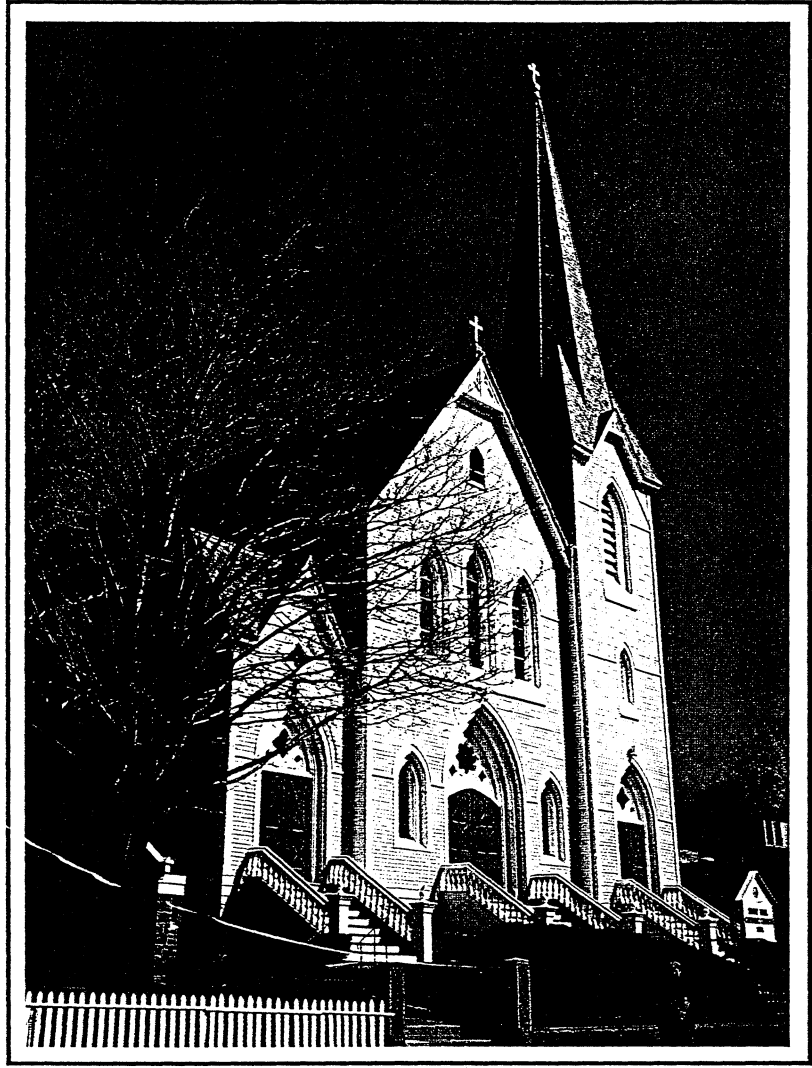
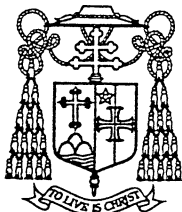


No. 177
11/14/01 *etc*

*CELEBRATING 125 YEARS
1871-1996*



ST. PAUL CHURCH



CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE
2101 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BRIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02135

September 5, 1996



The Reverend James F. Rafferty
St. Paul's Parish
147 North Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Dear Father Rafferty:

It was a pleasure for me to be with you, the priests, religious and parishioners on June 29, 1996 to celebrate the 125th anniversary of St. Paul's Parish in Hingham. The liturgy was beautiful and the music excellent. I am happy that everything worked out so well.

The faith has taken deep root and has matured among generations of Catholics in Hingham through the lives and sacrifices of so many dedicated persons associated with St. Paul's Parish. The parish in so many ways is the heart of the religious lives of the faithful. Centered around the celebration of the Eucharist and nourished by the preaching of the Word of God and celebration of the sacraments, the faith of the people has been strengthened and their lives enriched. What a beautiful testimony to the goodness of God is the life of this parish!

As I thank you and the pastoral staff for the good work which you have accomplished at St. Paul's Parish it is my prayer that all the members of the parish may rededicate themselves to the Lord. May the vitality of spirit and spiritual growth of the parish's life continue to be strengthened through the Lord's favor. I pray in a special way that the young people of the parish might be moved by this celebration to consider what role God expects them to fulfill in the Church.

Asking God to bless you, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Boston

BCL:kr



St. Paul's Rectory
147 NORTH STREET
HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02043

October 1, 1996

Dear Parishioners:

It is a great joy to be with you to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of St. Paul's Parish in Hingham. Every time I pick up the 1996 Boston Catholic Directory, I feel a good sense of pride in my heart as I look at the outstanding back cover picture of our Parish Church with its doors wide open and the caption proclaiming, "125 years and still growing strong in Hingham." I congratulate you the faithful parishioners of St. Paul Parish for making us the good, strong, healthy parish we are. Our parish life is marked by the active participation of our laity, the committed service of our religious and clergy, the gracious spiritual support of our parishioners and your generous financial support as witnessed by your extraordinary response to our recent Capital Campaign to improve our Church and Parish School.

Today's parish is called, above all, to be the center and source for the faith development of all its people. To awaken and strengthen faith in God and His Church has always been a personal summation of my sense of mission and this is also the vision of parish which is operative at St. Paul's. It is your faith and love that enkindles a spirit which makes us feel like an extended family, it is your voices and acclamations of faith that foster a desire for full participation in the liturgy, and your ready smile that creates a spirit of welcome for all our people. Celebrating Sunday and daily Mass with you is a joy because of your evident faith and desire to be nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharist. All our sacramental celebrations give witness that you are listening regularly to the Word of God and deepening the conversion of heart that leads to holiness of life. Through your active part in Christ's mission you contribute personally to the life and work of our parish and all this makes it a particular privilege to serve as your pastor.

May Almighty God continue to bless us and to call us to even greater fidelity and fruitfulness as we work together to accomplish his holy purposes and come at last to eternal life in Heaven. Let us continue to pray for one another and live in holy joy and love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

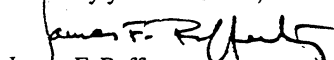

James F. Rafferty
Pastor

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We Recall

When the Reverend Peter Hobart first came with his band of colonists to Bare Cove in 1635, Catholic settlement and influence in Massachusetts were small indeed. Sir Christopher Gardiner, the first Catholic of record in Quincy, had settled in Squantum in 1629. He had suffered difficulties at the hands of the Puritans and had taken refuge among the Indians in Plymouth. They turned him over to Governor Bradford. He was brought a prisoner to Plymouth, taken to Boston, and finally shipped off to London in 1631.

Perhaps the first mention of Catholicity in Hingham was contained in the writings of Josiah Quincy, who in his day was the leader of the Federalists and who, in his late years, wrote a book called *Figures of the Past*, in which he recalled "One day at the beginning of the century [that would be around 1800] I was driving to Boston in a pelting storm and overtook a forlorn foot passenger who, drenched and bedraggled, was plodding along the miry road. I drew up my horse and called to the stranger to get in and ride with me. 'That would be scarcely fair' was the man's reply. 'My clothes are soaked with water and would spoil the cushions of your chaise, to say nothing of the wetting I could not avoid giving you.' These objections were made light of and, after some difficulty, the wayfarer was persuaded to take the offered seat. During the ride I learned that my company was a priest named Cheverus, who was walking from Hingham where he had been to perform some office connected with his profession, and thus commenced an acquaintance which afterwards ripened into friendship between those whose beliefs and ways of life were outwardly so different."

Jean Lefebre Cheverus, after a succession of priests whose tenure at Boston had not been happy, came to the town as a priest in 1796. He became the first Bishop of Boston in 1808 and, until his departure in 1823, made himself so beloved in the intolerant Puritan community that his leaving was a signal for an outpouring of affection such as Boston had rarely witnessed. He and his confrere, the sainted Father Matignon who had preceded him to Boston, were instrumental in the great change in attitude towards Catholics and their faith, which did not really begin in Massachusetts until they came and lived here. Jean Cheverus was the first of a line of truly remarkable men who served the Boston diocese as bishop and who are of importance to the people of St. Paul's Parish because, without the foundation which they laid, the collection of the congregation at Hingham and the building of the church would have come much later than it did.

In the year 1826 the town of Scituate, which had been separated from Braintree of which it had formerly been the northern precinct in the 1790s, had two thousand inhabitants. Late in that year the first Mass in Quincy was celebrated in what was called "Long House," which then stood near the brook on Adams Street.

A gentleman called to see President John Quincy Adams, who was then at home. He introduced himself as a Roman Catholic clergyman, and gave his name as the Reverend Father Prendergast. He told the President that he had come to visit the Catholics in the vicinity and administer the sacraments to them and, since he was a stranger, he made bold to ask President Adams as to how he might find them.

The President received him in very cordial fashion and, after some conversation, called in John Kirk, an Irishman in his employ who lived with the President, and introduced Father Prendergast. The news soon spread through the village that the priest had come, confessions were heard that night, and early the next morning the first Mass was celebrated. (This was the story of an old Quincy gentleman, which is probably true, although Father Prendergast has not been otherwise identified in the history of the Archdiocese of Boston. He could have been, and probably was one of the numerous mission priests who passed through from time to time.)

It is necessary in tracing the history of St. Paul's parish to make reference to Quincy, which was the bridge between Boston and the South Shore. Quincy was for a long time a mission of South Boston. In December 1840 a Father Terrence Fitzgerald was placed in charge of both areas. After first saying Mass in the West Quincy schoolhouse in Quincy, from which he was for a time ousted by local bigotry, he bought a lot in West Quincy close to the quarries where most of the men in the little congregation worked. There he erected a modest church with a cupola at a cost of \$4,000. On September 18, 1842 the bishop dedicated St. Mary's Church, with President John Quincy Adams in attendance.

St. Mary's parish at first embraced Milton, Randolph, Stoughton, Braintree, Weymouth, Hingham, Cohasset, and all of the South Shore save Plymouth. Every Sunday there could be seen people from nearly all of these towns in the churchyard at St. Mary's. They came by boat, on horseback, and the few who could afford car-

riages drive in them. The churchyard of St. Mary's in the 1840s on a Sunday was a living testimony to the faith which the people had brought with them after hard days—it is a picture which should be recalled in these days when travel is so simple and passage by foot is so largely a relic of the past.

In 1851 it was decided to extend the Quincy parish by building a new church at Gay and School Streets in Quincy. Construction got under way, but a depression caused cessation of the operation. Father Rodden, the first Boston priest to be educated in Rome at the College of the Propaganda, who had taken over in the district in 1848, contributed his personal savings and salary as editor of the *Pilot* to the extent of \$5,000. This facilitated completion of the church, which finally cost \$6,000. The dedication of St. John the Baptist Church by Bishop Fitzpatrick took place on November 13, 1853.

In those days the members of the congregations entrusted to the priests at St. Mary's and St. John's were largely Irish in nationality. Many of them had come here poor, untrained in any skills, and with no schooling whatsoever. The oppression



which the immigrants endured in their own country for centuries was heightened by the terrible days of the famine. And so it was that the original Hingham parish was made up of people who had come here mostly in very small vessels, some of three hundred tons, some but sixty or seventy tons. While the average passage was thirty-five or forty days, bad weather would make such a passage extend two or three months. The people who first came to St. Paul's brought with them all their possessions on shipboard: a bag of potatoes, oats, bread and tea. Overcrowding was commonplace and, since the height between decks was no more than five-and-a-half feet, it was impossible for some to stand erect. Fever and cholera plagued the passengers and, even before their arrival on shore, they died in large numbers.

During this time Hingham continued as a station of St. Mary's and St. John's in Quincy. At the beginning of 1850 a group called the Hingham Catholic Association announced a course of lectures on church history to be given by Father Rodden. The Know Nothing Movement was at its height during Fr. Rodden's pastorate, and it fell to his lot to calm parishioners with the outrageous anti-Catholic rumors which were circulated by members of that party in the community in which he served. During this time Mass services were held in the Town Hall. Despite a number of efforts, the people were not able to build a church. It appears also that Mass was occasionally said on Sunday at a home in the area known as the "Cove," owned by a family named Hickey, and probably located near the junction of North and Mill Streets. Prior to the building of St. Paul's, Mass was said regularly on Sunday in what was then the town hall,

located on Main Street. A priest would come down from Quincy on Saturday, would hear confessions, and stay overnight in the homes of parishioners in order to say Mass on Sunday. One of the homes in which he stayed was the residence at 31 Cedar Street.

In due course Abington was detached from the Quincy parish and Hingham became part of it and then, on July 16, 1866, Weymouth was separated from Abington and became a parish which included all the adjoining coastal towns down to Scituate. The first pastor of this parish was Father John Hannigan, and he was succeeded by Father Hugh P. Smyth.

In Fr. Smyth's career as pastor from 1869 to 1883 he constructed eight new churches. Three months after he arrived in Weymouth his own church, St. Francis Xavier, burned down, and he relocated his new church in South Weymouth. Fr. Hannigan purchased the site of the church in Hingham on August 10, 1866, on which Fr. Smyth erected the earliest of his churches. St. Paul, as it was called, was dedicated by Bishop Williams on July 23, 1871.

The land on which St. Paul's church stands was a part of one of the original town grants of land made in 1635. A house built about 1652 (later, the Thaxter mansion, which remained on the site until 1866) was a fine old colonial house, with tapestried walls, broad tiled fireplaces, and decorated door panels. The house was sold in 1770 to Elisha Leavitt, a bitter Tory. In the house was a blind passage to which a secret door gave access. At one time during the Revolutionary War fellow Tories were concealed in the passageway, safely escaping a search by the Committee of Safety. On one

occasion when a mob threatened to burn the house, Leavitt rolled out a barrel of rum in front of the house and the threatened violence was drowned in good cheer. The house was demolished in 1866 and the property, which was valuable for manufacturing purposes in the business center of Hingham, was also a convenient and easy distance to Boston both by rail and steamboat.

At long last the Society of Catholics of Hingham, already numbering 500 souls, had found a spiritual home and purchased the property for \$1,500. The cornerstone was laid on June 12, 1870.

From the archives of the Archdiocese of Boston comes this record of the dedication of the "new church in Hingham" on July 23, 1871:

"The Bishop said Mass at 8 a.m. in South Weymouth Church and at 10 1/2 blessed the new church in Hingham, St. Paul's. It is a beautiful wooden church with stone basement. It has cost about \$20,000. It is built on the site of the oldest house in the town. A choir from St. James Church in Boston under the leadership of Mr. Geo. Lloyd gave very good music at the Mass, which was sung by Rev. S. A. Healy, Rector of the Cathedral. Rev. P. McKenna of Marlboro preached a well prepared sermon. The church was crowded by the Catholics of the town and by about four hundred who came from Boston for the ceremony. (P. Keely Architect)

Rev. M. P. Smyth, Pastor
Rev. P. Leddy, Assistant"

Indeed, many of the four hundred who came from Boston arrived in Hingham on the steamer *John Romer* and returned to

Boston that afternoon.

The Church of St. Paul was 111 feet in length and 57 feet in width, with a belfry tower 128 feet high. The interior was done in chestnut, capped with black walnut, and there were numerous stained glass windows donated by members of the parish. Patrick Keely was the same architect who designed Boston's magnificent Holy Cross Cathedral, and he endowed St. Paul's with that same Gothic majesty: impressive nave, soaring spire, stained glass windows, tripartite front rising dramatically to the heights. In 1873, according to an account of the time, the most imposing structures at what was called Broad Bridge, besides St. Paul's, were the old Union Hotel and behind the church the four-story Burr Brown cord and tassel factory.

The Rev. Peter J Leddy became the pastor on August 15, 1876 when St. Paul's became an independent parish, being separated from Weymouth. At this time the Hingham parish included Scituate, Hull, and Cohasset. St. Anthony's Church in Cohasset was built in 1875.

By 1879 St. Paul's Church needed extensive repairs. In addition, a fence was added on Fearing St. These repairs were costly for the time and, when Fr. Fagan arrived in Hingham as pastor in February of 1880 he found the debt to be about \$11,000 on St. Paul's and \$2,000 on St. Anthony's in Cohasset. There was income, too: \$48 from the sale of a stereopticon, \$2,137 from a fair.

But expenses continued also. An iron fence was put up at a cost of \$275 and various payments were made to organists May Buttimer, Mary Barrett, and Hannah Welch. In 1885 Fr. Fagan, the Hingham pastor from 1880 to 1896, purchased land on Atlantic Avenue in Hull, and in 1890 opened St.

Mary's of the Assumption, which was thereafter a mission church for the Catholics at the northern end of the peninsula. Services were held first at the town hall in 1894, and then at the Corinthian Yacht Club in 1896. Finally, Fr. Mulligan of St. Paul's erected the church of St. Catherine which was dedicated by Bishop Brady on August 28, 1900. That year also marked the relocation of the rectory about 12 feet *back* from North Street.

A diary of St. Paul's would have related a terrible storm, almost a winter hurricane, on November 27, 1898 forcing church to be canceled. But there were happy events as well—lawn parties and fairs, including one of the latter that brought in \$4,022 on August 25, 1902. 1910 brought problems with the roof of the Church, and Father McCall noted that “nearly four months were consumed in the repairing of the roof.” World War I years were made harder by a harsh winter of 10 to 15 degrees below zero in 1917 and by the dreaded influenza in 1918. All churches in the town were closed on October 6 and October 13 as a result of a flu epidemic raging in Massachusetts. Parishioners gave gifts in memory of their deceased relatives and friends. Then on November 21, 1920 a fire broke out in the kitchen of the rectory in the early morning destroying that part of the “L” and the roof. The necessary repairs provided two new rooms on the east side of the rectory.

Nor was the church itself neglected in the 1920s. Fifty-five years after the construction of the church in 1926 Father MacCormack noticed that the church spire was swaying. Plans and engineering data were assembled and repairs followed. Only three years later the interior of the church was completely redecorated in a maze of scaffolding.

St. Paul's School had its beginning

when the Terry estate, formerly the tassel factory on Fearing Road came up for sale and was purchased by the pastor of St. Paul's, the Rev. Patrick Quill. An intense effort was launched by the Hingham Council of the Knights of Columbus to solicit funds for the school. The Knights were joined by every church organization, and by the fall of 1951 \$50,000 had been subscribed, and amounts for about twice that sum were pledged. Members of the Building Fund Committee and the Rev Quill had already broken ground for the school on April 8, 1951.

The population of the town continued its rapid growth expanding into south Hingham. This population explosion necessitated the establishment of the Resurrection Parish on Main Street, dedicated on April 17, 1958.

The Second Vatican Council led to many changes, not only in the liturgy but also in the participation of the laity. A parish council was instituted in 1968 with members nominated and voted for by parishioners. A more physical effect of Vatican II was the moving of the altar forward in 1969 with the priest facing the congregation. The lacy spires that adorned the altar were removed. A figure of Christ symbolizing both the resurrection and the crucifixion was placed on the teakwood paneling in the back of the sacristy.

Only two years later the centennial celebration took place, highlighted by the Mass celebrated by and reception for Cardinal Medeiros.

From the late 1960s until 1980 the parish took part in the Transitory Deacon program. The Archdiocese of Boston would assign a seminarian in his last year of study to a parish to give him experience and a

greater understanding of parish life to better prepare him for his upcoming ordination. Through the years some thirteen seminarians received their training at St. Paul's.

In June of 1973 the Sisters of St. Joseph were withdrawn from the school and for a time it seemed that the school might have to be closed. However, the Diocesan School Board concurred in the hiring of a principal and an all lay faculty. A kindergarten was opened and in September 1975 Sister Marie St. Barbara, S.N.D. was appointed principal. St. Paul's School not only survived the crisis, but grew and thrived.

In 1976 St. Paul's took part in Hingham's ecumenical celebration of the nation's Bicentennial. Exhibits and presentations by eleven participating churches were held in the parish hall. Hingham high school's concert band performed on the rectory lawn, and an ecumenical worship service took place on the steps of St. Paul's Church. In May two men from St. Paul's Parish, Edward Doyle and Philip Anderson, who were among the forty men accepted into the Permanent Diaconate Program by the Boston diocese, were ordained with the first class of deacons in Holy Cross Cathedral. Ordained as deacons in later classes were James Cumiskey '77, John Halloran '80, and John McHugh '92.

Nine years after the country's bicentennial celebration, St. Paul's joined Hingham's observance of its 350th Anniversary in 1985. Cardinal Law offered Mass and preached in St. Paul's on Sunday, September 8. His Eminence concelebrated the Mass with the pastor, priests, and deacons of the parish, as well as other area clergy and representatives of Glastonbury Abbey. An ecumenical delegation shared

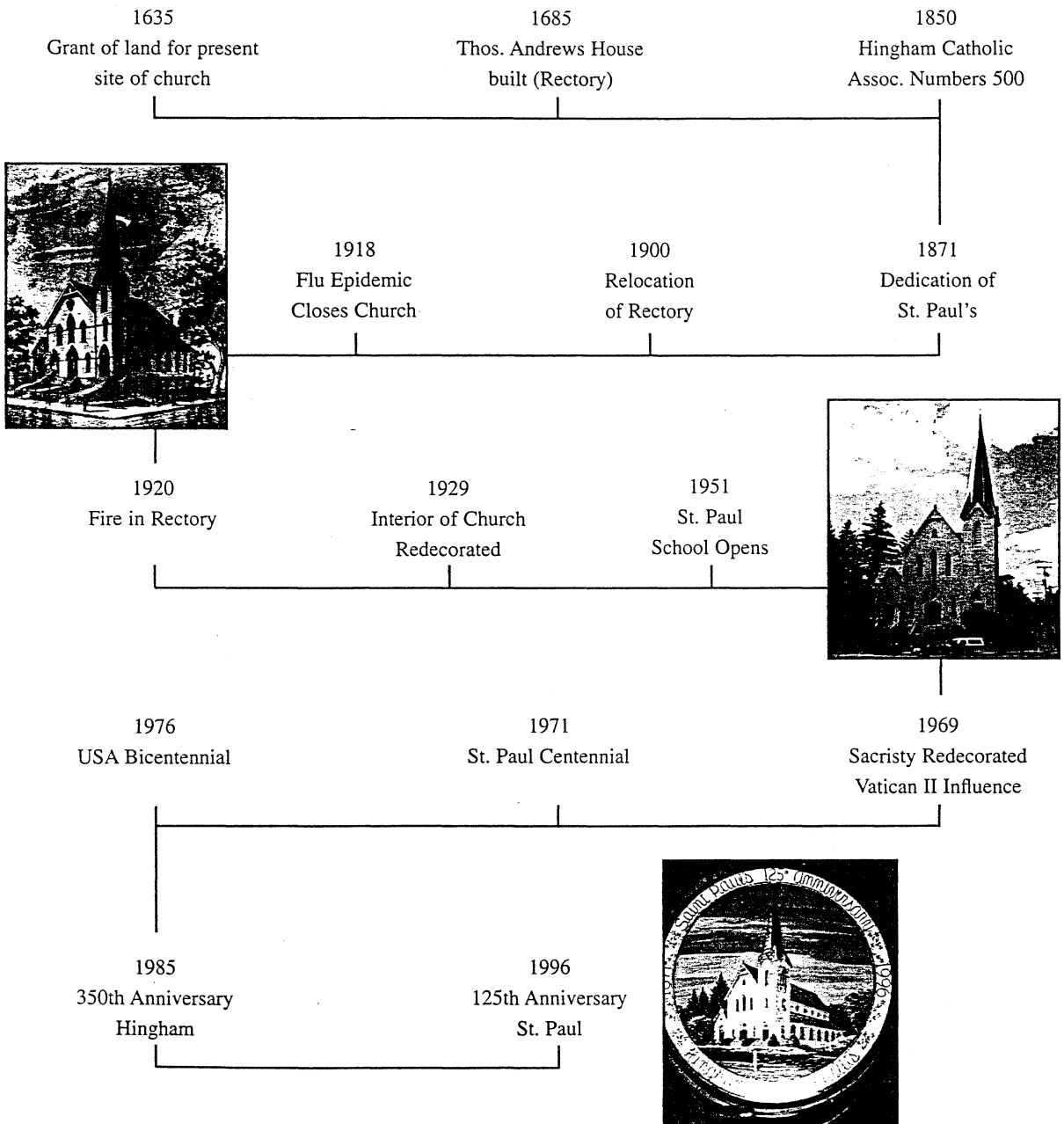
forward pews with civic dignitaries and lay officials of the parish. Music director Sal Bartolotti led the 25-voice choir and brass instrumentalists and an overflow crowd participated from the lower church. Cardinal Law complimented the priests and people of St. Paul's for the "beautiful restoration and refurbishing of the 115-year-old church."

In 1985 also the church roof was repaired and the 128' steeple was re-slatted, using polychromatic Vermont slate set in a pattern surrounding crosses on each of the six sides. St. Paul's church received an architectural preservation award for this restoration from the Hingham Historical Society in 1988, stating that the parish "has been most vigilant in protecting and maintaining its superb Gothic Revival Church, one of the most important components and contributing factors in the historic streetscape of downtown Hingham."

In 1988, after a six-year study of more than 1,100 parishes throughout the United States, a pastoral institute at Notre Dame chose St. Paul's Church to be featured in the video, "The Dynamic Parish." Churches that were deemed "dynamic" were community-oriented—churches where parishioners socialized and found spiritual enrichment and emotional support during crises. The sense of community was primarily created by St. Paul's school and its "involved" parent/teacher organization. The 30-minute video will be used in adult education classes to provide a diversity of leadership approaches for churches throughout the country.

Today, in its 125th year, 1996, St. Paul's rededicates itself to that community orientation and involvement.

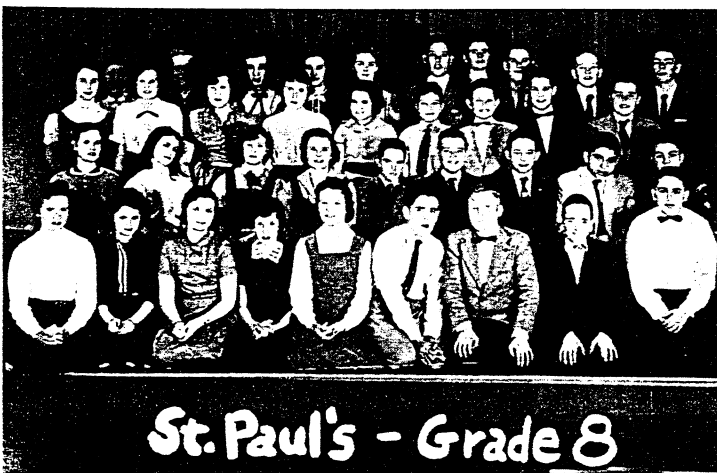
Time Line



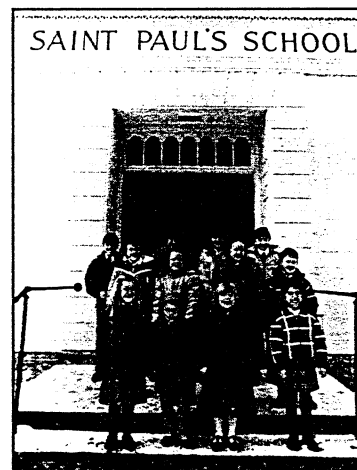
St. Paul's School

St. Paul's School Vital Statistics

- 1951 Groundbreaking
Sports: Basketball Team for Boys and Girls
- 1952 School Opens, Grades 1-4
Testing: Standardized Tests Annually;
I.Q. Testing
- 1956 8 Grades Enrolled
Uniforms: Required for Boys and Girls
- 1957 First Graduating Class
Tuition: \$1620 (Students from Parish);
\$1875 (Students from Outside Parish)
- 1960 Original First Grade Graduates
Towns Represented: 12
- 1973 Sisters of St. Joseph Leave
Bus Transportation: Arranged for
Hingham Residents by Hingham
School Dept.
- 1974 Kindergarten Opened
Nurse: Volunteer Mothers
- 1996 9 Full-Time Teachers; 4 Part-Time
Music, Art, Physical Ed., Computers
280 Students Enrolled
125 On Waiting List
Rooms: 9 Classrooms, Cafeteria,
Computer Room, Gymnasium,
2 Offices



1957



We Remember

ONE FAMILY'S HISTORY

In the spring of 1935 my parents and our family of seven children, of whom I was the second oldest, moved to Hingham from Mattapan. That spring I was a sophomore at St. Gregory's High School in Dorchester and my sister Eleanor, who was a senior, drove us back and forth to Dorchester every day so that we could finish the school year without disruption. When we moved to Hingham, the very first place my mother took us as a family was to St. Paul's church for Sunday Mass. It was then, on that day, that I began my lifelong relationship with this beautiful church. Also, although I didn't know it at that particular moment, I was soon to meet the love of my life, and together we would realize the most significant events of our generation, and the most memorable occasions of our life would revolve around St. Paul's.

In the remaining years of the 1930s my family would go on to have two more Baptisms, three First Communions, and five Confirmations at St. Paul's. It was during this time, in the fall of 1935 as I began my junior year at Hingham High School, that I met James "Bud" Magner.



Bud's family had a long history with deep and abiding roots in this, his beloved town of Hingham. His great-grandfather John James Magner had immigrated to Hingham in 1851 from his birthplace in County Cork, Ireland. John married here and had six sons; the third one, James Alfred born in 1889, was Bud's father. John, a stonemason, was among the workers who built the foundation for the new Catholic church in Hingham Square, to be called St. Paul's.

Bud and I dated throughout our high school years and beyond—into the historic 1940s, when life as we knew it would change beyond our imagination. It was to St. Paul's church that we found ourselves flocking on Sunday, December 7, 1941 as the news of Pearl Harbor flooded every radio wave in America. Shortly thereafter, in the spring of 1942 Bud enlisted in the Army and became the first of Hingham's young men to ship out. During those four, long, dark years of World War II, I spent many hours in St. Paul's quietly praying for him and for all of our "boys" who were so perilously far from home.

Truly God heard my prayers because on the picture-perfect morning of September 11, 1943 Bud and I were married in St. Paul's church, planning our wedding around his leave. Many months later, on June 6, 1944, which was also Bud's 26th birthday, I returned to St. Paul's church and prayed for the D-Day troops as news of the invasion began. It was there again on a cold Sunday in January of 1945 that I had our first child, Mary, christened—and wrote about it to her father who was then somewhere in Europe. And, finally, at long last it was there in June of the same year that I and hundreds and hundreds of other parishioners, many having to stand on the church stairs and sidewalk, gath-

cred to rejoice in the news that this terrible war had ended.

In September of 1946 our second child, Joanne, was born, followed by Imelda in 1947, James in 1949, Thomas in 1950, Paul in 1952, Bernadette in 1957, and Richard in 1961. Each child was baptized and each child received their sacraments in St. Paul's church as did their father before them, marking them as the third generation of Magner's to do so. In September of 1952 St. Paul's School opened and Mary started in the second grade, Joanne in grade one, with her class being the first that would complete all eight grades in the new school. There was one period of time when six of my children were enrolled in St. Paul's School simultaneously. This was enough of a distinction to form our own bus stop and, I'm certain, leave the Sisters of Saint Joseph with their hands full.

The community of St. Paul's Church and School gave my children a lasting imprint of spirituality, family, and trust—and their success in life has proven these values out. Six of my eight children are married, four of them from St. Paul's Church. I have fifteen grandchildren, eight of whom were baptized in St. Paul's Church. And in coming full circle on March 4, 1994 my beloved Bud was buried from this Church of his ancestors and now rests with his family and mine in St. Paul's Cemetery.

As I look back on my life, and the lives of our families and our children's families, I take profound comfort in knowing that our religious life has been well served, and God's teachings well taught by the nurturing environment that has been provided by the humble and dedicated men and women of St. Paul's Church and School. This magnificent Church provided us with a foundation of faith

that will endure and prevail as impeccably as has the foundation of St. Paul's Church built so long ago by John Magner. My husband and I began our life together in this sacred place, and I know that in the new century before us with the next millennium ahead those of mine who come after us will be as divinely cared for as we were.

Marie Curley Magner

It was 1981 when Fr. McGann asked me to be one of the new lay Eucharistic Ministers. Administering Communion? Lay people? Me?

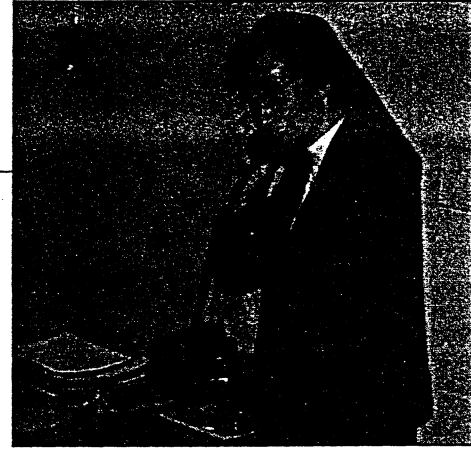
My first response was "I could never." Father told me to think about it and pray. I prayed and prayed, and my thoughts traveled back to my dear aunt, Sister Mary Edwardine (a Sister of St. Joseph for 50 years, who had just died). My answer was "Yes" and I minister Communion to this day—in her memory because she never had the honor.

It was Sunday, April 30, 1989, the day before I would enter Massachusetts General Hospital for major surgery. I was scared!

Fr. LaVoie asked me to meet him after the 10:00 Mass at the foot of the altar. With family and friends around me, I received the Sacrament of the Sick, and I experienced the power of prayer as never before. A sacred moment at St. Paul's never to be forgotten.

P.S. My surgery was a success, thank God!

Laurene Fee



In October of 1983 Father McGann called Rose Calvi and offered to say his daily Mass for Joseph Calvi, Jr., who was having surgery for a major brain tumor. Turning from the altar, Father asked the parishioners: "Let us all pause and say a prayer for the doctor to guide his hands during the operation as a gift from God."

This was a special day for me as Joseph was my son. And this is Father's Mass of Thanksgiving:

1. God is good. Thank Him.
2. Be happy at all times.
3. Pray constantly.
4. Give thanks to God because that is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Anna Calvi

When I reminisce about my thirty-six years as a parishioner, so many happy, holy and deeply moving experiences are enshrined in my memory. Five of my children received five sacraments here. One received four. The children in their white communion garb—and in a few short years, their bridal white. Love . . . tears . . . exhilaration! My mother, in her final years: "Gee, Dottie, everyone is so

friendly. Why I know more people here than I knew in my entire life in my other parish."

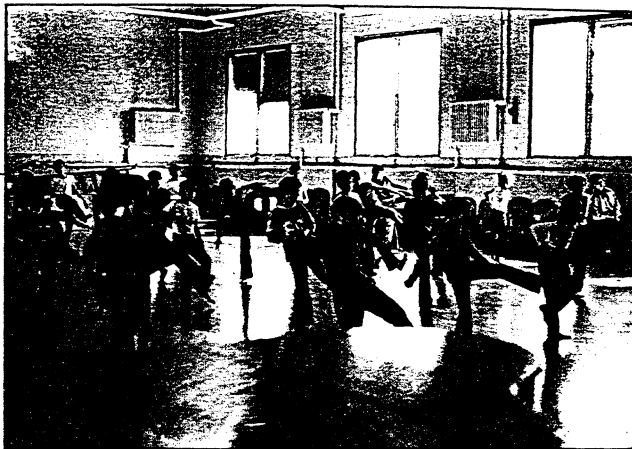
My husband, Don, converted to our faith. What a joy to attend mass as a complete family!

For many years we held a mass in St. Paul's cemetery to remember our departed around Memorial Day. This led to the annual shut-in liturgy, first held in 1975. This special liturgy was unheard-of on the South Shore; therefore, we invited every member of the surrounding towns' nursing facilities to become our guests. Over 200 attended. The square became a traffic jam with buses, MBTA handicapped vehicles of all kinds to transport people. Over 150 parishioners, from first-graders to octogenarians, prepared for the day-long celebration. It was reminiscent of a Cecil B. de Mille production. This tradition continues, thanks be to God!

I have met many wonderful people, lay and clergy, who have become my dearest friends. How blessed has my life been with the rejuvenating graces of St. Paul's . . .

Dottie James

When I was growing up in St Paul's, we had doll carriage parades. I remember one in particular while Fr. Quill was pastor. It was during the summer. There were many people in the churchyard. The school had not yet been built. We paraded on the sidewalk along the outside of the church, and then back into the



churchyard. It was quite a festive occasion.

My grandmother made me a nun's habit out of black-and-white crepe paper. In my doll carriage I pushed a large Japanese doll, dressed in a traditional silk kimono that my Uncle Charlie brought home from Japan. I was supposed to be a missionary nun. I won first prize that year: a very big, powder-blue teddy bear.

Regina Hickey

The 125th Anniversary should not be celebrated without remembering the many contributions of the Holy Name Society. A period of particular poignancy was the late 1950's and the early 1960's, including the era of Fr. Dan Sheehan. In those days the Holy Name was very active, especially in three areas: the Father/Son and Father/Daughter Communion Breakfasts; the all-night watch before the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday; and the rosaries at Pyne's Funeral Home at wakes.

The most vivid highlights are those of the annual Father/Son and Father/Daughter Communion Banquets. The Coral Gables Ballroom in North Weymouth was always filled to overflowing. Father Dan gave us his wonderful blessings and Mike Sweeney served as master of ceremonies. There was a featured speaker, but I always felt that it was Mike Sweeney who people really came to hear. Mike was an outstanding raconteur and

kept the audience in rapture with Irish wit and tales of conquests over adversity. One cannot but feel that these occasions resulted in a unique spiritual bonding that was a hallmark of St. Paul's.

Gale & Miriam Foster

Kimball Beach, located in the Crow Point area of Hingham, was once a community of summer residents who annually returned to enjoy the beach and long-term acquaintances.

Many were Catholics, and a large majority were of Irish descent. The 10:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday seemed to be the focal point of their worship, mostly congregating in the left front pews of the upper church, and a few venturing into the center aisle.

World War II brought many changes. This area is now a year-round community, with many residents and offspring living in other sections of Hingham. I live here with my husband and, although we were married at St. Paul's, we lived for forty years in other regions of the country. Fr. Paul Harrington spent his boyhood summers at Kimball Beach.

Betty Shaw



I remember Fr. McGann telling the congregation that one faithful parishioner would be knitting for all the children in heaven. He voiced his surprise at her passing. "She just was at Mass two days ago. I gave her communion." It was my mother he was speaking of.

Another memory: A small boy at a 7:00 A.M. Mass in the lower church during Lent was inching his way slowly to the front during Mass. By the time the homily ended, he was hugging the pillar in the center aisle, intently listening to Fr. Rafferty's homily. When Father was finished, he asked the boy if he liked the homily . . .

Tina Martino

The church was the focus of our lives when we were young during the early 1920s. We walked to church and home again for Sunday and Holy Day Masses, even on the coldest winter days. We had Sunday School in the lower level of the church after the 8:00 A.M. Mass. All grades were there together. Each grade had its separate section. Reading books were given to the children who did well in Sunday School. My four brothers, my sister, and I had quite a collection of books after a while. As the older children graduated from Sunday School, the priest would come to our house and ask us to teach the following year.

Alice Dennehy

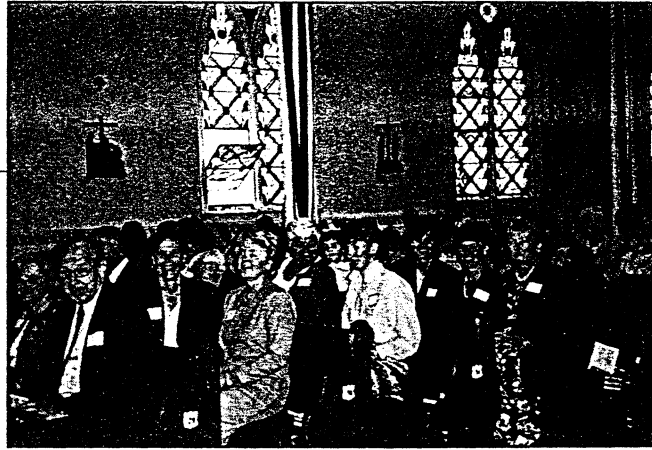
In the early 1950s when plans were being made to open a parochial school in Hingham, fund-raising became essential. I do not know how much money was raised from the events that three of my friends and I attended. These events were whist parties that were held in private homes. Refreshments were served and prizes were given to high scores.

For us women it was a night out when our husbands did the bedtime duty for our increasing families. We were interested solely in the sociability and sense of community we felt we contributed.

Occasionally a large card party was held in the hall. Then a rotation of partners was demanded—and there's the rub. We did not concentrate on the game, much to the chagrin and annoyance of our changing partners. If perchance we ended up with a prize, the glances were downright "deadly"!

Elena Coleman

As a young child I remember every Sunday morning: up at 5:30 A.M., all six of us dressed in our best attire and on our way to 6:30 A.M. mass. As we grew older, we attended catechism class in the downstairs church. All grades were sectioned off, with two sisters of St. Joseph in charge and mothers as teachers. My mother was one of the teachers, so believe me I had to know my lessons.



I have a particularly fond memory of Father Segadelli, who stood six feet six inches tall. He began a CYO basketball team. Father was an excellent coach, and with his height an outstanding athlete.

As the years went by, I remember attending the Holy Name mass with my father. (The middle aisle would be filled with all St. Paul's fathers and sons.) After mass we would go over to Coral Gables—where Harborlight Mall is now—and enjoy breakfast and a great speaker. Upon reflection, I realize that St. Paul's was the focal religious experience not only of mine but earlier generations.

Speaking of generations, I think in a particular and special way I helped perpetuate the parish's continuing influence on future generations by and through the funding and construction of St. Paul's Parochial School, an outstanding school which both my sons attended.

Jack Fee

I remember when I was on the board of St. Paul's School: what hard-working and dedicated parents there were.

Then there was Father Segadelli, who planned a day at Duxbury Beach with the CYO softball team and anyone else who wanted to go. The day turned out to be very cloudy, dr-e-e-e-ry, and a bit windy. We all frolicked on the sand playing ball without any sun protection because of the gloomy day. By

nightfall we not only looked like lobsters, we were sick from the sun. What a day at the beach!

Another memorable experience was Father "Bill" Morgan, a big man who did things in a big way! That was the year we had the St. Patrick's Day Dance at the armory, which was a huge success. I truly cherish both the experiences and the friendships of those years.

Connie Whitman Gallatly

John and I returned to Hingham in retirement after almost 25 years away. We picked Hingham and its loveliness, although we knew no one. One Sunday—maybe our first here—we came out of St. Paul's looking, frankly, for some recognition or a smile. Then someone named Ann Lincoln did just that—greeted us and that's all we needed: just one person to say "Welcome."

Father McGann entered into our life, especially with our beautiful daughter, Kate, who had cerebral palsy. Father brought communion to her in frequent visits and saw a saint in our Kate and said so in his eulogy when she went back to God in 1987.

We salute St. Paul, our clergy, and the wonderful people we know and love, and who share that love with us. It's truly contagious.

John and Mary Vaughan



One of my most memorable experiences at St. Paul's was participating in the series of renewal weekends held in February of 1981. These three weekends included all-day workshops, speakers, prayer, music, and small group interchange with parishioners and clergy. Father Boivin and Sister Rose Marie were very active, as well as members of parish committees. There was a rare atmosphere of good will, faith, and openness to God and one another. I made many new friends and felt strongly rooted in the parish and in my faith.

At Mass shortly thereafter, Father Boivin noted that he could pick out the faces of those parishioners in the pews who had attended the renewals. He said their faces were shining like the sun.

Suzanne Diaz

When I lived in Hingham and went to St. Paul's as a small child in the late 60's and early 70's, I remembered St. Paul's church being so big—almost cathedral-like. Now when I visit the church, it brings back special memories and new meaning—and, of course, looks quite smaller to me now!

Donna Twerago

The announcement was made one day at Church. It seemed like it might be fun. Spend a week in West Virginia helping poor people? But wait! Did you say that we have to use outhouses and get only one shower a week? Forget it! To this day I probably could not tell you why I decided to travel two long days in a van with eight other people to Center Point, West Virginia to do a week's worth of service work. Something inside me told me that I should go.

The long, dusty country dirt road approaching the driveway to Nazareth Farm somehow kept me wondering what would be around the next bend. Finally we saw it: the sign at the entrance. We drove in farther, and were immediately surrounded by a huge group of people, each with a warm, welcoming hug to offer. The meals at the Farm are not exactly Julia Child specials, and the outhouses are a hike from the sleeping quarters, but somehow I felt a sense of welcome and being at home right from the start.

On a regular week at the Farm all the volunteers are split into work crews, and travel with that group to various sites during the week. My first two days were spent rebuilding a rotted roof. I wondered to myself why in the world was I sitting on this roof when I could be home in an air-conditioned house.

Then I met Olin, the man who lived in the house we were repairing. He gave me the reason for why I had originally felt as if I had to go to West Virginia. For Olin life was simple.



He and his wife and their granddaughter lived in a small house with few material goods. Olin lived a life of happiness and hope despite his lack of wealth and past family troubles.

I came to realize that what helped Olin to live this life was hope and faith. He always looked on the bright side of things. He was able to smile through times when any weaker person would have completely broken down. Olin helped me to realize that it is not what you have in life, but what you hold inside of you. Through my trip to Nazareth Farm, West Virginia, I learned how lucky I really am.

Shannon Toomey

Deacon Phil Anderson
1924-1995

Long before we became deacons together, Phil Anderson and I were friends. When we were accepted into the first class as candidates for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate, we drove together to the seminary for study and spiritual exercises two evenings a week for three years. We had long conversations as we drove along. We discussed the courses, teachers, interpretations of Scripture, faith and, as we approached the day of ordination, we exchanged thoughts on what we expected to do in our ministry as deacons.

Phil's one desire was simply "to serve

the people of God," and so he did. Without neglecting his family, he traveled far and wide to visit people who needed the kind of support his presence provided and, when he couldn't be there in person, he would send a note, whether he knew you or not.

Phil had a deep devotion to St. Therese, the Little Flower, a devotion that was constant and loving. He preached about her, introduced her to those who did not know her, and blessed us with her relic when we were distressed.

Phil's faith-filled service was a gift of grace for the parish and for the Church. I am sure that many parishioners join me in feeling that his presence has not been diminished by his death, but only grows stronger as we reflect on his life "serving the people of God."

Deacon Ted Doyle

It was about 1926 and Father McCormick was personally auctioning a cake at a bake sale. He held up this cake for all to see and asked, "What am I bid for this nice, heavy cake?" When it comes to cakes, Father, heaviness doesn't sell!

Ginny McLore



The wedding of Jane Reardon to Walter Labys took place at St. Paul's on August 26, 1967. Wearing her grandmother Reardon's wedding dress, Jane was given away by her father, the late Justice Paul C. Reardon.

Since there were no longer Latin Masses, which the bride and groom preferred, the St. Paul (Cambridge) Choir Boys joined the procession and sang sections of a Mass by Palestrina in Latin during the service.

Ann Reardon

I remember . . . attending mass, complete with hat, gloves and Maryjanes, sitting with my grandparents, Bill and Elizabeth Goodwin, in the same pew every week. I now sit in that pew with my grandchildren.

I also remember "Sunday School" after mass in the lower church, the placards with all of the hymns we sang, and the nuns pacing the aisles keeping a good eye on us.

Carol Doyle

St. Paul's parish has been blessed over the years with many dedicated and deeply spiritual priests, nuns, and lay teachers. By their example, support, and guidance they have, in large measure, brought all of us together to enable St. Paul's to be the wonderful community that it is today.



While all of these very talented people, as well as the parishioners, have been an instrument of God's work in my life, I am particularly grateful to Father McGann for his friendship, support, and mentoring. I'll never forget that special moment during my ordination to the Permanent Diaconate at Holy Cross Cathedral in May of 1980 with Father McGann at my side during the liturgical celebration when I was vested by him with the deacon's stole and dalmatic. It was a memorable and deeply spiritual moment for me.

Deacon Jack Halloran

I am a native of Hingham, and was baptized, made my first communion, and was confirmed at St. Paul's. I was married in Saint Edward's in Brockton because my wife Phyllis came from Brockton.

I have met many fine priests through the years, but one of my most memorable first meetings was with Father McGann when I was patrolling my beat as a policeman at Sunday Masses in front of St. Paul's. While we were getting acquainted, he told me his age—it was the first time I had met a pastor younger than me!

Sam Amonte



In the late 1970s my wife and I began attending the R.C.I.A. meetings which were conducted by Father Boivin. Dotty, not a Catholic, always attended Mass with me on Sunday, and wanted to learn more about the church.

On our wedding anniversary, which happened to be the same day as the R.C.I.A. meeting, we went to dinner in Hanover at a restaurant where my nephew Danny was the pastry chef. As it was getting near time for us to be at the meeting, we decided to skip dessert and be on our way, when all the waitresses came to our table with an anniversary cake, which Danny had sent out. We asked to take it with us, and headed for Hingham.

When we entered the coffee shop in the school, the meeting had already begun. Fr. Boivin told us that we better have a good excuse for being late. I told him where we had been and then offered to share our cake with the group. Upon hearing the story, he decided it was time to take a coffee break, and everyone helped celebrate our anniversary.

Joe Willard

Some of my fondest memories of St. Paul's are centered around the Christmas season.

The sale of Christmas trees and wreaths for St. Paul's School in the church parking lot gave great pleasure to many parish families and others in the 1970s and early 80s. It was fun to help families choose their tree for their holiday celebration, even though they were subject to our rendition of "A Pretty Tree is Like a Melody" as Santa Claus, a.k.a. Bill Kirsch, and I "danced" around the tree. (Some even asked for a repeat performance the next year!)

Bill Handrahan

I have to look back at the times our children were students at St. Paul's School and what fun times we as parents had at the different School socials. Somehow we always seemed to be on the Clean-up Committee. We washed dishes in that teeny kitchen and had many good laughs.

Our children are all grown up now, married and on their own, but the friendships we made during those years have stayed for a lifetime.

Santa's Wife



When I was going to Sunday School, our pastor Father Sheerin was so economical he played Santa Claus himself.

When we used the armory on Central Street for C.Y.O., Father Finnegan wanted us to put on boxing gloves and box him, hit him, box with him—which was very hard to do! We used the armory to play basketball, volleyball, for boxing, and for running laps around the gym.

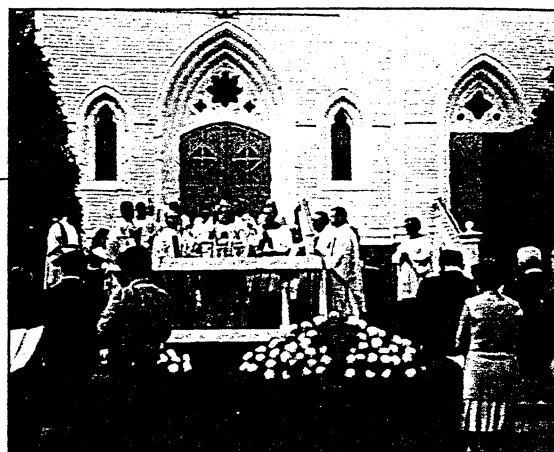
Another priest I remember for a different reason! Father Geary and I started at St. Paul's together, he as acting pastor and I as head usher. In our first three weeks together, three people fainted.

Rudy Capparotta

Until fairly recently it was necessary to fast from midnight in order to receive Communion the next morning. The tradition in a parochial school encouraged all students to attend Mass and receive Communion on the first Friday of each month.

At St. Paul's School, a group of mothers would prepare hot chocolate to serve to the children after the 9 o'clock Mass. Standing by the stove, stirring the large pots of cocoa, the mothers would make sure it did not burn. Ahhh! the aroma!

Other mothers would go through the classrooms distributing paper napkins and cups, as well as a sweet roll to each desk. When the children returned from Mass, other mothers would fill the cups with the hot chocolate and the students enjoyed the pleasure of the treat which was



enough food to tide them over until lunch time. The mothers could return home, satisfied that the breakfast obligation had been met.

Wanda Rando

It was a memorable fall day when a Thanksgiving Mass was offered by Father McGann for my grandparents, who were married at St. Paul's in January 1887, and my parents who were also married at St. Paul's in December 1922. Sitting in church were nearly one hundred of their descendants, who continue to follow their path to St. Paul's.

Carol Wigmore McCusker

My year in Hingham was filled with excitement, affirmation, and joy. I will always be grateful to the priests and people of St. Paul's for all the encouragement and love they gave to me.

It is hard to believe it has been 16 years since I left your parish as a newly ordained priest! After my first Mass at St. Paul's on June 22, 1980 there was a reception given for me and among my fondest memories are the pictures taken of me and what I believe were the sixth-graders I taught.

I wish the parish a wonderful 125th anniversary. May the Lord continue to bless the beautiful parish of St. Paul's.

Fr. Joe Raeke



We remember . . .

the many good priests
the beautiful young people
the numbers of faithful parishioners
the wonderful celebrations

All make St. Paul's a special place.
a testament to our faith,
And thanks to God for all goodness.

Donald & Kathleen Hernberg

During the 50's and 60's St. Paul's had a number of large families that were very active in the Parish and school. There were eight children in the Devine family and we were just an average size family in the Crow Point neighborhood. Some of the larger families names included Sweeney, Sheehan, Curtis, Marr, Devine, Dillon, Foster, Murphy, Donovan, Crowley, Corcoran etc. At the corner of Otis Street and Downer Avenue, a school bus would fill to capacity and proceed directly to St. Paul's school. Two young parish priests, Fr. Downey and Fr. Dan Sheehan were catalysts in getting the families involved in the parish, and we all became lifelong friends.

Hugh and Kate Devine

My grandson, Dennis Love, was baptized by Father McGann when he was four years old. As Dennis was stepping down from the altar after the ceremony, he pointed to pew Number 4 and excitedly said to Father, "Look, God, that's Bobby Orr's number." I have a photograph that captures the next moment, Dennis sitting on the steps of the altar looking up at Father McGann, who was now sitting down beside him explaining he was not God. The pew, however, was certainly Number 4—Bobby Orr's!

Marjorie Wigmore Jordan

Since I moved to Hingham many years ago I was fascinated by St. Paul's church. Wow! a Catholic colonial church—the tallest building in Hingham—all those pleasant-looking people moving in and out of weekend services.

And then one day I attended a funeral Mass. Finally, I would get my first look at the interior of St. Paul's. I was charmed; it was a captivating blend of colonial atmosphere with Catholic ritual. And the choir and music: sensational! Even better than the mariachi Mass in Cuernavaca, Mexico, where 2,000 people come an hour early every Sunday. What else can I say other than the funeral Mass for Jane Reardon Labys could not have been held in a better church—not even Notre Dame in Paris!

Robert Siegel



Sometime in the 1940s a great football game between Georgetown and Boston College took place. Georgetown was undefeated for three years and B.C. was undefeated under Frank Leahy. It was impossible to obtain tickets. A COMPLETE SELLOUT.

At that time St. Paul's had a very crusty old pastor, Father Daniel F. Sheerin (1936-1946). He was very difficult to deal with. Our two curates (one was Father Lally) owned a car, but had to keep it hidden in Gussie Crowley's garage on Burditt Avenue. They had tickets for the game and offered one to me. If they were to eat lunch at the regular time, with the pastor, they would be late for the game. So they bribed the cook to set the clock ahead by one hour, and told me to wait across the street from the parish house in front of the railroad station.

As I was pacing up and down, Father Sheerin noticed me and asked the curates who I was and what I was doing there. They got around that, ate dinner an hour early, met me and we all walked up to Gussie's, picked up the car and went to the game.

It was one of the greatest games of all time. Boston College won 19-18.

How the curates got back in time to hear Confessions, I do not know!

About 1920 St. Paul's had its first and only altar boys baseball team, coached by our curate, Father Foley. One day we played the Scituate altar boys at their field. How did we get there? By train.

John F. McKee Jr.



At a recent gathering I overheard a discussion regarding the old time practice of segregating the boys from the girls on each side of the center aisle at First Communion and Confirmation. How orderly that procession used to be, as opposed to the new order of communicants sitting with their parents in undesignated seats. I love order, having been taught by nuns to respond when "clicked at"!

There is one advantage of the new order that serves me well, however. I can now recognize the children of my family by their parents. I was never able to decide which child was mine as they all marched in with their white clothes and the boys freshly barbered and the girls hidden by their veils.

Rose Tuite

As a member of St. Paul's choir, there have been numerous Sunday masses, concerts, and special performances at which the liturgical music has enhanced my spiritual life. Theodore Dubois's *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, an annual Lenten concert, however, brings special meaning to me year after year. The emotional involvement created by the words and music, by the choir director, Sal Bartolotti, and enhanced by the orchestra repeatedly evokes for me the true spiritual meaning of the Lenten and Easter seasons.

Carolyn C. Philippon



It was the 10 o'clock Mass on Easter Sunday and St. Paul parishioners were there in all their finery. Including a little three-year-old in the center aisle who knew she was the apple of her parents' and grandparents' eyes. She wore a long pink dress with a white lace front, white gloves, white slippers, and a broad-brimmed hat with a ribbon down the back. Her mother tried—unsuccessfully—to keep her wandering daughter close to the pew. But daughter had other ideas. She strolled farther and farther from mother, only to be brought back on each occasion.

It was the end of Mass and the priest was giving his final exhortations prior to the last blessing. Who should glide up the center aisle all the way to the steps below the altar but our charming pink traveler. With pixie grace she took her wide skirts wider and dipped in a deep curtsy, then turned with most of the church tittering to make a grand and triumphant exit — mother in tow!

Dick De Bruin

The one remembrance that immediately jumps out at me of my 12 years at St. Paul's took place in the aftermath of the great blizzard of February 1978. When Sunday came, the snow still had everything tied in knots, and cars were still forbidden to use the roads. We at the rectory thought there would be very few at the Masses. To our amazement, crowds

came from all directions to our mid-morning and late morning Masses—so many that we had to have an extra Mass in the lower church.

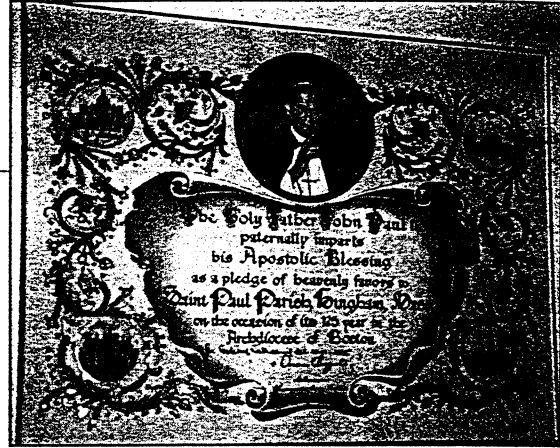
It was a beautiful, bright, sunny day. The snow, though creating real problems, made for a most beautiful scene throughout the center of the town.

It was a great day for displaying community spirit. Everyone was in an exhilarated mood. Some people saw friends for the first time in months, if not years. It was the church and the community at its best.

Fr. Francis McGann

My memories of St. Paul's span forty years and, like the mysteries of the rosary, encompass many joyful and sorrowful moments. I dedicate this remembrance to my grandmother Emily Connell, whose strong faith and determination were an inspiration to all who knew her.

It was February 15, 1966 and Fr. Tague was waiting at my house on School Street as I arrived home from St. Paul's School. He calmly told me that my mother had been killed in a car accident on Winter Street earlier that afternoon. He explained that she had been sitting at the stop sign when another car skidded and hit her head on. She died instantly; she was thirty-eight years old. Fr. Tague told me that she was in heaven, and I believed him and wept on his shoulder.



The Sisters of St. Joseph seemed to take me under their wing following my mother's funeral, which my fourth-grade class attended. My teacher was Sr. Leo Mary, and she invited me to help do chores at the convent. The sisters were kind and good to me, and I felt very much at home at the convent, polishing the silver, helping set the table, cleaning the chapel.

My years at St. Paul's School continued until graduation in 1970, and they were happy years. My grandmother always said that she and my grandfather could never have raised my two younger sisters and myself without the help of the Sisters of St. Joseph. St. Paul's Parish became my extended family.

In 1980, when my grandfather died at home at age 88, Fr. McGann was at the door within minutes with consoling words. The next morning was Sunday and we tried to persuade Nana to stay home and save her strength. "I must go to Mass because that is where I get my strength!" Her words have always stayed with me.

My grandmother was a strong and determined woman. During the late 1940s she worked endlessly, having bridge parties at her home to raise money to build St. Paul's School. When I announced my engagement to Tom Johnson, a Presbyterian, Nana threatened not to attend our wedding. My uncle persuaded her to attend our wedding in 1983. Nana died in 1988, not knowing that in 1995, under the direction of Fr. Reardon, my husband Tom would become a Catholic.

I think of St. Paul's as my parish family, and my thanks go out to all the priests, sisters, and fellow parishioners who have been there through the years for me and my family. We have suffered and rejoiced together as a community. Some words from St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians epitomizes what my grandmother taught me: "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground. . . . Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God . . . be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

Janet Fay Johnson

To know him was to love him—and it didn't take long. He was 53 years a priest, but Mimie Pitaro never lost his common touch. His wit and his "stories" were priceless, but he managed to build a sobering thought to live with after opening a homily with some wry bit of humor that had the entire congregation tittering.

One of his favorite witticisms was familiar to most of us. Monsignor was probably pulling everybody's leg, but he said he had an Italian expression that served every occasion. Loosely translated, it meant "If it's worth doing, it's worth doing well" or "Life is a celebration" or "When you dance, you dance." The Italian? "Quando si bella, si bella."

Ann Handrahan

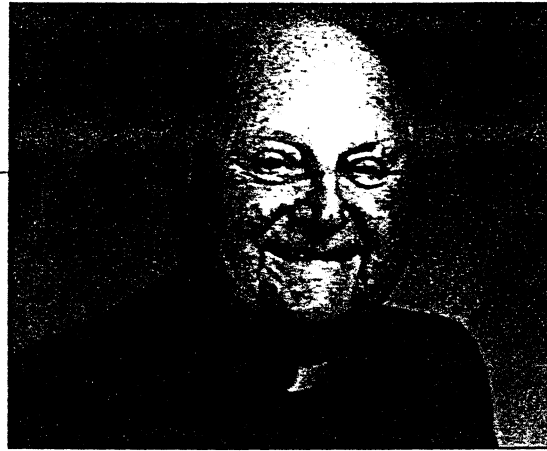


One memorable moment of many for Lin and I as part of St. Paul's community occurred 24 years ago. We had decided to become more active in the parish and recommended a particular adult education program to Father McGann. We assumed that would be the end of it—and our involvement. How wrong we were!

We were asked to explain the program at a meeting. When it got around to our proposal, we briefly and enthusiastically outlined the specifics and fully expected a period of reflection, questions, discussion, referral to a committee and deferral to a subsequent meeting. Father McGann simply looked over to us and said, "And when could you start this program?" With that almost terse invitation, we became fully involved in the activities of the parish.

What was so magnificent for us was Father McGann's beautiful expression of inclusion. I had spent the first 36 years of my life feeling outside the church, and with a warm smile of welcome and encouragement he included it all.

Dave Hurley

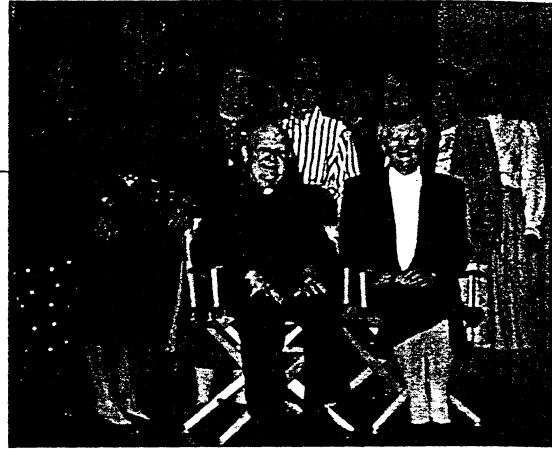


Msgr. Mimie B. Pitaro
1916 - 1995

He was small in stature, but Mimie Pitaro was a giant in compassion, wit, and spirituality. Offered a scholarship by Harvard, he accepted instead a parish scholarship to Boston College. And a priest for only eleven years, he yet was appointed pastor of Our Lady of Pompeii Parish in Boston's south end. When that parish was literally leveled by industrial development, he continued to serve its people for seven years from Holy Cross Cathedral. In his "spare" time, he taught Italian and French at St. Sebastian's Country Day School in Newton.

Msgr. Pitaro's next assignment was as pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish in East Boston, whose school, convent, and church today reflect the inspired work he brought to them. Not content with his demanding pastoral duties, he rallied his parishioners and took on Logan Airport, which was encroaching on and flying noisily over his "turf." With the permission of Cardinal Cushing, he took his crusade to the General Court of Massachusetts, to which he was elected and in which he served with characteristic vim and vigor.

After seven years at Holy Redeemer, he was assigned to St. John's in Peabody. As usual, he threw himself into his new assignment with energy and enthusiasm: overseeing the quality and nature of the parish school's

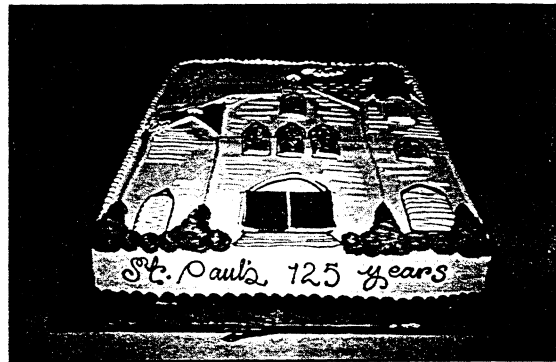


education, and the parish's liturgy and spiritual life. Having energy to spare, he helped to get a medical clinic for the poor of Peabody and involved himself in the introduction of the Hospice program to the North Shore.

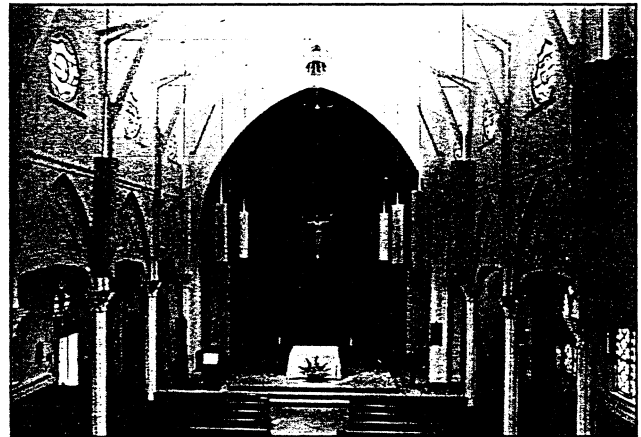
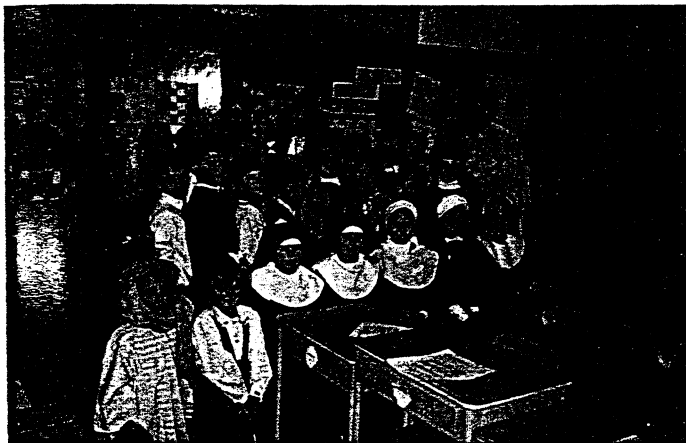
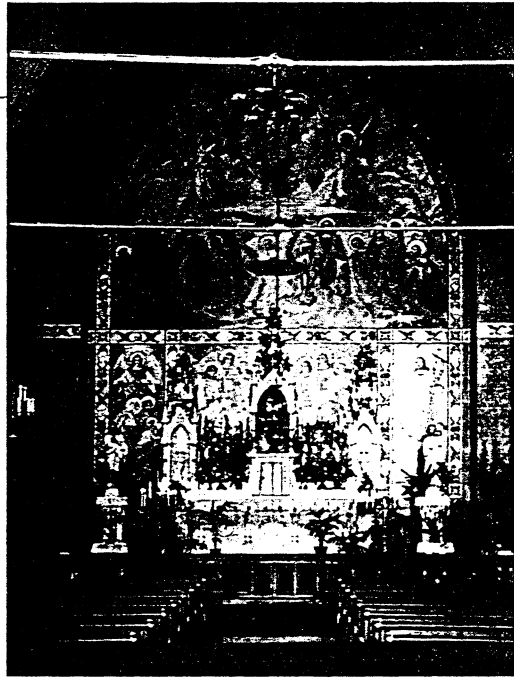
Msgr. Pitaro was active in the Peabody Clergy Association and through that organization invited all its members to a Good Friday ecumenical service for the public at St. John's from noon until 3 P.M. All clergy and nuns in the city were Mimie's guests at an annual Christmas dinner.

This seven-year stint was followed by an assignment to Immaculate Conception Parish in Stoughton. Here he endeared himself to the Portuguese community, especially when he sent his assistant to Portugal to study the language. Retired from this pastorate in 1986 because of illness, he accepted an invitation to live and work in St. Paul's Parish in Hingham, where he involved himself in almost every facet of the parish activities. He was especially beloved as a celebrant at the children's Mass, where he was capable of engaging the children in his homilies, to say anything of adult parishioners who looked forward eagerly to the sagacity and wit of his homilies.

He was truly a God-given gift to our diocese, and our prayer might be that God will give us others like him.



Msgr. Paul Moritz



We Serve

St. Paul's School

St. Paul School continues to flourish since its opening in 1952, and enjoys a reputation of providing quality spiritual and academic education from pre-kindergarten through grade eight. The nine fully enrolled classrooms, two small offices, computer room, and multi-purpose room, which serves as library and music room, are well utilized by the school and parish community, and are properly maintained. Further classroom and office space, as well as a much needed faculty room will be provided.

St. Paul School class scores on standardized tests average at or above grade level. Most eighth-graders are accepted into the high school of their choice, and continue to strive for academic excellence. Many past graduates have won scholarships to various Catholic high schools as a result of good test scores. Scholarships to Boston College High School, Notre Dame Academy, Xaverian High School and Catholic Memorial High School have been earned by many graduates, and others have been awarded scholarships from the Hingham Catholic Women's Club and the Hingham Knights of Columbus.



Curriculum guidelines from the Archdiocesan School Office in all disciplines are followed. Students receive an excellent foundation in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and computer technology. Specialists instruct students in music, drama, art, and physical education. Parish priests share the teaching of religion. Basketball teams for both boys and girls are organized in the upper classes. Appropriate school uniforms are worn by all students.

The Outreach Program is one of many in which St. Paul students presently participate. During Lent students contribute approximately \$1,200, which is shared with the Sisters of Notre Dame and their mission endeavors, and with the Cardinal to benefit his charities. Students provide food and snacks for the needy, and they also contribute to the Bishops Fund and Por Cristo, a Quincy-based organization that helps supply medical aid to South American children.

The School Board is composed of lay persons with expertise in finance, business, and education.

The purpose of St. Paul School is to educate today's children in a creative, supportive environment, and to prepare them to become vibrant and responsible Christian leaders in the Twenty-First Century.

We are partners working together for God in love.—St. Paul

Liturgy Committee

The parish liturgy committee was established in 1977-78. Deacon Ted Doyle was asked to chair the new committee with the assistance of Brendan Sullivan, a transitional

deacon assigned to St. Paul's at the time. (Brendan was ordained in 1978, and is now in residence at the New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, California.)

The liturgy committee's establishment was called for throughout the archdiocese by diocesan guidelines passed on in the early 70s because of the changes taking place in liturgy and worship. The establishment of this committee was seen as a new opportunity for lay involvement in liturgy. The committee's first responsibility was to bring together various lay ministries: Eucharistic ministers, lectors, servers, ushers, ministers of welcome, musicians, vocalists, etc. The committee's primary responsibility to this day is to guide and enhance worship at St. Paul's.

The first members of the committee were Ginny McLore (who still serves on the committee); Brothers David and Kevin from Glastonbury; Sister Elaine, SCH; Carol Whalen; and Beverly Gilbert. It was during these early days that daily lecturing was instituted, as well as the initial training period for Eucharistic ministers. At the time St. Paul's had no music director either, and depended on the generosity of volunteers to enhance the liturgies with music.

We have come a long way in twenty years with liturgical preparations involving many people: a full-time director of music who guides musicians, singers, and choir members for each Mass; over 70 Eucharistic ministers and over 60 lectors; about 40 boys and girls who serve at the altar; and over 25 ushers and ministers of welcome who assist at all Masses; and a liturgy committee of 10 members. We continue to keep abreast of current norms in the liturgy and in worship in the church, and are always looking for talents which will enhance worship at St. Paul's.



Eucharistic Ministers

In 1973 Pope Paul VI authorized the use of Eucharistic ministers to assist priests and deacons in the distribution of Holy Communion.

The Eucharistic ministry is exercised in the bishop's deputation to certain members of the faithful. In the early church members of the faithful with the priest would celebrate the Mass, and the faithful would take the consecrated bread home to those unable to attend the Mass. Changes within the church stopped this practice. Only the ordained minister was allowed to distribute the host. Today we have again returned to an early custom of the minister of the Eucharist.

Eucharistic ministers must be faithful Catholics who have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion; are at least eighteen years of age; and participate regularly in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church. Eucharistic ministers must strive to be worthy of this great office, foster their own devotion to the Eucharist, and share an example to the rest of the faithful by their own devotion and reverence to the Eucharist.

Ministers should be chosen to reflect the diversity of the parish community. Eucharistic ministers are also used to bring Communion to those sick, in nursing homes, and the home-bound. The entire ministry of the parish reaches its high point in the Sunday Eucharist, "the heart of the parish." The service of the Eucharistic minister is intended to provide access to Holy Communion to a greater number of the faithful.

Ushers

Often the ministry of usher is taken for granted. Men and women make known their desire to be an usher and all are welcome to serve. An usher's duties include: readying the church before and after each celebration; looking to ventilation; cleaning out pews; preparing offertory tables; and making collections. They are often drafted as emergency medical assistants.

Being an usher or head usher as I have been is, I believe, an honor. Each usher should arrive twenty minutes before assignment time, and meet with the head usher for any special instructions. He should greet parishioners as they enter church, give special attention to the handicapped and elderly, and be patient with young children. Most of all, he should be gracious and unhurried.

Interfaith Food Pantry

For many years canned foods and dry goods were collected weekly at the rear of both the upper and lower church and then taken to Wellspring in Hull, to be shared with hungry individuals and families. In the late 80s a room in the parish house became a sorting and storage area for a growing number of local families needing assistance.

In the early 90s Project Bread The Walk for Hunger produced evidence of the need within the town, and Denise Di Censo approached the Association of Hingham and Hull clergy for assistance. The Hingham Interfaith Food Pantry officially opened its doors in February of 1992, sponsored by the ten churches and the temple.

Local groups and businesses contribute

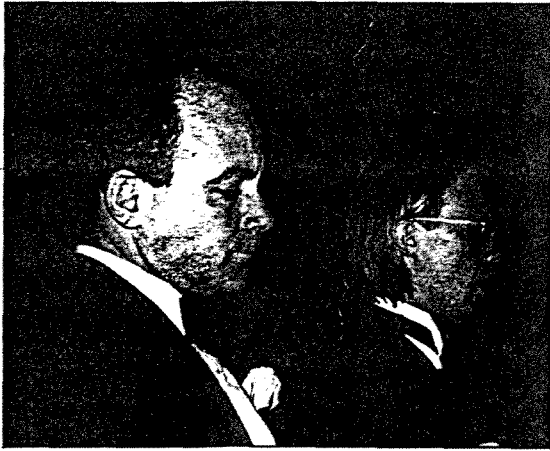


food and finances, weekly shopping is done at the Greater Boston Food Bank, and many volunteers provide their efforts. St. Paul's school children, Youth Ministry members, children at the Family Liturgy, and students in the Religious Education program all demonstrate St. Paul's commitment. In addition, the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the St. Paul's Prayer Group assist with financial help. Parishioners young and old donate their food, money and time, which allows the Hingham Interfaith Food Pantry to serve over one-hundred-fifty hungry people each month.

Ministers of Welcome

In 1990 Denise DiCenso was responsible for starting the Ministers of Welcome at St. Paul's. These men and women greet parishioners with a warm welcome as they gather for the 10:00 A.M. Sunday Mass. They are available if visitors have questions. Most volunteer once a month or once every other month from September to June. Occasionally they help the ushers take up the offertory collection and seat people.

A possibility is that Ministers of Welcome may eventually be at all Sunday Masses to express the hospitality of St. Paul's to all who worship.



RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

The RCIA Program began in the early 80s with Fr. Henry Boivin and Deacon Halloran as leaders. This journey of faith was designed for non-Catholics interested in converting, and for Catholics who have been away and wish to return. Fr. Richard Curran changed RCIA to a roundtable discussion group using films, books, and discussions.

Fr. John Reardon in turn changed the title of the program to CROSSROAD (at the crossroads of one's life and embarking on a spiritual journey). Teachers for RCIA are faith-filled people, converts, and Catholics from birth, comprising a team able to guide a person through the conversion process, which begins in the early fall and ends during the Easter Tridium. Each year the number of catechumens ranges from 2 to 10 people.

Music Ministry

In addition to the choir, many parishioners contribute their musical talents, both vocal and instrumental, to enhance the celebration of our parish liturgies.

Cantors lead the congregation in song. Volunteers sing with the children during Vacation Bible School. A loyal group, accompanied by a guitar, sings at the Prayer Group Mass on the first Tuesday of each month.

Musicians and singers at the family liturgy add to the celebration on Sundays and special celebrations. The folk group plays and sings at the Saturday evening Mass and at other occasions.

Catholic Women's Club

The Catholic Women's Club meets once a month except in summer. Membership varies between 100 and 120. Although older women make up a majority of the membership, many younger women are joining and new members are also coming from Hull and Cohasset. A yearbook lists current members.

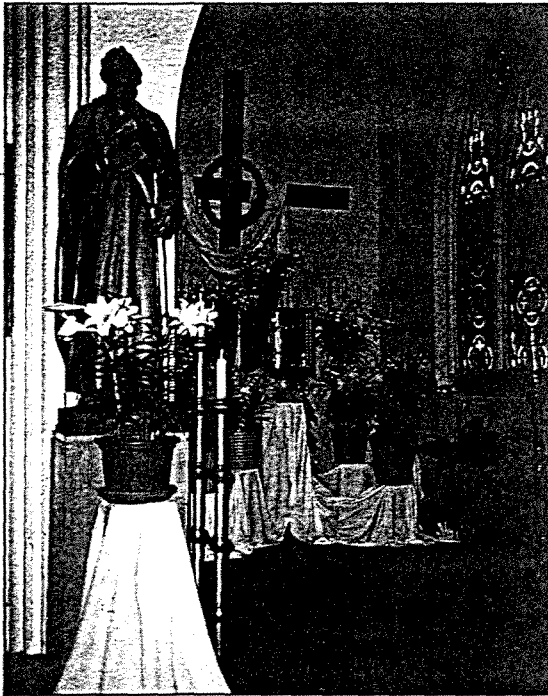
Spiritual advisors from St. Paul's and Resurrection churches advise the Club, whose functions take place at St. Paul's, Resurrection, and Notre Dame Academy. Board members are elected for two years.

Activities include a kickoff dinner, Mass, dinners with a speaker, and retreats. Service projects include scholarships, a Christmas party for unwed mothers, and assistance for Wellspring in Hull.

Finance Council

The Finance Council has been in existence for approximately twenty-five years. Currently there are six members, meeting every four to six weeks.

Among the present (1996) concerns of the Council are the need for capital improvements to all parish structures; the creation of a committee to increase the weekly offertory and establish gift-giving options for parishioners; the creation of a new computerized revenue and expense reporting system; and assisting the pastor in cutting expenses without adverse-



ly impacting on the parish mission.

The parish has recently raised approximately \$1,500,000 through a capital fund drive for major 125th Anniversary Year improvements, additions, and repairs to parish properties and buildings.

The Finance Council prepares a financial report and presents it to the parish community each year.

Widows/Widowers Club

Our Widows/Widowers Club was founded in 1985 by Father Curran and Lorraine Kelly. The Club now has about 25 members and meets every third Sunday for brunch at the South Shore Country Club from 12:00 to 2:00.

Some of the activities of the Club include attendance at the Pops in May and December; an annual day of recollection in the spring; and Christmas gifts for the Pine Street Inn or Rosie's Place.

The Club welcomes new members. It distributes a monthly newsletter. For more information, phone 749-0508.

Moms and Tots

Moms and Tots (Dads, Grandparents, Caregivers, too!) is an informal playgroup which gathers twice a month, and includes free play, songs, stories, snacks, and crafts. Begun in 1991, the playgroup was created by mothers to promote a sense of community, which supplements the Childrens' Mass for parents and their young children of St. Paul's parish.

It is a great way to meet other parents and children, and is held from 9:30 to 11 A.M. (see Bulletin for specific days) at the St. Paul's Parish House, 20 Fearing Road. If you are interested, please call Cindy McLaughlin, 741-5519, or Sue Sullivan, 740-4464.

Altar Guild

St. Paul's Altar Guild consists of a group of women from the parish who give freely of their time and talents to keep the church itself beautiful and serviceable. They are the



“elves” who work in the background to dust, check the holy water, pick up and straighten out. They take their jobs very seriously. Perhaps the only one who knows who they are besides yours truly is the good Lord, who I’m sure is looking down, smiling and saying, “Thank you for keeping my home and yours so nice.”

Prayer Group

The Prayer Group of St. Paul’s Parish is a prayer community that is a witness to the power of the Holy Spirit and prayer in our lives. The group began in 1974 in the early years of the Catholic Charismatic renewal as an offshoot of the Prayer Group at St. Joseph’s in Quincy. Fr. John Arens, the group’s first spiritual director, and Virginia McLore established the group here.

Initially, the prayer meetings were held on Wednesday evenings, but now are held on Tuesday evenings after Mass on the first Tuesday of each month. The prayer meeting, however, is held weekly at 7:30 P.M. in the lower church. The entire meeting on the first Tuesday after Mass is devoted to a prayer and healing service.

Prayer meetings consist of praising God through song, psalms and praying aloud. There is time for silent meditation also. A short teaching, often on the Scriptures, is given and members of the group may “witness”—that is, tell a story of how God answered prayers during the preceding week.

The meeting ends with intercessory prayer, which is praying for the needs of individuals and the parish.

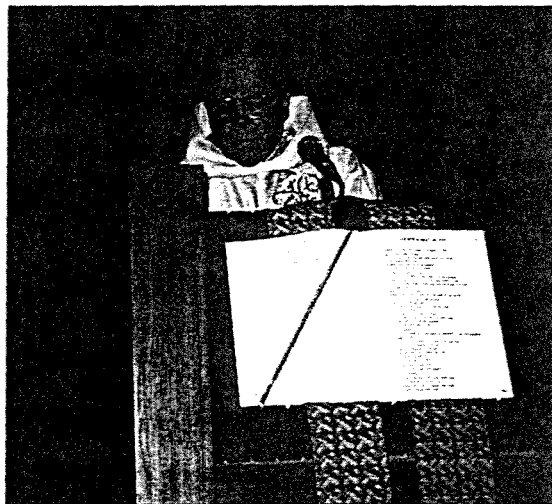
The Prayer Group supports an active outreach program such as “Scripture to Ponder”;

theme nights with speakers; healing services; and the prayer line which anyone may call to request that the group pray for their intention. The St. Paul’s Prayer Group is a small, faithful, and committed group of people who support each other in a way of worshipping God.

St. Paul PTO

The St. Paul PTO is made up of active and concerned parents of the children who attend St. Paul School. There is a board of officers, and meetings are held once a month to plan the social and fund-raising activities for the year.

One of the several social activities on the PTO calendar is the St. Patrick’s Day coffee to which anyone attending 9:00 Mass on St. Patrick’s Day is invited. A light breakfast is served by the PTO members for parishioners after Mass. A very popular social event is a Grandparents’ luncheon prepared by the mothers and school children of St. Paul’s for their grandparents and other guests, followed by a show.



There are three major fund-raisers each year. The fall brings the annual candy sale, followed later in the year by the Christmas bazaar. In the spring a popular golf tournament is held. These fund-raisers help to offset the cost of educational material and supplies and serve to substantially reduce the parish subsidy to the school.

The PTO annually awards several scholarships based on academics and character to 8th grade graduates who are to attend Catholic high schools.

Lectors

The ministry of lectors provides the opportunity to fulfill a basic Christian mandate: to proclaim the Good News. We have over 60 women and men of all ages participating in this ministry at St. Paul's. Most lectors remain in this ministry for many years. However, we always welcome new lectors (especially teens and young adults) to join us!

We have two lectors at every Sunday Mass (except the 7:00 A.M.). Lectors are also welcome at the daily 9:00 A.M. Mass. Typically, a lector pair would be scheduled every four to six weeks, depending on the Mass. A new lector would request a specific "primary" Mass to be assigned to. We also ask that lectors be flexible and select a "secondary" Mass that they would proclaim at (Greatest needs are at the 7:00 and 11:30 Masses.)

Each lector pair decides which reading each would like to proclaim. If, due to illness or other conflicts, a lector cannot be present at an assigned Mass, we ask that he/she find a substitute and "swap" dates. Lectors are expected to arrive in the sanctuary 5 to 10

minutes before Mass and be prepared. Preparation involves reviewing and practicing the assigned reading several times. Not a great deal of preparation is required, but an appropriate amount is needed to ensure clear diction, correct pronunciation, and sufficient reflection on the reading.

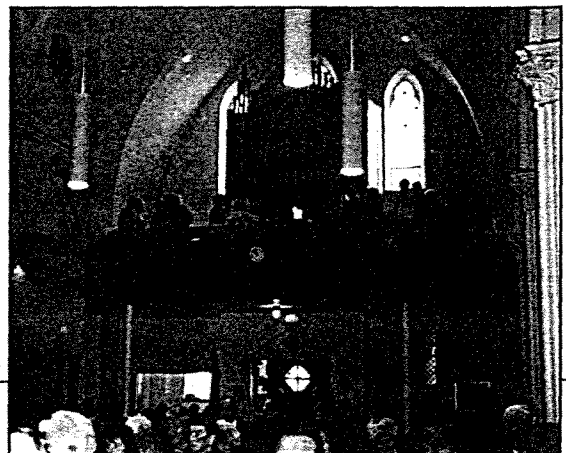
One need not be an orator to proclaim God's word. A willingness to contribute to the liturgy, a clear and distinct voice, and some reflective, prayerful preparation will suffice! Every year we provide lectors with a workbook with all the readings (and relevant commentary) for the liturgical year. For additional information, please call the rectory.

The Choir

God likes me when I work —
but He loves me when I sing.

*by SARA R. CROSS
the early choir*

As a child, discovering the wonders of the world, I realized the pleasure of singing. Little did I know that much of my life would be spent using my voice to praise God in the choir at St. Paul's. I was a soprano and studied voice with Miss Alice Hutchinson at Steinert Hall in Boston. I also studied organ at the



New England Conservatory of Music.

During my years singing and directing the choir at St Paul's there were many organists. Early organists Mrs. Maher and Alice McCarthy were both residents of Hingham. In the 1930s Lillian Shuver from Dorchester played the organ as well as Irene Thompson of Cambridge. During the 1940s Mary Dwyer, Marion Sweeney, and Dorothy Woods, all from Hingham, provided the music. Gertrude Manning of Hingham was the organist from the early 1950s until sometime in the early 1980s.

Under my direction the choir performed at Christmas Midnight Mass. After my retirement from work in 1968, I continued to solo at funerals and weddings well into the 1980s.

*by SAL BARTOLOTTI
1983 to date*

For the past twenty-five years St. Paul's choir has had two directors. From 1969 to 1982 the Benedictine Brothers of Glastonbury Abbey in effect were in charge. From 1969 until his ordination to the priesthood in 1976 Brother Richard Burgois was director, and Brother David was organist. Then Brother Kevin Healey took over for the next six years.

During this period of time the choir had a membership of approximately 25 voices. Music performed by the choir was primarily unison and two-part harmony, and the choir sang for church services only.

I took over as choir director early in 1983, having been persuaded to undertake this new musical direction by the then pastor, Father McGann. Initially my responsibilities were as organist at the 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. masses on Sunday. In January of 1984 I

became choir director, and parish music director in 1987.

While only four people remain from the choir of the early 1980s, it has grown to thirty members. Each Thursday evening the choir meets in the church loft at 7:30 for approximately one-and-a-half hours from mid-

September to mid-June. Additional rehearsals may be held for special liturgies or concerts.

The music sung by the choir is primarily four-part harmony. Coincidentally, the balance and/or blend of the choir is excellent due to the fairly even distribution of male and female voices.

According to liturgists, the primary purpose of a choir is to enhance congregational singing. However, although this is an important objective and a primary responsibility, our choir needs to grow as a musical unit with additional challenges. The choir has undertaken the singing of liturgical music by Thompson, Vivaldi, Mozart, Haydn, Dubois, Mouret, and Rutter, to name a few major choral composers.

I believe we currently have one of the largest choirs of any denomination in our immediate area. Due to the limitations imposed by the size of the choir loft, we cannot have more than 35 to 40 voices.

Marriage Preparation Program (Pre-Cana)

The Marriage Preparation Program (Pre-Cana) is offered to engaged couples in the months prior to their wedding. The mission of the program is to support the couples as they communicate with each other about all aspects of their relationship.

The current Marriage Preparation Program at St. Paul's has been in existence since 1991. This team began under the direction of Deacon Jack Halloran, with Fr. Reardon as Spiritual Director.

The original team was comprised of five team leader couples. Since that time, the team has expanded, and the format has been changed from evening sessions to a one-weekend schedule. During the weekend, the team leader couples share their experiences with the engaged couples. Time is allotted for group discussion and for private talks between the couples.

The program was originally offered twice a year, in the spring and fall. Recently, the St. Paul's program has merged its schedule with the Marriage Preparation Program at Resurrection Parish. The program will be held at St. Paul's in the spring of each year.

Fr. Faretra is the current Spiritual Director. The Marriage Preparation Program welcomes new couples who are interested in serving on the team.

Religious Education

The Religious Education Program, formerly known as the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), has evolved over the last twenty-five years from a program based on rules and regulations to one that stresses living the message of Christ.

Currently the Religious Education Program services 800 children from 512 families in the parish, grades 1 through 10. There are 69 teachers. Over the years approximately 70 teachers have gone on to achieve Master Teacher level. Master teachers have completed an in-depth training program and act as

grade-level coordinators. The entire program is overseen by the Director of Religious Education, currently Judy Tetreault.

Religious Education is a joint effort between the parish and families to share the foundations of our faith. For the young child the family is the primary faith community. As the child grows, that community branches out to the neighborhood, the parish, the town, and ultimately to anyone in need. Through Religious Education a sense of community is built with a service orientation based on faith in action.

This is accomplished through weekly Religious Education classes. Volunteer teachers, under the direction of the Director, follow a curriculum designed to encourage living the faith through love of neighbor. An integral part of the program is preparation for the sacraments of Eucharist, Penance and Confirmation.

Service units are part of the grades seven and eight curriculum and will be instituted in grade six. Also, the Confirmation program, a two-year process in grades nine and ten, stresses community service. Fr. Faretra and Kathy and George Stebbins are the coordinators of Confirmation education.

The Family Life Program in grades three through six is a four-week unit in which the Church has the opportunity to add a faith dimension to the factual knowledge that chil-



dren possess about themselves, their bodies and their life experiences.

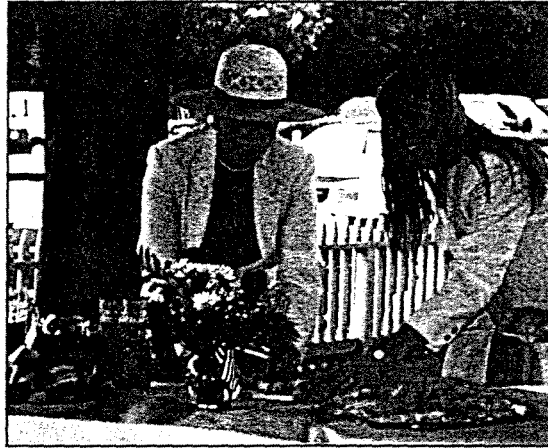
The week-long summer Vacation Bible School is another facet of the parish's Religious Education Program. There younger children learn about the life of Jesus through stories, singing and arts and crafts. Also, grades three through five participate on a monthly basis in the Family Liturgy that is celebrated each Sunday at 10:00 A.M. in the downstairs church.

Young people today feel the need for more than "religion by rote." They ask "How does what Jesus did relate to me?" The Religious Education Program at St. Paul's strives to answer that need and to educate young people not only in the foundations of their faith, but also encourage them to be active in a faith-filled community which is sensitive to the needs of others.

Holy Name Society

In the 1940s the Catholic men of the archdiocese witnessed a renewed fervor for Catholic societies, including the Holy Name Society, led and inspired by the irrepensible Cardinal Richard Cushing. John McKee, a former Hingham postmaster and still a resident of the town, recalls the times when men marched in the thousands through the city of Boston—as Holy Name members. Frank Ranieri, a featured speaker for the Holy Name Bureau for many years, remembers when Holy Namers filled Fenway Park and the old Braves Field for memorable holy hours and displays of Catholic men's solidarity—which is unheard-of today.

In the past year St. Paul's Holy Name Society began a new chapter in the revision of the parish Holy Name Society. In May a group



of twenty men attended the 8:30 Mass as a body, received Communion, and then retired to the coffee shop for a meeting and refreshments. The featured speaker, who was also the celebrant at the 8:30 Mass, was Fr. Sheehan, a Jesuit from the Weston Retreat House of the Society of Jesus.

In the fall of 1966 the Holy Name Society offered monthly meetings after the 8:30 Mass. Speakers were offered and later that year the Society will hold a Communion breakfast in conjunction with its meeting.

The purpose of the Holy Name Society is to foster a love and respect, public and private, for the holy name of Jesus, and to aid men and their families in acquiring a greater knowledge of their faith.



Youth Ministry

Although there were activities by and for teens almost from the beginning of the parish, a formal organization called the Youth Ministry is probably of more recent origin. A new priest newly ordained, Fr. Ahrens, took it upon himself to organize teen activities and in 1977 really started a number of events that continue today.

Being an avid skier, Fr. Ahrens began an annual Youth Ministry ski trip that has been a feature of the winter program for young people. An annual "famine" has also been an outstanding event, which has benefited many people outside of the St. Paul community. Many organizations, from OXFAM to the Hingham Food Pantry, have been helped by the efforts of our young people. In February of 1996 over one hundred of St. Paul's finest high school students joined in thirty hours of strict fast, raising enough money to make the largest single donation the Hingham Food Pantry has ever received.

Aiding the parish priests in directing the Youth Ministry over the past twenty years have been Sandra Ferretti and Jim Kababik. For more than ten years a couple whose name has been synonymous with Youth Ministry have been Kathy and Beau Stebbins.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an association of Catholic lay people from all walks of life and from every economic, racial and age level. The Society's goal is the spiritual growth and development of its members.

Active members of the Society take part in this spiritual formation through scripture,

prayer, discussion, and participation in the sacraments. They build this spiritual development by serving the needs of anyone in trouble—regardless of their race, religion, ancestry, etc. Current membership includes Peter Hanson, Don James, Sue Kiernan, Tom Libby, Terry McNulty, Camillo Spirito, and Gerry Travers.

St. Paul School Board

The School Board is composed of the school principal, the pastor, a PTO liaison, the school secretary, and a group of lay persons with expertise in finance, law, business, and education, some of them members of the parish, all of them firm believers in and supporters of Catholic education.

Their primary function is to create a budget that will enable the all-lay faculty to continue to receive a just salary, and to balance the demands of rising costs with increases in tuition.

The School Board in 1996 is creating a five-year plan, which is contingent on the parish capital campaign insofar as major renovations and additions to the school are concerned.

Altar Servers

Altar servers have been part of almost every Sunday, Holy Day, and some daily Eucharistic services in St. Paul's since its founding in 1871. They represent the congregation at these celebrations.

Charles Leonard presently instructs new altar servers in the procedures required at the various types of celebrations, starting with a

class of about twenty girls and boys, age ten to fourteen years, who have shown an interest in this ministry. He starts his instruction with teaching the correct manner of carrying the cross in the opening procession of the service, positioning it at the altar, and leading the procession after Mass. Following this initial instruction, the various functions of the sacrifice of the Mass are taught with relation to the participation of the server. These functions include: reading of the Gospel, receiving the gifts, offertory, washing of the celebrant's hands, consecration, reception of Holy Communion, through the final blessing.

Many "dry runs" are conducted for these neophyte servers. Both the upper and lower church are used so that servers familiarize themselves with the different architectural features and how it affects their serving. After three complete practices of the entire procedure, the newly trained altar servers may be assigned to serve Mass with an experienced altar server. Since 1992 both girls and boys are included in this ministry.

Life Teen Program

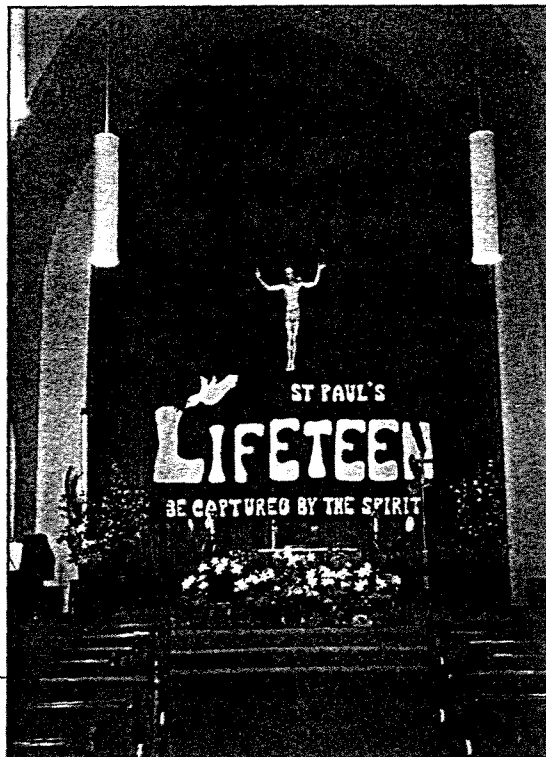
The Life Teen Program was introduced to Hingham at St. Paul's church on Sunday, October 22, 1955 at an evening Mass. Approximately 150 ninth- and tenth-grade students preparing for Confirmation were in attendance.

These students have as mentors, as well as instructors, a group of 15 young adults, called Life Guards, to help them make the transition from the regular religious education program to a more personal commitment to Jesus. This will enable them to make "... a free will decision, made with guidance and deliberation."

The Life Teen Program has a group of six or more older adults, called Life Guides, who help by giving moral support, keeping discipline, providing record-keeping, and aiding in socialization. For members of Life Teen, it is a one-year renewable commitment.

The Catholic Life Teen Program began at St. Timothy Parish in Mesa, Arizona in 1985. About three hundred active Teen Life Programs now exist in the United States. In 1991 the Program was given the Pope Paul VI Award for Evangelization in the United States by the National Council of Catholic Evangelization. The Program has been described as "... based on trying to help our young people to understand what and who the Eucharist is and, in coming to know that, begin to feel the love of Christ and the love of community.

Fr. Faretra, who is in charge of the program, will take each Confirmation Group and instruct them in proper manners of behavior for attendance during Mass. The monthly



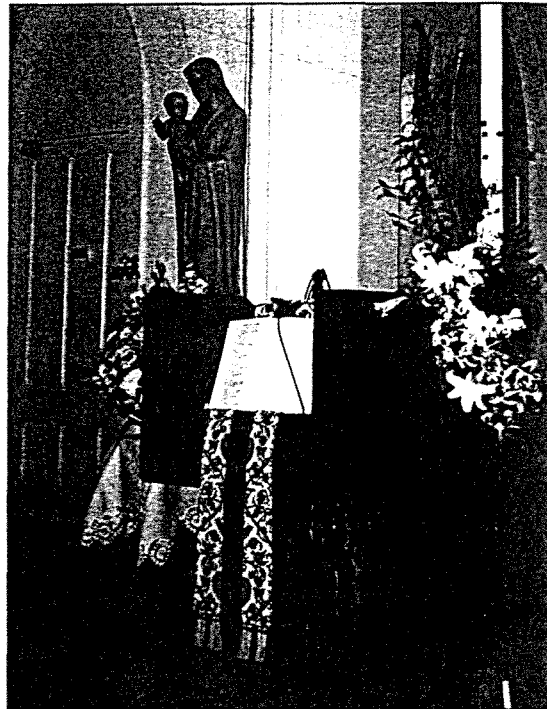
Mass at St. Paul's has music with electric guitars, bass, drums, and keyboard. During a typical Life Teen Mass, the amplified music will suddenly stop when the Eucharistic prayers are offered. The homilies planned will address the turmoil and confusion of the adolescent years. After Mass a social hour and discussion period are held which make everyone feel closer to each other and to God.

Pro-Life Committee

The very week of the infamous Roe vs Wade decision by the Supreme Court, our parish became the nucleus for the very first meeting of pro-life people in the archdiocese. The Rev. James Murphy, S.J., of Weston was our invited speaker on a cold blustery evening in February.

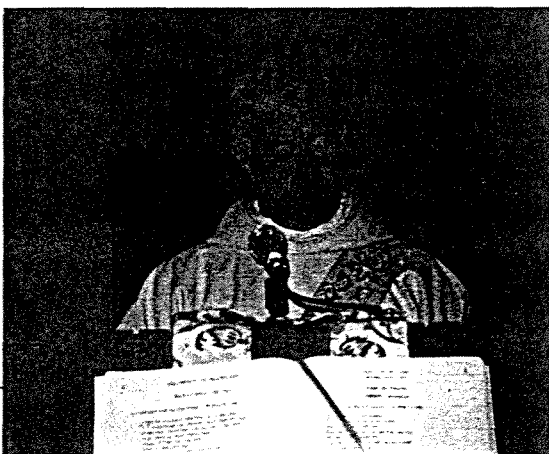
Since its organization in 1975, our small core of faithful members has met on the second Tuesday of each month to carry out the work of protecting human life in our own limited way. When the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office held area meetings throughout the archdiocese in 1983, there was a resurgence of interest in the work of our committee.

The Pro-Life Committee focuses primarily on educating parishioners through: the publication of a quarterly newsletter; guest speak-



ers; distributing free literature at Masses during Respect Life Month, and on the Sunday nearest January 22 (the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision); distribution of roses during Pro-Life Sunday; liturgies during Respect Life Month in October; Baby Showers; letters to the editor; and sending contributions to Birthright, Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Cardinal's Appeal for Pregnant Women, and other pro-life organizations. In addition to numerous other projects, we have picketed at Quincy City Hospital, abortion mills in the greater Boston area, attended rallies in Boston and Washington, and joined the Walk for Life in October.

The Pro-Life Committee considers the need to educate as our most important objective—and that objective can be achieved in a variety of ways. One effective way of educat-



ing is by distributing leaflets at junior high schools and high schools. This has been good, positive action that has had wonderful results. We hope that with the addition of some new and maybe younger members of our parish, new ideas will be suggested and, more importantly, be acted upon. We always pray for strength to do the work our Lord calls us to do for the sake of all of His little ones. We welcome all who share this desire.

Family Liturgy

The Family Liturgy, which is celebrated on Sunday mornings at 10:00 A.M. in the downstairs church, began in the early 70s by a group of people who were members of the Christian Family Movement. The Christian Family Movement which grew out of the Second Vatican Council endeavored to empower laity to be leaders in the church.

It was evident to this group that the needs of children were not being met by the more traditional Sunday services. With the support of the pastor, Fr. McGann, and the Director of Religious Education, Sr. Rose Marie, they spent many, many hours searching for appropriate music, rehearsing, organizing participants, making banners and working closely with the celebrants regarding homilies.

It was believed that liturgies that focused on children should be interactive and hands-on. The music, much of it from Fr. Carey Landry, was sung to the accompaniment of guitars and a banjo. The group made their own hymnals. Shows, plays and liturgical dance became part of some Mass celebrations as children actively participated.

Currently there is a planning committee for Family Liturgy separate from the musi-



cians. These members work with the parish liturgy committee so that the same themes are followed throughout. Some members are involved in other child-oriented activities of the parish. The Director of Religious Education attends these planning meetings. With this integration into parish life Family Liturgy becomes the liturgical setting in which children can celebrate these various activities.

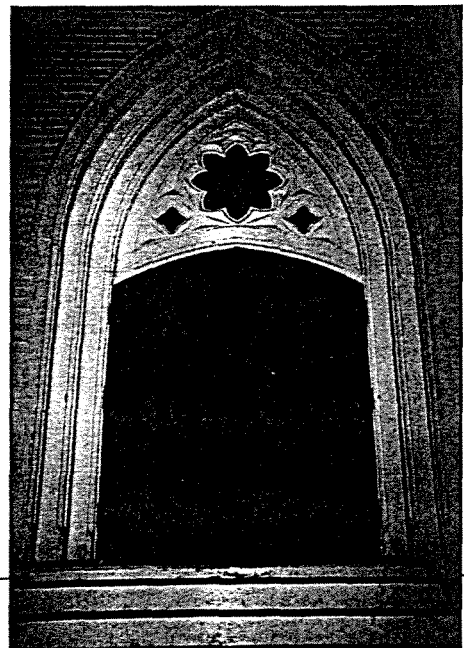
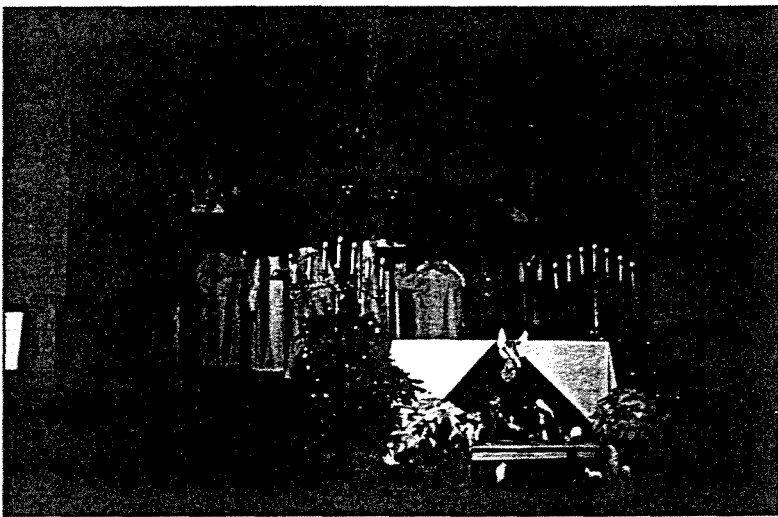
Family Liturgy is involved in community service through activities for the Hingham Interfaith Food Pantry, Fr. Bill's Place in Quincy, Christmas in Roxbury, Jesse Tree Gift Project and Christmas cards for the elderly and homebound. A signed Mass is held from time to time which brings together members of the community who are hearing-impaired.

Through weekly liturgies and special celebrations of the liturgical seasons Family Liturgy continues to provide a place for young children and their families to actively worship, participate, and to experience the joy of loving God and serving their neighbor.

We Celebrate



*We celebrate – together in community and spirit –
with song and hymns, cake and candles. Ring out
the old! Ring in the new! Ring in the 125th!*

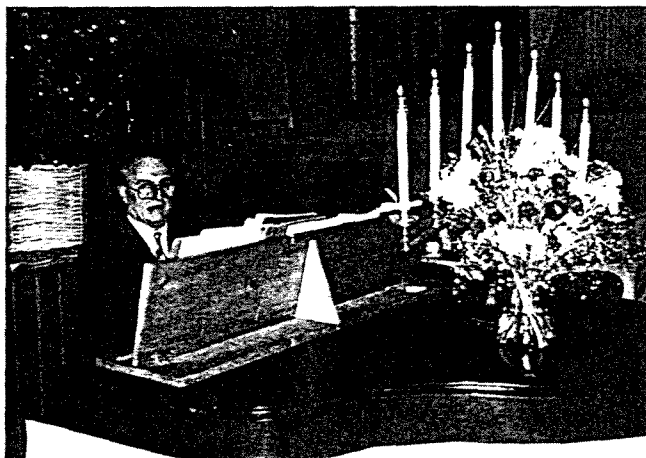
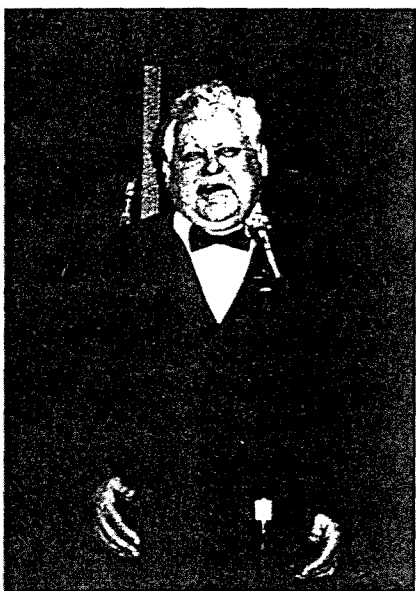




*It was the last night of
the old year and the first
night of the new. We had
come to celebrate the
beginning of the 125th
year in ecumenical spirit
and with the church
literally ringed in fire.*



*Talent? St. Paul's
is the Broadway of
the South Shore!*





*We are the
prep team
for Cabaret...*



Late Night Catechism



*Who ever heard of Catechism late at night. . .
with a swinging nun?*





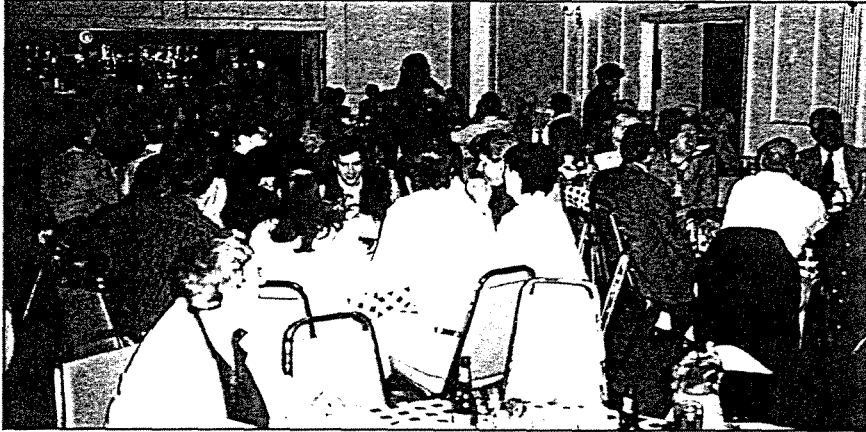
...Makes the tough old catechism and classroom instruction user friendly! User funny!



A Taste Of Italy

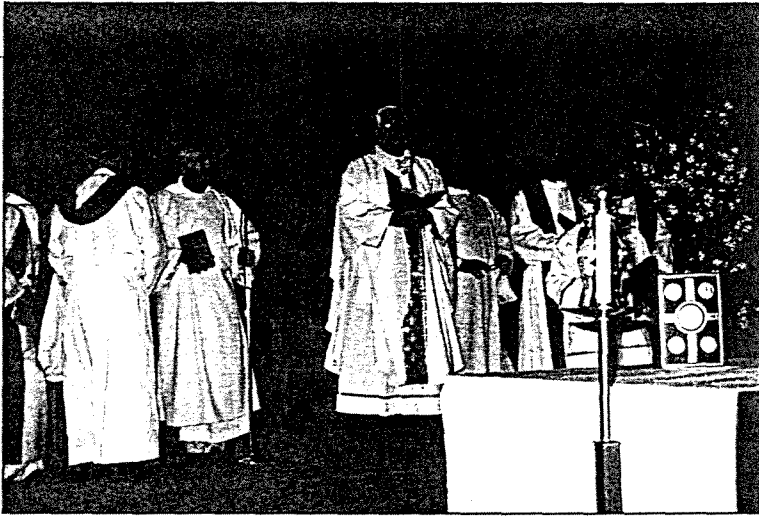
*We had a
Taste of Italy,
but it was
more than
a taste.*



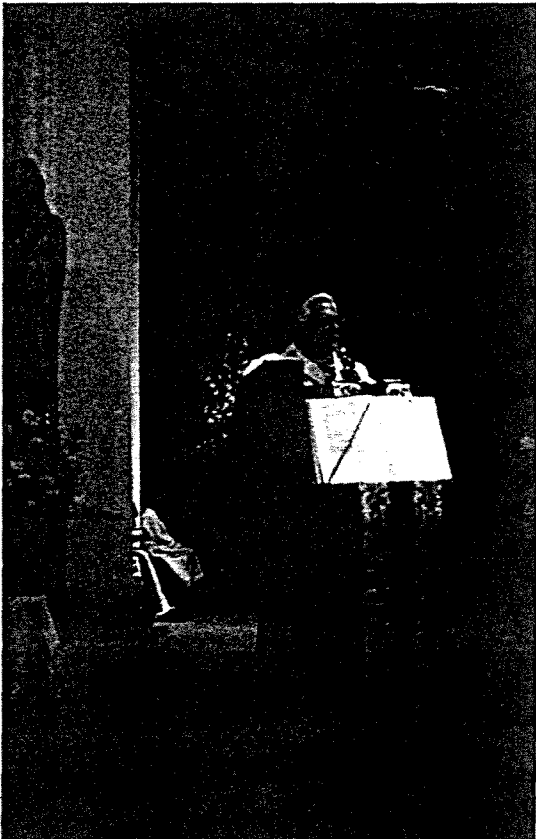


*More like fettuccini,
ziti, ravioli, sing-along,
and high spirits all
wrapped together in
a packed house!*

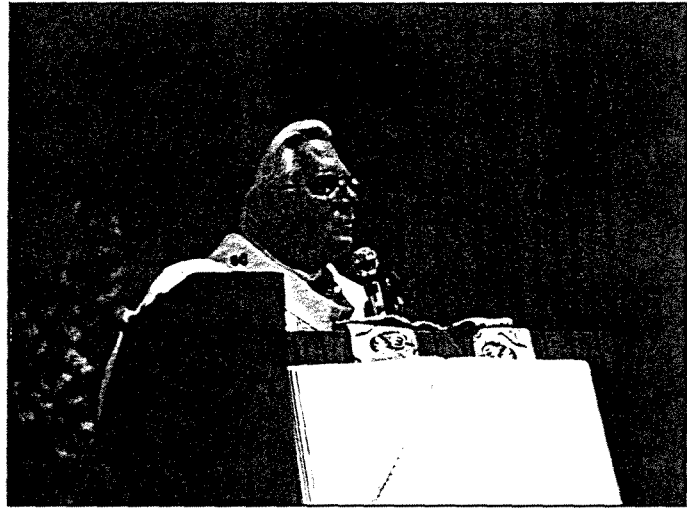




The Liturgy of Commemoration with His Eminence, Bernard Cardinal Law on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul



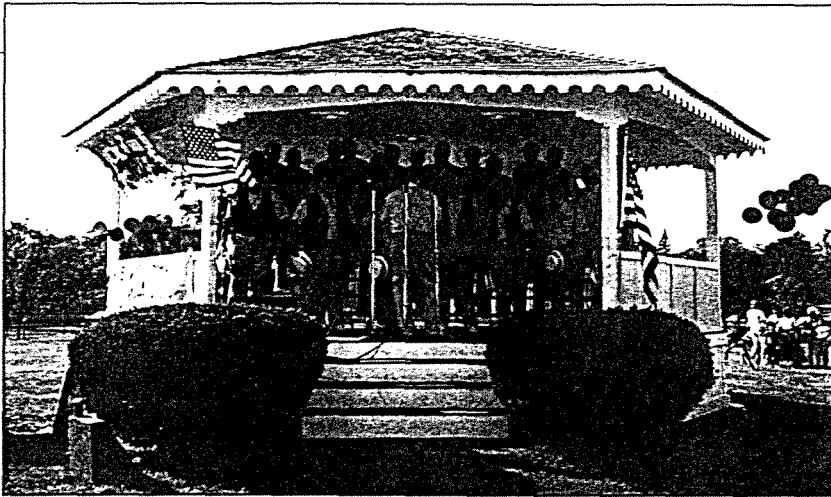
A convocation of the children with the Cardinal around the altar



*The religious highlight
of the on-going 125th
Anniversary Year*



*Praise the Lord
Ye Heavens*



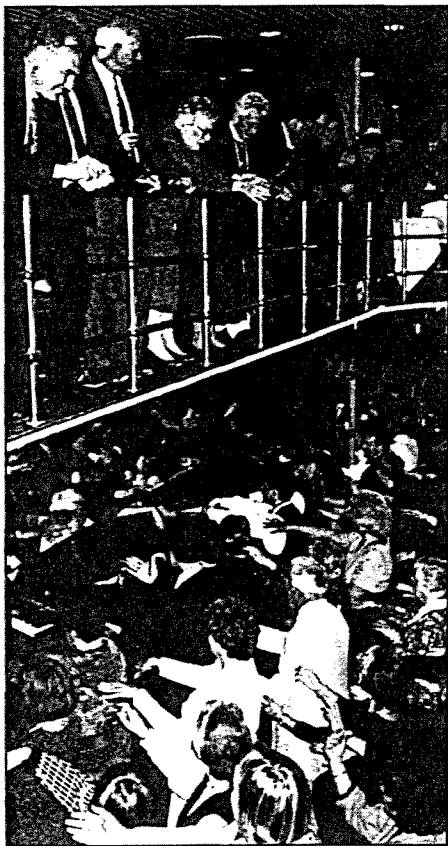
It was a day made – in heaven! – for picnics. . .

*In Hingham's picture-book harbor with the easy-to-listen-to
South Shore Men of Harmony. The kids were dynamite.*

Every one of them was a winner! The whole day was a winner!



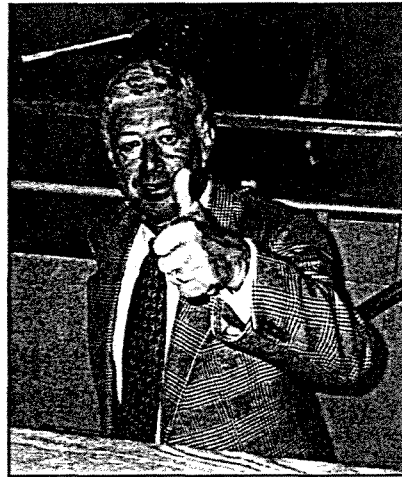






*We had a kick-off—and this was
the grand wind-up!*

*A magnificent banquet on the
magnificent floating palace
Spirit of Boston*



Music—dancing—conversation—laughter

A cruise with our people

our neighbors

our community



The 125th Year...

We started it with prayer

We ended it with community

We Recall

We Serve

We Remember

We Celebrate



Acknowledgements

Appreciation must be expressed for the help of many, but in particular the work of members of the Historical Committee under the guidance of Fr. Al Faretra:

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Laurene Fee

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Tom Kearney

Ed Lynch

Marge Jordan

Carol McCusker

Tina Martino

Elizabeth Shaw

Rose Tuite

In addition, we are indebted to Paula Villanova for the major design decisions, layout, and art planning for the commemorative magazine.

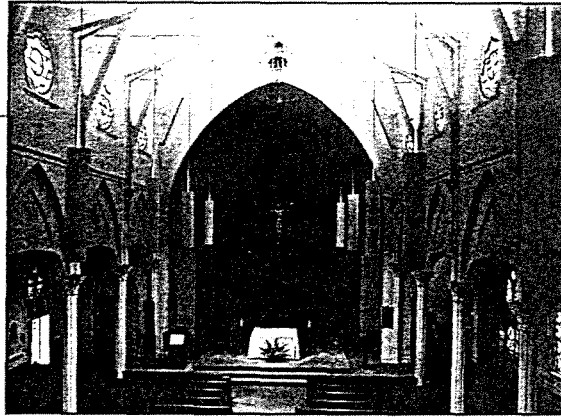
The mechanical art, typography and pre-press preparation was done by the advertising agency of Devine & Pearson under the direction of Hugh Devine.

We would be remiss not to mention the extensive "borrowing" from the early history of St. Paul's as written by the late Judge Paul Reardon.

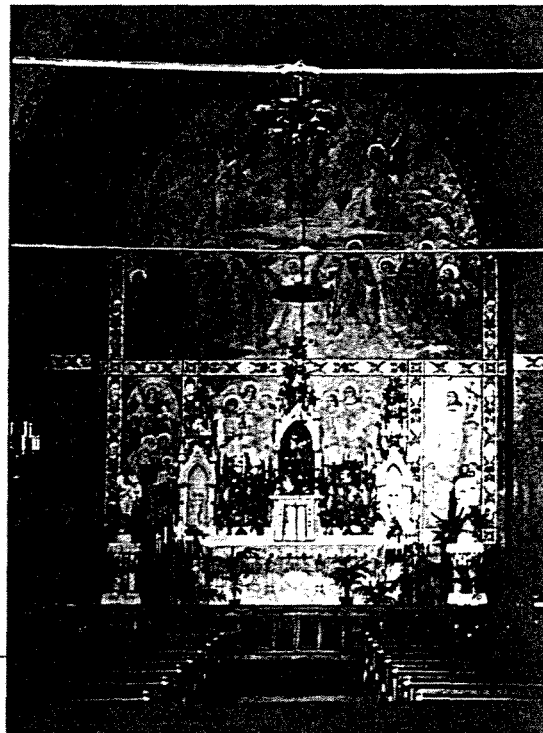
Front cover and other photographs: Ed Boylan, additional photos: Tina Martino

Artwork in a "variety" of places: Susan Kilmartin

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St. Paul has a proud tradition of religious excellence and service to our community. A guarantee that we will continue that dedication and service into the new millennium was the major capital campaign completed during our 125th year. We salute with a special thanks the



campaign chairs, Tom and Carol O'Donnell, Bill and Suzanne Hurley, and Tom and Diane Reilly; all who worked on the campaign and all who pledged and contributed to our future. We look forward — with God's help — to celebrating the next 125 years!