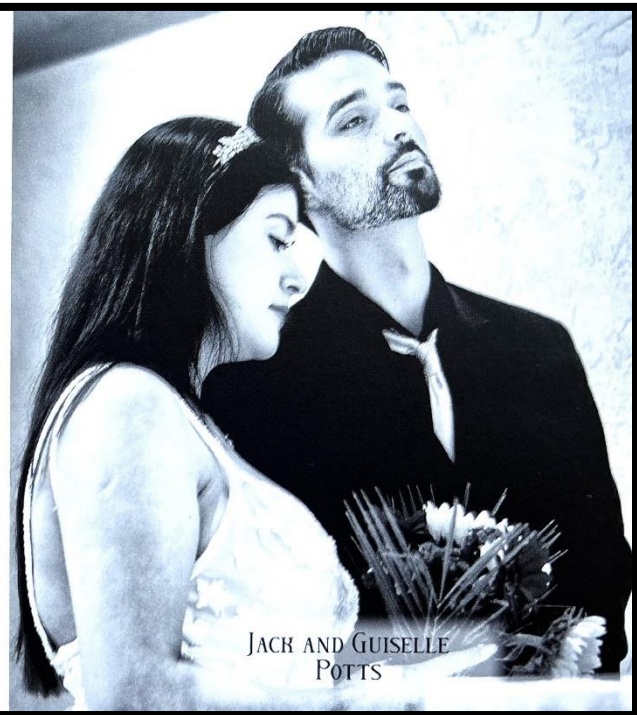
Students of Saint Joseph Parish love to play Soccer, thanks to Father Patrick Leslie



Soccer Today!



RICK AND VERONICA
POTTS



JACK AND GUISELLE
POTTS

Marriages in the Parish Community



The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe



La Fiesta Mexicana



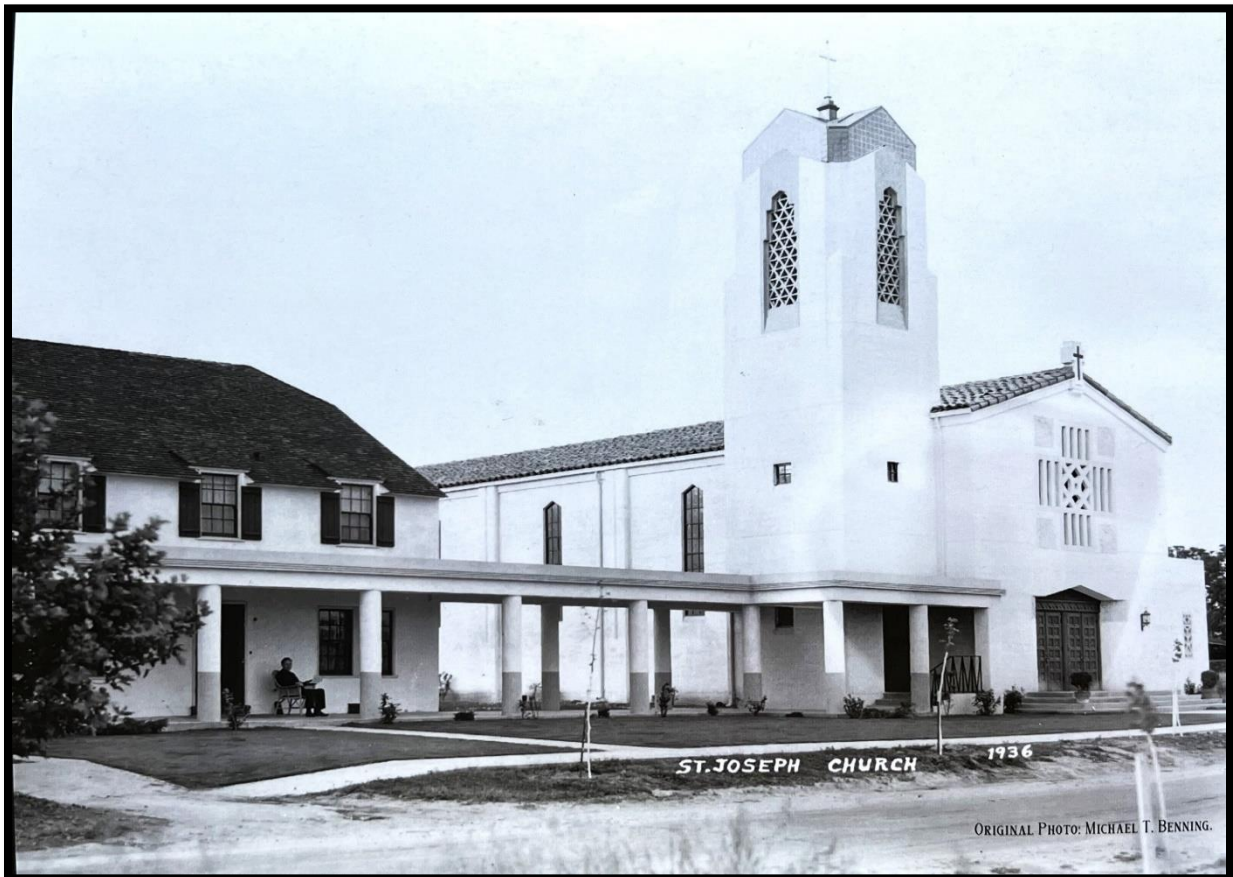
Parishioners John and Bea Shultz



Praising the Lord with the Joy of Music



The Former Convent was made into Parish Offices



Saint Joseph Church in 1936



Saint Joseph Church
June 29, 2024

A Final Word from Father John E Boll

Congratulations to the many priests who have served the Parish Community of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento over the first century of its life, and to the Parish Community who have faithfully been part of the life of this community over the past century.

This year of 2024 marks the Centennial Year since the Founding of the Saint Joseph Parish Community on January 1, 1924. We congratulate the Community for its First Century of Life, and ask the Lord to continue to bless this parish community in the ongoing ups and downs of life.

We thank especially Terri M Venesio who prepared a Centennial Edition of the History of Saint Joseph Parish in North Sacramento. I borrowed some of the photographs with her permission that she used in that historical edition of the Life and History of Saint Joseph Parish.

May God continue to bless this parish community to be faithful witnesses of God's love for the human race, and be the sign of God's love for all people He has created and given life.

As Padre Junípero Serra always said to his community,

¡Siempre Adelante!

Always Forward!