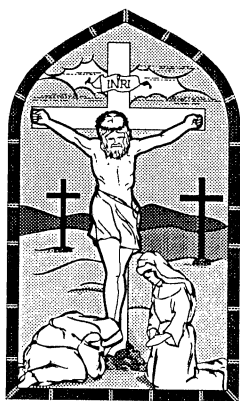


50<sup>th</sup>  
*Anniversary*



**The History  
of  
Precious Blood  
Parish**

Dedicated to all those who have blessed  
Precious Blood Parish with their presence over  
the last 50 years.

Cover by

**Chris Kielesinski**

in collaboration with

**Father John Tritschler**

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50th Anniversary Book  
Printed in Surrey by



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## FOREWORD

*Happy and Blessed are those who have a vision and persevere until that vision becomes a reality. So Blessed is our Parish Anniversary Book Committee and its editors for having held themselves to the task they took on. Like all undertakings in life, writing an historical book becomes a greater challenge than appears at the outset. As time passes, and charter parish members have gone to their eternal reward, it is sometimes a struggle to record the past accurately. Gratitude goes to all who took the time to write their accounts of the events which occurred in Precious Blood Parish over the last 50 years. Some articles had to be shortened from their original version due to space. If there are any inaccuracies in the reporting of Parish History, the exchange between parishioners will reveal either the fuller picture of what happened, or create some ongoing animated discussion about what really happened, who was involved, when it occurred . . . .*



Our parish thanks go to our Parish Anniversary book editor, Theresa Laturnus and to Father John Tritschler who re-read everything before final printing, and to the Book Committee who gathered all the facts:

Jim Sullivan (chairman)  
Peter Fruno  
Mary Fisher  
Frank McKinnon  
Caroline Loxterkamp  
Marcella McReavy

Mel Nelson  
Earl Caughlan  
Louise Mahussier  
Betty Davies  
Marion Williams  
Mildred Gallaher







Archdiocese of Vancouver  
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

June 1997

*Dear Father Tritschler and Parishioners,*

*On this special occasion of the Golden Jubilee of Precious Blood Parish, Cloverdale, it is indeed a pleasure to offer you my own personal congratulations and those of the clergy, religious and faithful of the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Indeed the whole Archdiocese rejoices on such an occasion.*

*Your jubilee falls during the first year of preparation for the Jubilee Year 2000, when we are reflecting in a more intense way on Jesus Christ and our faith in Him. Let us look to Jesus during this celebration, thanking Him for all His blessings over the last half century: the sacrifices of the founders and early parishioners who made possible the building of the church; the devoted ministry of pastors, priests and sisters; and, of course, the dedication and prayers of numerous parishioners from 1947 till the present day, who have participated in the Masses and received the sacraments at Precious Blood Parish.*

*As we express our deep gratitude to Jesus for His great goodness to your parish, I ask Him to renew and increase your faith so that, as a parish community in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, you may witness ever more effectively to His great love and mercy.*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

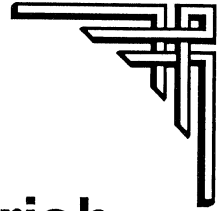
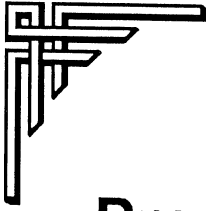
*Most Reverend Adam Exner, OMI  
Archbishop of Vancouver*

---

*Reverend John Tritschler and Parishioners  
Precious Blood, Cloverdale, British Columbia*

150 Robson Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6B 2A7  
Facsimile: (604) 683-4288 Telephone: (604) 683-0281





# Precious Blood Parish

Parish Office & Residence: 17475 - 59th Avenue, Surrey, B. C., Canada V3S 1P3

Phone: (604) 574-4363 Fax: (604) 574-9623

Cloverdale Catholic School: 17511 - 59th Avenue, Surrey, B.C., Canada V3S 1P3

February 17, 1997

Dear Members of Precious Blood Parish:

The year 1997 marks the first of three official years preparing us for the Great Jubilee of 2000. It is also the year for the opening of our new Parish Centre, and the celebration of our own Jubilee -- the 50th Anniversary of Precious Blood Parish.

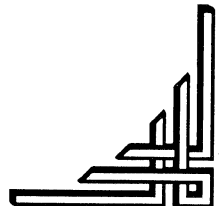
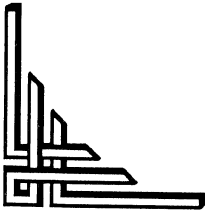
God's Providence has given us the Parish Centre as a way of marking our Parish Jubilee. The celebrations in our new Centre will anticipate the joy of the Great Jubilee. It was never planned to commemorate our Parish Jubilee through the construction of a Parish Centre, but how appropriate! What a wonderful gift of Providence!

This Parish Anniversary Book records some of the significant past events which led up to our Jubilee. Senior parishioners will savour the memories this book brings them. New parishioners will better understand the personality of Precious Blood Parish through reading of its past.

This book presents the Faith Life of parishioners from the stable and conservative times of the 1940's and 50's through the changing decades of the 1960's and 70's, and into our more recent era of the 80's and 90's when we are being blessed with a return to somewhat more traditional values. May this book be a source of blessing, strength, and reassurance to all who read it.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. John Tritschler  
Pastor, Precious Blood Parish





MARIA SONDERGAARD (l.), Stan Kazun, Maureen MacKinnon, Theresa LaFurnus and Robert De Julius, principal. Back row, Father Paul Foran, pastor of Immaculate Conception, Delta and Father Joseph Cuddy who will give direction to the building program and the religion program.

## New high school staff meet

The first staff meeting of the faculty of Holy Cross High School was held on Thursday, July 13 in the former Saint Angela Academy, 8843 - 119th Street, Delta, where the new school will open this September.

When the temporary home of Holy Cross opens its doors at Saint Angela's this fall, it will

only be for the grade eight students from the six regional parishes in the Delta, Surrey and Langley municipalities.

At present, contractors are preparing bids for the new high school, to be located at 88th Avenue and 162 Street, the permanent site for Holy Cross. Construction should begin very

soon, and the building is scheduled for completion next spring.

Holy Cross will eventually accommodate 500 students from grades eight to 12.

Funding for the project is being provided proportionately by the six regional parishes and by Project ADVANCE.



## Holy Cross Regional High School

16193 - 88th Avenue  
Surrey, B.C.  
V4N 1G3  
Telephone: 581-3023  
Fax: 583-4795

Dear Father Tritschler and Precious Blood Parishioners,

On behalf of the Holy Cross Regional High School community I would like to extend our warmest congratulations on the occasion of the parish's Fiftieth Anniversary. Serving the needs of the Catholic people of Cloverdale for this amount of time is certainly something of which to be proud.

In the fifteen years Holy Cross has existed the relationship, with Precious Blood Parish, has been one of total co-operation. I shall never forget the very first time I talked about Holy Cross at Precious Blood parish. The feeling of acceptance and of willingness to help with the school that was conveyed to me that night, from your parish, is something I shall never forget. Over the years the students from your school have displayed this same spirit both in there classroom endeavours and in all other areas of school life.

Once again, congratulations. May God continue to bless your efforts for the parish in the years to come.

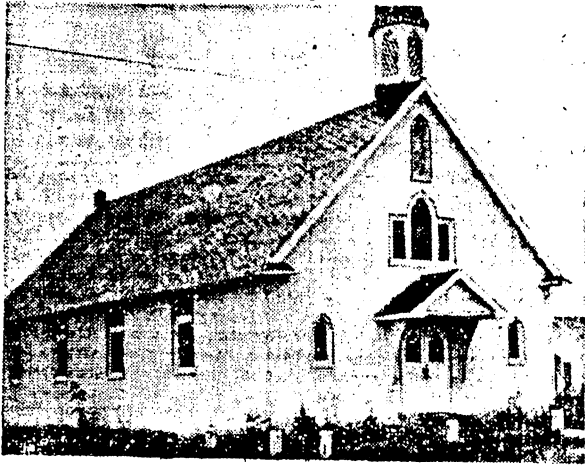
*R. DeJulius*  
R. DeJulius  
Principal





# The Old

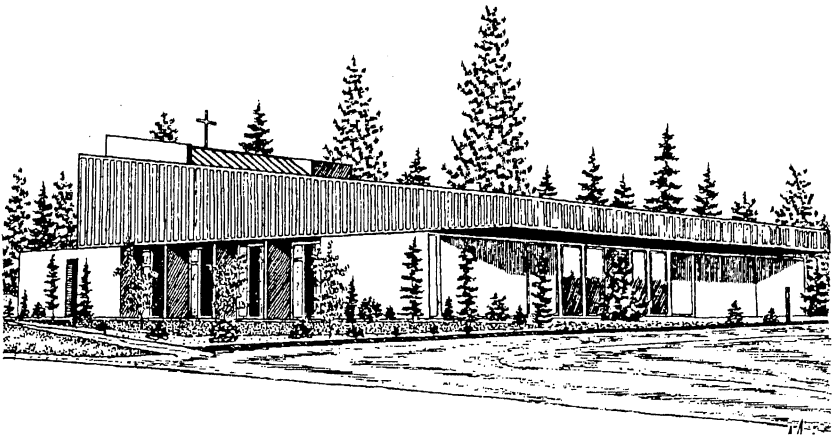
British Columbia Catholic Souvenir Edition, Oct. 4, 1953



Precious Blood Church, Cloverdale

*and*

# The New





# *A History of the Church of the Precious Blood*

The history of any Catholic Church in Surrey goes way back to the middle of the 19th Century when the Oblates of Mary Immaculate provided the only Catholic presence in the whole of British Columbia. The Order had a house in New Westminster from where missionary priests established a small church on the Semiahmoo Indian Reserve at White Rock. This building was in use in 1860, as mentioned by Margaret Lang in her book, *Along the Way* (1961). Later on, the Oblates operated a residential school for the federal government at Mission on the north bank of the Fraser River where they also built a house, a sisters' convent and a Marian Grotto.

At the urging of the Lavoie and the Ryan families, Archbishop William M. Duke, a cousin of the Ryans and recently arrived from New Brunswick, asked Father Alex Madden, O.M.I., a retired army chaplain and, at the time, standing in for Father Kennedy, who was vacationing in his native Ireland, to make a census of the Catholics in the greater Cloverdale area. Father Madden either did not drive or didn't have access to a car. In any event, he walked every day all summer long. He listed all of the Catholics he could find with the help of those already known to him. Usually someone would give him supper and drive him back to Langley, but he walked from Aldergrove to Newton, Sunnyside to Port Kells. His census indicated to the Bishop

that a new parish should be established. A quote from the pen of the late Stan McKinnon, who was the editor and publisher of the Surrey Leader from 1945 until 1979 read:

"One afternoon in September, 1947, I was called to the front desk of the Surrey Leader in Cloverdale. Our clerk told me there was a man who wanted to see me. "I am your new priest, Patrick O'Sullivan," said the big young man on the other side of the counter. "Oh, they have moved Father Kennedy?" I asked as I led the big untraditionally dressed priest up to my office.

"No," he said. "Cloverdale is being set up as a separate parish." I was not accustomed to seeing a priest on pastoral business wearing a crumpled T-shirt and running shoes; this just did not fit the picture, but I certainly was happy with the enthusiasm that Father Pat was showing."

†††††

# *Historical Beginnings*

The Lavoie family owned three lots at the southeast corner of 57th Avenue and 176A Street. Marie Louise Lavoie had a large group of young ladies (and some boys) to whom she taught Scottish, ballet dancing, and acrobatics. She had a small building erected which contained a studio, bedroom (changing area), kitchen and bathroom.

The family donated the two western lots to the parish when it was formed in 1947, so that a church could be built. The following year, the church with an adjacent parking lot was completed.

Marie Louise moved out of her studio to allow Father Pat to use it as a parish office and rectory, and took her classes to the Liberal Hall in Cloverdale, paying the rent but collecting none from her studio. Some two or three years later, she gave the rectory property to the parish as an outright gift.

Sometime after the parents had passed away, their son, Charles, sold the family farm and lived with his sisters in a house in Cloverdale. After his and George's deaths, whatever estate remained went to the two remaining sisters. Marie Ann spent several years in Langley extended care and died leaving the estate to Marie Louise, who bequeathed the majority of the combined Lavoie estate to Precious Blood Parish.

The present parish community centre is being built, in large part, from this bequest.

†††††

# The Lavoie Family

Arsene Lavoie ( ? - June 23, 1948) was moved from St. Jean au Bic, Quebec and Audelie Constonquay (1871 - May 26, 1966) came from Ste. Heline de Kamrouraska. They married April 23, 1894 in Ste. Heline de Kamrouraska and lived in Ste. Angele de Mericie for several years. In 1901, they settled in St. Adolphe, Manitoba. From there, they moved to Beatrice Street, Vancouver, December 5, 1910, where they resided until 1920.

Arsene joined the Canadian Army on February 8, 1916. The family moved to the Cloverdale area in March, 1920. On November 3, 1924, they moved to a new home in the East Kensington district.

Arsene and Audelie raised four children: Marie Ann (March 5, 1897 - November 5, 1987) who was an accountant; Joseph Charles (April 9, 1899 - June 10, 1981) who farmed the home property; Father Joseph George O.M.I. (March 3, 1902 - December 26, 1983); and Marie Louise (January 14, 1904 - April 28, 1993), a dance teacher.

†††††



# *First Mass and Wedding*

The first Mass was celebrated on October 14, 1947, in the old Liberal Hall, with 128 adults and 28 children in attendance, according to an entry in the daily diary of Mrs. A. Lavoie.

The name chosen by Fr. O'Sullivan for the new parish was Precious Blood. During his first years, Father Pat served a dual role as both pastor and as chaplain for the federal penitentiary at New Westminster. Parts of White Rock and Langley were included within the boundaries of Cloverdale, just as later, new parishes would shorten the area of Cloverdale within a very few years. When these parishes were formed, many families were split up, with adult children going to one parish while their parents attended the newer church in the area, and some feelings of support were lost within families.

The first mention of Precious Blood parish was an ad in the B.C. Catholic announcing Mass at 10:00 a.m., December 31st, 1948. A decision was made to build a church following the realization of \$43,000.00 in a fundraising drive for the new building. All contractors approached were \$5,000.00 or more over the amount that the building committee felt the parish could manage. With Bill O'Brien as chair and Father Pat as supervising coordinator, a Bank of Montreal loan of \$7,000.00 and a host of volunteers, the church was completed in a period of two months. Alex Inanauskus, a parishioner who had a small one man sawmill in the Newton area, donated all the framing lumber that he cut from his

trees in his mill. He loaned his truck to Father Pat to haul the material to the building site. This job proved to be a most difficult one as the truck had no brakes, but the material arrived safely with each load. The donations of labour and material was estimated to be in excess of \$5,000.00.

The first wedding in the new church was between Norman Swank and Muriel Murphy August 14, 1948. Theresa Waters and Mel Nelson were also among the first married in this church. The last couple to be married was Elsie Lepine and Joseph Bevan.

The first baptism in Precious Blood Parish was Michael Neil.

Mr. Joe Lepine brought topsoil from his farm on 184th Street to spread around the church to prepare the grounds for grass and flowers, and Mr. Art Vander Zalm landscaped around the buildings.

†††††



# *Early Builders of the Church*

Sylvester Francis McIntee was born on March 30, 1906 in Ayton, Ontario. He was the youngest of fifteen children. After his father passed away in 1923, his mother moved the family to Pincher Creek, Alberta, where he worked on the farm; then learning the carpenter trade, he helped build the Prince of Whales Hotel at Waterton Lakes.

Work was hard to find so he then moved to Kimberley where he built many homes. In 1941, he moved to Victoria where he worked as a shipwright in the Victoria Machinery Depot, building ships until he was drafted into the Armed Services. He spent two and a half years as a Chief Petty Officer in the Royal Canadian Navy on the East Coast.

Settling in Surrey after the war, he built many homes, schools and churches, including the first Roman Catholic Church in Cloverdale, which is now the Elks Hall. He travelled to North Vancouver, to the west, and east as far as Clearbrook, picking up work wherever he could find it. The work was hard so he decided to go into turkey farming.

In 1969, he sold the farm and retired to their present home, where his wife still resides. He is survived by his loving wife, three daughters, Mrs. Elaine Cook and husband Bill, Mrs. Marilyn McCrae and husband Jim, and Mrs. Darlene Waggett and her husband Charlie, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Sylvester McIntee also organized the grass roots of the Social Credit Party in British Columbia in the 1940's and early 1950's. Much credit must be given to those members of the parish who were active in the building of the new church. Among these were Ben Gobin and his sons, Alex Ivanauskus, Harry Vandrishe, Adam Nash, the Belcourts, the Ryans, the Frunos, the McKinnons, the Sullivans and others.

†††††



A 3-classroom addition is going on Cloverdale Catholic School, on 59th Avenue. The school has an enrolment of 180

pupils. The addition will provide space for a much larger library, new office, and a multi-purpose resource room.



For these lads, this will always be "their" school. The Grade 6 and 7 boys helped strip the forms, and

salvage the lumber. From left to right are Andrew de Groot, Joseph Legault, Ian McKinnon, Réal

Mabussier, Howard Sandrell, Ricky Johnson, Sean O'Brien.

# *Early Builders - Profile of an Early Christian*

In the mid-1920's, Gerhard Schulz left Germany as a pharmacist lured by the call of the Canadian West. His travels brought him to eastern Canada from where he boarded a train heading west. Upon his arrival in Vancouver, he met Marie Oeser, married and raised seven children. It was also at the time of his arrival that he converted to Catholicism and started his lifetime dedication of helping the church which began with the construction of Richmond's St. Paul's Church where he volunteered many hours constructing pews, altars, etc.

In the early 1970's, they sold their home and moved to Cloverdale where they again became involved in church expansions by building the present pews and altars for the newly constructed Precious Blood Church. Not having the luxury of the room he enjoyed in his previous residence, Gerhard constructed all of these pews within the confines of a single car garage that housed not only the building lumber, but also his collection of tools. Due to the space restrictions, he would mill enough pieces to construct five pews, then haul the unassembled pieces into the church hall, where he would assemble and finish them, then start the cycle all over again.

On many occasions, we would visit our parents only to find

Dad with the garage door up, saw horses in the driveway, and lumber spread all over. At times, tarps could be found draped from the eaves of the house, tied to their motorhome and car in efforts to create an expanded workshop when it rained. As this work took months to complete, we sometimes wondered how the Parish had the patience to wait.

†††††



# *Parish Liturgy: The Sunday Mass*

In today's world, it is so encouraging to see people stream into the parking lot on Sunday morning. Signs of welcome and hospitality to the church are evident. Altar servers have already lit the candles, flooded the church with the lights, and placed the bread, wine and water on the Gifts Table. The servers show the congregation that all is prepared, all is ready for the Eucharist. Greets smile and chat as families arrive and settle into a pew. One by one small groups of parishioners come through the front door. Each is acknowledged and made to feel part of the great body of believers.

The musicians heighten the feeling of celebrating as they escort the procession of priest, servers and readers with the congregation gleefully singing the Entrance Hymn. God's people join together in thanking, petitioning and praising God through song.

The Word of God is given a focus through the banners which hang in the sanctuary behind the altar. These eye-catching banners are the subject of meditation, even to the point of distracting one from the Action taking place at the altar or pulpit.

But distractions give way to the Readings as the Lector proclaims the Holy Word of God. This Word has a built-in power to change the hearts of those who hear. In the hearts of all, God's Grace begins to stir and good resolutions

abound as human pride is brushed aside by the energizing passages from the Old and New Testaments.

The pastor's homily reinforces the conversion of heart already begun by the Readings. The Word of God tenderizes the spirit of all as these human hearts are called to join the heart of Christ Himself. The priest draws people to the altar of sacrifice as the Holy Spirit speaks to the heart of each parishioner to break away from the clutches of indifference, injustice and selfishness. The gifts of bread and wine are proudly processed by the young and elderly to the altar. These simple gifts of food and drink are now transformed by the power of God called forth by the priest. Jesus is offered again to His Father. His Body, His Blood, His Sacrifice is re-presented by the priest, called to offer this Sacrifice for himself and his people. And into the living sacrifice, the priest and people unite their own sacrifice.

Now having purified oneself of whatever was needed to be cast away from one's life, each person advances to receive Holy Communion. The priest and eucharistic ministers sense the grandeur of being able to feed their fellow parishioners with the Bread of Life given to strengthen each person's resolve to live a more committed Christian Life.

And then we recess, fortified with Jesus' Word, Sacrifice and Communion. No wonder recessional hymns are so lively. We do have reason to Celebrate!

†††††

# *Precious Blood*

## *Catholic Women's League*

The women of the parish of the Precious Blood, Cloverdale, organized as a group with no society or organization, but with the intention of applying for a charter as a subdivision of the C.W.L. They organized as a group November 5, 1947, and held meetings once a month. On June 2, 1949 they applied to National C.W.L. for the Precious Blood Charter at the request and with the approval of their pastor, Father O'Sullivan.

The C.W.L. Charter was issued July 4, 1949. The Executive included the names below:

President.....Mme. Sophie Gobin  
Vice President.....Mrs. Mary Fisher  
Secretary .....Mme. Cedelie Tellier  
Treasurer .....Mrs. Cecile McKinnon



40 years in CWL!  
Mrs. Armstrong  
Mrs. Fruno  
Mrs. Marron

At this time enrollment consisted of sixty members and membership dues were twelve dollars. Later the C.W.L. Parish Council lapsed and two Circles were formed. One

was St. Patrick's Circle and the other St. Theresa's Circle.

On March 4, 1969, the parish decided to re-organize the C.W.L. which had been inactive for a number of years. The following are the names of the new Executive:

Spiritual Advisor .....	Father Neil Carrigan
President .....	Mrs. Rose Woshtock
1st Vice President .....	Mrs. Caroline Loxterkamp
2nd Vice President .....	Mrs. I. Johnson
Treasurer .....	Miss M.A. Lavoie
Recording Secretary .....	Mrs. Lucille Forbes
Corresponding Secretary .....	Mrs. Noreen Gregory

The Catholic Women's League consists of four levels - National, Provincial, Diocesan and Parish Council. The C.W.L. Mottos is "For God and Country".

At Parish level there are eight Standing Committee Convenerships - Spiritual Development, Organization, Christian Family Life, Community Life, Education, Communication, Resolutions and Legislation. At the Parish level there is a liaison and cooperation with the Parish Pastoral Council plus Parish Assistance.

C.W.L. contributions as a group, to the parish and the community are as follows: serve as Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors, and provide an Honor Guard at the Masses for our deceased members and co-host with St. Theresa's Circle for funeral receptions, support the Coady Institute, Save the Children's Fund. The C.W.L. has participated in Ecumenical Hunger Suppers, Ecumenical Bible Studies, Ten days Peace and Development, World Day of Prayer and Ecumenical Fun Nights.

As well as facilitating spiritual needs, the social benefits for the women of the parish include - participating in fundraising



activities which provide for specific needs in the parish - for example, dishes and kitchen utensils for the rectory and school, and the organ which is in our church today, sponsoring various parish suppers - turkey, spaghetti, and potluck, as well as bake sales and annual parish bazaars, making sandwiches on a monthly basis for the poor on Cordova Street, providing strawberry shortcake on Corpus Christi Sunday, holding an annual Communion Breakfast, and coordinating the yearly "Visit with St. Nicholas".

A very proud moment in our history was in 1984, when one of our members presented a Resolution on "safety restraints in cars" for children under six years. This resolution was approved at the



Fun in the kitchen!  
Linda Hurtubise & Jenny Boguski

C.W.L. Provincial and National levels and forwarded to the Canadian Parliament for approval.

We are thankful for the opportunity to serve our God and our Country, and we welcome the women of our parish to join us and our new executive for 1997 - 1998.

Spiritual Advisor .....	Father John Tritschler
President .....	Mrs. Deirdre O'Ruairc
President Elect .....	Mrs. Debbie Rasmussen
1st Vice President .....	Mrs. Karen Pehlke
Recording Secretary .....	Mrs. Bernadette Leclair
Treasurer .....	Mrs. Marie Smith

Our present membership is 79. Our yearly memberships are \$12.00.



**October, 1987 - 25 Year Pin Recipients**

Pat Cochrane, Madeline Folk, Aurore Brulotte, Vicki Knowles, Frances Verheul, Nan McKay  
Sr. Hyacinth, Mary Bruch, Caroline Loxterkamp, Mary Fisher, Eleanore Junk, Laura Grantham,  
Velma Cronin, Ria Makarenko

**1989 Service Pins**

Mary Fisher  
Madeline Folk  
Janet Tracy  
Isabel Johnson  
Margaret Van Eden  
Stella Mumford  
Marian Williams  
Maria O'Donnell



**April, 1997**

President Deirdre  
O'Ruairc with five Past  
Presidents:

Maria O'Donnell  
Caroline Loxterkamp  
Linda Hurtubise  
Jean Berg  
Wendy Daffe



# *St. Theresa's and St. Patrick's Circles*

After Cloverdale Catholic opened, Father Pat O'Sullivan founded St. Theresa's and St. Patrick's Circles. The St. Pat's group was formed to cater meals both inside and outside the parish. After many successful years, the Boundary Health Unit in the area would not allow the catering of meals outside our parish so the circle was discontinued.

St. Theresa's circle was to care for the altar, provide clean linens and fresh flowers for the Masses and special occasions. For many years, Margaret van Eden has obtained and beautifully arranged the flowers.

In November, 1987, Margaret suggested a statue of Mary be placed outdoors between the church and rectory. Adam Christiaanse donated the statue. On August 15, 1988, the Marian Shrine was erected in the garden in front of the church and the Circle paid



for the costs involved. The statues of Mary and St. Bernadette have been repainted this year.

The Circle also shares the duties of providing food and beverages for mourners at parish funerals. Originally, they provided the baking, then the Catholic Women's League agreed to share the task by providing the sandwiches. Families and friends are invited to the "wake" provided by the groups and have a warm gathering place to meet and share the funeral and burial.

Each year, St. Theresa's hosts a very popular and well-attended fashion show as one of their fund-raisers. Ella's from Brookwood has provided the fashions and some models for many of the shows but many of the other models are the children and grandchildren of Circle members.



Fashion Show Organisers

Penny Sharbinin, Mary Hamilton, Trudy Desjardine, Kathy Larsen, Ella Little & Ria Makarenko (coordinator)





St. Theresa's Circle  
Preparing food for the Annual Fashion Show  
Mildred Gallaher, Wilhelmina Janssens, Beth Van Leeuwen



Setting up the clothes for the show  
Bob and Ella Little from ELLA'S

# *Choir*

For a time in the mid-70's, there wasn't a regular choir. People like Charles Tellier, George Newman and Earl Caughlan sang solo at the different Masses without an organist. Bob Peever, Jr. played the guitar on a few occasions. Bob was likely the first guitarist in Precious Blood Parish.

Finally, toward the end of the 70's, the parish was most fortunate to have Jeanette Tracey take over as organist and choir leader. In a short time, she had organized a choir of eight or ten good singers including herself. One choir member in particular was Vicky Knowles who was still singing at the age of ninety plus.

Ted King was one of the first men to direct the choir. Mrs. Poynier was the first organist, followed by Charlotte Horne, who later became a Catholic and led the choir for years. Carola Moka, Mary and Cecilia McKay, Jeanette Cowhiq, Mrs. Tracey, Agnes and Lynda Tamis, Angela Gabriel and Rebecca Andrews followed and fill the church with music and song.

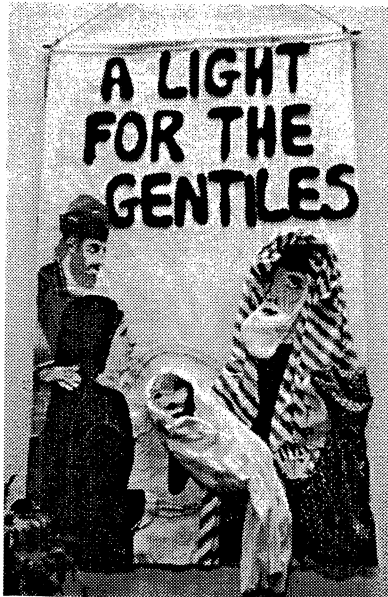
Chris Morrissey backs up the organ with guitar and is integrating Holy Cross High School's band members into the music ministry.

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# Funeral Choir

The funeral choir is a dedicated group of people, with a membership of ten to twelve. It was inaugurated by Marilyn Fruno, who was the first funeral choir organist. The choir originally had fourteen members, circa 1970, who sang at all funerals when requested by the deceased's family. Members include: Betty Davies, Margaret van Eden, Jeanette McKinnon, Louise Mahussier, Sophie Tamis (new parish), Sophie Uytdehaag (new parish), Bernice Polhkamp (new parish), Ria Makarenko, Rita Nootebos, Isabel Johnson, Cory Van Tunen, Thelma Verhoven, Dot Nash, and Phyllis Roussy (deceased).

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# *Legion of Mary*

In the early 1950's, Eileen Palmer came to Precious Blood Parish from Vancouver with her husband and young family. She started the Legion of Mary and Auxiliary Members. We met weekly, visited the sick and participated in the first census for the parish of Precious Blood, going in pairs from door to door. Legion of Mary members included Virginia Marron, Ellen Tracy, Pete and Rose Mary Hanlon, Jeannie Sullivan and Caroline Loxterkamp.

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# *Altar Boys*

From 1955 to 1957, Joseph Legault would arrive each Saturday morning to teach the Latin prayers to the altar boys. Some of the first boys to serve Mass were the Trottier brothers and the two Bergeon brothers. Mr. Legault was a young man at the time and also volunteered to drive the bus all over the area to pick up young people and bring them to the church and hall for the Catholic Youth Organization, then take everyone back to their homes. He and his sisters, Marie and Blanch, were active members of the C.Y.O. from 1955 to 1957.

1996 saw the first girls on the altar serving Mass.

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1996 Walk-A-Thon with Mrs. Nicole Regush (teacher)

# Fun & Fund Raisers

In 1947, when Archbishop Duke announced he had appointed Father P. O'Sullivan to form a new parish in Cloverdale, about fifty families welcomed the news with much enthusiasm. The men donated their time and muscle and their wives gave their time and talents in work bees. Much credit is due to these early pioneer ladies, many of whom are no longer with us. Many hours were spent preparing for bazaars, sewing hundreds of aprons, embroidering tea cloths and pillow cases which were all big sellers in this era. Some bazaars were two day affairs that ended with a big raffle and turkey dinner. These were real social affairs - the kind of hard work and fun that makes you feel good as well as tired.



1996 Bazaar  
Eleanora Kennedy greets the Hartwell family

We had a lot of afternoon teas and had to bring our own tea sets and we saw the guests arriving in their pretty hats and white gloves.

Two big money makers were a booth at the Rodeo in the Spring and at the Fall Fair, which served hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. These were three day affairs and as the grounds were not paved, when it rained we worked in mud almost up to our ankles. Occasionally, some mothers brought their children and one youngster was scalded with

some hot coffee and was sent to the general hospital to be treated and recover.

Talent shows were fun to organize and were enjoyed by contestants with some "Budding Elvis" and hula dancers, as well as accordion selections and songs. New Year dinner and box socials were held regularly, some in the community hall.

Other fundraisers included whist drives, talent dollars, thrift store, bake sales at Sears (Burnaby) and strawberry socials. Every March with the Anglican and United Churches of the area, we participate in the World Day of Prayer, and donations are sent to the poor countries. We serve lunch and meet our non-Catholic friends. For years, with the same churches, we shared a "Hunger Supper" of bread and sardines and water, with proceeds split; ours going to peace and development.

An annual June Fun Night for the ladies of the same churches is strictly a social with no collections. Precious Blood parishioners, C.W.L. and St. Theresa's Circle all have skits, dances, or recitations, and we have formed real friendships with our non-Catholic church friends over the years.

It's been a lot of hard work and sacrifice but belonging to our Family of Faith makes it all worthwhile.



During Ecumenical  
Fun Night - June,  
1996, C.W.L.  
Members demonstrate  
rhythmical talents  
doing "La Cucaracha".  
Marcella McReavy,  
Maria Costa,  
Deirdre O'Ruairc,  
Karen Pehlke

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# Parish Council

In the early 1960's, Dr. Robert Fleming was Chairman of the Parish Council and his wife, Ann, was secretary. He recalls being involved with a "fundraising" drive during Father Carrigan's first years in the parish. He called on an older lady, who stoically listened to his request for a donation. When there was no response, he proceeded by saying that some church members were pledging \$5.00 or \$10.00 a month, or a lump sum of money. He then asked what donation she'd be able to give, to which came the reply, "Ten." "Oh," he said. "Ten is very generous! So I'll put you down for \$10.00 a month?" "Oh, no!" she replied, "ten cents!"

Some thoughts from Christopher Erickson, 1997 Chairman:

*I knew there was something special about this Parish from my first Mass here in 1990. I moved here with Karla when our first two children were just babies. We found a home at Precious Blood Parish.*

*The kindness here led me to help out on Parish Council where I realized how much work goes on behind our church doors. Parish Council centers on the spiritual needs of our people as we are here to do the work of the Lord. This is a good place to serve my fellow parishioners and learn from the experience.*

*I appreciate the time and effort contributed by our many volunteers and I thank the parishioners for allowing me to serve. I have grown in spirit with the help of our wonderful Parish community.*

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# *Collection Counters*

When the parish was established, Father Pat counted each Sunday collection himself. Later, Jean Sullivan took the money home and counted it. There were no bank deposit facilities in those days. Soon, Jim Sullivan was involved, along with Tony Junk, George Newman, Mike Williams and by the time George left, Mel Nelson was helping in the late 1960's.

Many others helped as well: Frank and Stan McKinnon, Gene O'Sullivan, Joe Pasloski Sr., Father Steele, Margaret Brice, Marilyn Cole, Rose Onusko, Vince Hannah, Marie Rieprich, Fred Maceda and his wife. The envelopes were put in numerical order and the contents entered in the church ledger. Often, the counters were busy until 2:00 p.m. on many Sundays before everything had been entered. Now we have a computer.

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# Bingo

Our bingo was originally known as the "Four Leaf Clover Club" run by the Knights of Columbus in the old Liberal Hall in Cloverdale. The school received seventy-five percent of the proceeds and the Knights of Columbus received twenty-five percent for their charitable funds and building projects. In 1968 or thereabouts, bingo was moved to the community centre and was run by the parish, with the total money going to the school. Some three hundred people attended every Tuesday night. As attendance numbers decreased, it was moved once again back to our parish hall on June 5th, 1990.

With the arrival of a new parish priest, Father John Tritschler, who didn't agree with gambling, the whole question of having bingo was re-examined. Bingo was stopped altogether on December 17, 1997 because of declining patrons. On the final night, Betty Davies



was in the kitchen, as usual, serving up her delicious hamburgers to the thirty-five regulars, whose orders and likes she knew off by heart. The CARRYOVER prize was won on fewer than fifty-five numbers, and the regular bingo workers were both happy and saddened to be closing and saying good-bye.

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# *Parish Secretarial Report*

The first Parish Bulletin was typed by Dorothy O'Sullivan who kept a copy of every one she did beginning in the 1960's. These are now in our archives. Next to take over secretarial duties was Ria Makarenko who held the position until our current secretary, Maria O'Donnell, began.

## **Some thoughts from Maria O'Donnell:**

*I began my employment as Parish secretary/bookkeeper at Precious Blood on September 1, 1988. A computer had been purchased in September, 1987. In November, 1988 a program called "Parish Data Systems" developed specifically for Catholic Parish use, was purchased. A full parish census followed, after which information obtained was entered onto the computer in 1989, and were able to record Sunday envelope donations, print a full parish list, print income tax receipts, and obtain statistical reports from the computer.*

*In February, 1991, we began to use the "AccPac" general ledger accounting program, which also generated monthly financial reports. Fred Maceda was instrumental in researching computer hardware and software, installing programs, and developing a "custom-built" financial statement. When we began to use the AccPac program, Evelyn Paz spent many long hours setting it up for our parish needs and did all of the initial data entry. She was also very generous with her time whenever we called on her for help or advice.*

*With Fred Maceda's assistance we upgraded our computer hardware in June, 1992. We purchased the "Word Perfect"*

*program in 1992 and produced our first bulletin on computer for the weekend of July 4/5, 1992!*

*Since the rectory was built as a residence, no allowance of space had been made for office use. Office equipment and supplies therefore occupied various locations throughout the house. In the Spring of 1996, following Msgr. Brown's retirement, our temporary administrator, Fr. Mark Hagemoen, met with several members of the Knights of Columbus and discussed ideas for renovating the rectory to move all office equipment and supplies to the front area of the house for efficiency, security, and to create private living quarters for the priest(s).*

*A wall in one of the front offices was replaced by a counter and an office area, file and equipment room, and storage area were created for the secretary. The other front office was soundproofed to be used as a pastor's office or consultation room. The glass doors and windows of the main meeting room were replaced with solid walls, and a dining room area was also created. An intercom system was installed at the front door, with a door lock release, providing more security for the staff, especially during those times when the pastor is not in the house.*

*On a more personal note, being a parish secretary is a very challenging and rewarding vocation! Challenging because one never knows what the next phone call or person at the door may require, so we pray for the gift of flexibility. We also have a good supply of note paper on hand to keep track when several things are happening at the same time! Rewarding because of the privilege of working with and for so many wonderful, generous people, and the pleasure of meeting people, either over the phone or at the door. I'm grateful for the experience of working for the Lord in this capacity.*

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# *Vocations: Seminarians from Precious Blood Parish*

Over the years, Cloverdale has sent many young men to study for the priesthood. In 1942, before the parish was established, one of these men, Father Gordon McKinnon, was ordained. Others, whose families were in the parish, have gone to the seminary to discern their vocations and to explore the possibility of the priesthood. They have gone because they not only recognized a need for priests, but they also felt a desire to serve the Church.

The Seminary of Christ the King, entrusted to the Benedictine monks, is where these men went to study. Every morning, they rose at 5:30 a.m. for Mass, had breakfast and went to class until noon. At this time, they joined the monks in chanting mid-day prayer, had their lunch, and were back in class by 1:30 p.m. They learned, among other things, to read Latin and understand the writings of Aristotle. At 3:30 p.m. the bell rang and school was over. Twice a week, rain or shine, they played soccer, hockey, or some other sport. After this, they went back to their rooms and studied until it was time once again for prayer and dinner. After dinner, there was a short period of time for recreation, followed by evening prayer in the chapel.

Before retiring for the evening, they would spend more time in their rooms studying and preparing for the next day.

Moreover, once a week each seminarian went out to teach catechism, tutor prisoners, visit the sick, or engage in some other form of apostolic work. It was a busy schedule that they followed, but one which the monks hoped would foster a sense of community as well as prepare them academically for the challenges that lay ahead of them.

Currently, one boy from our parish is studying at the seminary in grade eight. It is the hope of the parish that the example of the dedicated priests who have served here and that the prayers of the parishioners will be answered - that Cloverdale will continue to send young men and boys to study for the priesthood and that one day it will be able to boast not one but several such vocations.

### **Seminary attendees over the years:**

Morris Blouin  
David Feldhouse  
Frank Nootebos  
Chris Hanlon  
Andrew Stilwell (presently attending)

Denis Fehr  
Kenneth Beatch  
Pat Bradley  
Bradley Berg

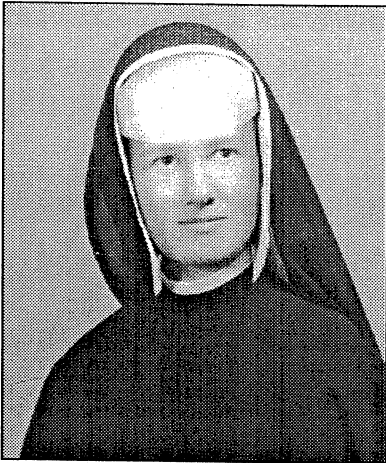


# *Sisters*

Precious Blood Parish has had three young women receive their final vows as nuns, two of whom were sisters.



Sister Patricia Donovan



Sister Margaret Sullivan



Sister Eva Mary Sullivan

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*Letter from Gino Aloisio,  
St. Peters Seminary, London, Ontario*

Gino spent several months with us during the 1996 spring and summer observing and participating in parish life away from his seminary home. This is his second letter to us after his return to the seminary in the fall. He is giving us a unique view from inside the seminary so we can have a better understanding how young men feel and experience seminary life while preparing to be a Catholic priest.

His letter to us is dated December 12, 1996:

*"It's great to say Hello once again! I hope all of you are having a marvelous time at Cloverdale Catholic School and Precious Blood Parish. Again, I hope this Advent has been a fruitful time preparing for the coming of Our Lord at Christmas. I have been very busy since classes ended on the 4th of December. Most of my time has been spent preparing for exams and putting the finishing touches on all my papers, essays, and projects that had to be handed in on the 13th of December.*

*My room at the Seminary for the past two months has been covered with books and research materials and I have spent many long hours on my computer. Part of my problem is that I never learned to type properly and consequently, it takes me forever to prepare all my work by pecking with two fingers on a keyboard. Nevertheless, I compiled a history on Catholic teaching concerning Marriage from Pope Pius XI to our present Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. I studied important questions concerning immigration and Canada. I did some work on the Trinity and how our understanding of*

*the Trinity has developed over the centuries. I wrote a paper looking at the importance of having a proper definition of the word "sacrament" so that we might better understand the particular sacraments of Holy Orders and the Eucharist. I had to be familiar with all the social teaching of the Church from Pope Leo XIII to John Paul II. My school work is very important because as a priest, I'm well aware of the fact that I will have to be a faithful teacher of our Catholic faith both towards my words and actions; and so, the seminary is a place to become fully immersed in the truths of the faith.*

*Along with my school work and seminary activities, I have continued to play indoor soccer and ice hockey. I think I enjoy sports just as much as my school work and if not more! Thanks be to God this semester has come to a happy end and I'm looking forward to coming home to Burnaby on the 14th of December. I'll spend my holidays with my parents and hopefully make a trip to Cloverdale before returning to the Seminary on the 6th of January, 1997, for my last semester of school before internship at a parish.*

*I would like to share with you one of the most significant things I learned this semester from my Trinity course. There is a wonderful relationship between who we are as created beings and children of God and the life of the Trinity. As we all know, the Trinity is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. There is great love between the Father and the Son and likewise between the Holy Spirit. We see this love in us and in our daily life. In many ways, I think that the most misunderstood tenant of the faith by secular society and the world has been the dignity of the human person. We have all been created in the image of God; and that means we have been created in the image of the Trinity. We reflect the Trinity and are we aware of this? We are created, we are redeemed, and we are sanctified. This action of salvation begins in God and we receive it. It is the gift of love. Yet it is an action that we are not only called to*

*receive but we are also called to imitate God's saving work. We are to love as God loves us. We are called to create with our talents, we are called to redeem with our care, and we are called to sanctify with our prayer. We are called to submerge our whole being into the life of God.*

*As Richard St. Victor, a great Catholic theologian, pointed out the Trinity can be understood by looking at our own relations. When we love each other and do works of charity towards others, we love as the Father loves the Son and as the Son loves the Father. Again, we can also see that the Church is an icon or an image of the Trinity. The Church is a communion of persons united in mind for salvation which is made known to us by our Head, which is Jesus Christ. We all want to go to Heaven and we do this together.*

*We have to also be aware that in all we do, we reflect the Trinity. With this understanding, we deepen the dignity of the human person and at the same time called to be considerate not only of our own dignity but the dignity of all people. I hope that all of you become faithful images of our living Father, Saviour, and gift giving Holy Spirit so that many people might see your example and choose to follow it in love.*

*Please continue to pray for me."*

*Yours truly, signed 'Eugenio Aloisio'*

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# *The Seniors*

Thanks to the initiative of Catholic charities, our desire to have a seniors' program came alive in the fall of 1989. The program, which was supported by Monsignor Brown, continues with secretarial work by Marilyn Ori. From Cloverdale, Star of the Sea parishioners led by Janet Joy, were invited to attend events with us to serve a broader Catholic community.

The plan was to offer all of the seniors and their friends and relatives in the parish a program that responded to their social and spiritual needs and expectations.

The result was a monthly pilgrimage of faith to places of spiritual importance, provided by Mr. Bill Quinville, our very pleasant and competent bus driver. The social aspect took place with every trip.

Our first trip was to the Abbey in Mission on September 26, 1989, with celebration of the Mass followed by beverages provided by guest master, Father Muarus. A visit to the Poor Clare's Convent nearby concluded the day. On the way, we prayed the rosary, and on our return, we had a sing-song, completing the day at 2:00 p.m. in time for the school bus run.

We visited most of the churches in the archdiocese and stay-at-home events included Christmas parties hosted by Perry McNeil, the Anointing of the Sick on St. Patrick's Day followed by a luncheon hosted by St. Theresa's Circle, retreats at Rosemary Heights, workshops with speakers on topics of interest to seniors, dances open to the parish with

a seniors live band, and a visit to a Jewish synagogue.

Summer outings are full day events and we take in places like Powell and Campbell River, Nanaimo and Squamish, and hope to include many more growth experiences in the upcoming year.



Bill Quinville would often take the  
Seniors on the School bus

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# *Parish Stewardship Appeal*

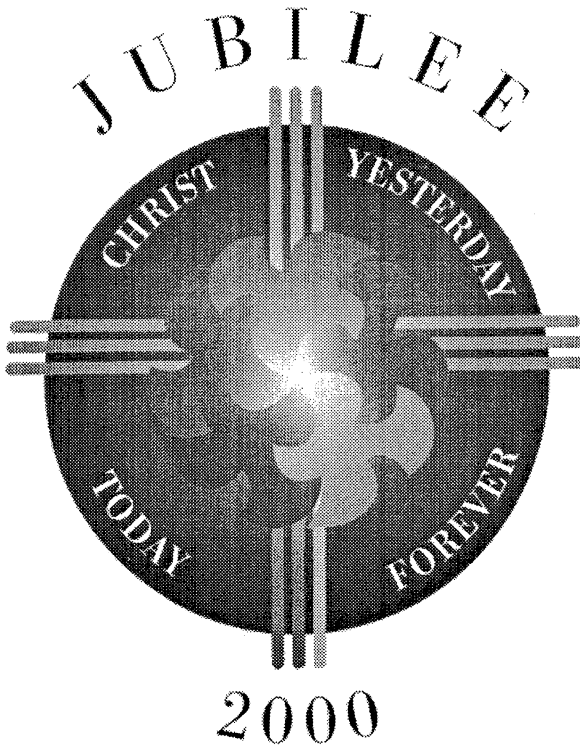
In the fall of 1996, a new venture was undertaken in our parish: the parish stewardship appeal. Following successful appeals in a half dozen other parishes of the Vancouver archdiocese, Precious Blood Parish invited its own parishioners to share more of their time, talent and treasure for parish life. There has been an enormous shift of peoples' time and talents from church life to other pursuits over the last three decades. To regain the time and talent people used to give to parish life is a slow process and the stewardship appeal is one more way of encouraging parishioners to think "parish first".

Prior to the appeal beginning, a complete parish census was undertaken. The census provided an accurate mailing list for the Pastor, Fr. John Tritschler, to send out material which explained and encouraged participation in the appeal which extended through October and November, 1996. The appeal for parishioners' time and talents will be an ongoing concern as the parish discovers what direction it should be taking in these changing times. God's guidance is much needed as people discern how to divide their time and talent so both the Church and society are well served.

The appeal for treasure showed more significant results. Parishioners know that giving substantially and sacrificially is required presently and for the near future as we work toward replacing our present parish elementary school, and construct a new regional Catholic high school.

The Year 2000 and the great jubilee celebration honouring Jesus as the one and only Saviour of Mankind is an occasion for greater sharing of time, talent and treasure. Our Catholic faith has been the occasion of giving hope to the illiterate, joy to the sorrowful, recovery to the sick, and victory to the sinner. For all of this to continue we require greater stewardship.

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# *Missionary Activity*

*by Shendak O'Neil*

In 1984, the year of both Ethiopian Famine and the Papal Visit to Canada, a girl stepped onto the Cloverdale Catholic School stage to give a winning public speech at these two major events. In 1985, the young girl's aunt passed away, and she again stepped onto the school stage, this time to tell how her aunt was a member of Victores Christi and volunteered for missionary work in Zaire, Africa for three years. Both of these public speeches that I presented in primary school were an essential building block in my journey to do missionary work in Mombasa, Kenya.

It was at the age of eleven that I first thought that "one day I would go to Africa and help the poor". I worked on this dream until it became a reality one afternoon in the Spring of 1994. I was flipping through a book about the countries of the world and came across Kenya. I was enthused by the stability of the country, yet the need they had for further development. I read about Mombassa and how seventy percent of the city was Muslim and consequently, the Catholic Church was in need of volunteer service. I contacted the Archdiocesan Education Secretariat of Mombasa and then sent a detailed letter along with some parish reference letters explaining my intentions.

While in Mombasa, Kenya, I taught at St. Theresa's Girls' Secondary School. I taught English to the equivalent of our grades nine through twelve. The education system was entirely in English. Although the students usually spoke the national language "Kiswahili" or their Native tongue, they could communicate quite well in English. Soon after my

arrival in Mombassa, Precious Blood sent me a number of English Mass Missalettes as all the masses I attended were in Kiswahili. These missalettes, along with copies of the B.C. Catholic, made my home in B.C. seem a little bit closer.

My days at school were long. I rose at 6:00 a.m. to begin my commute to school by travelling on public transportation called a "matatu". A matatu is a mini-van with one or two extra benches within to allow it to carry about twenty-five people. The school day went from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with six classes a day. From 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., the teachers led the students in either clubs, athletics or doctrine classes. At 5:00 p.m., wet from head to toe with perspiration, I would begin the trek back to my lodging. Many days I detoured by the Loretta Sisters' Elementary School to allow myself the luxury of a swim in their privately-funded school swimming pool. This was refreshing until, alas, the temperature rose so high that it became too warm to swim in an outdoor pool.

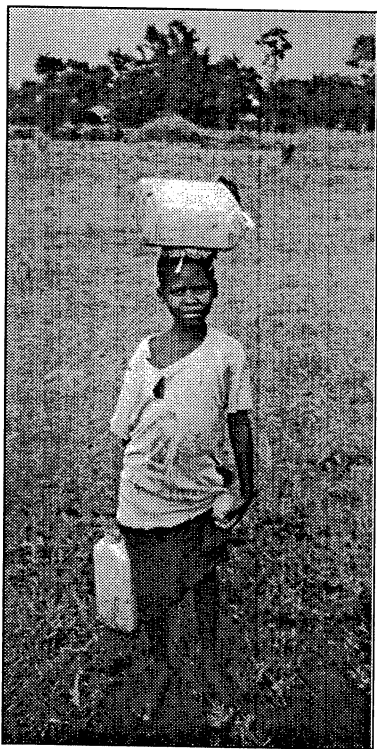
During the Christmas break, I travelled to the capital city of Nairobi in Central Kenya. While there, I visited the Sisters of St. Paul and spent a few days assisting them with an educative biology book that they were putting together for young mothers. I then continued further west to Kampala, Uganda and spent Christmas at the "New



Shendah in traditional Kikuyu dress

Hope Orphanage". Many children had lost their families during the Ugandan civil wars and it was a remarkable experience for me to spend this festive time of the year with them, witnessing how well they are able to adjust to life without their families.

Following my second semester at St. Theresa's Girls' school, I again travelled but this time to western Kenya in the company of Father John Okech. Also travelling with us were two Maltese missionaries, Brothers Vincent and Peter, who were both terrific characters. I had met both of them at the Archdiocese of Mombassa hostel where I resided. I had the opportunity to visit with Father Okech's family and to stay with his mother in their village home. Those three weeks allowed me an extensive tour of western Kenya through the eyes of a local resident.



Child carrying water

On weekend breaks during the school semesters, I was also fortunate to be able to visit other parishes throughout the coastal region. Some of these local parishes were isolated from western influences and are still maintaining their pagan practices. On one occasion, my bus arrived at the parish just as it began to rain. I was informed that the local community welcomed me as my arrival had brought good fortune for all.

A special person that I met during my visit was a young lad named Paul Odhiambo. He was the second child of a family of ten. I would see Paul serving daily morning Mass at the school church and discovered that he also assisted at the evening Mass. What dedication! If a youngster volunteered such time in Canada, many people would be willing to pay his way through the seminary. Unfortunately, the circumstances are not so in Kenya. However, thanks to

Precious Blood parish donations, Paul was able to attend a vocational trade school and as he proved his capabilities, he has now been accepted into the seminary.

There are many memories and stories I can share of my time in Kenya. The impressive ones are those of the baptisms by the hundreds and the catechism classes of seventy. The church continually grows in Kenya. As a generation of local Kenyan priests and religious increase, the Word of God will continue to spread rapidly even to the remotest parts of the country.



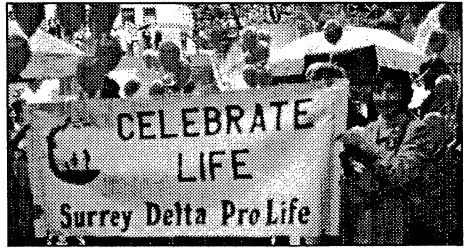
A gift of a chicken

I am thankful for my experiences and the moral support that I received from Precious Blood Parish members. Our parish now celebrating its fiftieth anniversary can look to Kenya. The Christianization of Africa did not come overnight, but as the seeds planted began to grow, fruit in abundance was and continues to be harvested. So too, with our parish, as those pioneers of fifty years ago planted great seeds, fruit in abundance has come forth from their harvest.

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# Precious Blood Parish Pro-Life Committee

The Precious Blood Parish Pro-Life Committee is mandated by Archbishop Adam Exner. This committee meets four times a year with the Director of



the Archdiocesan Respect Life office, Mr. Peter Ryan, and with the other parish leaders from the Fraser Valley South Deanery to discuss events and to plan for activities with the parish community. These can include Pro-Life Sunday,



Life Chain, special Masses and prayers, baby showers, membership drives for the local Pro-Life Society, to inviting speakers on chastity, abortion, euthanasia and youth. The telephone tree was instituted to request others to urgent prayer, to make phone calls and write letters to elected officials to affect impending legislation which would affect the sanctity of human life.

At present, the Parish Pro-Life Committee has eleven members and plans to meet on a more regular basis. We invite new workers into this vineyard; those who feel called to help needy mothers, to speak out politically, to volunteer at the Surrey-Delta Pro-Life office (computer experience welcome, but not necessary), and all those who can spend daily time in prayer.



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# *Prayer Group*

With the beginnings of the new stewardship program begun in our parish, a prayer group has been formed. It currently meets every Friday to pray for the needs of parishioners, as well as to pray for the increase in faith within the parish community as a whole. Intercessory prayer takes each member away from a "me-centered" attitude toward prayer. Each member prays daily for the needs of a group within our parish or for an individual who needs prayers for a special intention or emergency situation. Names are not submitted to the prayer group, only the situation that needs divine help or intercession. Many, many benefits can be obtained by having others pray for us, the extent of which we will never fully realize until we have passed into Heaven and are shown our lives and how others have been there to shape and influence us and to offer prayer and sacrifice for our spiritual and emotional growth.

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# *Couples Twelve Step Program*

Jack and Mabel Nichols moved from Burnaby to South Surrey in September, 1987, bringing with them their involvement from the start of the Retrouvaille Vancouver Program (1982). Retrouvaille is a process for couples in hurting, broken, separated or sometimes even divorced marriages, who are both individually, without any coercion, willing to try again to work at their marriage.

Msgr. Brown was becoming increasingly frustrated with the inability to send couples on the Retrouvaille program when one partner was unwilling to register. He continually conferred with the Team to try to allow these "half" registered couples to attend the program and the Team continually replied that the program would not work if coercion was involved. They were well aware of his frustration, as it was well-known how frustrated and helpless the Registration team felt when a process was started and there was still four or five half registrations unable to attend. One can really empathize with the partner who was hoping and praying that his/her spouse would pick up the phone and register.

In February of 1988, this active Retrouvaille Team Couple received a six page international newsletter from the International Coordinators in California. Included in this was a tiny two line note from the coordinators in Texas saying "Anyone interested in the newly formed Couples Twelve Step Program, call this number". Always curious to keep

informed of new programs, Mabel phoned and asked for an information package to be mailed to them. Jack looked over the program and said, "I think this is what Msgr. Brown is looking for".

The still active Retrouvaille Team showed the program to Msgr. Brown, who didn't even finish listening to what it was about . . . he was desperate to help these troubled couples. He told us to start the program right away. It was not that simple! We knew the Retrouvaille program inside out, but we were unfamiliar with a Twelve Step Program. In order to fulfill this requirement, we contacted a couple we knew from our old parish; the husband very active in Alcoholics Anonymous for 18 years, and now working as an employer counselor for a large utility company. We had a meeting with them and went over the program. He set up a conference call with the Texas coordinators and the six of us (three couples) had a one hour conference by telephone. They were able to discuss the program from a twelve step perspective and Jack and I were able to questions how the Retrouvaille program fit in with it.

By now it was June, and George said any program started just before summer was doomed to failure.

Mabel spent the summer rewriting the Twelve Retrouvaille follow-up sessions to fit the Couples Twelve Step program, and on September 17, 1988, the first meeting of the Couples Twelve Step program was held in the rectory room provided by Msgr. Brown. The number one requirement with any twelve step program is that the meetings be held on the same day at the same time at the same place promptly for one hour and that someone be available as a "sponsor" between meetings.

Because of the nature of the program, George and Carole agreed that they would come to the meetings with Jack and

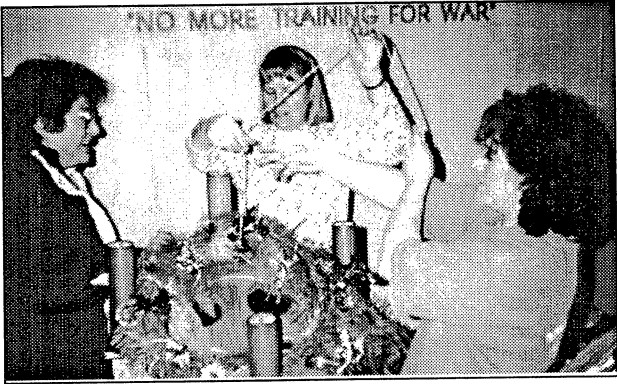
Mabel for three months, until we were comfortable with the Twelve Step part of the program. After six weeks, George and Carole left us on our own to continue the program. Parish talks were given about the program and Msgr. asked us to give a talk to the PTA, the CWL, and the Youth Group.

Thus was launched the very first Couples Twelve Step program in Canada and it happened at Precious Blood Parish in 1988.

People were referred to the program by Msgr. Brown, the Retrouvaille registration team, and some of the Couples Twelve Step members themselves.

The Lord works in mysterious ways, as in December, 1988, when Mabel had a bad car accident which really put her out of commission and flat on her back for four months. The good news is that with the Couples Twelve Step program, one part of the couple can attend if the other is unable to, so Jack never missed facilitating the meetings.

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# *Advent Workshop '96*

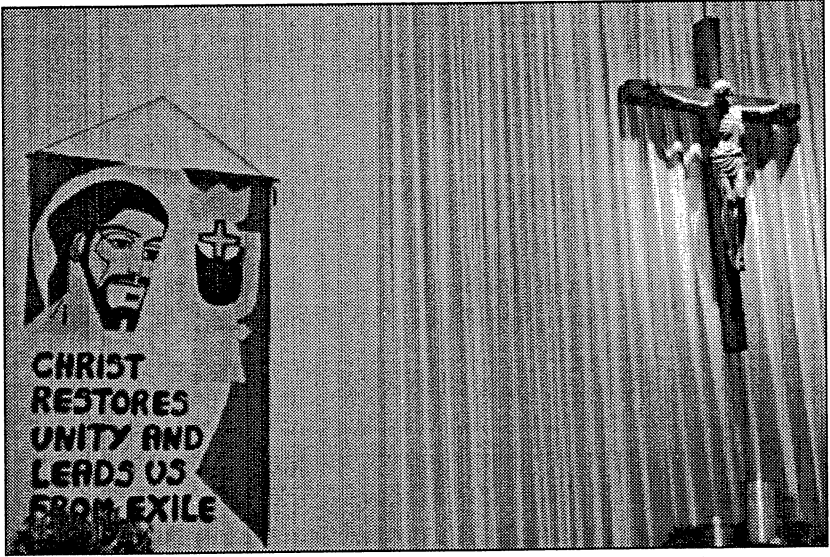
What a wonderful show of church and community working together. Our first Advent workshop was so well received that over thirty adults and one hundred plus children attended on a Saturday morning.

There were eighteen craft centers, with the children moving from table to table every fifteen minutes to create such things as kings' crowns, beeswax advent wreaths, planting flower bulbs, etc. After only thirty minutes' practice time, several children put on a play about Santa coming to pay homage at the manger scene.

An explanation was then given of the significance of each activity as it related to their preparing for Jesus' coming at Christmas. Then it was time for lunch!

A terrific start to an important feast and holiday!

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# *Art in the Liturgy*

One day in the early fall of 1996, Father John Tritschler asked someone if they knew how to paint as he wanted murals, tapestries or banners to fill up the huge empty walls surrounding the altar. It wasn't until the onset of Advent that he had an idea of having the school make banners as part of the first Advent workshop with the children. He asked Deirdre Hartwell to organize this, and she readily agreed until the full realization of the task hit her and she turned for help.

The help came. One person who thought big and the other who ignored costs, and twenty banners later, the walls have been filled and changing almost every Sunday.



The larger banners are 60" by 100" and the smaller ones fit the podium. Deirdre's friend, Theresa Laturnus, agreed to jump in and help and took over many of the designs. Father John chooses the sayings and a general design is selected. Creativity needs room to blossom and the colour and composition of the banners demonstrates that it does indeed blossom.

The goal of the banners is to enhance the Liturgy, not to detract or distract from it. The

children are able to look up and see what is going on in the Gospel or Readings, and for those who have trouble listening or remembering what was read, sometimes this is a great advantage. Some people like to just sit and make a mediation by concentrating on the scene and praying quietly.

Each banner seems to affect different people in different ways. Some are liked, some loved, others not noticed. They are there to help us understand Christ's teachings and to bring us closer to Him, if possible, in prayer.





# *St. Vincent de Paul Society*

## *by Mary Kram*

My husband, Louis Kram and I started the St. Vincent De Paul Society in 1985. It was affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and Precious Blood Parish in Cloverdale where Monsignor Brown was the treasurer and Diane Watts the secretary. The people of Precious Blood Parish have been very generous over the years and have helped us with moving furniture, moving residences, donating clothing and giving food to help the needy.

Louis has been in contact with local members of Parliament and the Provincial Legislative Assembly to seek assistance and each year, we organized a Christmas dinner for the needy in the community. Funds for the dinner food were provided by the Knights and Santa gave each family member a gift which had been donated by the parishioners. Each family also received a turkey donated by Frank and Gini Burm along with hampers of food. One year, we had eighty-six people come, most of them single mothers with their children.

Besides giving help where needed, we made many friends and enjoyed them all in different ways. Since we worked from our basement with no set hours, we were kept busy. Some would phone late at night and early in the morning. Since everyone deserves a treat once in a while and we did not like to see the children go hungry, we would keep a few extra treats around. Some of the children called us Grandma and Grandpa.

One young mother who had three children went to high school and each day carrying her youngest two blocks to the bus to take her to a friend, then went on to school with the two older ones. She did this for one year to finish grade

twelve and passed with very good marks. She ended up getting married and going to UBC and we lost touch with her. She was ambitious and we hope everything is going well with her.

Some mothers were young and found it hard to cope so we tried to get them on the road to help themselves and, with sacrifices, they found they could make it. A lot needed to get more confidence in themselves.

Other areas that St. Vincent de Paul has helped have been: collecting food from the school children Fridays, a food hamper drop-off box in the back of the church, driving people to appointments and shopping, helping transients find lodging, giving food and men's clothing to the Sisters of the Atonement, sending money to a cash-strapped family to help save a baby, 1990 - gave 20 bags of clothes to the Philippine Earthquake disaster, 1988 - gave 22 bags of clothes to the Bangladesh disaster, gave clothes to the Skeena Terrace Tenants Association, helped persons needing money, (sometimes only after checking their "story"), helped a young man get to a promised job in Calgary - he let us know later on that he got one in Regina.

Louis and I operated the Society for eight years until 1994 when David Thomas and his wife, Deirdre, took over. **Dave continues:** We have a dedicated group of people involved with the distribution of clothing, groceries, furniture and financial help. We are pleased to have support from the Parish, the School, and the Knights.

1996 was a year to remember as the Parish sponsored a family of five from Iraq. We also sent donations to the Quebec and Winnipeg flood relief funds, the Sisters of Atonement, Our lady of Good Council Society and Habitat Housing. We are a very busy group!

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# *A Visit with St. Nicholas*

Our Catholic Women's League has been sponsoring an annual "Visit with St. Nicholas" on the first Saturday of December since 1988, when it was held on December 3, 1988. The coordinator for the past eight years has been Maria O'Donnell, assisted by willing and generous parishioners.

Admission is by donation of non-perishable food or unwrapped toy, and we also receive cash donations, all of which are given to our St. Vincent de Paul Society to be distributed to needy families at Christmas.



1988 - Jack Nichols plays St. Nicholas

We begin at 10:00 a.m. with a Pancake Breakfast generously provided, cooked and served by the Knights of Columbus, Cloverdale Council #7276. At 11:00 a.m., the carol singing begins, led by musically talented volunteers, until approximately 11:30 a.m. when "St. Nicholas" arrives (Jack Nichols has faithfully played the part for the past eight

years, wearing vestments borrowed from our Pastor)! St. Nicholas spends a few minutes telling about his life and the origin of gift-giving at Christmas, and about the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus, Our Saviour. He then invites the children to come up and tell him how they are going to celebrate Jesus' birth, after which each child is given a holy card and a mandarin orange.

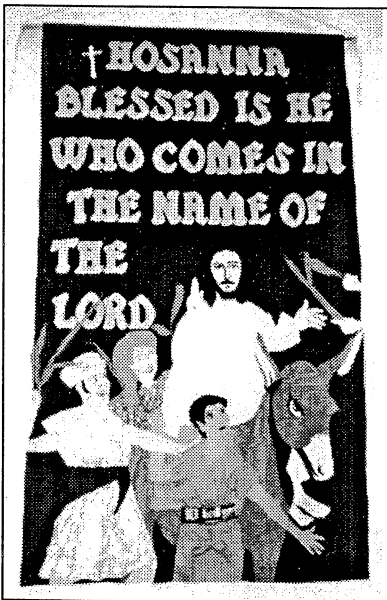
Approximately 120 people attend, about 75 percent of which are children. At the door, we give everyone a short biography of St. Nicholas and a map showing where he lived. On the tables are pictures of Jesus and Mary, St. Nicholas, the Holy Family and the Three Wise Men for the children to colour with crayons we provide. We also take a few minutes to introduce each family (usually done by the Pastor).

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# Blessing of the Easter Baskets

Precious Blood Parish has a diversity of ethnic backgrounds in its parishioners. Stan Perka (April 2, 1994) and his wife, Rose (April 15, 1994) came to our parish from the prairies in 1980. Here they met Joseph Pasloski (December 7, 1994) and Antonio, who arrived in 1985. They were very pleased to meet someone who not only came from the prairies, but shared their same ethnic background, language and traditions. They talked with Msgr. Brown about their Ukrainian Easter basket tradition which they had always followed and he was supportive in letting them continue.



That Easter, there were three families who brought baskets to the Altar. In each basket, there were "pysanka", hard-boiled eggs which have been coloured and represent many things including new life, which is celebrated on Easter Sunday. Also placed in the baskets were special Easter breads, sausage, salt, margarine or butter, a bottle of water and a small bottle of liquor. Extra breads and eggs were added so that these also may be blessed and shared with non-Ukrainian families to

continue the tradition of sharing or passing on to others the blessings which have been received.

After the food has been eaten on Easter Sunday, the remains, that is the egg shells, are treated reverently and burned in the furnace, rather than being disposed of in the garbage, since they have been blessed.

Today, their children and grandchildren carry on their families' Christian Easter tradition at Precious Blood.

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# *Second Cloverdale Scouts*

One of the earlier leaders of the scouting movement in Cloverdale was Fred Rhodes, and after many years of not operating, in 1985, a member of the Knights of Columbus #7276 proposed that the group sponsor a new Boy Scout group. It was stated that the only immediate need was for a council representative to act as chairman.

As a result, Bruce Daffe was appointed on behalf of the Knights and chairman of the group committee on behalf of the scouting movement. It was soon discovered that the acting part of chairman was quite demanding and Wendy Daffe was immediately enrolled as acting secretary, Matthew Daffe was listed as a member and each daughter, Annette, Janette and Dianna, would wear leader uniforms for scouts, cubs and beavers.

With the solid leadership of the Daffe family, the guidance and participation of our District Commissioner, Ann Larsen, we were able to get up and running for the last half of the scouting year, holding our first beaver meetings in February of 1986.

During our setup procedures, we were asked to choose a group name -a hint was offered in the form of using the same name that a previous group had used, 2nd Cloverdale. (This group's cub master was Cpl. Stan Byers, and was formed in 1961 and had been blessed by Father Swinkles). The success of the new group was due to the

credit of the volunteers with previous scouting experience: Marg Barren, Tom Gavigan, Denis Chalifouz and those who ably shouldered the load while they learned: Hilary Perka, Lorence Gismondi, Dennis Fluet, Sandy Pilkey and Janette Daffe.

Our philosophy was to serve the children of Cloverdale Catholic School in a secular activity while living the lifestyle of a Catholic person in that all meetings were opened with a prayer and religious activities would be under the leadership of Precious Blood Parish and a planned part of all section programs.

Since the beginning, we have had many dedicated people who worked hard to make scouting a success, either as leaders or as parent helpers. The names of Sheila Colt, Kathy Stevens, Michael O'Donnell and Ian Sterling (who taught scouting skills to the boys both in school and up the mountain on camping trips) stand out.

The Daffe family retired from the Executive Council in the summer of 1995 and passed the leadership torch to the enthusiastic Larry Miller. Our parish now boasts 30 Beavers, 13 Cubs, and 8 Scouts under the able leadership of many parents including Dave Kosick, Bill Spring, Bill Smith, Gary and Ingrid Pidduck and many others.

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# Guides & Brownies

In 1985 the Third Clover Valley Guide Co. was formed under the leadership of Linda Hurtubise, assisted by Susan Armond. The majority of the Guides were from Cloverdale Catholic School. They participated in the Corpus Christie processions on and on Remembrance Day at the Community Centre. They also met weekly and did regular guiding commitments. After three years Sheila Colt took over the reins from Linda.

The Brownie Pack was led by Roz Burnell and assisted by Eloise Ducheu. They met in the school hall weekly, then moved to Mrs. Knowles Play School. Brownies continue to go on regular outings and camps.

The 4th Clover Valley Brownies is now operated from Cloverdale Catholic School. The leaders are Theresa Mok (Brown Owl), Joanna Rossi (Tawny Owl), and Kristina Johnson, our Junior Leader. We started the 1996/97 year with 17 girls and ended with 20! Most are 1st year Brownies and are looking forward to another fun filled year. We went roller skating, a visit to Kid City and the Art Gallery, and ended our year with a two night camp at Evans Lake where

we enjoyed canoeing, archery and camp fires with about 60 other girls.



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# *Youth Ministry*

The youth group was started in 1981 while Father McInerney was pastor of Precious Blood and was initiated by Shirley Nootebos and Fran Pilkey, with other concerned parents, Ron Macht, Jan Skrzypczak, Lucille Abgrall and youth leaders Chris Kielesinski and Les Burm. The registered numbers started with thirty-five youth from grades eight through twelve who came from the Catholic schools in the area as well as students from C.C.D. All youth and their friends were invited to attend the meetings. Some were from farming families with 4H experience, some were friends from school or siblings, or cousins. Together with the leaders, this group made history in the youth ministry of the church, and matured into young adults who called themselves the "Saints".

The activities of the junior youth group included games, skits, talent night, monk's supper, speakers, camping in the summer, fundraisers, plays, helping in the church community with the bazaar, the Christmas dinner, clean-up around the church and youth Mass on Saturday evenings.

The group's purpose was mainly a social one with no formal religious education but the mission statement was to learn how to live your faith and practice your faith within the community.

Father Tepoorten was at Precious Blood for a short while and was involved as much as possible. He was well loved and had the Gift to be involved with youth.

Father Cuddy was in the deanery at this time and he

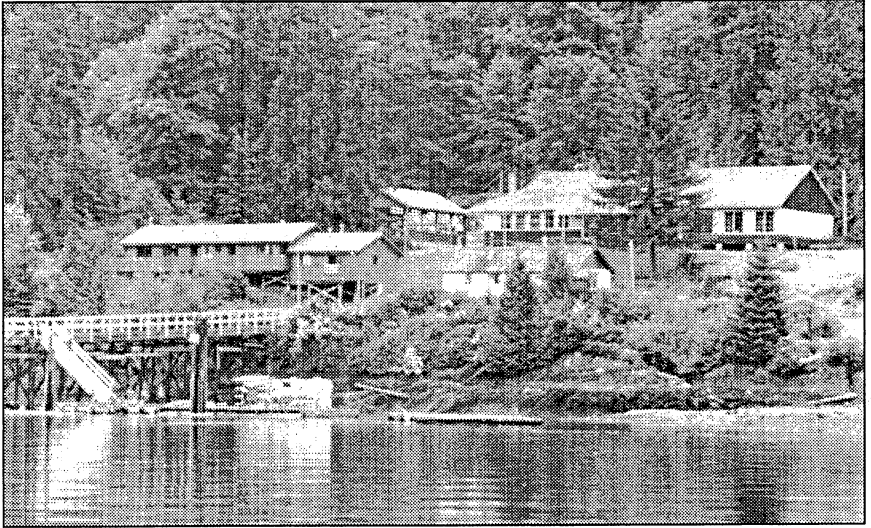
organized workshops for the leaders. These were well attended and added a lot to the group's religious training and leadership capabilities. In the search for meeting the needs of the youth, the leaders were led to the Victoria Youth Conference in 1991 and 1992 where they were sold on the idea that we could do the same in our own area. We developed our own Youth Conference and held it in May at Holy Cross High School in Surrey. The youth should be very proud of this achievement as they kept the program focussed. It is still an ongoing community event that is deanery-hosted and a process that never ends or begins. It is ongoing!

The Youth Day was the combined effort that brought all the goals of our youth group together: community building of all the youth groups of the deanery, logo contest, Bosco Day at OLGK on January 31st was used as advertising and the logo winner was chosen, youth were involved in the monthly planning meetings, practicing music, decorating, etc.

By the end of Youth Day, the bonding between all involved (youth and adults) is solid, community is formed, close-knit friendships are soldered.

Youth Ministry is a holistic ministry - when working with youth, you deal with the whole family, with their joys and sorrows. To serve the youth, the whole community must work together and support each other. We must be committed to the youth as a church.

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# *Camp Latona*

In 1958, the Most Reverent William Mark Duke purchased land on Gambier Island and established Latona Beach summer camp for the children of the diocese to help develop their character, good sportsmanship and to integrate with campers from other parts of the diocese.

Father Brown was always delighted to take the grade seven class and teacher for a week of fund and prayer and to meet other kids.

A thirteen year old's memories of his week at camp were the new skills he learned - how to paddle a canoe, how to use a bow and arrow, how to be part of a team in setting a table and putting the food out. He was impressed with how small emergencies were handled, which was a very valuable lesson.

Attending Family Camp at Latona was both spiritually and socially beneficial. Leaving the city behind and entering into the peaceful beauty of Gambier Island, the five days of Family Camp sped by far too quickly. We were families of varying size and composition - all praying, playing, and working together. Beginning each day with Mass in the rustic setting of the Lodge and ending each day with the Rosary in the peaceful evening air down by the water brought a new dimension to our relationship with God and with the other members of our Catholic community. We all took part and felt we were a part of everything.

Children bonded instantly and parents shared thoughts and feelings in the security of the new "family" we became during

those days together. We enjoyed outdoor activities, skits, songs, games, and even our few days of "duty" in the mess hall or washrooms, and we all kept an eye on each other's children. My daughter made friends the first day with the daughter of the couple who were our camp directors, and she spent most of her time with us, even bunking in our cabin every night. We were sad to leave, and will never forget the wonderful experience of Camp Latona!

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# *Parish Education Committee Overview*

The Parish Education Committee is authorized under the constitution of the Catholic Public Schools, Vancouver Archdiocese, and as such, receives their mandate from the Society. The P.E.C. is composed of seven members, five of whom are elected and two appointed by the Pastor. Elections for P.E.C. members is by secret ballot on an established date. Terms of office is two years renewable three times consecutively to a maximum of six years.

The Pastor is ex-officio, a member of the Committee and all sub-committees.

The basic responsibilities of the P.E.C. are to implement programs established by the Society and assist the Pastor in following the educational policy within the school, as well as recommend to the superintendent any proposed programs in the curriculum that address local needs.



Parents shovel snow off School roof in 1996 so it won't collapse

Other functions include preparing the budget for the operation and maintenance of the school, ensuring that proper books and records are kept, and completing and submitting reports or documents as requested. It decides on the hiring of

teachers and principals while adhering to the policies of the Society. Also, it deals with issues relating to renewal and non-renewal of school staff contracts, the day to day operations of the school such as collection of fees, payment of operating expenses, maintenance, as well as any other duties assigned from time to time.

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# *Precious Blood Parish*

## *"Filipino Cultural Night"*

*April 22, 1990*

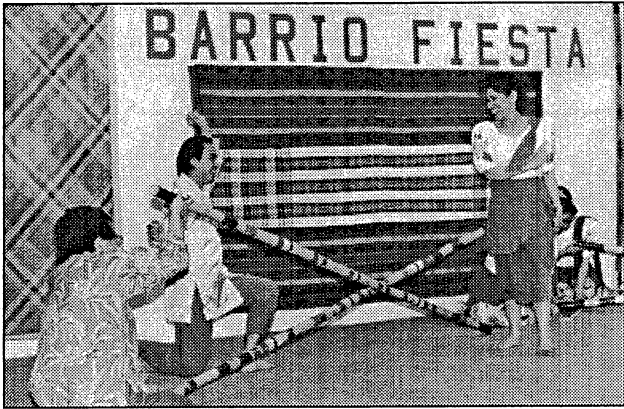
Precious Blood Parish enjoyed the delightful treat of a "Barrio Fiesta" presented by our Filipino parishioners, on Sunday, April 22, 1990 in our Cloverdale Catholic School gym. The educational and enjoyable celebration began at 4:00 p.m. with a "Merienda Cena" (heavy snack) which consisted of an abundant variety of delicious Filipino food. Dinner was followed by presentations of songs, skits, and dances from Filipino cultural tradition. Adults and children from the audience happily joined in when invited onstage to learn some of the dances!

The walls were decorated with Filipino artifacts along with displays on some of the tables, and people were available to answer any questions. The



Filipino participants were dressed as they would be in the Philippines, sharing information about types of material used and styles of dress depending on whether the occasion was formal or casual.

The afternoon/evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, and sincere thanks extended to Fred and Leila Maceda who coordinated the event along with their many hardworking and enthusiastic helpers.



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# Good Friday Cross Walk

A Cross Walk was scheduled for Good Friday, March 28, 1997. It would take place in rain, snow, wind or shine. There were fourteen stops for each of the stations of the cross. Other Christian churches had been invited to join the Cross Walk.

From stop to stop, there was much joyful singing from the procession of people led by the cross. The cross used at the Cross Walk was the cross used at the Veneration of the Cross earlier in the afternoon. Men, women, and even children were allowed to hold the cross and lead the procession.



The main point of the cross walk was to understand the pain and suffering that Jesus endured for us, as well as to realize that the way of the cross is also that way of every person's life. All of us go through suffering, rejections, pain, hurts, falls, death, burial, and resurrection, do we not? The big difference is that Jesus, our Saviour and Lord, rose physically as well as spiritually, while we, in

our primitive way, rise spiritually in the kingdom of our Lord, Jesus Christ, if we have led a good life. We look forward to our bodily resurrection at the end of the world.

Each station went like this: at each stop the people would surround the cross and the leader would start with a prayer from a little booklet called "The Way of the Cross". The people would answer with the prayer suggested for that station from the booklet, and finish each station with a verse predicting the next station, given in the booklet and sung to the tune of Stabat Mater. This is what happened for each station.

According to many people the words: "We adore You, O Christ and we praise You./Because by Your holy cross you have redeemed the world" are the most important words to remember when meditating on the way of the cross. Especially since they remind us that Jesus gave His life for us, even though we are sinful people, and that God loved us so much that He let His only Son die for us. Also that we must always give thanks to Jesus for His deeds, and never forget His undying love for us.

The Cross Walk was a complete success. We look forward to next year.



# *Building Cloverdale Catholic School*

Before you can build a school, you need a set of plans, so Father Pat found a school already built that would suit the purpose. He inquired of the architects if he might borrow the plans for that school as he didn't have any money. So these kind gentlemen told the priest to get out of there and take the plans with him.

The school was built almost entirely by volunteer labour, with "Silver" McIntee appointed supervising carpenter for the job. Adam Nash, Ben Gobin and sons, Martin Flynn, and Pete Fruno were stalwart volunteers. Many other parishioners with lesser construction skills helped where they could.

The Knights of Columbus, Fraser Valley Council, provided all of the material for wiring and did the electrical installation work. That project was headed by electrician Harry Vandrish, with Bart Ryan his chief "apprentice".



Rose Legault  
First uniform - 1955

One of the parishioners donated the standing trees on his property in Hazelmere. These were cut down and hauled to the small sawmill operated by parishioner Alex Ivanauskas, located off 64th Avenue, new Newton. Father O'Sullivan often drove the truck himself, which didn't have working brakes. Some of that lumber was planed and some of it used in rough form.

The school finally opened in September, 1954, teaching grades one through six with approximately 180 students enrolled. It was the first Catholic school in the Greater Vancouver area south of the Fraser River, built at a cost of \$50,000.00. About the same time, a school was built from the same plans from the Vancouver School Board at a contract price of \$95,000.00.

The first teaching staff was: Ms. Jessie Lahmer (Principal, grade one), Mrs. Vicki Knowles (grades two and three), Mrs. May Sullivan (grades four and five), Mrs. Doris McKinnon (grades three and four for the first part of the term), and Mrs. Josephine Gorcak (grades three and four for the second half of the term).



1994 - 40th Anniversary Reunion  
Doris McKinnon, May Sullivan, Jessie Anderton  
Vicki Knowles, Josephine Gorcak

Some teachers who had taught in the public schools donated their services while others were paid a nominal amount.

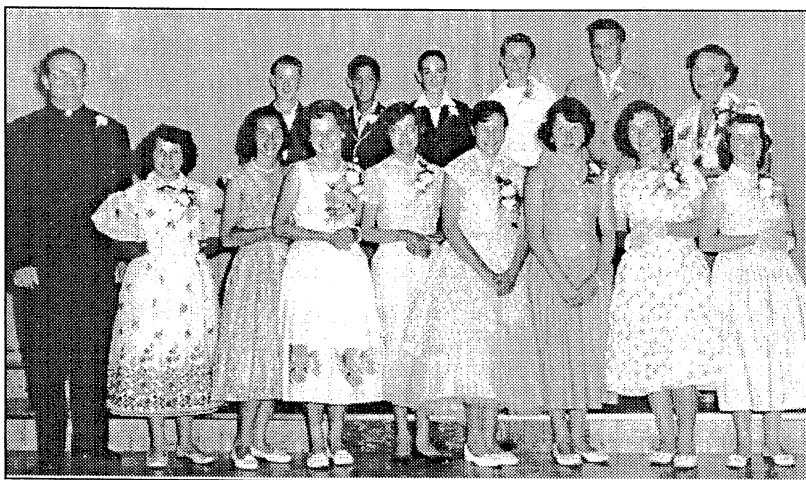
Cloverdale Catholic had four classrooms, an activity hall (usually called the gym), a small kitchen, and a covered play area on the north side of the building.

The parking lot was inches deep in mud as soon as the autumn rains started. However, an anonymous donor provided hundreds of yards of gravel and that helped the parking situation.

The grounds were not very suitable for playing fields for

several years, except in very dry weather, until drainage and leveling improvements were carried out and the grass improved. Trees were planted in front of the school by Dave Bell of Fleetwood. Les Balla did the welding of iron pipe with which the first baseball backstops were built.

Classes were large. In 1957, Mrs. Louise Mahussier taught 53 pupils in a split class of Grades Five and Six. There were no grants from the provincial government and the Ministry of Education provided free textbooks and health services, Surrey Municipality exempted the school building from property taxes.



First Graduating Class June 5, 1958

Fr. Pat O'Sullivan, Mary King, Joyce Lepine, Kathy Van Gool, Rose Legault  
Sandra Silvestrone, Helen Daffe, Joyce Wildeman, Doreen Junk  
Edward Langlois, Freddie Flynn, Bobby Donovan, Edward Trottier  
Ronnie Phalan, Mrs. Gorcak

The parish financial report dated December 31, 1956 stated that "considerable improvement has been made towards securing enough revenue for operating costs, but without the help of the Four Leaf Clover Club, we would be obliged to curtail school operations." The club, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, held weekly bingo nights in the Liberal

Hall with 75 percent of the proceeds going to the school and 25 percent to the Knights of Columbus Building Fund.

The financial report went on to recommend that each wage earner should contribute a minimum of \$1.00 per week for Sunday offering towards church and rectory support and a minimum of \$10.00 per month for parish dues towards school and parish support. If monthly income exceeded \$250.00, then higher contributions were expected.

The parents organized as a parent-teacher organization, later known as the Parents' Club. Members learned about educational programs and how a school is organized. They assisted at school functions, and were very active in raising funds for additional classroom and playground equipment.

Bingo was started to help pay operational costs. John Oslowy headed the original committee and without the dedicated service of the bingo workers each year, it would have been impossible for the school to continue. Among the long term bingo workers were Frank Blomme, Frank McKinnon, J.B. Gallaher, Lionel Verhoven, Louis Mahussier, Joe McAleese and Art Vander Zalm.

In 1954, a bus was chartered for pupils living in the Latimer, Clayton, Port Kells and Fleetwood areas but was stopped in the second year due to rapidly increasing costs.

In 1956, the church building on 57th Avenue was sold to the Cloverdale Elks and a new rectory and convent were commenced. The school activity hall (gym) was renovated as the new church.

Father O'Sullivan traveled east to Waterton, Ontario and asked the School Sisters of Notre Dame to come west and help with his school. Three Sisters agreed: Sister Adelaide, who assumed the duties of Principal, Sister M. Carmella





Fr. Neil Carrigan

who taught grades six and seven, and Sister Hyacinth, who was the housekeeper. They arrived in 1958 to a student population of 248 with grades one through ten being taught. Five lay teachers completed the staff. The presence of the Sisters added a deeper dimension to Catholic education and parish life.

## **Catholic School Filled Right Up**

To quote from the Surrey Leader newspaper on February 3, 1966, Cloverdale Catholic was completely filled. By this time, Father Neil Carrigan had taken over as pastor and the school was filled to capacity with 207 students and another 20 on the waiting list.

The Knights of Columbus built a large backstop for the boys' playing field and a small backstop for the girls was installed by the school trustees. The parents' group raised \$7,500.00 to purchase a new school bus to service the entire area and Mr. Quinville was sent back east to buy it and bring it back.

Members of the R.C.M.P. volunteered many hours of coaching and physical education classes to the school. Most notable among these was Constable A.E. Nicholson, who finally left in 1966 to travel back east to train for the R.C.M.P. musical ride.

Over the years, Cloverdale Catholic did not do well against

the larger Catholic schools in track and field, but the boys' and girls' baseball teams won championships in several years as there was an organized ball league for Catholic schools in the valley.

## **A Time to Expand . . .**

The Central Catholic School Board had issued a statement that established a major change in class organization and instruction modes "for 1975 and beyond." Classrooms were now to be arranged as "learning centers", with each child to learn in his own way and in his own time. Religious doctrine was to be taught "in an atmosphere of prayer and affirmation, with emphasis on self-directing and self-pacing."

To help achieve the first goal, much more room was needed at the school and under the direction of Father J. McInerney as Pastor, Steve de Jong as school board chairman, and Sister Audrey as Principal, a three classroom addition was added which provided a much larger library, a new office, and a multi-purpose resource room.

Another classroom was added in 1975, located next to the kitchen. Library services were upgraded by Mrs. Florence Grant, a retired teacher and professional librarian, who volunteered at the school for nine years. She made the library a learning centre for all the classes.

In 1977, funding was granted by the provincial government to church and independent schools. A maximum of 30 percent of operation costs was provided, but no grants for capital costs. Cloverdale is a member of the Federation of Independent Schools Association which played a crucial role in securing this partial return of taxes paid by those who do not endorse the public school system. But tax support also

brings obligations; the public school core curriculum must be included in the total curriculum, teaching staff must have a B.C. certification, the school must be inspected by Ministry of Education inspection teams and class sizes are not to be too much larger than the public school norms.

While provincial funding has made the Catholic education system professional and accountable, the new on parents and parishes for the budget increases is comparable to that of the pioneer years.

## A Time for Catholic Education

Over the July 6, 1980 weekend, C.C.S. celebrated its Silver Anniversary. Mass was celebrated on Saturday morning by Father J. McInerney, followed by a brunch for the students, staff and parents in the school gym.



That same evening, Cloverdale Community Centre hosted the anniversary dinner and dance, followed by a Sunday morning picnic and ball game in the school yard.

The gym, hallways and classrooms boasted art work, banners, photos and newspaper clippings, commemorating the twenty-five years of service. Sister Eileen, the acting

Principal, bade a thankful farewell to outgoing Steve de Jong, who retired after twelve years on the Catholic School Board, eight of them as chairman.

1980 also saw the opening of the brand new church built next to the school, giving Cloverdale Catholic School the full use of its gym once again. His Excellency, J.F. Carney, Archbishop of Vancouver Diocese, presided for the official blessing and opening of the new Precious Blood Church with Father Joseph McInerney as pastor. The new church seated 400 people at a cost of \$300,000.

Kindergarten was added in 1981 with Mrs. Marcella McReavy as its first teacher. On average, the kindergarten classes held 20 to 25 young students at a time.

The 1980's also saw the movement to "mainstream" children with physical, mental and emotional problems into a regular school environment so that they would have the influence of healthy children to grow up with and alongside.

After children graduated from C.C.S., they had a choice of attending Saint Thomas More Collegiate in New Westminster (for the boys), or Marian High School in Burnaby (for the girls), or going on to the public high schools. From the late seventies, a growing need for a Catholic High School to service our graduates remained.

## **The Birth of a New School**

It was in the late seventies when some eager parents, with the support and enthusiasm of Sister Eileen Pautler, met and tried to formulate a plan for a co-educational high school east of the bridges.

Representatives from each of the parishes surrounding Precious Blood - Immaculate Conception, St. Joseph, Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Bernadette and Star of the Sea - met with Archbishop Carney and found a similar zeal. This became the founding Education Committee for Holy Cross High School.

His Grace, Archbishop Carney, a great advocate for Catholic education, knew the need and at the same time recognized the financial investment required. A diocesan monetary drive was discussed to fund part of the project and Project Advance was born.

It was decided at the diocesan level that fifty percent of the capital funding would come from the diocesan coffers and the rest was to be financed by the parishes according to their size. This ultimately became the formula for allotting the number of students each parish could send to the new high school.

In order to complement diocesan funds, extensive fundraising was begun at the parish level. An account was opened in 1977-78 with the sum of \$5.00 by Mrs. Banovic's grade three class for having the most parents at the monthly parent-teachers' meeting. Parents rallied together and after many bottle drives, auctions, hair cutting, chicken, pumpkin and orange sales and other efforts, Cloverdale could meet the first payments.

A site for the school was eagerly sought but a central location suitable for servicing Fraser Valley parishes proved difficult to find. Archbishop Carney had stipulated that the site must be large enough to accommodate not only a high school, but a parish as well. Even at this time, acreage was expensive. Father Foran, the first appointed executive director of the project, advised that the diocese owned land in the Fleetwood area. This parcel of land was not large

enough, however, so an adjacent property was purchased. This would eventually become the site of the new parish known today as St. Matthew's.

As the Archbishop's representative, Father Foran established the first Education Committee comprised of two representatives from each of the founding parishes: Precious Blood, Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Star of the Sea, St. Joseph and St. Bernadette.



Archbishop Carney breaking ground for Holy Cross High School

Holy Cross was opened in the former St. Angela Academy located at Immaculate Conception parish in Delta. Later in the year, the first phase of the building in Surrey was completed. The 97 grade eight students and staff, under the principalship of Mr.

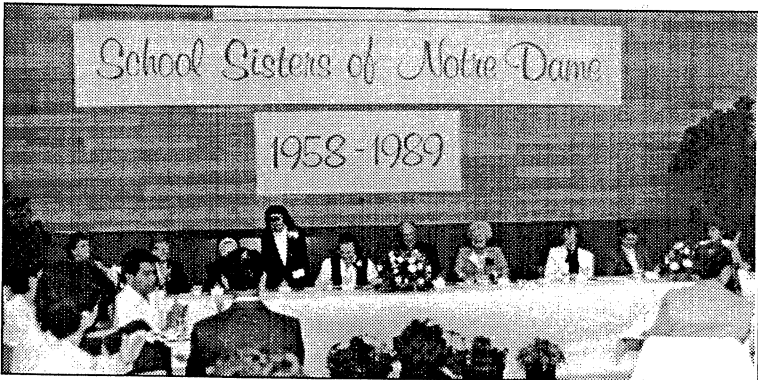
Robert de Julius, moved to the new school. Father Joseph Cuddy was appointed to give direction to the building program and the religion program. Mrs. Marie Sondergaard, Miss Maureen McQuarrie and Mrs. Theresa Laturnus were hired to teach grade eight, and Mr. Stan Kazun was hired from Vancouver College to teach science and become Vice-Principal.

With a current enrollment of over eight hundred students, Holy Cross continues to serve the valley parishes. The consistent support of pastors, teachers, parents and the Catholic community will ensure the success of Holy Cross and all future Catholic schools yet dreamed of.

## Good-Bye to the Sisters

The School Sisters of Notre Dame withdrew from teaching at C.C.S. in 1989, as the Order did not have enough sisters to staff all the schools in which its members had been teaching.

Mrs. Trudy Desjardine was hired to replace Sister Eileen, and with her own son, Matthew attending the school, Trudy brings a deep religious dedication to the spiritual and emotional development of her staff and students as well as to their intellectual and physical growth. Trudy not only knows the names of each student and their parents, but also who is related to whom and in which way. C.C.S. may have lost its sisters, but it gained a great spiritual shoulder to lean on in their place.



## Today's Staff

C.C.S. has a special place in my heart as several of my brothers and sisters and I went to school here. Now my children and their cousins attend and are very happy. I enjoy working in a community of great faith and love, where people care about one another, where we are striving to live Christ-centered lives. (Patrizia Miller)

God lives at Cloverdale Catholic School. Many wonders and signs are seen here. We are a family; we share our hopes, joys and work together just as God told us to in Acts 2:42-43: "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the



Sr. Colette Ryan  
Sr. Celeen Pouthler  
Sr. Adelaide  
Sr. Chabunel  
Sr. Agnesine  
Sr. George Marie

Sr. Hyacinth  
Sr. Francella  
Jim Sullivan  
Emily B.

bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done. . ." (Margareth Piccioni)

A community is not simply a group of people who live together and love each other. It is a current of life, a heart, a soul, a spirit. It is a people who love a great deal and who are all reaching toward the same hope.

One of the unique features of our school is that many of our parents went to our school when they were children. There are also many families who have cousins, second cousins, aunts and uncles attending and this helps to strengthen the bond and build up the Kingdom of God. I have witnessed our school community supporting one another, especially in times of illness and distress. I was privileged to be a recipient of our community's support last year when my grandson, Jacob, was born. I truly believe that he is alive today because of the prayers of our community and I thank God every day for placing me here. (Lorraine Hillan)



A person who sows seeds of kindness enjoys a perpetual harvest. In September of 1991 I began my career as a teacher at C.C.S. My memories of that first year are somewhat blurry, but what does remain implanted in my mind is the welcoming spirit shared with me by the staff, students and parents. C.C.S. is blessed with a strong sense of community. The students fill my soul with joy and renew in me a sense of wonder and awe at the many glorious gifts God presents to us on a daily basis. (Jane Schroeder)



1996/97 Staff

St. Francis of Assisi said "where there is charity and wisdom there is neither ignorance nor fear." We try to make our school a place where we can all see and grow in both these qualities, which are so necessary to meet the challenge of following Jesus. (Anne Macht)

My children, husband and I have been involved with C.C.S. since 1978 when my eldest son, Sean, went to grade one - Sister Francella's "wonderful ones". When Joe finally graduated from grade seven in 1995, I joined the staff myself to work with Anthony part-time and now I also enjoy the "wonderful ones". (Pauline Perkins)

At the end of my second term at C.C.S., I can say with joy

that it is a place where all of us, students, parents and staff are encouraged to make manifest the Glory of God that is within each and every one of us. (Pauline Dayton)

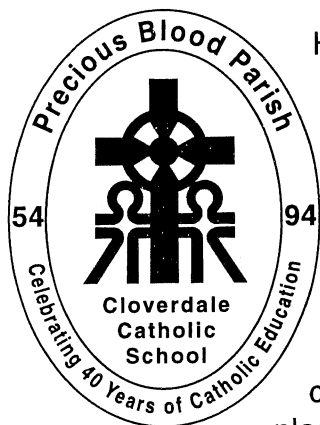
## School Bus is Coming . . .

Mr. Bill Quinville came to Cloverdale in 1949 and was married in the old church, the Elks Hall. He and his wife had two children who attended Cloverdale Catholic School and Precious Blood Parish until they moved away to Abbotsford in 1966.

In 1963, Bill and Fred Fisher travelled to Brantford, Ontario where they purchased two brand new school buses and drove them back home.

Al Lund was the first driver of the bus for C.C.S. followed by Lloyd Cursons, Mabel and Bob Peever, and Bill Fruno.

In the meantime, Bill worked for Cloverdale Co-op for thirty-five years, then spent a year working in Abbotsford until his wife noticed an ad in the newspaper from C.C.S., looking for a bus driver. He applied to the P.E.C. Board and was hired.



His first concern, however, was that there were no rules of conduct for safety for the students. Upon presenting the issue to Sister Eileen along with a set of very good safety rules he had used in Abbotsford, a meeting with 50 to 60 students was immediately called. The rules were gone over very carefully with them and have been in place for the last nine and a half years.

The second area of concern was about having a trained back-up driver in case Bill was sick. It wasn't until the winter, of 1997 when he was down with the flu for four days that the board decided to advertise for another driver. Bill turns 65 this April, and has to decide whether to retire, but is impressed with the new female driver.

Having someone like Bill Quinville is a special treat for C.C.S. He is there rain, shine, snow, etc. and keeps the bus in pristine condition, saving added costs of maintenance and upkeep. Bill adds a new dimension to the job description of school bus driver.



Bill Quinville

## From the Principal

One of my favourite church documents on the role of Catholic education is "To Teach As Jesus Did", written and published in 1972 by National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Quoting from this document, I am much better able to express my gratitude for the gift of being able to serve God as a Catholic educator at Cloverdale Catholic School:

*"More than any other program of education sponsored by the Church, the Catholic school has the opportunity and obligation to be unique, contemporary, and oriented to Christian service: unique because it is distinguished by its total commitment to the threefold purpose of Christian education and by its total design and operation which foster the integration of religion with the rest of learning and living; contemporary because it enables students to address with Christian insight the multiple problems which face*

*individuals and society today; oriented to Christian service because it helps students acquire skills, virtues, and habits of heart and mind required for effective service to others. All those involved in a Catholic school - parents, pastors, teachers, support staff, administrators, and students - must earnestly desire to make it a community of faith which is indeed 'living, conscious, and active'."*

from "To Teach As Jesus Did", #106

Visitors to the school always comment on the wonderful sense of welcome and warmth that is felt just walking down the hall. Everyone in the community here at Cloverdale Catholic School contributes to the building of this "home away from home" feeling and I am incredibly happy to be part of it.

With the realization of the tremendous importance of Catholic education, comes a sense of awe and gratitude that God would call us to such glorious work. We are so blessed at Cloverdale Catholic to work with many faith-filled people who share a similar vision of bringing about the Kingdom of God.

Trudy Desjardine, Principal

†††††

# *Memories . . .*

## **Sister M. Agnesine, 1974 - 1975:**

When I came to Cloverdale, the Sisters spoke eagerly of the spirit that animated the school. It was inspiring to see the Board's enthusiasm and labours matched by the cooperation and dedication of the staff. Both Board and parish community treated the Sisters as family. Here we found caring and sharing in action. May God bless those people for their joy-filled support. The memory will always be an inspiration.

## **Sister Pauline Girodat, 1969 - 1971:**

In my two years as teacher of grades one and two, I collected many happy memories and photographs of such fun times together with friendly staff, students, and parents - a terrific family experience! I would have been happy to stay until my retirement but was lured away by the adventure of helping to begin an Indian mission in northern Ontario. I am happy that you are continuing your good spirit and assure you of my love and a remembrance in my daily prayers.

## **Sister Joyce Smith, 1964 - 1967, 1986 - 1991:**

I taught grades one and two from 1964 to 1967, and then returned to Cloverdale teaching Langley students grade two in a portable classroom from 1986 to 1991. I lived in Cloverdale and was a teacher and principal at St. Catherine's in Langley from 1987 to 1991. I was on the Precious Blood Liturgy Committee and was responsible for

eucharistic ministers; initiating taking Communion to the hospital and homebound people Sunday from the Parish Mass. Sister Lauretta Farwell and I closed the Convent for SSND's in July, 1991. We were "piped" (bag-piped) into a wonderful farewell and gratitude meal.

Congratulations on your fifty years as a parish!

### **Sister Francella Arnold, 1977 - 1986:**

I arrived in beautiful British Columbia in August, 1977, and could hardly wait to get to Cloverdale. So many Sisters loved C.C.S. and so I was prepared for a great time.

My stay lasted nine years teaching grade one. To leave was one of the hardest tasks I had to do.

Some significant memory is hard to pinpoint for my nine years were full of terrific memories. But I loved very much our field days, our trips to Stanley Park, but most of all the wonderful parents and their grade ones. I can't close without recalling the beautiful tribute at my Roast and the children's closing concert.

Thanks much, C.C.S.

### **Sister M. Chabunel, 1961 - 1965:**

My assignment was to be the homemaker for the Sisters. I was very impressed with the generosity and concern of the parishioners for our well-being as we were constantly supplied milk, eggs, vegetables, etc. I got to know some of the people when I helped to supervise the children at noon or after school when waiting for the bus. I'll never forget these good people and I remember them in prayer.

### **Sister Katharine Reiter (S. M. Damian), 1961 - 1963**

The quality that impressed me most was the charity and kindness of the people who shared what they had with us. We felt a part of the community from the very first day because the people had a wonderful spirit.

### **Sister Audrey McCarville, 1972 - 1974**

I have nothing but happy memories of my years as principal of Cloverdale Catholic School. My most significant memory is that the children and their families were the most delightful, cooperative people I have worked with. Discipline in the school was never a problem. I knew the parents were behind the school with their support - spiritual, educational and monetary. I am deeply grateful to my God that He allowed me to serve in Cloverdale. I am a better person because of the people I knew and grew to love in your Catholic community.

### **Sister M. Adelaide, 1958 - 1961:**

I was the first Sister Principal of Cloverdale Catholic School. The pupils were a pleasure to teach. I was deeply impressed by the hard work and the many sacrifices the parents and teachers made in order to have a Catholic school for their children. Its survival is a wonderful testimony to their strong faith. May God bless each of them.

### **Sister M. Hyacinth, 1958 - 1960, 1984 - 1988:**

I was the homemaker for the first group of Sisters who took up residence in Cloverdale in 1958, and again when I returned joyfully in 1984. My eight years there were very

happy years. Memories of these years remain so clear in my mind and I love to recall them and pray for all the parishioners of Precious Blood Parish.

**Sister Rita Kittel, 1973 - 1980:**

During my years there, I set up the school library, was the principal's relief, and later worked as the school secretary and helped with some remedial teaching. I was an active member of the C.W.L. at whose meetings I shared in the spiritual depths of the ladies of the parish. I am very happy that I said "yes" to this assignment because my life has truly been enriched by the parishioners of Precious Blood.

**Sister Rose Sieben (S.M. Raymond), 1963 - 1964:**

As teacher of grades seven and eight, I introduced public speaking into the curriculum. I remember the faith - filled people of the parish and I am very happy to have had the opportunity to have served in that parish.

**Sister Zita Merkowsky, 1982 - 1983:**

During my brief stay, I was impressed with the friendliness and hospitality of the parishioners. Also as coordinator of the C.C.D. classes, I greatly appreciated the dedication and cooperation of the volunteer catechists.

**Sister Emily Borho, 1971 - 1986:**

My years at Cloverdale moved quickly and what a memory I have of an appreciative farewell given by the parents of my grade ones. It is a memory that calls forth deep feelings of



gratitude to God with prayer that God will continue to bless the friendly, generous people of Precious Blood Parish.

**Sister Teresa Koebel, 1980 - 1982:**

It was a great blessing and privilege to be part of your wonderful, grace-filled parish when I was a homemaker for the Sisters. As a choir member and member of the C.W.L., I was moved by the spirit of hospitality and support of the parishioners and I have many beautiful memories.

**Sister Mary Michael, 1974 - 1979:**

During my stay in Cloverdale, I taught grades five and six and took part in the parish C.C.D. program in the preparation of children for Confirmation. A good spirit of cooperation prevailed in our community of Church, home and school. We were therefore able to provide a good education for all. Hopefully, our students have benefitted from their Catholic training and have become faithful and prayerful members of the Parish community.

**Sister M. Celeste, 1967 - 1969:**

During those years, I was the teacher of grade one at Cloverdale Catholic where I had many happy experiences among the little ones. I learned that the parents possessed solid Christian values for they loved and cared for their children, and were dedicated to and concerned about their education and the school environment. Precious memories which I treasure, will remain with me forever.

**Sister Martha Fauteux, 1986 - 1989:**

How fortunate for me to have begun my teaching career in Cloverdale! My years there were very happy ones with the grade ones. I found the parents very supportive and enthusiastic and eager to gain more spiritual values. Memories of my days in Cloverdale have helped me as I now work among the less fortunate children of Peru.

**Sister Eileen Pautler, 1975 - 1989:**

What sad news it was when I was asked to leave Cloverdale and teaching! Cloverdale with its good people had certainly made me feel at home despite the distance from Ontario. During my stay, there were many changes in the school, in its administration, etc. I found the Pastor, the Board, the people and the teachers always very supportive and encouraging. I hold many special memories of these days in Cloverdale and I, too, am a better Sister today for having willingly gone there. May God continue to bless the Parish.

**Sister Marie Schneider (S. M. Carmella), 1958 - 1961:**

I was a member of the first community of Sisters to arrive in Cloverdale. I have happy memories of my years there. I believe these memories have encouraged me since then, and I pray for God's continued blessings on the Parish and school.

**Sister Colette Ryan, 1967 - 1972:**

I think the most enduring memory for me is the generous Christian spirit of sharing and caring that was such an integral part of the members of Precious Blood Parish. Not

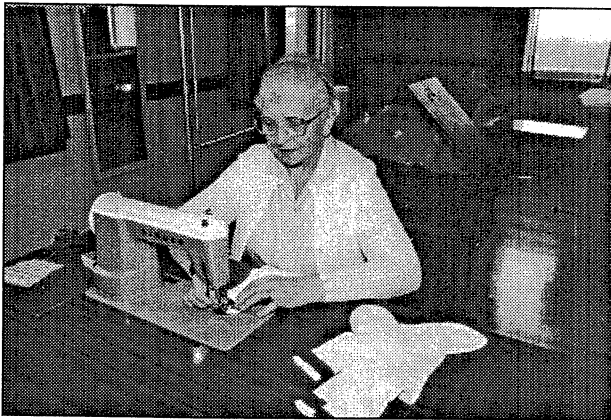
only was it evident in the adults, but the children also showed that same characteristic - imbibed, no doubt, from the example of their parents and fellow parishioners.

**Sister George Marie, 1968 - 1974:**

My fondest memory of my days in Cloverdale was the great generosity of the parents and their gratitude and cooperation with the teachers for the forwarding of Catholic education in British Columbia.

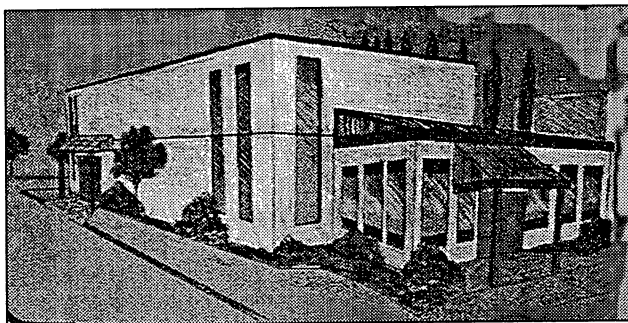
**Sister Rita White (S. M. Gabriella), 1961 - 1968:**

The fact that I always spend some of my vacation, when home from South America, back in Cloverdale is proof enough that my years there were very memorable ones. I pray for the good people of the parish that God may continue to bless them and prosper their efforts to expand His Kingdom.

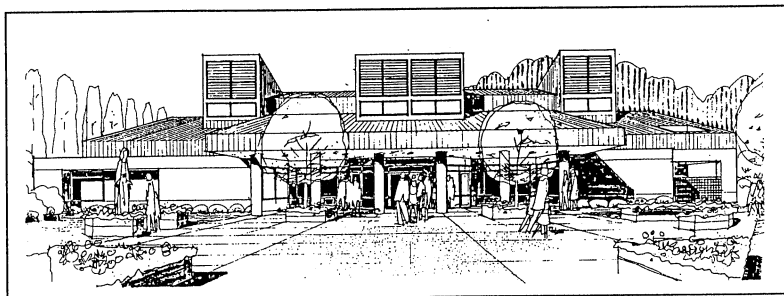


Sister Hyacinth - 1988

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First conceptual rendering of Parish Centre  
by Joyce Benson



First architectural rendering of Parish Centre  
Many changes were made to arrive at final building

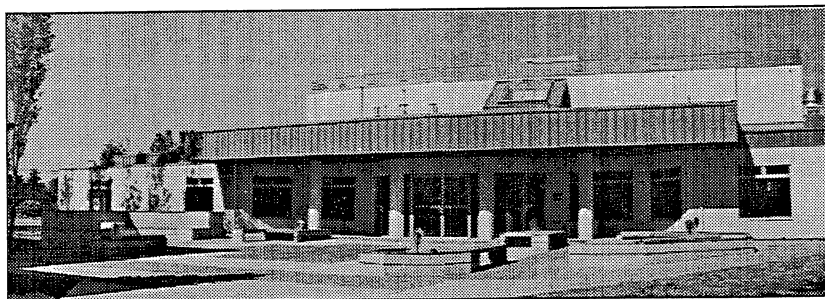


Photo of the finished building, June, 1997

1996 BUILDING COMMITTEE

- Pat Bradley - Chairman
- Adam E. Christiaanse - Co-Chairman (*Consulting Engineer*)
- Filip Christiaanse - (*Urban Planner*)
- Teresa Clarke - Parish Education Committee
- Caroline Loxterkamp - Parish Catholic Women's League
- Jeannette McKinnon - Parish St. Theresa's Circle
- Margaret Van Eden - Parish St. Theresa's Circle
- Dave Thomas - St. Vincent de Paul
- Vince Hanna - Finance Committee
- Malcolm DaSilva - Pastoral Council

# *A Parish Centre At Last!*

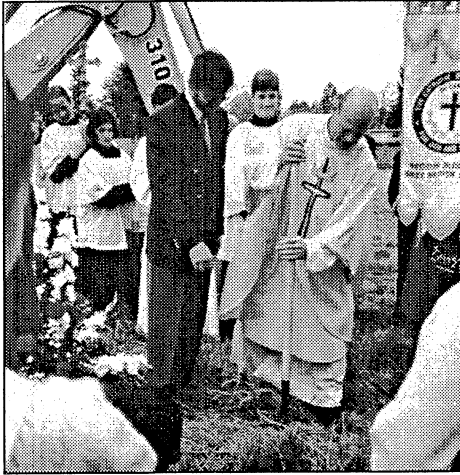
On April 1, 1986, Msgr. J. E. Brown wrote to the Most Rev. Archbishop J. Carney pointing out the need for a gymnasium and social hall for our parish. The Archbishop answered on April 18, 1986, authorizing Msgr. Brown to set up a Building Fund for the proposed construction. This was not an "Approval in Principle" but it was only the "Approval for Preliminary Steps and Initial Studies" to enable us to ask for "Approval in Principle" in the future.

The ball began to roll, albeit very slowly. A small committee was struck and reviewed the parish bulletins of 1984 and 1985 to determine the "meeting and gathering" needs of the parish. The original needs were expected to be served by a building with a main hall of 5,000 square feet and meeting areas of 5,000 square feet. We then set about raising the funds. Project Advance rebates and excess annual income went into the fund. This was a slow process until 1990 when the Bushey legacy added \$150,000, and 1994 the Lavoie legacy contributed \$300,000. Also, in 1993, a major push was made through Project Advance to secure 3-year pledges.

Finally, on January 5, 1994, Archbishop Exner granted "Approval In Principle" and we were on our way. The preliminary design work began in earnest and in April, 1995 we engaged Pacific Rim Architecture Ltd. to design our new Parish Centre. Tenders were called in February, 1996, and our first real disappointment happened. The building was half a million dollars over budget! Red ink flowed for weeks as parts of the building were cut to meet the budget. During

this time Msgr. Brown retired and our guidance was entirely in the hands of the Holy Spirit who truly kept us focused until new tenders were called in April.

With Father Mark Hagemoen's assistance, we finally "broke ground" on our Parish Feast Day of Corpus Christi, June, 1996 and construction began in August with expected completion spring, 1997.



Father Mark "breaks ground" while Pat Bradley, Matthew O'Donnell, and the Parish watch.

Perfect timing for our 50th Anniversary. Of course the weather was rather uncooperative and some delays were experienced. However, a final inspection took place May 30, 1997, with very few outstanding deficiencies.

Eleven years of planning and squirreling away funds all culminated in the joy of Archbishop Exner's blessing of our

CLOVERDALE CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE on June 15, 1997.

#### 1986 BUILDING COMMITTEE

Adam E. Christiaanse - Chairman, (*Consulting Engineer*)  
Filip Christiaanse - (*Urban Planner*)

#### 1993 BUILDING COMMITTEE

Adam E. Christiaanse - Chairman, (*Consulting Engineer*)  
Filip Christiaanse - (*Urban Planner*)  
Marie Smith - Parish Education Committee  
Caroline Loxterkamp - Parish Catholic Women's League  
Jeannette McKinnon - Parish St. Theresa's Circle  
Margaret Van Eden - Parish St. Theresa's Circle  
Paul Moric - Knights of Columbus



# *Precious Blood Parish*

## *P.R.E.P. (C.C.D.)*

C.C.D. (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) or our new title which we have been given, P.R.E.P. (Parish Religious Education Program), is a program of religious education for the children of our parish who attend public schools.

In 1981, Father Joseph McInerney approached Hilda Kreig to take over as C.C.D. Coordinator from Sister Eileen Paulter who was Principal of Cloverdale Catholic School, Coordinator, and teacher of the C.C.D. program. Sisters Francella and Rita also taught. Classes were held Sunday mornings between Masses. Father McInerney convinced Hilda to take on the program by saying that Archbishop Carney once told him to always ask the busiest people and they'll never let you down.

The teachers, (Jennifer Feldhaus, Josephine Beal, Lucille Tremblay, Mary Skrzypczak, Elizabeth Frederickson, Lucille Abgrall & Gayle Mate), most of whom are still in the Parish, were dedicated, hard-working, and understanding volunteers.

After Father Patrick Tepoorten arrived, Sister Zita became the Coordinator and was followed by Rhonnda Hemmerling.

In 1997 we have 70 families registered with 102 children. Our volunteer staff consists of seven teachers, two special class teachers, one teacher's aid, one phoning lady, and two substitute teachers. Some have been with us for fifteen years.

We meet Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 7:45 pm beginning in the gym for prayer before class. Our regular curriculum is taken from the Christ our Life Series which begins with kindergarten and follows through to grade seven. We also use "We Celebrate the Eucharist" for Communion and "Confirmed in the Spirit" for Confirmation. Our two special classes are for children who have not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Communion.

We began 1996 with all the classes visiting the Blessed Sacrament during our Exposition time. During October, the month of the Holy Rosary, all the classes went to the church for the Living Rosary. The final night of P.R.E.P. before Christmas we had a prayer service followed by a Christmas play, directed by Berna Bradley and Mary Lynn Hyde. They combined this production with Christmas carols and a social. It was a great success.

The First Communion program is a three part series in which the parents teach the first section at home. The teachers at school and P.R.E.P. teach the second part. The third part is when we all come together to celebrate Mass on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. This is a capping of the week's lesson and an opportunity for parents and children of both religion classes to worship together. Our parents look forward to each new step along the way to learning and sharing with their children. This program brings children and parents together, and creates lasting friendships between P.R.E.P. and C.C.S. parents. The program also helps bring some of our parents back to the sacraments.

For the Confirmation program, we meet six times to help the parents discern a sponsor for their candidate and to bring the sponsors and candidates closer together in faith by discussing bible readings, prayer, personal experiences, dealing with positive aspects of faith in the Catholic church, and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. We also have a retreat for the Confirmation students.

Submitted by Rhonnda Hemmerling.





# *Knights of Columbus*

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal society of Catholic laymen. The Order, based on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, was founded on October 2, 1881 by ten Catholic men and Father Michael J. McGivney at St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Haven, Connecticut.

Founded to serve both our church and community, these men saw a need and so established a fraternal insurance system to provide assistance to widows and orphans suffering the loss of the principal family wage earner.

Here in the Fraser Valley, a group of young men was elected to office by the area's pioneers, and, in the depth of the Depression, the council started an expansion program. Outstanding in this work were James T. Sullivan (Grand Knight, 1934-39) and Frank McKinnon (Financial Secretary, 1931-58).

Meetings were held at Abbotsford, Mission, Chilliwack, and White Rock. Sullivan's store panel truck loaded down with Knights was a familiar sight in the parishes.

Precious Blood parishioners were very active through Fraser Valley council #2552 located at Langley, B.C. Cloverdale was part of their area from their beginning in 1923.

Cloverdale Council #7276 was granted their charter from Supreme Council on March 18, 1979 with 38 charter and new members. The first meeting on April 18, 1978 elected its initial executive. They consisted of Tony Junk (Grand Knight), Hilary Perka (D.G.K.), Mike Makarenko (Chancellor), Wendel Wildeman (Advocate), Louis Szlovicsak (Warden), Edwin Krieg (Recorder), Earl Cauglan (Financial Secretary), Gerry Uytdehaag (Treasurer), Chris

Lavin and Roger Pilkey (Guards), Ralph Grantam, Jim Sullivan and Bill Fisher (Trustees).

The following were the Grand Knights from 1947 to 1980:

Bart Ryan (1947)	Harry Vanderishe (1948)
Father Pat O'Sullivan (1949)	Jim Sullivan (1951)
Norbert Beatch (1953)	Lloyd Gevlin (1955)
Mel Nelson (1956)	Jack Kempt (1957)
Hugh Duddy (1958)	Mike Williams (1959)
Jim Sullivan (1960)	Bob Morley (1961)
Fred Rhodes (1962)	Frank Blomme (1964)
Arnold Reab (1966)	George Sidor (1968)
Joe Krentz (1969)	Ray Lehoux (1971)
Ted King (1973)	Joe Gerspasher (1975)
Bruce Daffe (1977)	Lorne Smith (1979)
Don Beer (1980)	

After the Cloverdale council #7276 was established in 1979, the Grand Knights were:

Tony Junk (1979)	Hilary Perka (1980)
Mike Makarenko (1982)	Allan O'Hara (1985)
George Hemmerling (1986)	George Desharnais (1988)
Walter Butula (1990)	Mike O'Donnell (1992)
Dan Gibbons (1994)	Don Finkle (1996)

Fransis J. McKinnon rightly deserves most praise and recognition throughout this whole 50 year period for his dedication as finance secretary and B.C. and Yukon State Deputy Knight of Columbus.

A substantial sum of money from the sale of property was donated to council #7276 by its parent #2552 and #7276 was able to purchase church pews, tables and chairs for Precious Blood Parish new church in 1979.

# *First Impressions*

*by Katie De Jong*

My first impressions of Precious Blood Parish were that it is a loving, caring, supporting community. If I had to describe our parish in one word, it would be "support". We are not only always ready to support functions in the parish, school, and archdiocese such as bazaars and Project Advance, but are also always eager to help others. We support missionaries, refugees, and are endlessly contributing to St. Vincent de Paul. I especially think it is wonderful that we buy Christmas gifts for the needy. It's not so much how many things, groups, or causes we support that makes us such a wonderful parish, but that we do it freely, and with gladness to serve Jesus.

In our parish community, everyone is welcome, young and old, strong and weak. Those who have wandered away from our faith are welcomed back and accepted. Babies are baptized in our parish and are supported as they grow up as children of God. I know that when I am confirmed this coming year, I will be accepted as an adult in the parish.

I am told that when our parish was first brought together, Mass was celebrated in the school hall. Now, we have worked together to build both a church and a parish centre. I don't think it really matters where the Mass is celebrated, but rather how we celebrate it. Our parish would not be what it is today without its wonderful parishioners. We are all bound together when we celebrate the Eucharist. We have one mission: to serve Jesus. We truly are One Body, One Spirit, in Christ.



Under the guidance of Hilary Perka, P.G.K., both councils were able to open a new wing of 50 attractive and affordable apartments for low income senior citizens in Cloverdale.

Knights of Columbus activities are many and varied. Our council has maintained a dedication toward supporting our Catholic faith, our Church, our community and our Order. It has proudly maintained many commitments, fundraising and social events over the years with an emphasis on maintaining strong religious, family and community values. Several of our brother Knights have aspired beyond our local council and have served as District Deputies and one Knight served on the State Executive for several years.

Our council has a considerable number of 4th Degree, our highest level of membership, which has also been active in providing honour guards at special masses, church and community events. We are pleased that two members, Jim Sullivan and Mel Nelson, have received recognition from our supreme office by being awarded honorary (H) or Honorary Life (H.L.) membership.

1996 Executive of Council 7276, Cloverdale:

- Grand Knight.....Don Finkle
- Deputy Grand Knight .....Paul McGowan
- Padre .....Father John Tritschler
- Chancellor.....John Van Zanten
- Recorder.....Bill Flitton
- Financial Secretary .....Mike Makarenko P.G.K.
- Treasurer .....Pat Pasloski
- Advocate.....David Kosick
- Warden .....Joe Pasloski
- Inside Guard .....Steve Stevens
- Outside Guard .....Andy Andrews
- Trustee (3) .....Dan Gibbons P.G.K.
- Trustee (2) .....Edwin Kreig
- Trustee (1) .....Mike O'Donnell P.G.K.



# *Rectory Renovations*

In March 1996, Father Mark Hagemoen came to Precious Blood Parish as Temporary Administrator and began the process of converting the rectory into separate areas for the Parish Office and Priest's residence.

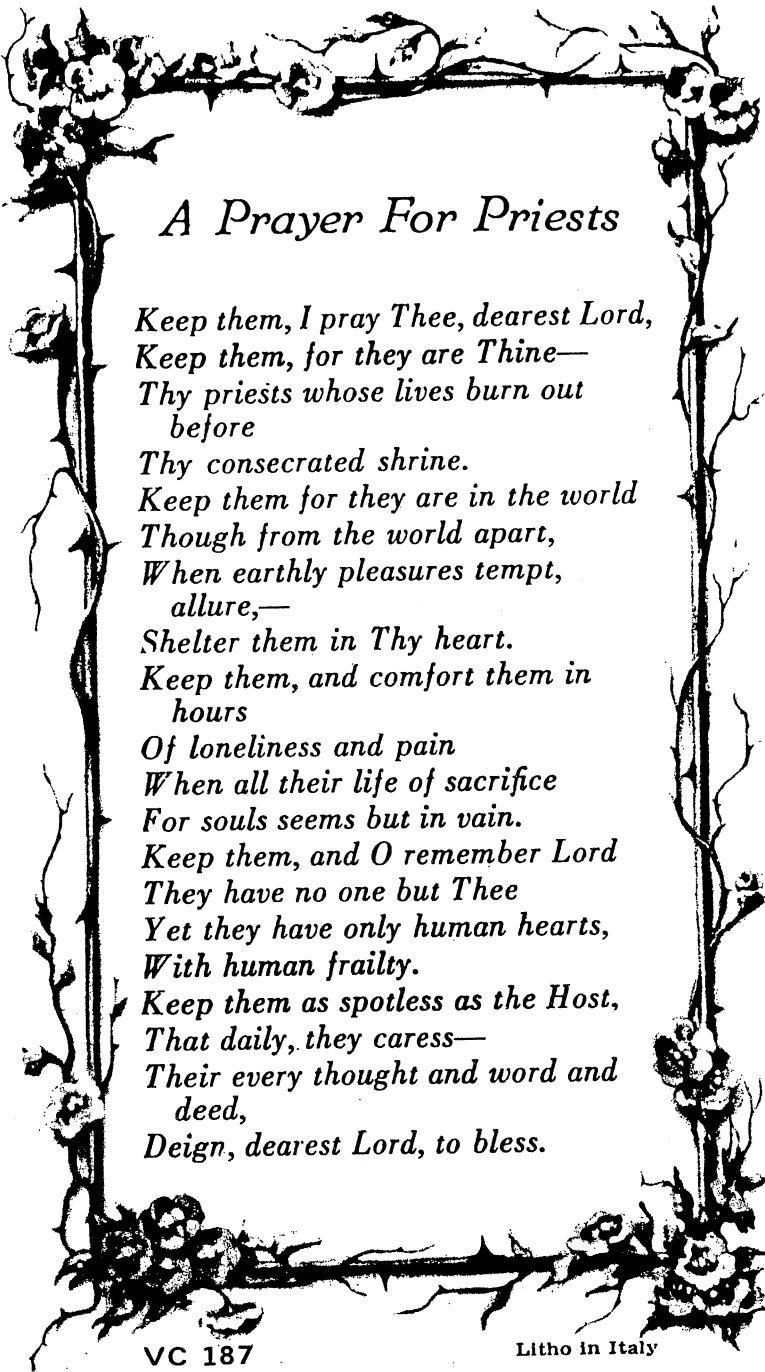
Father Mark asked the Knights to help with these renovations and the flurry began. It was decided to amalgamate the room to the right of the front door with the bedroom behind it, converting them into the Parish Office. The wall and door were removed and replaced with a counter. A new door was installed from the hallway to the new office and another door installed between the two rooms, effectively making them one office.

The room to the left of the front door was soundproofed and finished as an interview office for the pastor. A new front door was installed and fitted with an intercom and remote control so the secretary could speak to a visitor before opening the door.

A beam was designed so one wall of the former courtyard could be removed and the area divided into a new meeting room and a dining room. Two skylites were installed to provide more light. This also allowed the residence area of the rectory to become separate and private from the office.

The work was carried out primarily by Knights of Columbus volunteers and other parishioners, all coordinated by Brian O'Ruairc.

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## *A Prayer For Priests*

*Keep them, I pray Thee, dearest Lord,  
Keep them, for they are Thine—  
Thy priests whose lives burn out  
before*

*Thy consecrated shrine.*

*Keep them for they are in the world  
Though from the world apart,  
When earthly pleasures tempt,  
allure,—*

*Shelter them in Thy heart.*

*Keep them, and comfort them in  
hours*

*Of loneliness and pain  
When all their life of sacrifice  
For souls seems but in vain.*

*Keep them, and O remember Lord  
They have no one but Thee  
Yet they have only human hearts,  
With human frailty.*

*Keep them as spotless as the Host,  
That daily, they caress—  
Their every thought and word and  
deed,*

*Deign, dearest Lord, to bless.*

# *Priests of Precious Blood Parish*

O'Sullivan, Patrick Ignatius.....Pastor: 1947 - 1963  
Paris, Charles Bertrand .....Administrator: 1959 - 1960  
Sorel, Oswald Francis.....1960 - 1961  
Carrigan, Neil .....Pastor: 1963 - 1969  
Henshaw, J. Robert.....1964  
Wilson, Donald .....Administrator:1969 - 1970  
McEvoy, Patrick.....Pastor: 1970 - 1972  
Kotsko, Leon.....1970 - 1971  
MacDonald, Hugh Allan .....In Residence: 1971 - 1973  
McInerney, Joseph .....Pastor: 1973 - 1982  
Steele, John L.....In Residence: 1973 - 1982  
Brown, J. Edward .....Pastor: 1982 - 1996  
Hagemoen, Mark.....Administrator: April to July, 1996  
Travers, Vincent.....July, 1996  
Tritschler, John .....Pastor: August 1996 to present

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