

Journeying in Hope

Our Jubilee Year 1948-1998

A History of
St. Thomas More
Catholic Church
Paradise, California



Meet our Author:
Marie Keller

Marie was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the oldest of 3 children. She attended Catholic schools through high school. She obtained a B.A. in English from U.C.L.A. Then took an assignment with the State Department in Saigon, Vietnam working with the American Embassy. She completed this tour in 1963. Marie received her Doctorate in English from Columbia University, New York. She was an English Professor at Essex College, Newark, New Jersey for 17 years. In 1978, Marie purchased a lot in Paradise. Finally, in 1984, she retired and moved to Paradise where she has been active in St. Thomas More parish ever since.



Thank you to our Pastor,
Fr. Brendan McKeefry for guiding us
in this year's Jubilee Celebration of
50 years which included the idea
to produce this book.

Acknowledgements

Lois McDonald
Louise Miller
Janet Bertagna
Mary Even

Sources

Chico Enterprise Record
Paradise Post
St. Thomas More Archives

Journeying in Hope:

A History of St. Thomas More Church

INTRODUCTION

The history of St. Thomas More parish has truly been the record of a people and their priests who have prayed, worked, worried and sacrificed in faith through a fifty-year journey of hope. Through the never-failing devotion of the early members of the infant parish to the dedication of those who built on a small but firm foundation, St. Thomas More parish looks back to the struggles of its beginning and forward to the future as it continues its journey in hope.

OUR BEGINNING

In 1939, the clergy of St. John the Baptist Church in Chico, headed by Father Mathias Oberaigner, conducted a canvass of Catholics in the Paradise area. At the time, Catholics living in this part of Butte County had to travel to Chico to attend Sunday Mass. The census revealed that approximately twenty families were living in this area.

As a result, Father Patrick J. Cronin, pastor of St. John's, established instruction classes for adults and children. Not long afterward,

in April 1940, Father Oberaigner celebrated the first Mass in the Paradise Veterans' Memorial Hall. Thirty-five people attended this historic Mass. Masses in Paradise were initially held on the second Sunday of each month. Another Mass was added on the last Sunday of each month and by 1945, Mass was being celebrated in Paradise every Sunday.

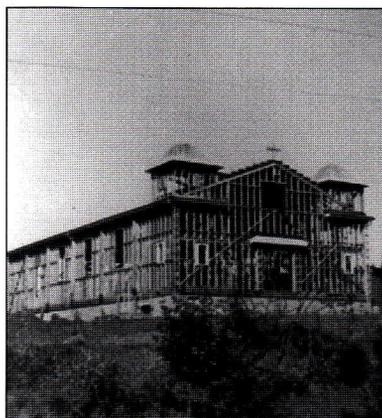
Confessions were heard in the telephone booth at the Hall. During this time, Father Oberaigner was also saying Mass for the people of Stirling City at Mt. St. Agnes Hospital. People remember going to confession in the parlor, kneeling beside Father's chair. (Mt. St. Agnes had a further connection with St. Thomas More Church, as we shall see later.) About this time, Father purchased a cabin on the highway to Toadtown. Since he had no phone, anyone trying to contact him had to call an office or residence in town which would relay messages to him.



In October 1940, 14 women formed the Catholic Women's Guild. Throughout its early history, the Guild's dedication to building a parish church never faltered. Members began raising funds through bazaars, dinners, rummage sales, raffles, card parties, and dance suppers. On May 3, 1945 parish men met to organize the Holy Name Society; on September 23 the members were installed at St. John's in their own Paradise branch, and their own fundraising efforts went forward alongside the women's. That same year, Father Cronin

received formal permission from the Most Reverend Robert J. Armstrong, Bishop of Sacramento, to build the Paradise church.

A banner year for the fledgling church, 1945 was a year of intensive fundraising, planning and hope. On March 8, 1945, the Women's Guild purchased a one-acre parcel at Elliott and Almond — a former grape and pear farm — for \$500. On May 25, 1945, the Building Committee held its first meeting and a drive for funds began in earnest. The Catholic Church Extension Society contributed funds and many out-



of-towners added to the fund for what was to be called Sacred Heart Church. One of the major donors, a Catholic from the East Coast, asked that the parish be named for St. Thomas More, the English lawyer/martyr, and so the name was changed.

The first small step in building the new church was taken in January 1946, when two members of the Holy Name Society dug a ditch to bring water to the property. Soon after, water pipes were laid, land leveled, and the church foundation was begun. Many parishioners donated help and other local help was hired. William Dougherty designed the church and was in charge of construction.

Building proceeded slowly. Because of World War II, building materials were almost impossible to find, and when found were very expensive. Nonetheless, by November 1947, several important

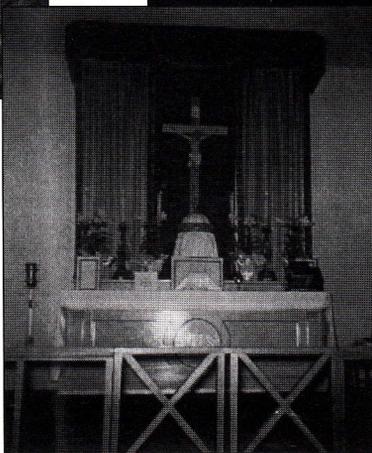
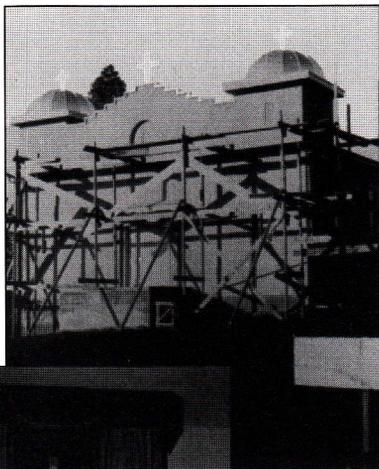
furnishings had been purchased: a baptismal font, Stations of the Cross, a sanctuary lamp, and holy water fonts.



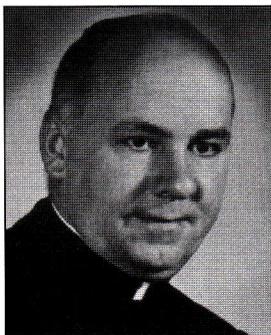
Even though the building was unfinished and unfurnished, it was blessed and saw the celebration of its first Mass on Easter Sunday 1947, Father Cornelius O'Connor, assistant in Chico, presiding. The interior of the building was not yet finished, only half the floor was laid, and not all the fixtures were yet installed, but the furnace was working and kept the more than 275 people in attendance warm, despite the early spring chill. It was the fulfillment of St. Thomas More parishioners' eight-year dream of having their own parish church. So it was that St. Thomas More Catholic Church became a mission of St. John's in Chico.

By this time, Father Oberaigner had been transferred to another area of the diocese. Father William O'Toole, who succeeded Father Cronin as pastor of St. John's, scheduled catechism classes every week at the church, with Father White, assistant pastor at Chico, holding the classes. In the meantime, the young church was growing: between 1939 and 1947, the number of parish families had quintupled, from 20 to 100. At the beginning of 1948, Father Thomas Bannon began Saturday instruction classes. Preparations began for the dedication of the church, which was celebrated February 29, 1948. Bishop Armstrong of Sacramento led the procession around the

THE 40s



church grounds, blessing the building. The altar was prepared, candles lit, flowers brought in, and the Mass began. Master of Ceremonies and celebrant was Father Thomas Bannon. The music of the nine-member choir, organist, and director added to the beauty of the service. At noon that day the congregation and many out-of-town friends gathered at Memorial Hall for a special luncheon. Bishop Armstrong and Father Bannon were guests of honor. During his address, the bishop promised to appoint a resident priest.



In January 1949, Father Oberaigner was recalled to Paradise and appointed the first pastor of St. Thomas More. Two months later, the church purchased another piece of land for a parish house. Construction began soon after on a planned seven-room house with an attached single-car garage. Keenan and Company did the excavating, and Eli Hartman headed the carpenters. Summer saw completion of the rectory, so Father Oberaigner moved out of his Toadtown cabin into the new parish house. He did his own cooking, laundering and cleaning until the parish could afford a housekeeper.

The parish continued to grow. Early that year, Father announced that St. Thomas More would have two Sunday Masses, at 8 and 10 a.m. and that Mass would be said at Mt. St. Agnes in Stirling City on the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m. The Guild made arrangements with the Paradise Cemetery Association to set aside a section of the cemetery for the use of Catholics, and many parishioners purchased plots. A new organ was donated by a parishioner after the collapse of an old discarded one, and the choir, which had

contributed to the services since the days of Memorial Hall, grew to more than ten people. Many favorite Catholic devotions, such as the May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin, were held in the early 1950's. Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation were celebrated. Traditional Lenten devotions, including the Stations of the Cross were well-attended.



ENTER: THE SCHOOL

But the late 1940s and early 1950s were also a time to think and plan for the parish's next step: a school. One of the earliest fundraising affairs was a set of two well-attended lectures in 1949 and 1950 by Father Bernard Hubbard, S.J., the "Glacier Priest." He was nationally known as a scientist and explorer, working out of Santa Clara University for the U.S. Government. His lectures on Alaska and China were usually given in large metropolitan centers with audiences numbering in the thousands. The Paradise lectures, with accompanying films, were given in response to a request from his brother, a parishioner, and were sponsored by the Holy Name Society. All proceeds from the lectures were donated to the building fund.

A group of talented parishioners took the name "Paradise Players" and staged a successful theater production that was presented not only in Paradise, but also in Marysville, Red Bluff, and Westwood. Enjoyed by large audiences everywhere it played, "The Family Upstairs" also added substantially to the parish's building fund.

Another popular fundraiser was the Traveling Food Basket. Something of use, or baked goods, was put in the basket and delivered to a parishioner. If the parishioner wished to purchase the contents of the basket — whether one item or all — he or she put a contribution into the purse that was in the basket, then added something for someone else to buy. Or, the parishioner could simply add more cash and the basket would travel to the next home. Quite an amount was added to the fund this way.

In February 1949, the Guild changed its name to "St. Thomas More Guild." Although its name changed, the Guild's dedication to the needs of the parish did not. The annual bazaar, held in the Memorial Hall, was always a great success — despite an attempted robbery in 1951, which did not turn out as its perpetrators had hoped! For their part, parish men, too, added to the feasting, fun and fundraising with their annual pit barbecue.

As soon as sufficient pledges from the fundraising drive were garnered, the parish announced its plans in October 1953 to build its own elementary school. To accommodate the school and convent, another two and one-half acres of land had been purchased in 1951, and another one and one-half acres in front of this property facing Elliott Road were bought in 1954.

Father Oberaigner and Frank Fisci, the contractor, broke ground for the school in May 1955. Plans were originally for two two-room units, to be enlarged in two years, but the plans were discarded when church planners realized that there were almost enough children to justify building two units of three classrooms each, plus a convent for the Sisters. The total cost would be in the vicinity of \$40,000, so a committee was formed to handle finances.

Help came from an unexpected source. It would take many pages to tell the whole story; but here's a shortened version of the tale. Mt. St. Agnes in Stirling City (mentioned earlier) was built by Diamond Match Company and



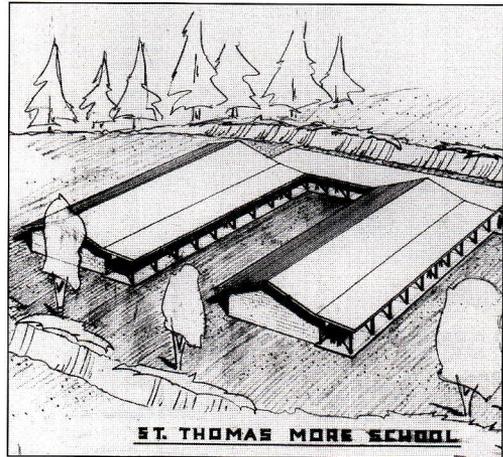
staffed as a hospital in 1908 by three Sisters of Charity of Seton Hall (Pennsylvania). It is not altogether certain who exactly owned the land, but the Company built the large hospital. It was an important Ridge institution, since accident victims could be cared for locally instead of having to be sent to Chico or Sacramento. For a long time, it was known as "the best hospital north of Sacramento." After a number of years, orphaned and abandoned children were taken in, and the building also became the sacramental center for the area. By this time, all of the little group of Sisters had died, except for Sr. Augustine, who was known to Bishop Armstrong as "the last of the Mohicans." She lived alone in the big old building until finally, at age 90, she was persuaded to return to Ohio, where she died on February 4, 1953. She is remembered with gratitude and affection by many of the children she reared over the years.

THE 50s



After Sr. Augustine left, the building suffered extensive vandalism, and its furnishings either disappeared or were destroyed. Although the details are not all known, it appears that, faced by the prospect of building a school and convent on slim funds, Father Oberaigner, with some men of the parish drove up to Stirling City and brought back as much good lumber as they could find, salvaged from the old hospital grounds. This "windfall" enabled construction of St. Thomas More School to begin in October 1955.

In 1955 Father Oberaigner made arrangements for three Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, whose mother house was in Joliet, Illinois, to teach at the new school in grades one through five. Other Franciscan Sisters from St. Thomas School in Oroville, which had opened the previous year, came to Paradise in May 1956 to register pupils for the school's first year of operation.



St. Thomas More School opened with 86 students. On September 23, 1956, the convent and school were dedicated by Coadjutor Bishop Joseph McGucken of Sacramento. Led by the Bishop, the procession included priests from nearby parishes as chaplains and assistants. The Bishop's message to the parishioners and friends commended the work and sacrifice of the people in fulfilling their hopes and creating a special vision for the parish's children: "To provide students with education not only for the mind but for the soul."



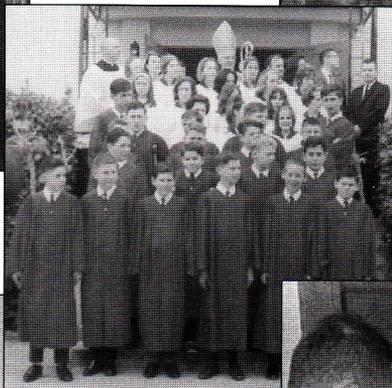
The Commander of the Paradise American Legion Post presented the American flag to the school, and the Native Daughters of the Golden West gave it the California bear flag. With color guards at attention by the flagpole — which was also a gift from the American Legion — the colors were raised after the flags were blessed by the Bishop. After the ceremonies outdoors, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed in the church.

The next morning, all the pupils and Sisters held their first flag-raising ceremony with their brand new school, flags and flagpole, bright with hope for the future. Each school day began with Mass, flag-raising, and the Pledge of Allegiance. The school flourished. Grades were added each year.

In June 1960, the first graduates, seven boys and eleven girls, celebrated their graduation with a ceremony attended by parents, teachers, and friends, and presided over by Monsignor James Poole, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools.

The '60s saw slow but steady growth, a time of consolidation. Small changes and additions were made in the parish plant, while parish organizations worked together to support the parish's myriad activities.

THE 60s



70s A TIME OF CHANGE

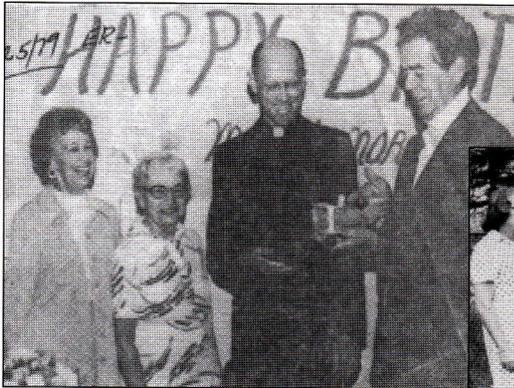
But the '70s were a time of change. In 1976, the Sisters were withdrawn from the school, and lay teachers took over. Father Oberaigner, whose hard work had led to the founding and progress of St. Thomas More Church, retired from ministry in 1973. He had been pastor here in Paradise for just over 24 years, and had, with the help of generous and caring parishioners, built up a parish of over 500 families. Even in retirement in his Paradise home, he was available for anyone needing help. He said Mass daily until his death on June 1, 1994 at the age of 85. He is remembered as an outstanding administrator and a kind and good pastor.



He was succeeded by Monsignor Raymond Renwald in July 1973, who remained as pastor until 1981. Monsignor Renwald had been ordained at the Josephinum Seminary in Ohio, as had Father Oberaigner before him. He had served the Sacramento Diocese for more than 30 years, in many capacities, including Rector of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools, and diocesan director of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith.

For Monsignor Renwald's seventy-fourth birthday in October 1979, the parishioners, having asked him for weeks to reserve time for an important Ladies Guild "business meeting," surprised him with a token of their esteem and affection: a plane ticket and spending money to go anywhere in the world he wished. The four-member

THE 70s

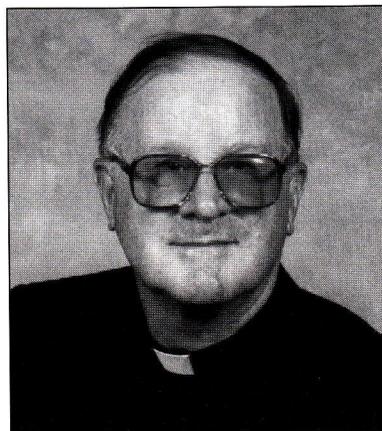


committee had deposited the money in a special travel fund so that Monsignor Renwald, with his characteristic generosity, could not give away all the donations.

The parish celebrated his Golden Jubilee on May 28, 1981, with a Mass and dinner reception featuring Bishop Francis Quinn. Eleven priests ñ in addition to Monsignor Renwald himself — were in attendance. Retired in 1981, Monsignor Renwald continued his work for the church until his death on May 22, 1993.

THE 80s MORE CHANGE

In 1981, Father Patrick Vincent Lenehan was appointed pastor. During his tenure, it became apparent that the church building's capacity was regularly being exceeded by the number of Sunday Mass attendees. In spite of five Masses each weekend, the 200 seats in the existing church building were simply not enough to accommodate Sunday worshippers. The former pastor and parish council had already made a tentative decision to enlarge the existing building, but upon Father Lenehan's arrival, the plan was suspended pending further study. "Further study" included a comprehensive visit to the upper ridge area by representatives from the Diocesan Office of Research and Planning, careful consideration of population figures (both existing and projected), and formulation of alternatives to the proposed plan. After considering all options — including not expanding the facilities at all, a position advocated by a few parishioners — the



purchase of the Magalia structure, known as "The Barn" was approved for use as a mission church.

This building, constructed in the early fifties by Frank and Vince Fisci as the Fir Haven Lumber Company, was acquired by Sam Fortino in the 1970s as a sales office for his development of Paradise Pines. After his death, his son had made the building available on a trial basis to Father Lenehan for the

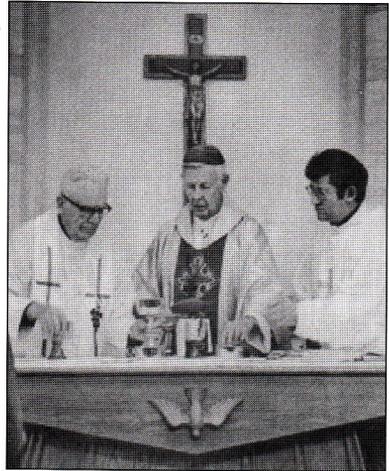


celebration of Sunday Mass. Thus, in March 1983, the building and more than five acres of land were purchased as a mission of St. Thomas More Church. Following extensive renovations, it was blessed by Bishop Quinn on January 27, 1985, and given the title of "Our Lady of the Pines." It stayed in existence until 1994, well after completion of the new church.

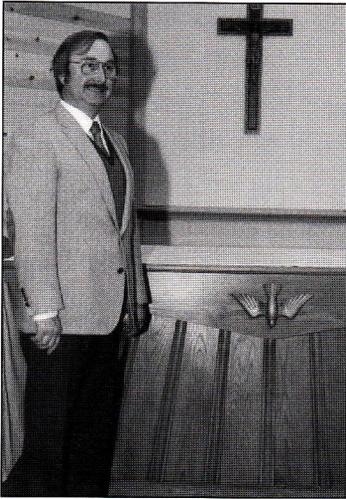


Father Lenehan resigned in 1984 and was succeeded by Father Simon Twomey. Father Simon was ordained at All Hallows, Dublin, Ireland. His first appointment was as Associate Pastor at St. John's in Chico. When he arrived in Paradise, plans for the new church were made and a pledge drive was begun. The building committee, Father Simon, and Father Robert Casper, S.D.S., Associate Pastor at St. Thomas More, worked continuously with the

THE 80s



MORE 80s



contractors. Meanwhile, the "old" church, in use since 1947, was moved about 125 feet to the north in August 1986 and remodeled to serve as a parish hall. While the new church was being built, Mass was celebrated each Sunday in the school all-purpose room and at the Paradise Pines mission church.

The parish community took another step on its journey of hope when the new church was dedicated on May 23, 1987. During the days preceding the dedication, members of the congregation were busy putting down sod and planting bushes, trees and flowers. The contractors, Modern Builders of Chico, were also busy at last-minute tasks, such as testing the public address system and putting finishing touches on the building.

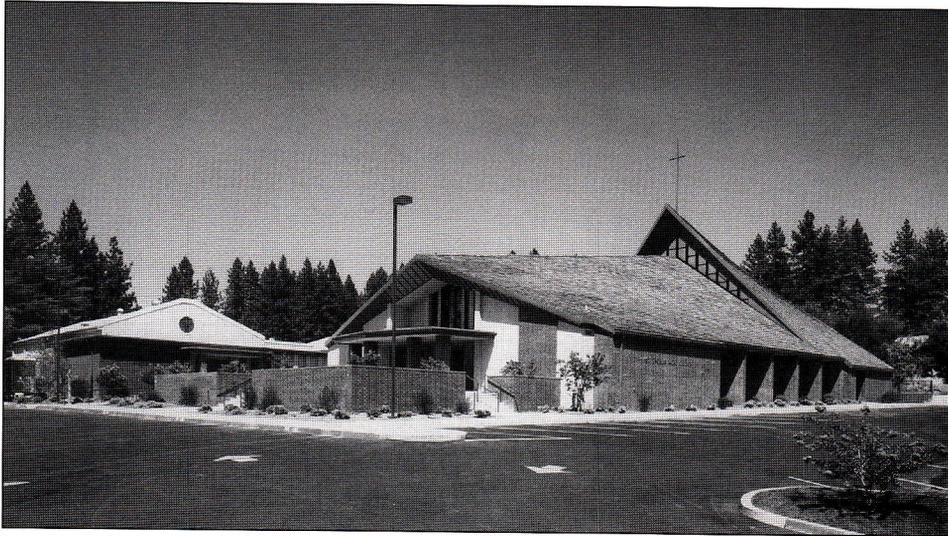
A beautiful 3'x6' mosaic of Venetian tile portraying St. Thomas More, Chancellor and martyr under England's King Henry VIII, created by Father Casper, was installed upon completion of the church. Father Casper had thought up the idea for the mosaic in July 1986, when he had left Paradise to return to Wisconsin after seven years as Associate Pastor of St. Thomas More parish.

On the morning of the dedication everything was ready. About 650 people crowded into the church for the joyous occasion. During the special dedication ceremony, which was incorporated into the celebration of Mass, Bishop Quinn



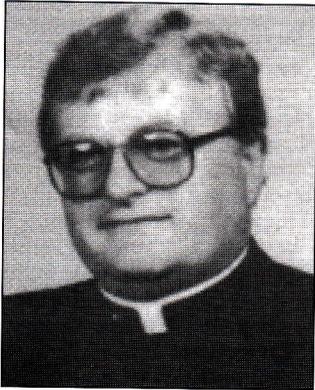
from Sacramento, accompanied by Father Twomey and 13 other priests, blessed the people and the church walls, anointing the walls and altar with oil. In his homily, Bishop Quinn reminded those present that a church is more than bricks and mortar:

For all we do today, the important thing is that your lives will reflect this dedication and this community will be better in the eyes of God because you existed.



By working together in faith the people of the parish could now take a look at what had been accomplished so far in their journey of hope — a flourishing parish, a new church, a successful school. Various groups, including but not limited to, the Ladies Guild, the Knights of Columbus (chartered in 1981), the Parent-Teachers group, the School Board, Scripture study groups — all had, through their devotion, given impetus to the development of a thriving Catholic community.

THE 90s

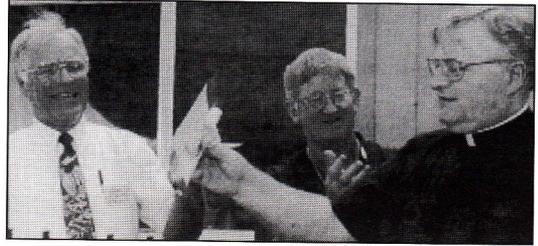


In 1990, Father Twomey was assigned to Holy Family parish in Citrus Heights. Father James Walsh arrived in Paradise. His Mass of Installation on May 26, 1990, presided over by Father Brendan McKeefry, Dean and Pastor of St. John's in Chico, was also a celebration of Father Walsh's Silver Anniversary of ordination at All Hallows 25 years before.

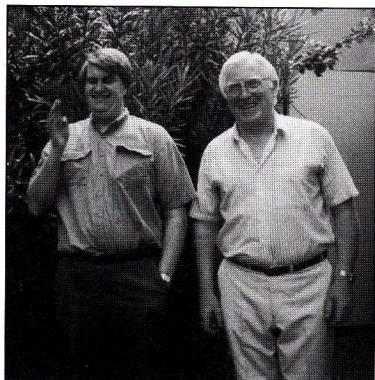
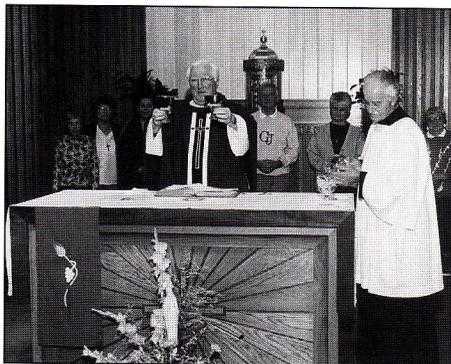
Under Father Walsh's leadership, a second pledge drive was commenced to raise funds for paying off the debt against the new church building. Thanks to the generosity of the parishioners, the goal was reached in near-record time. On June 12, 1994, a joyous mortgage-burning celebration was held, beginning with a Mass celebrated by Father Walsh and Father Twomey, who returned to Paradise for the occasion. An all-parish barbecue followed the festive ceremony.

During the same year, the mission in the Pines was closed and sold. The new church, with seating for well over 500 people, easily accommodated Saturday and Sunday crowds, making the Magalia mission church unnecessary.

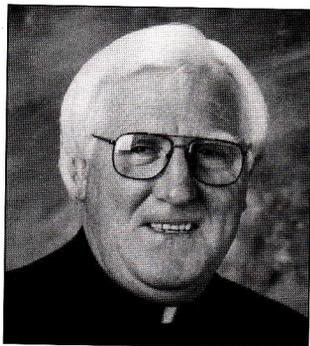
THE 90s



MORE 90s



Upon Father Walsh's assignment to Vacaville, Father Brendan McKeefry of St. John's parish in Chico became pastor of St. Thomas More in the fall of 1994. Ordained at All Hallows June 18, 1967, Father Brendan had come to the Sacramento diocese in 1979 by way of assignments in England. His "elevation" from the valley to the foothills was regarded by practically everyone as a most fortuitous event. Under his guidance, new lay ministries such as Bereavement, Remembering Church, Singles, Counseling, Vocations and Liturgy Ministry were added to those already in place at St. Thomas More, a Pastoral Council was established, and an enthusiastic committee undertook planning the celebration of the Golden Anniversary of St. Thomas More Church.



Looking back over the past 50-odd years, the St. Thomas More parish community can say, "Indeed, it has truly been a journey in hope." Progress was not always easy, but it was steady, strengthened by the prayers, sacrifices, dedication and determination of parishioners and pastors alike.

So it is that on this eve of the millennium, we have arrived, not at a culmination, but at a continuation of the journey. May God bless us, bless our journey, and guide our footsteps into the next fifty years.

1948 ————— 1998

Pastors

Rev. Mathias Oberaigner	1949 — 1973
Msgr. Raymond Renwald	1973 — 1981
Rev. P. Vincent Lenehan	1981 — 1984
Rev. Simon D. Twomey	1984 — 1990
Rev. James B. Walsh	1990 — 1994
Rev. Brendan McKeefry	1994 — present

Administrator Pro-Tem

Rev. Thomas Carrigan	1984
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Associates

Rev. Manuel Leca	1960 — 1962
Rev. Nicholas Duggan	1962 — 1968
Rev. Michael McKeon	1968 — 1971
Rev. William Storán	1971 — 1974
Rev. Januarius Rodrigues	1974 — 1975
Rev. Edward Boyle	1975 — 1977
Rev. Patrick Lee	1977 — 1979
Rev. William Breault	1979 — 1981
Rev. Robert B. Casper	1981 — 1986
Rev. Glenn Dare	1986 — 1987
Rev. Paul J. Moran	1987 — 1990
Rev. Ray Devlin	1991 — 1993

Postscript from Fr. Brendan

"Is not this house as nigh heaven as my own." St. Thomas More

Browsing through this booklet makes me very proud to be part of the story of St. Thomas More Parish, Paradise. From small beginnings our parish has grown into a very vibrant faith community as we enter the new millennium.

Throughout these 50 years, women and men of faith and love have worked and prayed, paid and played together in Paradise. We have every reason to be proud of our past and our present as we confidently continue journeying in hope into the future.

I am especially grateful to Marie Keller for diligently piecing together, so painstakingly and perfectly, our half century history. Thanks, Marie! She could not have accomplished all this without the wonderful assistance of many parishioners too numerous to list here. My wholehearted thanks to everyone. I especially wish to compliment the Jubilee Committee who did an excellent job throughout this jubilee year keeping everything moving forward and on track.

Needless to say without our generous sponsors we would not have been able to produce this comprehensive compilation of our first fifty years. Thank you all. You are much appreciated.

As I look forward to ministering here many more years, I wish you all God's grace and blessings now and always.

Yours in Jesus the Christ,



Brendan McKeefry
Pastor

Thank you Jubilee Celebration Sponsors for your generous contributions which have made it possible to publish our history to share with future generations of St. Thomas More parishioners.

Platinum Club

In memory of James Albert Barnes, Jr.

In memory of Joseph L. Byra

In memory of Patrick A. Bolger, Sr.

Chapel of the Pines Mortuary and Crematory

In memory of our son Robert Michael Collins

Sophia Corbett

Frank Czechowicz

In memory of Joe DePrima

In memory of Otto and Maria Dethloff

Lee S. Eubanks

Eugene and Mary Even

Norma Hedge

Carl and Dorothy Jensen

Harold and Margie Johnson

Joe and Lucille Kavanaugh

The Keller Family - Marie and Mitzi

Dorothea Kelly

Clarence J. Kemen Family

Knights of Columbus Council #7773

Bill and Darcy Lawson and Family

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Platinum Club cont.

In memory of Edward Leonardi

Ben & Cassie McClure

In memory of Dolores McMinn

John W. McMinn

The Murphy Family, Patrick, Missy and Keri

In memory of Dorothy and Homer Nichols

Don and Pat Norton

Charlotte D. Nute

C.B. "Doc" Pramuk, M.D.

A.F. (Rod) and Gay C. Rodrigues

Raymond and Myra Untiet

William M. and Helen C. Shepard & Families

Skyway Lodge Motel

St. Thomas More Ladies Guild

In memory of Thaddeus "Ted" Sulka

In memory of Paul Theriault

In memory of Richard Leo Van Stavern, Sr.

Darrell and Hanna Voelker

Nicholas and Ruth Wilds

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Gold Club

Rita and Chuck Hofschroer
Eugene and Muiziel Karnowski
In memory of Bruce A. Moore

Silver Club

Audrey Bogue *in memory of* parents Mae and Elmer Miller
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Broadway
Robert and Joella Broadway
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Brossoit
Keith and Dorothy Brown
Joseph and Florence Dudek
Mary Laural Ericksen
In memory of John Frederick
Louis and Jean Kesthely
In memory of Robert C. Lammerding
In memory of William P. Miller
Louis J. Muravez
Frank "Riley" J. and Ella M. Nash
John C. and Louise R. Nash
Felicja Porambo
Edward and Virginia Sypowicz
In memory of Rosalie A. Squibb

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Bronze Club

Mary R. Andrews
Elizabeth H. Bauer
Walter and Mary Ann Barber
Maud Brittain
In memory of Steven L. Brown
Madonna and Don Buck
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Collins
Keith and Dee Cox
Ross and Regina Eichelberger
Gertrude L. Jackson
Lt. Cor. Charles A. Jewel (Ret.)
Chuck Kelly – Seminarian
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Kelly
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Laakso
The Lemmus Family
Vern and Marian Miller
In memory of Chandler Paul
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Powers
The Ridge Riposte
In memory of Edith V. Roszmann
Goldie Aird-Sanders
Catherine Selberg
John and Sally Stansfield
Bill and Ione Steinauer
John Patrick Van Stavern
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Walsh
George and Phyllis Wesbecher
Helen J. Williams
Catherine Zimmerly
Stephen K. Zimmerly



Jubilee 2000
Christ Yesterday, Today and Forever

Almighty and merciful God,
You make all things new.

Your word became flesh
and was born of the
Virgin Mary.

May we become more
like Jesus Christ
Whom we acknowledge
as our Redeemer.

Amen.