



Our Lady  
of  
Perpetual  
Help  
Catholic  
Church

*Santa Clarita, California  
1944 - 1994*



*Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Catholic Church  
Parish 50th Celebration  
1944-1994*



*This booklet is presented to the parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of our Santa Clarity Valley parish. The earliest known Catholic services were held in the town of Newhall in 1883. They were conducted by the Rev. Peter Verdauger who came here from the Old Plaza Church in Los Angeles. The schoolhouse was used for Mass. However, it was not until the year 1914 that the first Catholic Church was built in the valley. The Church continued as a mission parish until 1944, when it became an independent parish. It is to acknowledge that event that we are celebrating as a parish.*

*In this booklet we hope to capture as much of the history and flavor of the parish as possible. The history is taken from many sources and the memories of many parishioners. Parish organizations are briefly described with highlights of their parish involvement. Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been famous for the hospitality, entertainment and nourishment that it has provided through the annual barbeque.*

*We hope that this will provide our parishioners with insight into our parish growth and many fond memories in the years to come.*

# Contents

<i>Preface</i>	1
<i>Table of Contents</i>	2
<i>Pastors, Associates and Permanent Deacons</i>	3
<i>OLPH Staff</i>	6
<i>The Perpetual Help Story</i>	8
<i>Our Lady's Grotto</i>	8
<i>Parish Organizations</i>	9
<i>Parish Activities</i>	16
<i>Renew</i>	19
<i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help School History</i>	24
<i>The Spanish Community</i>	26
<i>Parish Members in Priesthood</i>	27
<i>Interviews</i>	28
<i>History</i>	30
<i>Womens Council</i>	38
<i>Past Presidents</i>	40
<i>A Special thank you from parish organizations</i>	43



## *50th Celebration Publication Staff*

Melanie Bruno  
 Marianne Grossman  
 Dick Karl  
 Joyce L'Heureux  
 Marilyn Poduska  
 Ed Rosena  
 Ted Spatrisano  
 Ray Welker

TYPESETTING · CREST TYPOGRAPHERS

*Joyce L'Heureux and Holly Faulconer*

PRINTING · COLOR ONE

*Julian, Michelle and John Lecrivain*

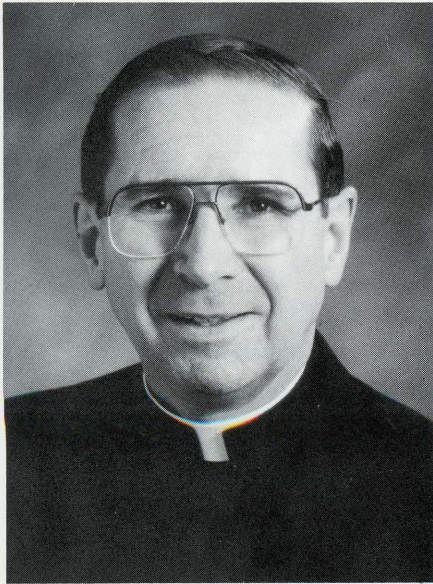
## Contributors

Jim Bachman • Anita Bazar • Noreen Bear • George Benz  
 Melanie Bruno • Rita Correa • Teresa Cound Jim De Sario  
 Dennis and Kitty Dobrina • Gene and Maxine Doty • Sara  
 Dulmage • Bill Fairchild • Gloria Ferra • Cindy Fraley •  
 Sharyl Fullmer • Ann Geiran • Marianne Grossman • Pat  
 Hawkins • Carmelita Imperial • Camille Jauregui • Dick  
 Karl • Mary Kill • Maureen Kubasak • John Lecrivain •  
 Joyce L'Heureux • Ida Lombardi • Marlene Manning •  
 Chris McDowell • Jesus Mendoza • Bill Miscione • Marilyn  
 Miscione • Ethel Morris • Peggy Pigors • Marilyn Poduska  
 Jan Pozza • Fr Bob Rankin • Joanne Redmond • Mike  
 Remington • Mary Rosenast • Manuela Ruiz • Jack and  
 Eileen Stewart • Ted and Giovanna Spatrisano • Rene  
 Torres • Charlotta Weeks • Ray Welker • Lenore Willard

## Pastors, Associates and Permanent Deacons

1944 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Quinlivan, pastor  
 1944 45 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev John C. Dillon, pastor  
 1945 46 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev James Leheny pastor  
 1946 48 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Thomas O'Malley, pastor  
 1948 50 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Louis Buechner, pastor  
 1950 54 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Joshua Kennedy, pastor  
 1954 76 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Henry Banks, pastor  
 1963 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev George M. Miller, associate 1968  
 1968 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Michael Slattery, associate 1973  
 1973 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Timothy Nichols, associate 1977  
 1973 \_\_\_\_\_ Donald Hamilton, Permanent Deacon 1977  
 1973 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Edmond Renehan, associate 1978  
 1975 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Leo Gomes, associate, died Feb. 1, 1989  
 1976 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Henry Banks, Pastor died October 4th  
 1977 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Patrick Power, pastor  
 1977 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Luke Cunnane, associate 1980  
 1978 \_\_\_\_\_ St. Clare's established as a parish • Rev Edmond Renehan, pastor  
 1978 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev John O'Toole, associate, died May 4, 1981  
 1981 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Roderick Guerrini, associate 1989  
 1989 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Joseph Palacios, associate 1990  
 1989 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Robert Rankin, associate  
 1990 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Frank Sandoval, associate 1991  
 1990 \_\_\_\_\_ Richard Karl, Permanent Deacon  
 1991 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev John Fitzgerald, associate 1992  
 1992 \_\_\_\_\_ Rev Jeff Deikel, associate





Dear Father Power, Priests and Parishioners

It is with great joy that I offer my congratulations to all of you on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Community

Your Golden Jubilee calls to mind the precious words which our Holy Father shared with the Church in his Apostolic Exhortation on "The Vocation and the Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church and in the World"

*The parish is not principally a structure, a territory, or a building, but rather, "the family of God, a fellowship afire with a unifying spirit," "a familial and welcoming home," the "community of the faithful." Plainly and simply, the parish is founded on a theological reality, because it is a **Eucharistic community***

It is my prayer that Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Community will continue to live out this charge with clarity, fidelity and commitment.

May the Lord bless all of you over the coming years, and may the spirit of deep conversion and full evangelization be marks of your vitality in life!

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

+ *Roger Cardinal Mahony*

Cardinal Roger Mahony  
Archbishop of Los Angeles

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Dear Fr Power and Parishioners of OLPH.

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge you on the Year Long Celebration of the Golden Anniversary of your Parish. In this the year dedicated to the International Year of the Family, it seems most appropriate that we underscore the importance of the Parish as Family

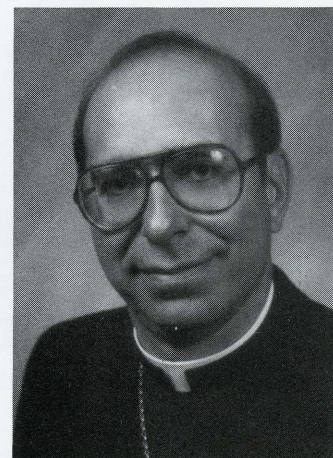
In exploring the Pope's key document on the Laity, *Chirifideles Laici*, John Paul II speaks of the parish not principally as a structure, a territory, or a building. He speaks rather of the parish as "the family of God, a fellowship animated by the spirit of unity "

I congratulate the priests, religious, and laity who for fifty years, have made Our Lady of Perpetual Help a community of the faithful, a family house, a fraternal and welcoming home. My prayer is that you will continue to carry out the Church's task of spreading the Gospel so as to enter into people's various life situations.

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

+ Armando Ochoa

Most Rev Armando X. Ochoa  
Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles



Dear Parishioners:

I join with you in the joyous celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish. We have reflected many times, especially this year, on the beginning of this parish. We have recalled how it has grown from only a few families to the large membership we have today Only God can measure the torrents of grace which have flowed to His people because Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish has been here these fifty years to meet their needs.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help has become a great parish because its parishioners always wanted it to be a great parish. The people here had a vision of parish the universal Church in miniature and have tried, and keep on trying, to realize that dream. The ideal parish does not come easily, it is a process, a growth process and we have continued to grow

The generosity of our parishioners defies description. You have not only given of yourselves, but you have provided the parish with the families and resources it needs to carry out its ministry Our parish plant stands as a tribute to the goodness of our people and their desire to give God's work their best effort.

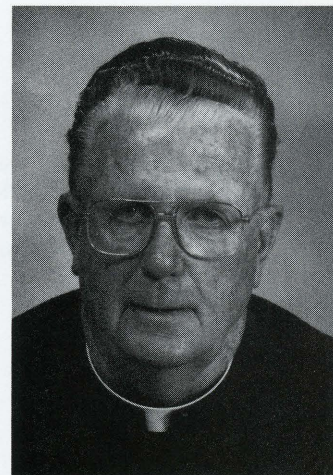
Fifty years have passed. We must now look to the future. We must pass the legacy of the Catholic faith and Catholic living to the future members of our parish. As your pastor for the past 17 years, I thank all of you for your support and the cooperation you have given me. I pay a sincere tribute and expression of gratitude to all the priests who have served here. All have contributed to the growth of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish. May its growth especially spiritual growth continue.

Particularly on this occasion do we invoke our celestial patroness, Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Her position as Queen of the heavenly court is mighty for she, too, has known the pains of beginnings and the promises of harvest. May she now implore for this wonderful parish a torrent of benediction and of grace as it reaches out towards its diamond years.

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

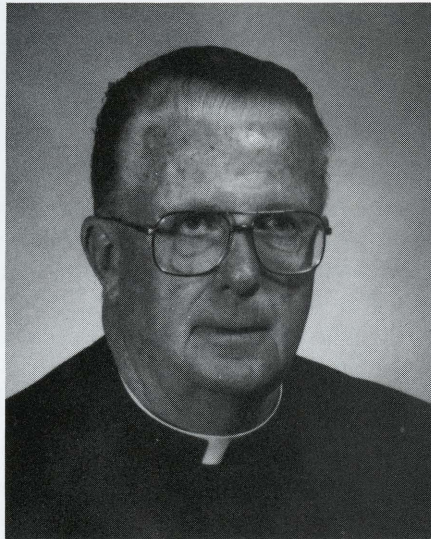
Patrick A. Power

Rev Patrick A. Power  
Pastor

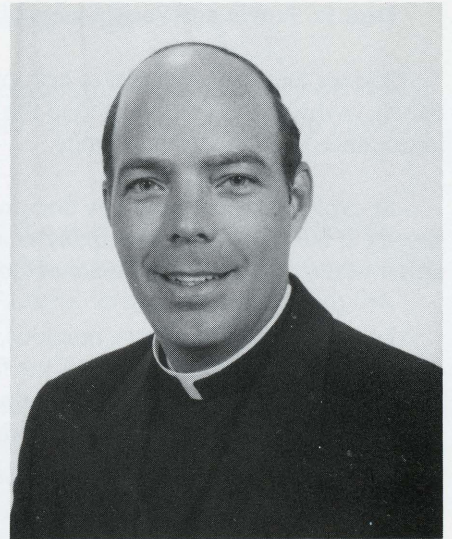


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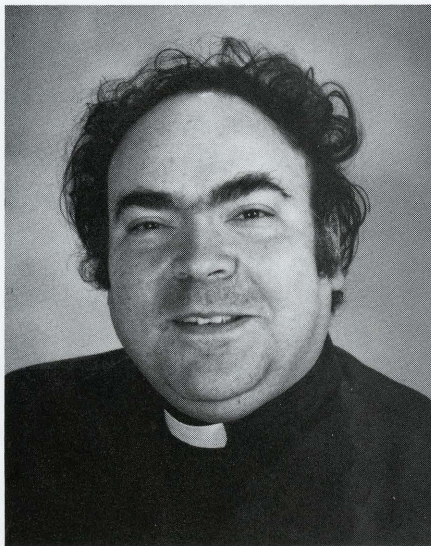
## OLPH Staff



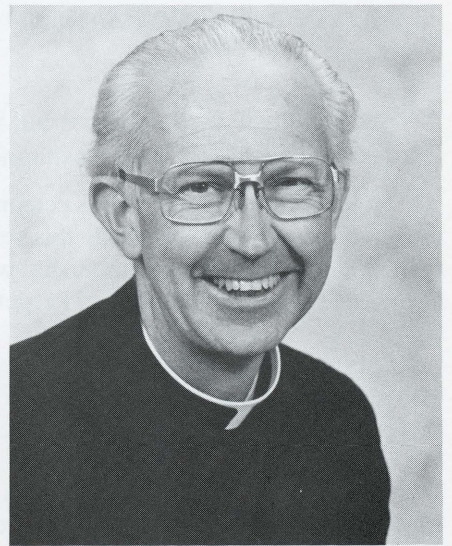
Father Patrick Power, Pastor



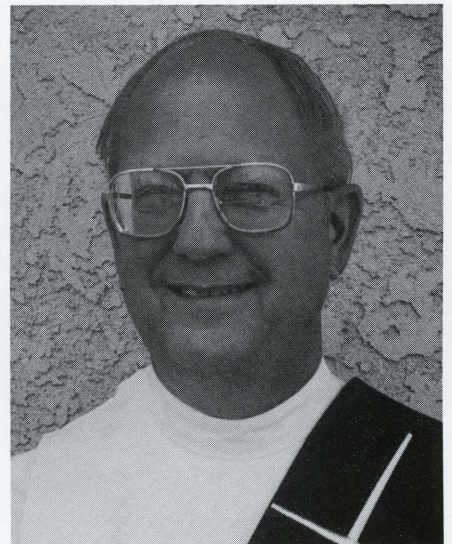
Father Robert Rankin, Associate



Father Jeff Deikel, Associate



Father James Blantz



Rev. Mr. Richard Karl, Deacon

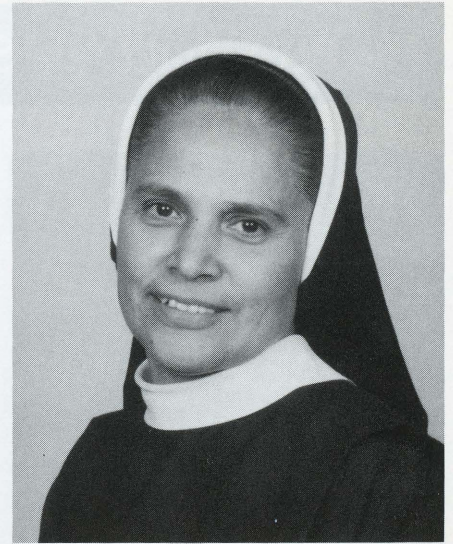




Sr Magdalene Acuna, O S F  
Principal



Sr Ruth Broumas, O S F



Sr Iluminada Garcia, O S F



Sr Leticia Villegas, O S F



Sr Irene San Roman, O.S F



Sister M Jane Mast  
S H.F Pastoral Minister



*Parish Staff (from left to right)  
Norma Wedewer Leticia Thomas,  
Inge York, Frances Zamora and  
Lia Boscarino*

## The Perpetual Help Story



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church is named for Mary the mother of Jesus, and one of her titles, which reminds us that she is always giving us her loving help and guidance.

This portrayal of our mother is depicted in a painting of Byzantine art, the original of which, according to legend, is said to have been done from life (Mary's Recollections) by St. Luke. This style of art attempts to teach a lesson rather than to portray persons and objects in their natural surroundings.

The painting shows Mary holding Jesus in her arms. Angels in the background complete the story.

The theme of the picture is a portrayal of sorrow. The center of interest is the figure of Mary. Her head tilts with maternal affection toward the Child Whom she holds in her left arm. She gazes toward those who are looking at the picture. Christ has a look of fright and sorrow as He gazes into the future and sees a vision

of His passion and death awaiting Him. In His haste to find refuge in the arms of His mother, His sandal has come loose and it seems to be falling from His foot.

Two angels in the upper corners of the picture carry the instruments of Christ's passion. His fingers hold His mother's right hand, yet they rest quite loosely there. Though Mary is His mother He is her God. To Him she owes all her graces. Always at His side as the companion of His sorrow is His mother Mary.

The original painting is on display in St. Alphonsus Liguori Church in Rome, where it is venerated by the Redemptorist Fathers.

An updated version of this image, commissioned by Father Power, has been done in black and white pencil by Melanie Bruno, a member along with her family, of this parish since 1975 and is now on the cover of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church bulletin.

## Our Lady's Grotto

Our Lady's Grotto, currently in front of the parish hall, has a history as colorful as that of our parish. It was originally constructed at the Lyons Avenue and Walnut Street church site to house the statue. A group of the parish men fashioned the nine foot grotto out of native stone and cement during the early 1940's. It was moved from the old church site in 1967 and the school's first graduating class donated a new statue for the grotto. The niche was remodeled during the 1977-78 school year. In the 1994 earthquake the statue fell and was broken but has now been replaced and has resumed its rightful place.



### The Hail Mary

*Hail Mary, full of grace! the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death Amen*

# Parish Organizations

## CHOIR

The Choir is a group of 31 singers, accompanied by an organist and a director, who are vital to the parish celebration of the liturgy

The guiding principle of our singing has always been that the choir was an instrument of praise and worship, said Jim Bachman, choir director since 1968.

The choir prays a special prayer before each practice.

*O heavenly Father, we have come together tonight to offer our minds, our bodies, our spirits to You in song We have gathered in Your name to express our faith to adore You as our loving Creator, to thank You for giving each of us an awareness of our identity as creatures of a loving God, in whose image we have been made We offer our humble voices as part of Your heavenly chorale Bless our efforts, O Lord, and let our numbers grow, so that our crescendos of praise may inspire our community of worshippers in their effort to praise You. We ask this, O heavenly Father in the name of Your Son, Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, and with the perpetual help of Your mother Mary Amen.*

The choir is dedicated to the parish. However the members agreed to travel to Bakersfield to perform at the ordination of Rev Robert Wenzinger the son of former choir member Madeline Wenzinger

## CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

The Contemporary Choir began with just four singers, a guitarist, a keyboard player and a lot of heart, on Christmas Day 1985 We have rarely missed a Sunday since, growing to as many as five instruments and over twenty voices We are currently a "family" of fifteen, sharing our songs and our lives every Wednesday night and Sunday morning.

Our music ranges from folk to contemporary with praise songs, bluegrass and gospel to keep it interesting. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will endeavor to grow and change and always share our musical gifts to God's glory and praise! Come with a song in your heart or an instrument at your fingertips. You will be most heartily welcome.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children's Choir has led the singing at the 9:15 a.m. Mass usually on the first Sunday of each month, since 1987 They also sing at the Christmas Eve Children's Mass and at First Communion. First through sixth graders practice after Mass once a month to share music, including songs from the Religious Education program, so all children can sing along. Children are an important part of our parish life and Children's Choir recognizes their talents, encouraging active participation in the liturgy

OLPH Rectory 1964 (top)  
and 1994 (bottom)

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

The Thursday afternoon Bible Study Class was started in 1985 to fulfill a perceived need for spiritual growth in the parish. Basing our daily living in an ever-deepening way by learning to know God through His Word was seen as a way to achieve this goal.

Lynne O'Steen began the first year of study using the guide "Knowing Jesus" Subsequent years have used "Joy for Living" This series covers both Old and New Testament books to provide a well-rounded view of God's love for us Between ten and twenty people have participated and some of the original members still attend weekly

*Continued*



## MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

The Monday night Bible Study was started in 1988 by the then "Deacon-in-training" Dick Karl. Even though Deacon Dick moved on to other responsibilities the following year, the group has continued to grow and change, and meet on Monday nights. Several resource materials, all excellent, have been used over the years, but the backbone of the program continues to be the Word of God, the community that is formed, and the experiences of each member of the group. Whether the group has been small or large, the constant has always been lively and spirit-filled discussions as we share our faith journey with one another

## CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The Charismatic Prayer Group at Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been meeting each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Center for the past four years. Presently its group leader is Giovanna Spatrisano.

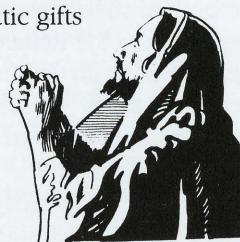
The Prayer Group is a number of

people who meet regularly to give praise, thanks, honor and love to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. It is meant to be a community gathering where individuals come together to praise and worship God as the Holy Spirit moves.

A charismatic prayer group emphasizes the importance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit and openness and responsiveness to the Holy Spirit. One way this openness to the Holy Spirit is manifest is by praying for and exercising charismatic gifts at the weekly prayer meeting and in the day to day life of the members of the prayer group.

A charismatic prayer group has many functions: it forms a supporting community of Christians, and it also serves as an instrument of communicating the infilling of the Spirit and charismatic gifts to others. It supports prayerfulness, so that the effects of the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the charismatic gifts may be reaped.

It also provides an atmosphere for others to come to know the Lord.



## BRANCH #260 OF THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

The Italian Catholic Federation, the I.C.F. is a charitable, religiously based organization that was founded in 1924 by Catholics of Italian heritage.

Today I.C.F. membership includes over 26,000 devoted Catholics of all nationalities. We contribute about \$50,000.00 a year to the research and eventual cure of Cooley's Anemia and our pasta dinners, bake sales and barbeques have raised over \$750,000.00 for the promotion of vocations to the priesthood in the form of a Seminary Bursary. We are also fervently involved in the education of our children and have happily donated over \$338,000.00 worth of scholarships since 1964.

Our local branch of the I.C.F. Branch #260 has been proudly affiliated with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church for over twenty memorable years. We are the only I.C.F. branch in the Santa Clarita Valley and have members from Saint Clare's Church as well as members who join



Charismatic Prayer Group (left to right): Michelle Horgan, Kitty Drobina, Giovanna Spatrisano, Mary Taylor and Peggy Landrum



Italian Catholic Federation—St. Joseph's Table (left to right): Rosa Morana, Jim DeSario, Father Power, Angel Morana

us from the San Fernando Valley and the Palmdale area. We come from all walks of life and are honored to work to contribute the proceeds of two annual bake sales, our Christmas boutique and various other "FUN"d raisers along with several hundreds of dollars in scholarship money each year to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and School. We do it with pleasure and have a good time while we are at it. Our meetings come to order on the 3rd. Saturday of each month in the OLPH hall at 7 30 p m. and anyone is welcome to attend and invited to join in the fun. Of course, we have a delicious dinner first at 6:30 p.m. which is, more often than not, homemade

## THE LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary was established in our parish in 1977 The Legion is a world-wide organization of apostolic lay people with well over a million active members in every country of the world.

In our parish we have seven active members Our members are very dedicated in exercising their duty to promote the work of the Church in union with Jesus Christ and our Blessed Mother

Our spiritual work consists of prayer and the daily rosary Our apostolic work consists of door-to-door visitation, and visiting the sick and shut-ins. Once a month we assist Father Deikel to the Santa Clarita Convalescent Hospital, distributing

Holy Communion and at times, a patient may be anointed. We have a Eucharistic Minister who takes Holy Communion to the patients at Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital once a week. We visit new parishioners and promote enthronements of families and their homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

We have 385 auxiliary members whose primary purpose is to offer prayers for the intentions of the Virgin Mary which are presumed to include the welfare of the Legion.

Most Legionaries find that their spiritual life is deeply enriched by the graces received in their efforts to share the spiritual treasures of the Church with others

*Continued*



*The Legion of Mary at work in the community*

*(left to right): Marilyn Miscione, Mary Tumility, and Sharon Honer*



*The Legion of Mary*



*The Spanish Legion of Mary*

## THE SPANISH LEGION OF MARY

The Spanish Legion of Mary was founded in 1981 by Sara Dulmage. The members of this organization reach out to the community in making door-to-door visitations, visiting the hospitals and nursing homes, comforting bereaved families, and encouraging non-practicing Catholics to again put God back into their lives.

There are 140 auxiliary members who are devoted to praying the rosary daily and deeply feel the rewards of sharing the Word of God by honoring His Blessed Mother

## LECTORS

Reading from Scripture and the psalms between the readings form an integral part of the Liturgy of the Word and provides the introduction for Jesus' Words to us in the Gospel. The Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy affirmed that "Christ is present in His Word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in

the Church." Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish has had a dedicated corps of Lectors to perform this important function since the early days after permission was given by then Cardinal Manning. They are present during every Sunday Celebration and often during the weekday Masses as schedules permit.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS— COUNCIL #6016

Santa Clarita Council #6016 of the Knights of Columbus has been located at and affiliated with OLPH Church since being chartered as a council 26 years ago. Our focus has been to provide services and fellowship in our church and community by promoting and sponsoring events and activities such as a community 5-mile run, ushering at the Sunday 10-45 Mass, participating as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, home Eucharistic Ministers, sponsoring the New Years Eve party that ushered in our 50th year as a parish, our St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, and the Mother's Day breakfast.

On New Years eve, Council #6016 presented our pastor and our Council Chaplin, Father Power, with a plaque in honor of OLPH's 50 years of service to our community and also a traditional anniversary cake to be shared by all.

In May 1994 Council #6016 was recognized by the State Council of the Knights of Columbus with an award for its support of parish related activities

As a Global Organization, the Knights of Columbus represent the largest donor and supporter of the Right to Life movement, donating over 5 million dollars annually to support the cause.

## COLUMBIETTES

The Columbiettes are an organization of wives of members of the Knights of Columbus. Although we are a support group for the Knights' functions, we have business meetings that are dedicated to the same principles of family church, and community. We also have meetings that are dedicated to our spiritual being, and meetings that are social.



*Knights of Columbus*



*Columbiettes*

Our membership is a beautiful blend of all ages of women. As a Christian organization we are able to learn from each other through sharing our time and talents in support of the Knights' functions and in our church and community activities.

Our meetings are held once a month and are held in rotation at each member's home. We welcome and encourage all wives of the Knights of Columbus to become active with our ladies group and bring their special talents and spiritual gifts to this worthy organization.

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

The Filipino community of Santa Clarita Valley is very fortunate to have Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church as its parish.

Many Filipino Catholics are devoted to Our Lady of Perpetual Help as their source of encouragement, strength and spiritual support. Thus, the Wednesday Novena, patterned from our Novena back home, was started so that devotees could continue their devotion.

A Novena means nine days of public or private prayers for some special occasion or intention. Its origin goes back to the nine days that the disciples and Mary spent together in prayer between Ascension and Pentecost Sunday.

To make a Novena means to persevere in prayer asking for some favor over a period of nine days in succession or nine weeks. This fulfills our Lord's teaching that we must continue praying and never lose hope and confidence. This confidence is based on our Lord's words. "Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you. For whoever asks, receives, whoever seeks, finds, whoever knocks, is admitted." (Lk. 11 9-10)

A Novena is believed to be most fruitful if the devotee goes to daily Mass and receives the Holy Eucharist; exercises personal sacrifices and performs charitable deeds. Prayer after the sacraments, is the richest source of God's grace.

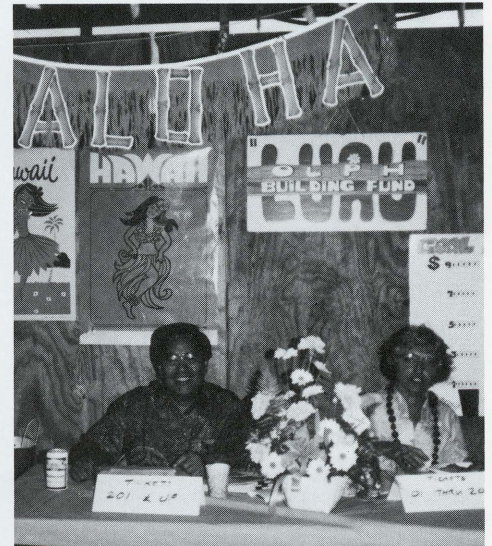
### FILIPINO CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION

The Filipino Catholic Association of Santa Clarita Valley is an organization of Filipino-American Catholic families from both Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and St. Clare's Church.

The Association was formed to preserve the Filipino religious culture  
*Continued*



*Filipino Catholic Association of Santa Clarita Valley*



## Parish Organizations Continued...

that most members treasure and feel should be passed down to the next Filipino-American generation, our children, who were born and raised in the United States

Filipinos believe that "The Family that prays together stays together" Thus, the "Block Family Rosary" was organized. There are three statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary going around Filipino families in Valencia, Newhall, Castaic and Canyon Country Families wishing to participate in this tradition will host the statue for a week or two and during the duration of the Blessed Virgin Mary's stay the family recites the Holy Rosary and other family prayers every night.

Another tradition the Association has started is the traditional Advent Mass or Simbang Gabi. At this Advent Mass, Filipino families pray and sing in their native language, they join in prayer for their loved ones back home, their families and friends. Together they praise God and give thanks for all the graces and blessings bestowed upon them, and the freedom and peace they are enjoying.

The Filipino Catholic Association and the Filipino-American Association of Santa Clarita Valley host the traditional Family Christmas party and

the June Cultural Festival, which are held in the Parish Hall.

Both the Fil-Am Association and Filipino Catholic Association are very actively participating in various parish activities such as the annual Barbeque and the Building Fund-raising activities.

### ST JOAN'S WOMENS GUILD OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

St. Joan's Womens Guild was organized in February 1990 and was introduced to the parish in May when we distributed Holy Cards honoring Mother's Day The guild is primarily a social and service organization although we hold an annual Corn, Cluck and Beef Dinner Dance and Bunco to raise funds. We host Hospitality Sunday once a month. Throughout the year we have provided food and necessities for a women's shelter and provided some tuition relief to send a child to parochial school. We've helped families have a better Christmas by providing food, clothing and gifts and have made candy cane reindeers for the children of our parish.

Most of all we've had a great time doing this Life-long friendships have formed and a closeness to our parish has strengthened all of us. Some people have asked, "Why St. Joan?" St. Joan was chosen because she was a strong person and a leader among men and women.

### RETRouvaille

(RE' TRO-VI)

Retrouvaille is a program for couples with troubled marriages (including separated and divorced) who want to save their marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience with six post weekend sessions. It is designed to provide the tools to help put your marriage in order again. The main emphasis is on communication between husband and wife. It is a time for healing the hurts built up in a marriage. Members of our parish are proud to have been helping in this ministry since 1990 All are welcome to join to strengthen your marriage or to share your experiences with those struggling in their own marriages.

### SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Ministers assist the priests with the distribution of Holy Communion at the Masses, and to those confined to their homes, hospital or convalescent facilities.

Ministers are men and women of the parish who have a strong devotion to their faith and the Blessed Sacrament and who have volunteered to serve the parish in this ministry

In 1969 the Vatican in Fedei Custos authorized certain individuals to help distribute Communion in parishes or other institutions where help is needed. The qualifications for such ministers are that they be "Mature Christian persons of excellent character who take their faith seriously and live a Christian life."



*St. Joan's Womens Guild*



## SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an international Catholic organization of lay persons, founded in 1833 in France. Under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul, it derives its inspiration from his thinking and work. The members, in a spirit of justice and charity, help those who are in need or suffering, through person-to-person involvement.

The Society was established in 1980 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help at the request of our Pastor, Father Power. Currently, a small group of dedicated members are attending primarily to emergency needs with counsel, spiritual, medical and material assistance.

During this past year, the Society members assisted 159 families and individuals in the Santa Clarita Valley. The assistance often consists of multiple visits and on-going contacts.

Apart from the monthly support from the parishes of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Clare's in Canyon Country, the Society would welcome committed, Spanish speaking volunteers.

## FAMILY CIRCLE

Family Circle is a group of young families who meet for social activities and to work on projects for the benefit of the parish.

The Circle was founded in 1993 and has ten families with young children who want to serve the church and the community by doing small projects in which the whole family can participate. This group is an opportunity for young families to interact with and give support to other Catholic couples with young children.

As a group, parents and children have planted flowers in the school grotto, painted the Children's Chapel, cleaned the church during the Christmas season, and made and delivered sandwiches to the homeless in downtown Los Angeles.

Founding members Anne and John Geiran, Dan and Jenny Green,

Michael and Tina De Angelo and Pete and Maria Adams welcome any family eager to work together to join the group.

## CO-WORKERS OF MOTHER TERESA

In the early 90's, some parishioners began to travel to the Pico-Union area of downtown Los Angeles to assist the Brothers of Charity in their street ministry of feeding the homeless. This then evolved into a regular program of cooking a meal for 80 to 100 people in the parish hall kitchen, then delivering it hot to the mission in Los Angeles where they help the Brothers serve it to those coming into the Mission.

The Mission, operated by the Brothers of Charity, under the direction of Mother Teresa, serves the homeless young providing meals three times a week, a medical clinic and classes to better prepare them for employment. The Brothers are from around the world and the United States and are devoted to serving the poor. They still search the parks, streets and alleys for the hungry and the Brothers survive by unsolicited donations.

## VOICE FROM THE VINEYARD

The parish newsletter, Voice From the Vineyard, was started in February of 1989 by Anita Bazar, who continues to be managing editor. Publication dates are March, June, September and December. The goal was to publish news and articles which would create more of a community atmosphere among the parishioners. In true newsletter form, this publication has enhanced communication among all those who take the time to share their announcements. Among other things, various parish organizations have found it useful in communicating with parishioners active in other groups.

Peggy Landrum created the cover art work and many parishioners have donated their time and writings to the Voice.

The 1,800 copies mailed each issue are a tribute to the help of Michelle and Julian Lecrivain, Ted and Giovanna Spatrisano, Wendy Hearn, the Bazar family, Mary Jo Krejci, Robin Guerra, the Kubasak family and numerous others who continue to donate their time and energy.



### Memorare

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.*



## Parish Activities

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP BARBEQUE

The mere mention of the words "OLPH Barbeque" congers up memories for all ages in the church and community of the Santa Clarita Valley. The old-timers remember the camaraderie of the first Barbeques at the Jauregui or LaSalle ranches, the move to Saxonia park to accommo-

date more people, and finally to the present location on the grounds of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. The youngsters today anticipate the Barbeque to dig for marbles, win gold fish, toss rings, and the "dunk tank" And always, everyone remembers the FOOD

This wonderful festival has grown from the early beginnings of getting together for a relaxing Sunday

afternoon social, to a very productive weekend venture of fund-raising. In the late 1920s the "1st annual Barbeque" was held at the ranch of Camille and Andy Jauregui in Placerita Canyon. Barbeques were reported earlier but not on a consistent yearly schedule as they are now. The Jauregui family served one of their own steers and each year the event continued to grow. By the late

1930s the Barbeque had outgrown the Jauregui Ranch and moved to Saxonia Park, where it was held until the early 1960s.

Frank and Julio Lombardi, long-time names in the history of OLPH, had a friend named Raleigh Duntley. He was a rancher who lived in the desert and he introduced a method of cooking beef that he learned from the Indians. This is the "pit method" of cooking beef.



*Barbeque at Saxonia Park*



*Saxonia Park Barbeque—  
(left to right): Teresa Calzia and her Mom, Dolly Calzia, Camille Jauregui, Sally O'Callahan, Ethel Morris, Joanne Redmond, Mary Clemmons, Diane Barnette, and Kay Fisher*

that is still used today

As the Barbeque became more and more popular it became a major fund-raiser in the parish. In the early days, Barbeque volunteer Gene Doty tells us that we took in as much as \$100 00 He said the trunk of a car served as a depository for the money. At the end of the day this "bank car" would be given a sheriff's escort to the rectory (which was actually a

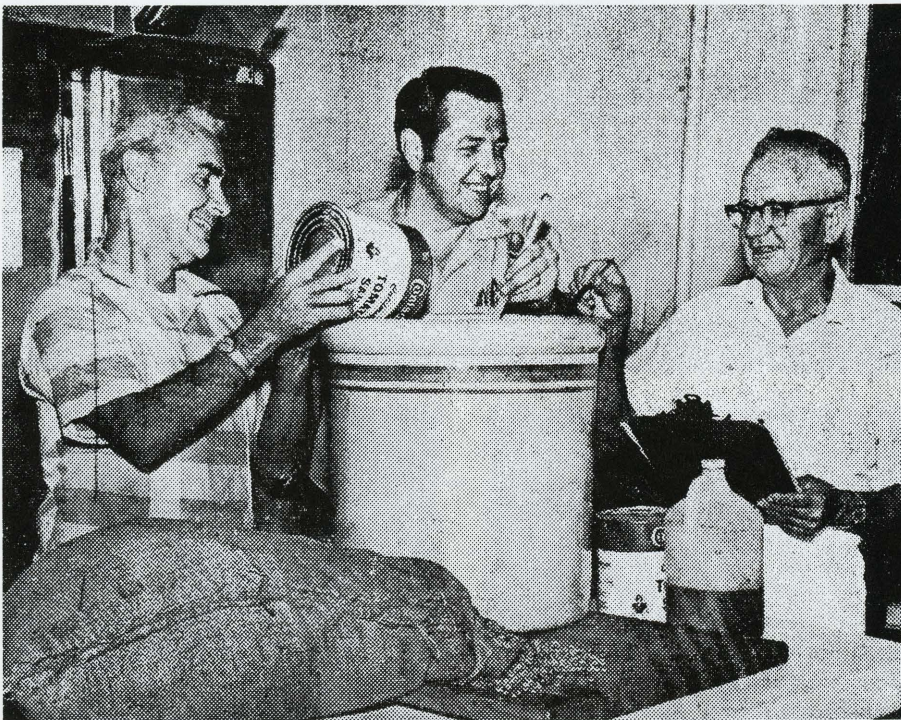
room in the back of the old church building) where the money was counted.

The first booths that were used at the Barbeques were built of wood and were stocked with baked goods, knitting projects and homemade crafts. One of the most popular booths at that time was the Doll Booth. Ethel Morris, the "doll lady" of OLPH, said she sewed doll clothes for

twelve dozen dolls. One year she dressed five dozen religious sister dolls. She also dressed dolls in ethnic costumes, as can-can dancing dolls or in holiday motifs

The Barbeque has grown tremendously since that first Barbeque on the present grounds in 1962. The boutique and dessert booths continue

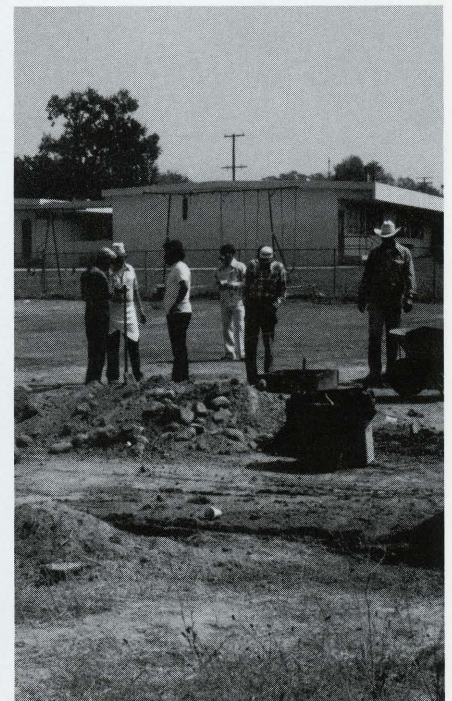
*Continued*



*What's Cooking?  
Chefs make preparations for the 25th (1969) annual barbecue. (left to right) Gene Doty, Darrel Koback, and Julio Lombardi*



*1980 food preparation*



*1980 barbeque pit area*

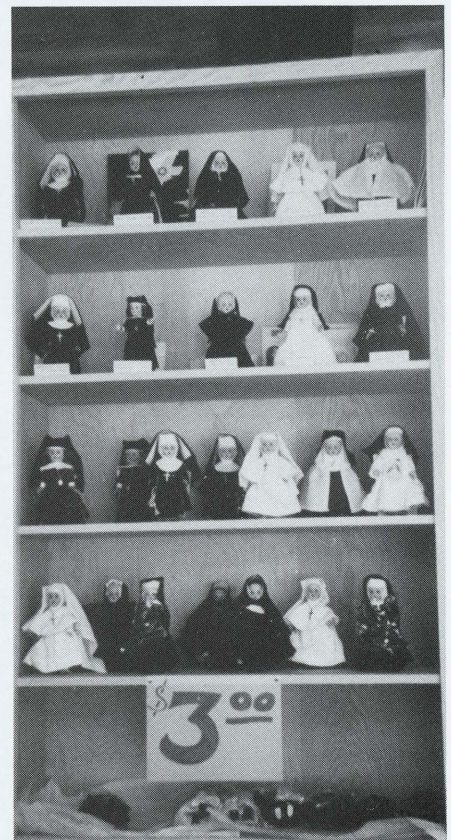
## Parish Activities Continued...

to be popular. As the parish has grown to include many cultures, the food booths have expanded to serve Italian, Filipino, Mexican, and Cajun food, as well as the American hotdogs and hamburgers. There are now clowns selling balloons, face painters for the children, games, raffles, and the coke and beer booths for the thirsty! All this encourages the opportunity to visit with old and new friends in the parish and community.

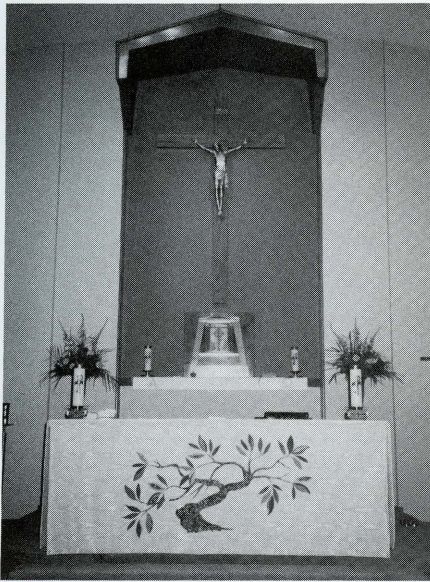
Steve and Maureen Kubasak have chaired the barbeque for the last 14 years and reported an income of over \$65,000.00 last year. This progress has come about through the dedication and hard work of many of the parishioners. It's an ongoing, ever-changing effort with the constant elements being the barbecued beef dinner, fund-raising, and the social event of the parish each year.



*Ethel Morris, known as "the Doll Lady" displays some of many varieties of dolls she prepared for exhibit and sale at the 1964 annual September barbeque*



*Nun dolls from other convents for sale at 1956 OLPB barbeque*



*The Renew program is a parish wide activity*

## RENEW

The RENEW Program is a parish-wide activity designed to spiritually revitalize members of the parish. The program, which is conducted during a two and a half year period, began in October 1993 and will conclude in November 1995. Coordinators Norma Wedewer and Deacon Dick Karl oversee a trained staff who work through ten committees. These committee leaders coordinate the liturgical seasons so that parishioners will experience RENEW during Sunday liturgies, when attending small group

gatherings of 10 to 12 people, and by participating in large groups where everyone has another opportunity to experience the theme and then can take home materials for future spiritual renewal.

## 50th ANNIVERSARY CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

by Father Bob Rankin

In anticipation of our parish 50th Anniversary Fr Power Fr Bob Rankin and Mr Bill Miscione had decided as early as November of 1993 to revive the parish tradition of an annual Parish Golf Tournament.

The prestigious Valencia Country Club with its plush USGA course was secured for Monday May 23, 1994 and, despite the distractions and delays brought about by the January 17th earthquake, the tournament committee began meeting and planning on each successive Tuesday night.

Over the ensuing months the committee recruited 121 golfers at \$175.00 per player and solicited over \$3,000.00 in raffle prizes including donated grand prize vacation packages to Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Hawaii. Many local and national companies donated items to enhance the event. A brand new 1994 Ford

Thunderbird along with a color TV, new golf clubs and diamond rings were to be awarded to anyone skilled and lucky enough to get a "hole in one"

Sunny clear weather prevailed through the day of play. Upon registration each player received a gold canvas tote bag and a matching white golf hat and shirt. Towels, Tee's and sleeves of balls were supplied.

Ample beverages kept everyone refreshed as foursomes became quick friends cheering on each other's successes and laughing off the duffed shots.

Determined to hold the post tournament award Banquet back at the newly refurbished parish hall, the Banquet Committee, under the skilled directions of Chereese Marlow transformed the auditorium into an elegant night club.

It was a classy affair with Fr Jim Blantz famed magician and comedian entertaining; his skills and wit befuddling the nonchurchgoers preconceived ideas about priests!

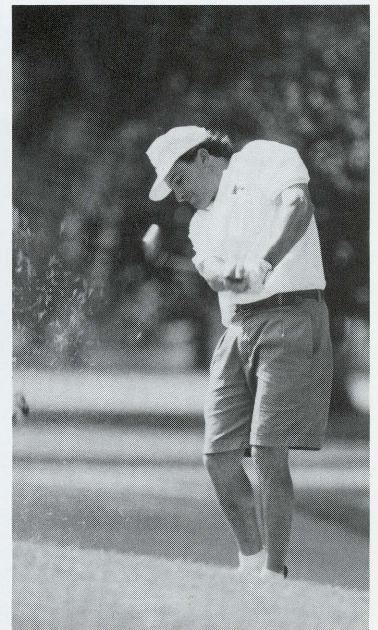
The evening ended on a magical note as the last raffle ticket for the grand prize trip to Hawaii was won by Sister Ruth.

In closing, we would like to extend our gratitude to all of the parishioners who attended this memorable event and helped to raise over \$8,500.00 for church repair and charity.

### 50th Anniversary Charity Golf Tournament

Right Photo (left to right):  
Bob Rankin, Sr., Bob Rankin, Jr., (Father), Bob Murosky and Mike McKee

Far Right Photo  
Bill Miscione



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Long ago, parishioner Ethel Morris remembers teaching religion classes to the little children on the living room floor of Father Bank's rectory, (which was two rooms attached to the old church), on the corner of Lyons and 10th Street.

Joanne Redmond and Ida Lombardi, long time parish members, remember classes in Father Bank's garage and in the sacristy and side room off the main altar of the church. And classes were held in the homes in the various communities of the valley. The children learned their prayers, and memorized the Baltimore Catechism on their way to receiving the sacraments. Catechism classes were always a very important part of our church's history.

Through the years, many parents volunteered their time and knowledge to instruct these children. So dedicated was this group, and so important their mission, that long-time religion instructor Pat Hawkins said they would drive to the outlying areas of Castaic and up the local canyons to bring children back to the church for religion classes on Saturday mornings.

Each summer a Religious Vacation School was scheduled and attended by many of the children in the area. During June of 1962, 250 children attended the classes, which were conducted by 5 sisters of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters. Sixty children received their First Holy Communion that summer.

With the advent of the new school in 1962, the religious education classes took on a structured format. The Sadler Series was used for instruction. Within a few years the religion classes became known as the

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine or CCD. At first, all classes were held on one afternoon each week, in the classrooms after the regular school day ended. With the influx of many new families to this area, this CCD program expanded yearly.

Many faith-full women coordinated the program through the years. Some of those coordinators were Sister Monica, Rita Rippe, Peggy Pigors, Joan Donnelly, Judy Bryant, and Rita Correa. The current director is Sister Irene.

In approximately 1986, the title CCD was changed to the Religious Education Program.

The elementary program, which now registers around 600 students, meets weekly in the school classrooms. These classrooms are filled Monday through Thursday of each week.

These students are a challenge to instruct as they have already spent six hours at their school before coming to class. These certified teachers are very generous with their time and

talents and patience.

The junior high school students hold their classes every other Sunday morning from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the school classrooms. This group provides their teachers and advisors a special place in Heaven. Instructing this age group is very challenging and rewarding to those who work with this pre-teen and early teen group.

The focus of the high school program is the preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. This is a two-year commitment, mainly addressing the ninth and tenth graders. They meet in small groups with a Confirmation facilitator in a private home once a month and attend one meeting a month in the hall with the entire class of confirmants. These students attend weekend retreats, work on service projects and become fully aware of their commitment to their religion when desiring to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The facilitators of this extended program volunteer a large amount of time and dedication to this very important part of religious instruction, the understanding and acceptance of their Catholic faith.

The Hispanic youth of the parish are also guided under the direction of Sister Irene and Beatrice Zapata.



*Ethel Morris*



Approximately 100 students are enrolled in the Spanish Religious Education Program. Their classes are held on Wednesday afternoon in the school classrooms and are taught by bi-lingual volunteers.

Also under the umbrella of the Religious Education office is the Little Church, the pre-school program. This group of nearly 100 students meets during the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday mornings. The program teaches the basics of God, family church, and me

The little ones are very receptive to the love of God and delight in learning about His world. This first introduction sets a positive attitude toward learning more about their Heavenly Father

The Teen Life Program addresses the needs of our youth in grades nine through twelve. It strives to provide the spiritual, educational, and social development for Catholic youth.

The advisors who donate so much of their time to these young adults realize that this may be the last formal Catholic education some of their members receive before they start their own adult lives. The very dedicated and loving group of

advisors show how a Catholic community is made strong through sharing with and faithfully supporting one another while supporting our universal church.

## OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP LITTLE CHURCH

Little Church has continued to be Our Lady of Perpetual Help's religion program for preschoolers for the past twenty years. Over 100 children currently attend Little Church from September through May. Parents volunteer their time to direct, teach, and assist in the classroom.

We build faith foundations as we help children find God in everyday experiences of their family, friends and nature. Classes convey a real sense of Christian love and under-

standing through play, song, and stories. Children express their love for God through spontaneous prayer. Together we celebrate a sense of wonder, awe, and thanksgiving for God the Father's wonderful world.



## Parish Activities Continued...

### OLPH TEEN LIFE

The Teen Life program has a 20-year history in the parish.

Three couples, Jim and Toni Crowley, Gerry and Kathy Wall and Bud and Jan Pozza, were asked by Father Tim Nichols to be teen advisors to 15 members of a newly formed youth group. By the end of

1974 60 youths were attending the activities

Weekly home Masses and Bible study, monthly socials and an annual Reach Out Retreat were held under the guidance of Father Tim and Father Patrick Ziemann (now Bishop Ziemann of the Santa Rosa Diocese). In 1978, Father Luke Cunnane became advisor.

Over the years, service projects, CCD Congress, Youth Day participation and chairing the dunk booth at the annual barbeque have been added.

The Panlener and Fullmer families have generously loaned their mountain cabin for trips.

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Top row (left to right): Dee Dee (Margaret) Myers, (President Bill Clinton's Press Secretary), Sue Rhineschmitt, Bud Pozza, teen advisor Betsy Myers. In front: Melinda Valles

and Richard Rankin (Father Bob's brother) has opened his house and private beach area for social events.

Many others have given their time and talents to the development of the program. There have been several Youth Ministers over the years. Ron Burell, Joan Donnelly, Cindy Bussey, Maria Orefice and Cindy Fraley to mention a few.

And behind every youth minister is a great support staff. Among these are Bill Miscione, Mary Koon, and, of course, John Lecrivain whose sacrifice of time, talent and experience for the last eight years is deeply valued.

Also, a big help is the Core staff, a group of teens who are leaders among their peers who assist in the planning and implementation of meetings and other activities. A special 50th anniversary Core Team is comprised of members Kimi Anctil, Brad Cruz, Adam Ganshirt, Missy Hall, Liz Knebel, Matt Koon, Sara Krause, Alfredo Mendoza, Maria Nicholson, Toby Nigh, Julie Mae Obnial, Marc Rasch, Nikki Reyna, Jeff Rivera, Don Sturkey and Lindsey Sutton.



OLPH Teens Ski Trip 1993



# Milestones



*Father Ed Renehan at an early Womens Council luncheon*



*1969 Father Henry Banks and Father George Miller*



*1985 Confirmation. Kam Pozza and Bishop Ward*



*Father Patrick Power's 25th Ordination Celebration June 22, 1979*

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help School History

**F**ifty years ago, when Our Lady of Perpetual Help became a parish, the Catholic community was growing in size. Within fourteen years of its inception, Father Henry Banks, pastor at that time, felt there was a need for a Catholic school. In 1958, he purchased ten acres of property on Lyons Avenue, the present site of the church and school. The Archdiocese approved the plans for a church hall and four classrooms with a faculty room and restroom facilities in 1960. The building was completed in 1961 and in September, 1962, the school was opened for grades 1 through 4. With a staff of two, Sister Mary Coleman from the Sisters of Mercy and Ethel Morris welcomed students, some of whose names are still familiar in the parish, Benz, Lombardi, DiTomaso, Fisher, Huntsinger and Redmond, to name but a few.

In 1963, the school started two more classes. Sister Adelaide, the principal, was accompanied by Sister

Mariam and Sister Terence. Mrs. Marqua was the lay teacher.

The success of the school necessitated another set of building plans. Four more classrooms and an auditorium were completed in 1964. In June of 1967, twenty three students had the honor of being the first graduates of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. Those students were: Robert Boyer, Stephen Humphrey, Joseph Kaiser, Steven Knaggs, Randall Kruska, Bruce Burnett, James McMahan, Stephen Mayer, James Proell, John Redmond, Michael Redmond, George Seaman, John Seaman, Raymond Saffia, Mary Knights, Mary McMahan, Barbara Oswald, Judith Peterson, Debra Schenk, Janice Safferman, Constance Van Bellegham, Helen Urbancia and Julie Lynch.

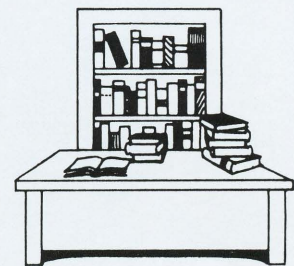
The Sisters of Mercy staffed the school through the spring of 1975. Parents took turns driving daily to their convent in the San Fernando Valley, picking up the Sisters and bringing them back to OLPH to teach

school. At the end of the day another parent was responsible for taking the Sisters back to their convent. In the fall, the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception took over the administration of the school. The faculty had grown to include Sister Virginia, as principal, Sister Beatrice, Sister Leticia and six lay teachers.

After Father Banks' death in the fall of 1976, Father Patrick Power, our current pastor, came to the parish in 1977. The school continued to be a vital part of the Catholic community. Soon after Father Power arrived, with the help of the parents at the school, the first Parent Teachers Organization was formed with Rosemarie Fox as its first president. This organization has become a dedicated group of parents and teachers working together for the needs of the children. They have worked diligently to assist in financial aid by sponsoring fund-raisers as well as supplying volunteer man-hours assisting in the library, as room mothers, with the hot lunch program and at yard duty.



*The OLPH School grounds in 1994 include a new kindergarten site (right)*



The PTO has sponsored Bingo in our parish as an aid in raising funds for our school. The PTO is very active with candy sales, yearly Jog-a-thons, fashion shows, flea markets, and auctions. In 1993 the school established an Endowment Fund, and recently has sponsored Scrip sales to benefit the school.

The efforts of these parents shows a constant desire to improve the school. Air conditioning was added to the classrooms in 1980. Computers were purchased and computer classes were added to the curriculum. PTO funds have helped to purchase TVs and VCRs for the classrooms and outdoor benches and playground equipment. The funds also support the sport programs supplied the earthquake container as well as continuing to assist in the operational costs of new texts, supplies and replacement funds for new desks and floors.

In 1988, the school expanded once again with the addition of its first kindergarten class. The building

housing the library was expanded and remodeled to include the kindergarten classroom, the library and the religious education office.

The school is a very integral part of the church community. The celebrations of our First Communicants and the celebrations of the Christian holidays of our faith emphasize the religious importance of our school. The weekly school Masses on Friday mornings, the May Crowning celebration, and adoration during Forty Hours all show our devotion and love of Jesus and His mother. In an effort to extend the spiritual program beyond the students, the school has had retreats in the fall and spring for the parents as well. They encourage Family Day and Grandparents Day and even Pet Day (the blessing of the animals) and they stress the importance of God, family and friends in our lives.

In an effort to reach out to the local community food drives are held each November and many baskets are delivered to needy families. Each

year the entire school community participates in United Nations day by dressing in ethnic costumes of the students' heritage and sharing ethnic foods and customs as a means of learning and accepting one another as children of God.

As the parish celebrates its 50th anniversary and we reflect back to its beginnings, we realize the tremendous growth that has occurred in the church and school community. Sister Magdalene, our principal, now has a faculty including five religious and nine lay teachers. The enrollment boasts 340 students from 209 families. Yes, we have grown!



*Conference Center completed in 1988 under the direction of parishioner Ted Coss*

## The Spanish Community

The Spanish community of Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been active in the parish for a number of years.

First Communion classes conducted in Spanish have been held since September of 1975. The first instructor was Rene Torres, who taught 25 students ranging in age from 5 to 15 years old.

Two years later the class size increased to 80 children, and the following year 92 children were attending class. Gloria Ferra and Beatrice Zapata joined Rene Torres in giving instructions.

After completing instructions, the children attend a Mass celebrated in Spanish to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion. Their entire family attends to help celebrate the important occasion.

Baptism classes in Spanish started in 1975 by Father Leo Gomes. Rene Torres was instructed to prepare parents in the baptism of their children. Classes are now offered by Jesus Mendoza, who also coordinates the Spanish Prayer Group and Renacer the Spanish Renew Program.

Rene continued his involvement with his community when, in 1979 he started a choir for the celebration of the Spanish Mass. He was joined by Hector Ferra and Dominga Perez.

Also, that year he coordinated the first Spanish booth at our annual barbeque. It was called Caballeros de San Francisco and the volunteers prepared tacos, burritos and aqua frescos. It has continued through the

years.

In 1983, our Hispanic parishioners attended their first Crucillo. It was directed by Father Juan Mata and was well attended.

In December of that year a re-enactment of the apparition of the Virgin de Guadalupe was held in the parish hall, under the direction of busy Rene Torres. Since then, the play is held annually on December 12, the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The first resident priest to regularly celebrate the Mass in Spanish was Father Roddy Guerrini in 1987.

In 1991 Father Joe Palacios started the tradition of Las Posadas. This Christmas celebration, which commemorates the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is held in several homes in the area. This has become a yearly event.

A well attended Spanish Mission was held from October 27 to November 1 in 1991. Father David Ullrich and Father Jose Luis Contreras M. conducted the service. Bishop Armando Ochoa concelebrated the

October 31 Mass, the first Bishop to celebrate a Mass during a mission at our parish.

Bishop Ochoa returned to celebrate Mass on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Father Power concelebrated this memorable event. More than 1 000 parishioners attended. Dinner was served in the hall and a Mariachi group played for the Bishop.

The Hispanic parishioners were once again blessed on December 12, 1993, when Cardinal Roger Mahoney celebrated Mass on the feast day. The 5:30 p.m. Mass was concelebrated by Father Patrick Power, Father Robert Rankin and Father Jeff Deikel. More than 750 parishioners attended the event. The message the Cardinal gave was well received and one that was needed to be heard by all the families. He spoke words of encouragement and hope.

After the Mass, Cardinal Mahoney extended his personal greeting to each person who came to the hall to meet him. This is a memory that will always be held in the hearts of the Hispanic OLPH parishioners.



*Our Lady of Guadalupe,  
Dec 12, 1993 Cardinal  
Mahony was the first Cardinal  
to celebrate Mass at OLPH on  
this Feast Day*

## Parish Members in the Priesthood

Rev Paul Kelly	1947	Rev Richard Hoynes	1988
Rev Gary Lombardi	1969	Rev Kary Abbott	.. 1990
Rev Art Gilliland	1978		
Rev Kevin Hadnett	.. 1980		
Rev Robert Wenzinger	1982		
Rev Terry Franklin	1985		

### DEACONS

Don Hamilton	..	1973
Dick Karl		1990

Susan Fricke took her final vows in September of 1993

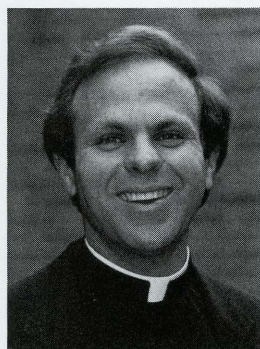
*Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity Sacred Heart Province*

Tony McCormick, *Carmelite Sisters (Sister M Jermaine)*

**USHERS...** Don Beauvias • Frank Bruno • Art Caranto • Joe Comella • Rudy Correa • John Demers • Benny Desina • Dennis Dobrina • Gene Doty • Francis Eisenman • Bernie Ferrara • Louis Fickbohm • Moose Fullmer • Ed Gatdula • Frank Gomez • Hans Herman • Marcel Ibarra • James Marek Cesar Obnial • John Pietrolungo • Mario Rayes • Patrick Reardon • Everett Redmond • Ted Ricaford • John Rivetti • Ted Spatrisano • Andy Stefanak • Doug Watts • Hal Wheatley • Mike Yurosek

**LECTORS...** Xavier Baldwin • Thomas and Arleen Boog • Patricia Boog • Paul Boog • Salvador Cancio • Mary Colgan • Dori Cortes • Trina Dorsey • Jim England • Paul Falcone • Cirilo and Cora Gatilao • Jeff Greiner • David Karl • Melissa Lee • Bill Maddigan • Gloria Mercado • Bob Messina • John Patti • Virginia Piccolo • Anna Riggs • Elizabeth Roques • Elaine Sayre • Donald Sturkey • Allen Taylor • Bud and Gwen Weitzel

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS...** Pete Aquino • Barbara Beckett • Mark Brien • Virginia Carter • Ed Dobkowski • Dennis and Kitty Dobrina • Francis Eisenman • Tony and Lynn Fadale • Bill and Kathryn Fairchild • Bob Fisher • Ann Fricke • Don and Linda Gulczynski • Harry Higgins • Millie Karl • Rick Kruska • John Lecrivain • Julian and Michele Lecrivain • Bill Maddigan • Mike and Vera McSkane • Bill Miscione • Mary Panlener • Sandra Parry • Jerry and Marilyn Poduska • Patricia Riggs • Bill Ryan • Gerry and Frances Schlund • Giovanna Spatrisano • Fern Stefani • Cathy Stivers • Mary Taylor • Leticia Thomas • Millie Terranova • Gundy and Katherine Tollefson • Mike and Diane von Buelow • Stan and Mary Wasiel • Ray Welker • Mary Woolf



### *In Remembrance*

The Scott Franklin family joined Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in 1963. Scott and his wife, Toni, had five children, Terry, Tom, John, Cindy and Scott Jr. Nine year old Terry and his brother Tom, served as altar boys for Pastor Henry Banks and Father George Miller.

Terry attended Peachland Elementary School, Placerita Junior High School, and graduated from Hart High School in 1972. After graduating from College of the Canyons in Valencia, he entered St. John's Seminary in Camarillo.

Father Terry Franklin was ordained and celebrated his first Mass June 16, 1985 in our church.

As a Catholic priest, he served at St. Paschal Baylon Catholic Church in Thousand Oaks and American Martyrs Catholic Church in Redondo Beach. In 1991, Father Franklin became pastor of Assumption Catholic Church in Colville, Washington.

Rev. Terry Franklin was called home to Heaven April 9, 1994.

Father Terry, you are dearly loved and greatly missed.

*January 9, 1954 April 9, 1994*

## Interviews



*Camille and Andrew Jauregui*

### RECOLLECTIONS OF CAMILLE JAUREGUI

Camille Jauregui was born in Barone, Italy (situated in the northern most part of Italy) in 1904 and emigrated to the United States, coming directly to California, in 1914. In 1924, she and Andrew Jauregui were married and settled on a ranch in Newhall, to be known as Jauregui Ranch. Since the death of Andy, Camille continues to live on that same ranch with all of its seventy years of memories.

She remembers well the original church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, which was located on the corner of Pico Canyon Road (now known as Lyons Avenue) and Market Street, when she first arrived in 1924. It was a mission church at that time and she recalls that a priest would come each Sunday to say Mass from the Mission at San Fernando. She does not recall all of the priests by name, but does have fond memories of Father Kennedy and Father Lehane.

Although she and her family were very active in the church at the time, Camille has no specific memories of a special celebration when

OLPH became a parish church in 1944.

Camille also verifies that the annual church barbeque has been in existence for as long as she can remember. Catholics and non-Catholics alike would attend and it was like a grand reunion of old friends and acquaintances. Booths, similar to what we have today, were also set up each year to sell home-made donated items, a chance to win food stuff booths, and so on. Prior to the new church being built, the barbeque was held on

occasion at the Jauregui Ranch, the LaSalle Ranch and Saxonia Park. For many years, the Jauregui family would donate a whole beef for this event, and it was prepared in a pit in the ground, as it remains traditional today.



### RECOLLECTIONS OF GENE DOTY

Gene Doty was born in 1920 and has lived in the Santa Clarita Valley for all of his life. He has many interesting memories of the early days of Our Lady of Perpetual Help



*Maxine and Gene Doty*

Church, since well before it was a parish church.

Gene recalls that he, Louis Boyer and another fellow were the altar boys (as they were referred to at that time) in the very early 1930's at OLPH. They served at the original mission church which was located at Pico Canyon Road (Lyons Avenue) and Market Street, and a priest would come each Sunday morning to say Mass from St. Ferdinand's in San Fernando. Gene remembers the thrill of ringing the church bell to call the faithful to Mass.

Gene also recalls that parishioners would organize card games and social dance gatherings to raise funds to help with the financial needs of the mission church. The highlight of the year was the annual barbeque fundraising event. The three altar boys were assigned, for several of these yearly events, to manning the soda pop booth, which they sold for five cents per bottle. He remembers attending the barbeque at Jauregui Ranch, and later at Saxonia Park. He thinks that the first church barbeque was held in the very early 1930's but does not remember the exact year.

Gene has, throughout the years, volunteered his time to help organize and conduct the barbeque. For many of these years, from the late 40s through the mid '80s, Gene was the barbeque chairman, and in more

recent years has been involved with purchasing for the event.

# Milestones



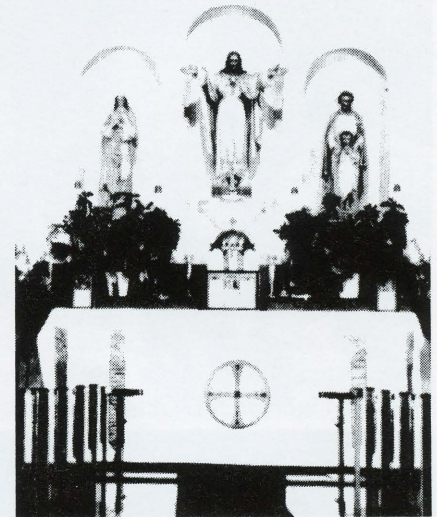
*Remember when?  
Various photos from 1975-1981*

# History

Celebrating the Golden Anniversary of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church as a parish is a tribute to the many people who supported our parish for the past 50 years. A long list of dedicated priests and nuns have led our parishioners to find guidance, comfort and a final reward through Holy Mother, the Church. The parish has grown, along with the area, and has become a solid example of a loving community of Catholic worshippers.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is located in the city of Santa Clarita, which was incorporated December 15, 1987 with a population of 147,228 and a land area of 40 square miles, making it the largest incorporation in the history of California.

The city is comprised of four communities that include Newhall, Saugus, Valencia and Canyon Coun-



The surrounding valley communities are Acton, Aqua Dulce, Castaic and Val Verde.

The Santa Clarita Valley is rich in historical events. California's first gold

**OFFICE OF H. L. BYRAM, COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR**  
HALL OF JUSTICE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

This bill when properly stamped becomes a receipt for the payment of taxes on the property described herein when levied by the Angeles County or any MUNICIPAL or SPECIAL DISTRICT shown in the tax rate section on the reverse side of this instrument for the fiscal year from July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943 incl.

PAID DEC 5 1942  
L Per R.A.H. Deputy  
H. R. BYRAM, Co. Tax Collector  
SUBJECT TO COLLECTION FROM 24  
DELINQUENT DEPT. OF MONEY ORDER  
NO PENALTY COSTS ADDED TO EACH  
ITEM UNPAID APRIL 20, 1943.

FIRST INSTALLMENT DELINQUENT DEC. 5, 1942 RECEIPT HERE  
PAID DEC 5 1942  
L Per R.A.H. Deputy  
H. R. BYRAM, Co. Tax Collector  
SUBJECT TO COLLECTION FROM 24  
DELINQUENT DEPT. OF MONEY ORDER  
NO PENALTY COSTS ADDED TO EACH  
ITEM UNPAID APRIL 20, 1943.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP  
1007 GORONELLI ST  
SAN FRANCISCO CALIF  
CARE OF CHARLES BURNS O M I

NEWHALL

REAL ESTATE	IMPROVEMENTS	EXEMPTIONS	NET REAL PROPERTY AFTER EXEMPTIONS	NET PERSONAL PROPERTY AFTER HOUSEHOLDER & OTHER EXEMPTIONS	3% PEN. COSTS TOTAL 2ND INST.	5% PEN. TOTAL 1ST INST.
55		55				9¢

PARCEL NUMBER 37700709

SECOND INSTALLMENT 4  
FIRST INSTALLMENT 5

524774

1942

31 TOTAL PAYMENT RECEIPTED HERE

REMITTANCE MUST BEAR POSTMARK PRICE TO ESCAPE PEN.  
CHECKS MUST SHOW ADDRESS  
IF PAYMENT IS MADE BY MAIL, PLEASE ENVELOPE FOR RETURN

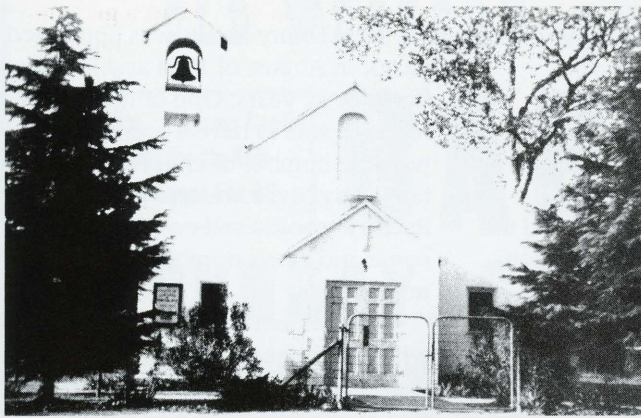
EXAMINE PROPERTY DESCRIPTION CAREFULLY BEFORE PAYING THIS BILL.

PAYMENTS MADE AFTER JUNE 30, 1943 REQUIRE ADDITIONAL PENALTIES OF 1% PER MONTH FOR THE FIRST YEAR AND 1/4 OF ONE PER CENT PER MONTH THEREAFTER  
POSITIVELY NO STAMPS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN PAYMENT OF TAXES

PRESENT THIS BILL WHEN PAYING BOTH FIRST AND SECOND INSTALLMENTS

A reproduction of an original 1942 Tax Bill - Notice this may be paid in two installments - 4 and 5 cents each





were parishioners and helped to develop a strong local Catholic community

Historical records show the earliest Catholic services held in town were conducted in 1883 by Rev Peter Verdagner who traveled from the

Old Plaza Church in Los Angeles With what frequency is not known.

The first elementary schoolhouse in Newhall, built in 1854 was used for Mass. It was near present day Newhall Avenue and 9th St.

Newhall became a town on September 6, 1876 when the Newhall Depot, near the present junction of Bouquet Canyon Road and Magic Mountain Parkway opened its doors for business. This was the day after the golden spike was driven into the railroad track at Lang Station in Soledad Canyon, linking northern and southern California by rail.

Near this time, Henry M. Newhall

began construction of his Southern Hotel at San Fernando Road and Market Street. By 1882 businesses and residences began to be built on Railroad Avenue

About 1903, Father Gay of Santa Paula celebrated Mass once a month at the home of Mrs. Charles Joseph Moore at 524 Spruce Street in Newhall. Records show that religious instruction was also given at the time

Between 1910 and 1912 Rev Eugene Sugranes, C.M.F traveled once a month from the Old Plaza Church to Newhall for services. The Mass was held in a hall at 613 Spruce Street.

In late 1912 Father Gerald Bergan traveled from San Fernando monthly and was assisted by other priests. In 1923 the priests would come twice a month and in 1927 Mass was celebrated every week.

The first church building was built in 1914 on Walnut Street and 10th Street. The address was 1009 Walnut Street. It was a frame building that could seat 100 people and cost \$1 500 to build. It was dedicated on Jan. 15, 1915 by Rev Gerald I. Bergan.

*Continued*

rush began when a nugget was found in Placerita Canyon in 1842, causing a minor gold rush compared to the Sutter's Mill gold rush in 1848. The famous outlaw Tiburcio Vasquez, hid out in the local mountains between 1860 and 1879 California's first oil well was producing in Pico Canyon in 1875 The collapse of the St. Francis Dam in 1928 is the state's second worst disaster, causing 450 deaths. And people all over the world have seen our beautiful area as hundreds of movies have been filmed on local ranches and trails. Celluloid cowboys Gene Autry Harry Carey and William S. Hart have called our valley home during their careers

The Santa Clarita Valley covers 150 square miles and is wedged between three mountain ranges the Sierra Pelona to the north, the San Gabriels to the east and the Santa Susanas to the south. We are 35 miles north of Los Angeles

There are two parishes to attend to the needs of the Catholics living in this valley Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Clare's Catholic churches.

To follow the history of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church is to follow the history of our area.

Local Catholic influence can be traced to 1769 when Father Crespi, a Catholic missionary traveled alongside a river in this valley It was the feast of St. Clare so he named the river Santa Clara. From this comes the name of our city and valley Santa Clarita.

Through the years, many of the pioneer ranchers, farmers, oilmen and cowboys of the western films



*The big flea market at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 1968*

## History Continued...

There were fewer than 500 people living in the town of Newhall at that time. Today the address would be 24509 Walnut Street.

The second church was built of stucco at the same location. It could seat 185 people and it was completed on June 18, 1939 at a cost of \$4,500. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Cawley, V.G., dedicated the building on Oct. 15, 1939. The pastor was Rev. P. O'Brien, O.M.I., who traveled from San Fernando.

The entire valley population was 4,000 people in 1940.

As the area grew, it was evident that a larger church and a Catholic school were needed.

In 1944, Archbishop John Joseph Cantwell of the Los Angeles Archdiocese announced that Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission Church would become a parish in July. He traveled to Newhall to celebrate the first Mass as a parish.

The Archbishop said that a resident pastor would be assigned and recommended the start of a building fund.

Records show the first baby to be baptized in the new parish was Louis Arthur John Karsten, son of John and Beatrice K. Hess Karsten. He was born June 14 and baptized July 9. On December 3, Louis Woodrow Mayer and Jeanette E. Thompson were the first couple to be married in the new parish.

Now that OLPH had parish status, there would be set boundaries, a resident priest and financial responsibilities. The parish covered an area from 10 miles to the south, 20 miles to the west, 50 miles to the north and 30 miles to the east.

Rev. James Leheny became pastor in 1945 and was followed by Rev. Thomas O'Malley until 1948. There were two Masses celebrated each Sunday and confessions were held on Saturday evenings.

On May 4, 1947, Rev. Paul Kelly was the first member of OLPH to be ordained. He celebrated his first Mass as a priest in the 3-year-old parish.

A new church hall, named Our Lady's Center, was built on Walnut Street next to the church. It was

dedicated on November 15, 1950 and was used until 1967.

The parish was growing and some of the active organizations recorded were the Holy Name Society, the Council of Catholic Women, CYO, the Chiro Club, and the Men's Club. The valley's population in 1950 was 7,500.

In 1952, the church purchased property for a grade school on Newhall Avenue for \$16,000. It was later decided to be too small a parcel and sold. Today the Californian Apartments are built on the site.

The Catholic Church in the Los Angeles area was growing along with the population. A seminary, Our Lady Queen of Angels, was planned to be built in San Fernando and our parishioners were asked to donate \$4,000 for the project. This was a substantial amount of money in the early 50s, but as always, the parishioners supported their church and the pledge was completed in two years.

Rev. Henry Banks was appointed pastor in August of 1954 and led his flock for 22 years. One of his first requests was to have a parish census with the number of children per family and the location of the houses. Rector records had only the families' name and a box number or a route number.

The annual church barbeque, which had been held since the 30s, was again at Saxonia Park in 1954. The main raffle prize was a new modern appliance, an "automatic washing machine and dryer." An advertisement in *The Tidings*, Los Angeles' Catholic newspaper, printed the directions to the barbeque from Los Angeles as "take 99 to Route 6 and follow the signs."

The numbers of worshippers were increasing during the 50s as tract homes were being built in the out-lying areas of Saugus and what is now known as Canyon Country.

A Mr. Gordon Gilmore in January



1968 Barbeque Plant booth

OLD WESTERN  ANNUAL NEWHALL

Free Prizes Bazaar Booths  
Play Area for the Kids  
Fun and Games For All

# BARBECUE

Entertainment by Tex Williams  
and the Wagon Train TV Cast  
with other stars

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1959

Barbecued Beef With All The Trimmings  
**SAXONIA PARK**



In Placerita Canyon - Newhall

Children 75 Cents FREE ADMISSION TO PARK Adults \$1.50  
Dinner Served 12 Noon to 5 P.M.

SPONSORED BY OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

UNDER THE  
PERSONAL  
SUPERVISION OF  
**Rawley Duntley**  
Famed Western Barbecue  
Chef



of 1958 asked the parishioners for a 3-year pledge to aide in the construction of Holy Cross Catholic Hospital to be built in San Fernando.

Parishioner Joanne Redmond led a group who solicited door-to-door and collected \$4,000. Once again our members helped where needed.

Also, in January 1958, Father Banks purchased 10 acres on Lyons Avenue. A church hall (which was to become the present church) 4 classrooms, a faculty room and restrooms were to be the first phase of development. \$50,000 was needed for the project.

Day-to-day parish life continued with fund-raisers, social events, anniversary celebrations for the priest and nuns and daily administering of the sacraments

The dream of a new church and school became a reality in 1961

Cardinal McIntyre, on August 13, 1961 celebrated the first Mass in our new Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church on Lyons Avenue.

A Signal newspaper article

announced that Sunday Mass would be held at 8 and 10:30 a.m. and at 7:30 a.m. daily. It went on to say "the handsome church is made of concrete block and will seat 800. The pews and altar are constructed of ash and the wainscoting is birch. Bronze

features accent the altar. A Smaltzi mosaic of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is placed over the front door"

In 1962, grades one through four started in the new school which opened in September. Teachers were

*Continued*

14TH ANNUAL BARBECUE  
SAXONIA PARK-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1959

HOWDY FOLKS !!!

We are sure happy to welcome you again to our ANNUAL BARBECUE.

Get right on the Chow Line for a plateful of vittles cooked up by Rawley Duntley and the Boys. Afterwards, you can find all kinds of entertainment at the following booths:

ROLL DOWN  
GLASS BOWL PITCH  
BEAR PITCH  
DART BOOTH  
MONTE CARLO  
COUNTRY STORE

FISH POND BOOTH  
PRIZE CAKE BOOTH  
HANDICRAFT SHOP  
JEWELRY THRIFT SHOP  
APRON BOOTH  
PLANT BOOTH

DOLL BOOTH

If you get thirsty the CIRCLE SALOON has plenty of beer on hand. For those who like something else, but just as refreshing, there is the REFRESHMENT BOOTH and POP STAND.

There will be a 10 cu. ft. KELVINATOR REFRIGERATOR-FREEZER given away as a major BARBECUE PRIZE today. For further details see committee member where prize is on display!

Check your ticket numbers from time to time to see if you have won a DOOR PRIZE. NUMBERS will be announced over the P. A. System all through the day.

Keep a watchful eye for Western T. V. Celebrities. Tex Williams, stars of Wagon Train and the Fast Draw Club will be present at the park today.

THANK YOU FOR COMING OUT TO OUR BARBECUE. WE SINCERELY HOPE YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME.

*A reproduction of a flyer advertising the 1959 Annual BBQ*



*1960 Barbeque committee displays some of the prizes and booth exhibits to be displayed during the day (left to right):*

*Joe Bono, Duane Gartner, Gene Doty, Father Henry Banks, Walter Hutchinson, Mrs. Eibel Morris, Julio Lombardi, Mrs. Joanne Redmond, Mrs. Joan Russell, Mrs. Berthe Haskell, Mrs. Tillie, Petter and Earl Mularky*

Sister Mary Coleman of the Sisters of Mercy and Ethel Morris.

The ever-expanding social event of the year the barbeque, was moved to the new church ground and the current meat pit was dug.

Records show that in 1965 6,000 people attended the OLPH Barbeque and 3,500 dinners were sold.

By 1965 four more classrooms and a hall were added to the grounds

In 1966, there were 1 050 families in the parish. Times were changing. New wash and wear surplices were purchased for the priests and school principal Sister Adelaide asked the ladies to wear dresses while on the school grounds.

Up until the mid-1960s and the construction of Interstate 5 and the Antelope Valley (14) Freeway the Santa Clarita Valley remained a sleepy little community. The 50s and 60s had some tract homes in Saugus and Newhall. But the planned community of Valencia, which covered 10 500 local acres, started development in 1967. Between 1960 and 1970, the valley's population leaped from 15 000 to 50,000.

Gary Lombardi, son of long-time active members Ida and Julio

Lombardi, celebrated his first Mass as a Catholic priest on April 2, 1969 in our church.

In 1972 204 women were in guilds under the direction of the Women's Council.

During January of 1973, parishioner Don Hamilton was in the first class of 78 men to become permanent Deacons in the Los Angeles Archdiocese.

At this time, Masses in our church were celebrated with a congregation that filled the pews, sat in the choir loft and lined the aisles. More and more Catholics were moving to our parish. A decision was made to say Mass at Canyon High School auditorium for parishioners living in the north east part of the valley. Two of our priests, Father Timothy Nichols and Father Edmond Renehan, shared the duty of missionary priest each Sunday.

With additional associate pastors being assigned, there was a need to expand the rectory which was built in 1962.

In November of 1973, two bedrooms, one bath, an additional garage and a storage area were added. About this time a CCD office,

library and a storage room were added alongside the hall.

Father Banks, in January of 1974, petitioned the Chancery Office for a church and multi-purpose room to be built in Canyon Country and served by a resident priest. A pledge drive was initiated. The following year building began on St. Clare's Catholic Church in Canyon Country. The church would seat 800.

The Mayfield family were baptized Catholic in our church in 1975. Son Olin was enrolled in OLPH school and went on to attend Alemany Catholic High School in San Fernando. After graduation, he attended USC and received a Bachelors Degree in 1991. That year he entered St. John's Seminary. He is in his third year of study for the priesthood. In the near future, OLPH will have another native son, a convert, serving as a priest for our Holy Mother the Church.

On October 4 1976, our beloved pastor Father Henry Banks went to Heaven.

We, the parishioners, mourned our loss. We prayed that soon another spiritual leader would join OLPH who could guide and meet the



1964 An eager group of small friends listen while Pat McNerney, celebrating his 86th birthday, read a story from his big book. They are (from left to right): Janie Cambell, Stanley and Scottie Tyma, Lu Ann Campbell and Steve Tyma

needs of the growing parish.

Our prayers were answered when, on January 25 1977 Father Patrick Power became our pastor

In 1978, associate pastor Edmond Renehan was appointed the first pastor of St. Clare's Church. A geographical division of families was assigned to each church and many long-time supporters of OLPH now became active members of a new and developing parish.

(Sixteen years later in 1993 St. Clare's needed to hold additional Masses in a local school auditorium because of the growth of their parish.

Presently a mission church is being planned on Copperhill Drive near Seco (San Francisquito) Canyon Road in Saugus.)

On May 23, 1978, Father Art Gilliland celebrated his first Mass at St. Clare's Church.

Even after our sister parish, St. Clare's, was founded, OLPH remained one of the largest parishes area-wise in the archdiocese.

During this time, the late 70s, OLPH had a tremendous surge of

additional families joining. In order to keep abreast with the times, it was necessary to update and redecorate the existing facilities. Father Power arranged for stained glass windows to be added to the church, the church and buildings were repainted, and new landscaping was planted. God's house soon welcomed many new parishioners



Gathering Palms for Palm Sunday service 1966

In 1978, the first parish pictorial directory was published in an attempt to acquaint the parishioners with the many new faces that were arriving at the time. Father Power's concern at that time was that even though we were worshipping together and were made one in the Body of Christ we received, we often left the House of God as strangers. The pictorial directory would make parishioners more familiar with one another

In 1979, the parish celebrated our priests' anniversaries. Father John O'Toole enjoyed his 35th anniversary as a priest, Father Leo Gomes marked his 41st anniversary and, on June 22, Pastor Patrick Power observed his 25th.

1981 records showed 1,470 registered parish families.

On May 4 1981, Father O'Toole went to Heaven and on February 2, 1989 Father Leo Gomes joined him.

Parishioner Dick Karl became a Deacon in 1990 and has been an invaluable addition to the workings of our parish.

The Sylmar Earthquake of February 9 1971 caused damage to the church and school and over time repairs were made. The Northridge 6.8 Earthquake on January 17, 1994 caused extensive damage to the buildings and property at OLPH. Under Father Power's direction, four

months after the disaster the church was repaired and progress is seen on other repair projects so that a minimal of inconvenience was felt.

OLPH parish is an active, joyous community of faith. One reason is that Father Power is interested in all aspects of parish life. He has a constant desire to find a niche for each of the parishioners in an activity that is of interest to them. To encourage spiritual growth, the parish bulletin lists more than twenty organizations where parishioners may become involved. Prayer groups, service organizations, fraternal organizations and social groups are listed.

*Continued*



Our pastor has reached out to the community at large in offering the facilities for meetings not of a religious nature. It is a long tradition of our parish for the two communities to work as one.

The logistics of coordinating the use of our limited facilities for 4,100 registered families is very challenging. Computers have been proven a valuable tool for the organization of our parish life.

The RENEW Program was initiated in 1993 as an opportunity to increase the spiritual awareness as well as encouraging involvement from the church community.

OLPH school has more students in 1994 than ever before. The addition of a kindergarten class in 1987 and the building of a new classroom, a waiting list for enrollment, all reiterate growth of Catholic education.

The Religious Education Program (formally known as CCD) has always been an important part of the parish. In the last ten years the

elementary and junior high classes have almost doubled. The high school Confirmation Program is one of the strongest Confirmation Programs in the San Fernando Region in numbers and spirit. The high school teens also have a Teen Life Program. All these programs serve more than 1 000 students.

The Spanish Community is a vital part of our church. The Spanish Religious Education programs have nearly doubled in size during the last few years.

From the days of long ago when there was one Mass on Sunday to the present time when OLPH celebrates six Masses and a Spanish Mass each weekend, the growth of the parish is evident.

Fifty years after Archbishop John Joseph Cantwell dedicated Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church as a parish, his nephew Father Patrick Power will celebrate this jubilee year of Our Lord 1994 as our pastor.

For the past seventeen years, Father Power has nourished the

parishioners in their spiritual life, and under his direction, the parish will continue to foresee and meet the needs of our members as the 21st century nears.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help watches over us as her Son, Jesus Christ, blesses His Father's house

The oral history garnered from some of the pioneers of our parish has been invaluable to telling the story of 50+ years in the life of the parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church.

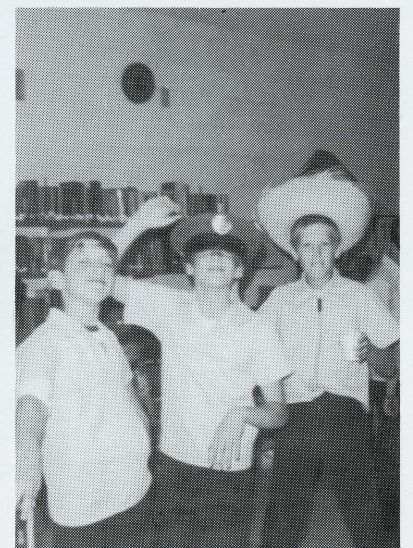
*Thanks for the memories:*

*Gene and Maxine Doty, Joanne Redmond, Ida Lombardi, Camille Jauregui, Jeanne Sisson, Jan Pozza and Jerry Reynolds*



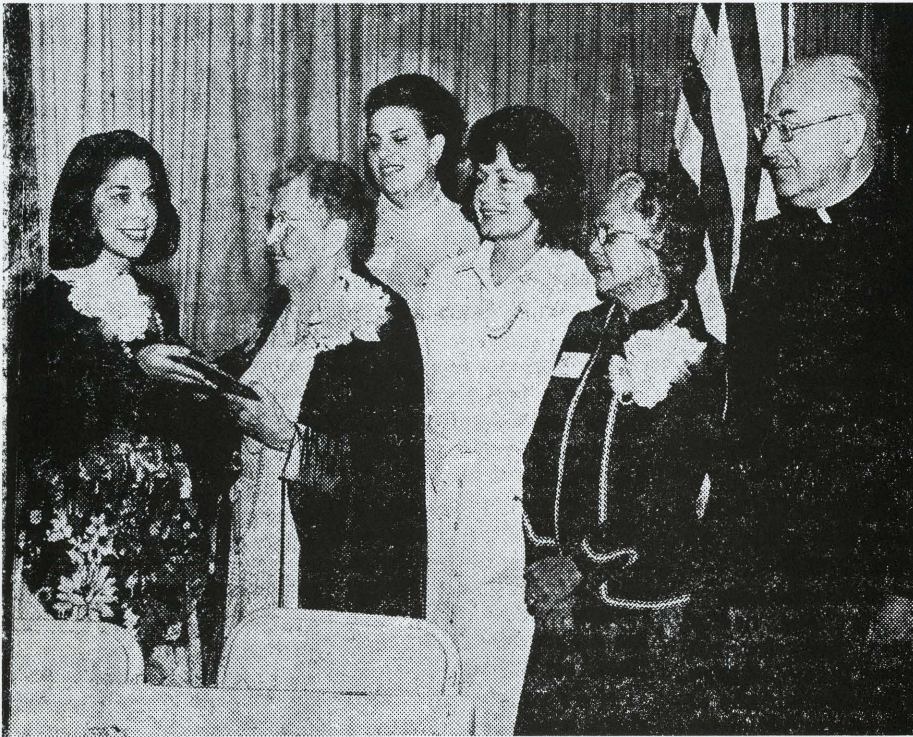
*Mrs. Betty Carpendo, left, along with Mrs. Josie Cambell and Mrs. Sally O'Callaban cordially invite the public to the OLPH St. Patrick's Day Shamrock Dance which was held on February 7 1963*

# Milestones



*Various photos from 1964 – 1976*

## Women's Council



*Mrs. Leonard Gribbons, council president in 1974, presents council founder Mrs Jessie Fisher with a special recognition plaque. (from left to right): Mrs Gribbons, Mrs Fisher Mrs Marie Abernathy, Mrs Margaret Cacciatore, Mrs Matilde Petter and Rev Henry J Banks, pastor*



*The ever popular Christmas Bazaar put on by the Women's Council 1973*



The Parish Council of Catholic Women was an organization who supported our parish through fund-raising, by organizing social activities, and by attending to the everyday needs of an active and growing parish.

For 41 years, from 1944 to 1985, hundreds of dedicated women worked closely with the priests to help our parish become the strong religious family it is today

It all started with a request by Father Quinlivan, a visiting mission priest from St. Ferdinand's Catholic Church in San Fernando

On May 24 1944, Father Quinlivan met with 15 ladies who volunteered to assist him with the needs of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission Church, located at 1009 Walnut Street in Newhall. Minutes taken by secretary Mary Brunner stated that "the purpose of the meeting was to decorate the altar in turn, to maintain monies on hand to care for the needs of the altar and, any related tasks."

Dues of 25 must be paid 3 times a year to raise the sum of \$3.50 which would be needed to decorate the altar. Jean McDonald was chosen to be the first president. The first group project was to send letters to the men of the parish serving during World War II, some who, 50 years ago, saw action on the beaches of Normandy France.

The Women's Council of Catholic Women, then called the Ladies Altar Society was founded.

The ladies of the parish, now organized, started many years of fund-raising and contributing to the spiritual and material needs of the newly-appointed parish.

During the early years, many of the men of the parish were serving their country in Europe. Through the church their mothers, wives and sisters found comfort and support with their religious families

The council members were also mindful of their duties as citizens of



the community Throughout the years the members sponsored polio clinics, annual clothing drives for the needy overseas suffering the effects of a long World War II, provided food baskets and toys at Christmas, baked cookies for the boys at the three local youth probation camps, joined Grace Baptist Church ladies to bake cookies for Viet Nam vets, sent money to Viet Nam orphanages, assisted with the building and upkeep of the school and church, and worked on countless other needy projects. At one meeting, on Oct.9 1946, a basket was passed to collect \$5 for flowers for the funeral of local celebrity and long time resident, William S. Hart.

Through the years, minutes from the meetings showed the council never forgot their main purpose that of caring for the sanctuary and cleaning the church.

The fund-raisers sponsored by the council were community events. Until the early '50s, according to those who remember other than the Catholic Church's events, the only other community functions were the annual Fourth of July Parade, and a yearly Thanksgiving dinner held at the First Presbyterian Church on Newhall Ave.

Catholics and non-Catholics alike attended the various social

activities held by the Women's Council. There were annual Christmas bazaars, flea markets and countless food sales.

The first mention of an annual St. Patrick's Day Dance was in 1951 For many years the dance was sponsored by the council and assisted by the men of the parish.

An article from The Newhall Signal newspaper in March of 1961 told of the success of that year's dance held at Tex Williams Village (located in Newhall on San Fernando Road and over the years known as the 507 Club, French Village, and the American Legion Hall among others. Today it is an auto repair shop.)

More than 250 people attended at \$1.50 a head. The Tex Williams Orchestra cost \$100, rent of the Village was \$50, and the doorman cost \$15

"Net proceeds of the dance are to be applied to the building fund of the handsome new church on Lyons Avenue Those serving on the finance committee reported the sum, realized, to be most gratifying," the article said.

Other successful projects were a fashion show held for many years in

Ida Lombardi's backyard on Arcadia Street in Newhall. During the '50s many area ladies looked forward to these council events The shows had to be moved out of the Santa Clarita Valley in the '60s because of a lack of a facility large enough to accommodate the growing numbers The OLPH Council of Catholic Women's 25th Annual Fashion Show was held at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills in 1985 It was the largest fashion show held in Southern California and was attended by 1,500 people.

The minutes from a council meeting of July 12 1944 discusses plans for a barbeque at Saxonia Park in Placerita Canyon. The barbeque

*Continued*



*1981 Womens Council Luncheon*



was an opportunity to raise funds for a building fund drive. Records show the barbeque had a profit of \$1,807 50 in 1946, a substantial profit in those days. Father O'Malley suggested that the ladies run ten booths as fund-raisers and the church would invite the community to attend. One of the most successful booths that year was the apron booth. That request, of running booths, had been granted by the Women's Council in one form or another until 1985. For nearly fifty years, the council was instrumental in making the annual community gathering a success.

Among the hundreds of Women's Council barbeque volunteers, two names should be mentioned. Dorothy Hauptert from 1966 to 1976 ran a plant booth at the barbeque. She raised plants during the year and sold them after Mass and at the barbeque. With the funds, she created and stocked the parish library with more than 2,000 books.

Another member who worked hundreds of hours and ran a wonderful booth for many years is long-time parishioner Ethel Morris. She spent the year in-between each barbeque sewing and dressing dolls for her popular and successful doll booths.

In 1970, the council decided to form 20 guilds totaling 204 women who could meet monthly in their own neighborhoods for spiritual support and to accept projects as a group. The community was growing very rapidly and it was a workable way for the large membership to succeed with their projects.

Father Henry Banks, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church for 22 years, said "The women are the nucleus of this parish." The love that the women of the parish have shown through the years for their parish, their priests and their church will someday be rewarded by Our Heavenly Father

Thanks for the memories  
*Jean Sisson, Peggy Landrum and  
 Joanne Redmond*

## Women's Council Past Presidents

### ALTAR SOCIETY

1944	..	.Jean McDonald
1945		.. Mrs. Vincent
1946		Mary Jauregui
1947		Mattie Forst
1948		Mrs. E. Kelly
1949	..	.Jessie Fisher

### PARISH COUNCIL

1950		.Jessie Fisher
1951		Florence Suraco
1952		Sally O'Callahan
1953	..	Ida Lombardi
1954		Annett Berkbigler LaDuca
1955		Dolores Knaggs
1956	..	Dolly Calzia
1957		...Joanne Redmond
1958		Gloria Gilmore
1959		Kay Fisher
1960	..	.Joanne Redmond
1961		Tillie Petter
1962	..	Mildred Oswald
1963	..	Marge Cacciatore
1964	..	.Josie Campbell
1965		Edwina Lynch
1966		Dolores Knaggs
1967		Phyliss Koback
1968		LaRue Erwin
1969		Lee Baum
1970		Pat Catalano
1971	..	Pat Parks Rapko
1972		Betty Hadnett
1973		LaVerne Gribbons
1974		Ann Joan Lenahan
1975	..	Marie Ober
1976		Mary Lou Birrell
1977	..	Mary Lou Birrell
1978		Madeline Wenzinger
1979	..	Madeline Wenzinger
1980		Marianne Grossman
1981		.Jeanne Sisson
1982		.Jeanne Sisson
1983		.Jeanne Sisson
1984		.Jeanne Sisson
1985		.Jeanne Sisson

# Milestones

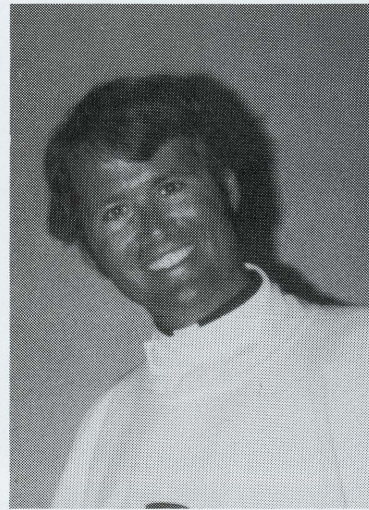
Top two photos: Gary Lombardi's First Mass and Reception, April 1969 with his Mother & Father Julio and Ida Lombardi and Father Henry Banks, Pastor



Various photos from 1967-1985



# Milestones



*Various photos  
from 1969 - 1976*



50th

*The members of  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
organizations wish to  
congratulate the parish on  
50 years of  
love, support and commitment  
to its parishioners*



*Prayer to  
Our Mother of Perpetual Help*

*O MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP, grant that I may ever invoke Thy most powerful name, which is the safeguard of the living and the salvation of the dying O Purest Mary, O Sweetest Mary, let Thy name henceforth be ever on my lips Delay not, O Blessed Lady, to help me whenever I call on Thee, for, in all my needs, in all my temptations I shall never cease to call on Thee, ever repeating Thy sacred name, Mary, Mary O what consolation, what sweetness, what confidence, what emotion fill my soul when I pronounce thy sacred name, or even only think of Thee I thank God for having given Thee, for my good, so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name But I will not be content with merely pronouncing Thy name. let my love for Thee prompt me ever to hail Thee, MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP*



