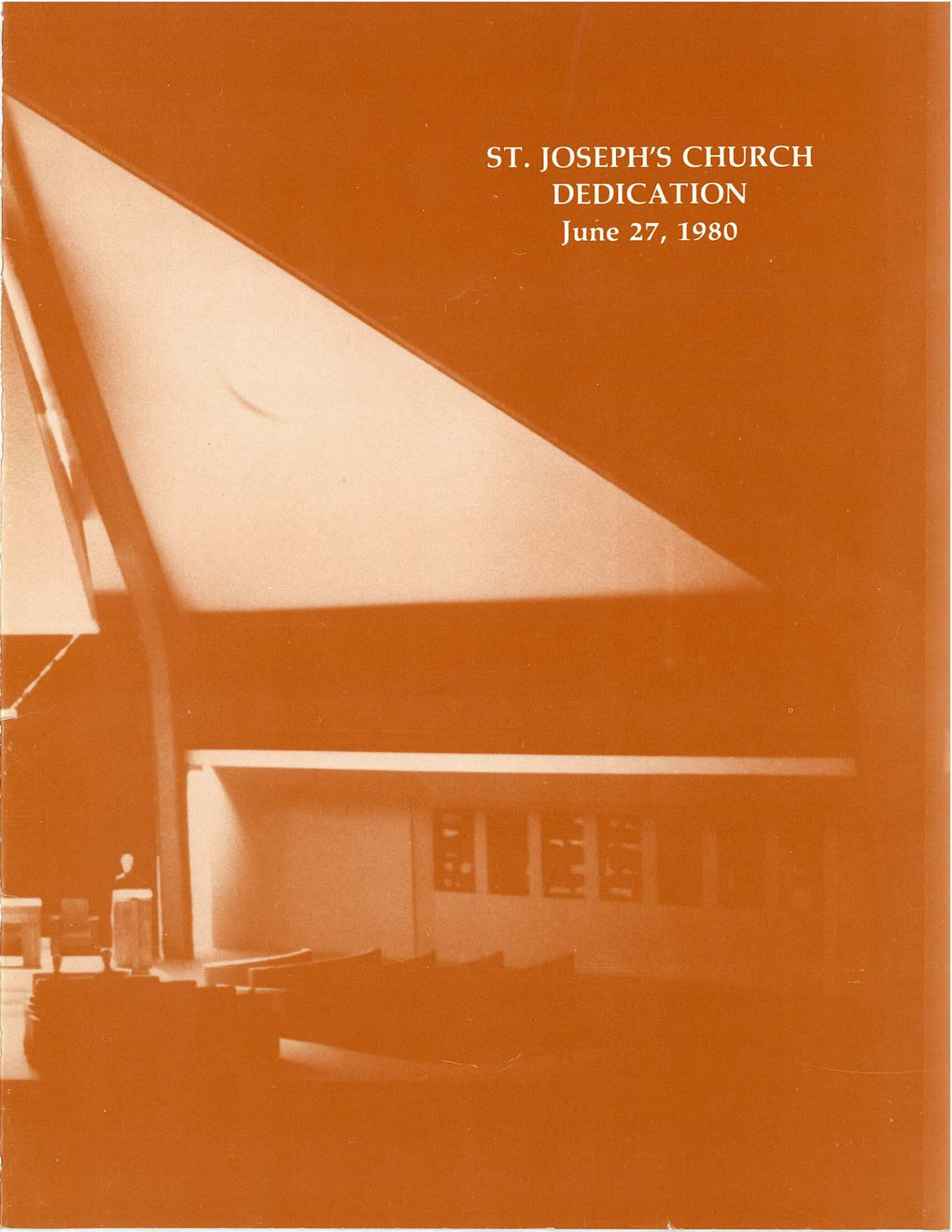


ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
DEDICATION

June 27, 1980



REGULATIONS OF ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

1902

Masses — On Sundays, — Low Masses at 8 and 9 a.m. The 9 o'clock Mass is for children and Sunday School teachers only. Any one else must have special permission to attend it.

Churching of women after Low Mass.

High Mass and Sermon at 10:30. Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3:30 p.m.

On Holy Days of Obligation — Low Masses at 6, 7 and 8 a.m. Benediction at 7:30 p.m.

On Week Days — Masses at 7:30 a.m.

Funeral High Masses of Requiem at 9 a.m. Other Requiem Masses at 8 a.m.

Marriage Masses at 8 a.m., or earlier at the option of the contracting parties.

Sunday School — Sessions of the Sunday School are held every Sunday, except during the summer months, at 2:30 p.m. *Children should have attendance cards and catechisms.*

Regulations as to Seats — The Church is the great house of the parish in which the members of the different families of the parish assemble to worship God and to pray to Him; to receive the Sacraments; and to listen to instruction.

In the family each member has his place. So, in the Church, each and every member of the great Christian family should have his place — his seat. Seats are hired for three months at the beginning of Feb., May, Aug. and Nov. Pew rent must be paid in advance.

Confessions — Confessions are heard every Saturday afternoon and evening, and on the vigils of Holy Days of Obligation; afternoons from 3 to 6; evenings from 7 to 9. On the Thursdays preceding the first Friday of each month confessions are heard at the same hours as above, afternoon and evening. Confessions for school children who have made their first Communion are heard on the second Saturday of each month at 3 p.m. Children attending school will not be heard at any other time on that day.

Baptisms — Baptisms are regularly attended to on Sundays from 3 to 5 and from 6 to 8; on other days by special appointment.

The sponsors of the baptism must have received the sacrament of confirmation. Two sponsors are required. The child should not be kept too long without baptism. It should be baptized within a couple of days of its birth. The father should always be present at the baptism of his child.

Marriages — Marriages will be attended to at the times specified when the names are put in for publication. The proper time to be married is in the morning at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, at which the Holy Communion is received by the contracting parties, the nuptial blessings are given to them and the Holy Sacrifice is offered for them. Marriage is one of the most important affairs in life. Matrimony is a sacrament that Christ himself instituted and blessed. Everything possible should be done by those about to enter the married state to draw upon themselves God's grace and blessing. Nothing better tends to bring down that grace and merit that blessing than to be married in His holy temple at the Adorable Sacrifice of the Mass.

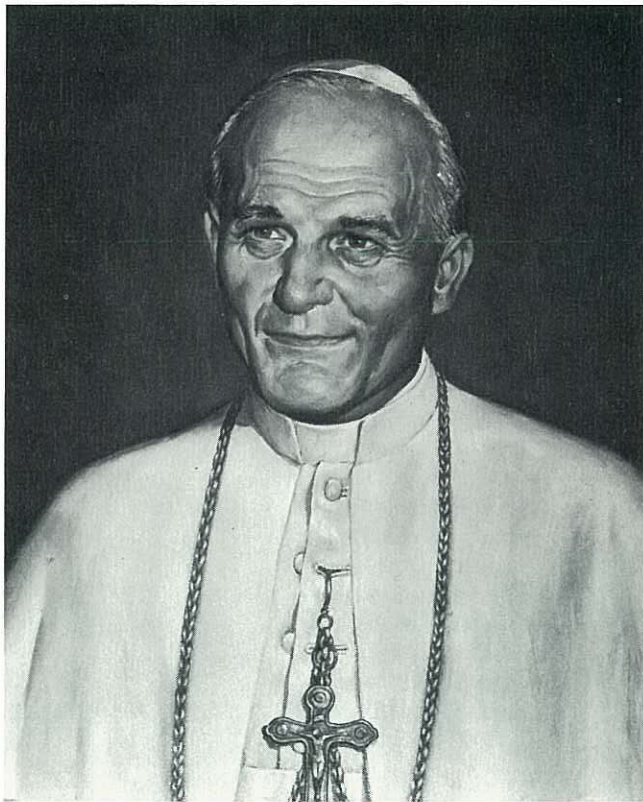
Parties are required to be published three times in the church previous to their marriage unless dispensed for grievous reasons. Persons who act as witnesses of the marriage should be Catholics.

Sick Calls — Sick Calls should be sent in early in the day, or still better, the evening previous. The reason of this is obvious to all. The priests are engaged in different duties which the parish calls for. It is more in keeping with the rules of order for them to have a time for attending the sick; and they cannot do this unless they are notified some time in advance.

In the case of sudden and serious illness calls will be attended to at any hour of the day or night.

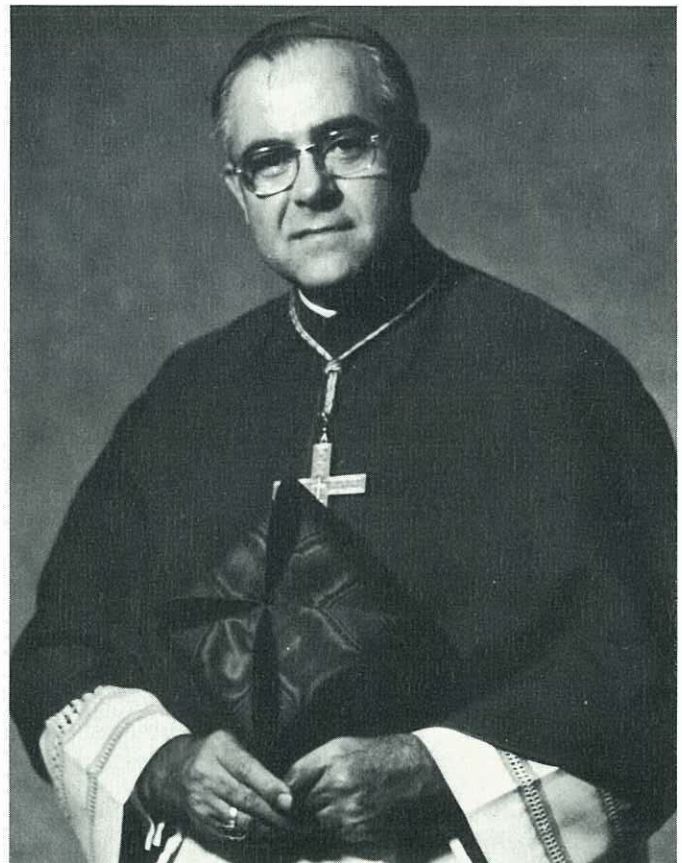
Don't send Children on Sick Calls. Baptisms, marriages and sick calls must, in all cases, be of parties who are residents of the parish.

Societies — The Ladies' Sodality meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month; the Girls' Sodality at 3:30 p.m. on the first and third Sundays; the Holy Name Society at 4 p.m. on the second Sunday; the Sacred Heart Society and that of the Propagation of the Faith on the first Friday at 7:30 p.m.



**His Holiness
Pope John Paul II**

**His Eminence
Humberto Cardinal Medeiros
Archbishop of Boston**



**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

PARISH PRIESTS

Reverend Edward F. Gillis, *Pastor*
Reverend Raymond Lambert
Reverend Joseph Fusoni

PARISH COUNCIL

Marion Whiting, *Chairperson*
Anne Baker, *Secretary*
Judy Bode
Sister Catherine Lee
Alice Ellis
Richard Doherty
Mitchell Hannoosh
William Hayes
James Maguire
Edward Quinn

BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mitchell Hannoosh, *Chairman*
Lawrence McCluskey
Richard Doherty
Richard Ellis
Nancy Gambone
Walter Maloney
William Wallace
Richard Boutiette
Edward Sanchez
Clinton Beaven

CLERICAL COMMITTEE

Anne Baker, *Chairperson*
Maureen Maloney
Alice Ellis
Irma Hayes
Kathy Bonyman

SPECIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE

Paul Spang and Robert Spang, *Co-Chairmen*
Anne Baker, *Secretary*
Edward Quinn
Daniel Sullivan

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Robert Spang and Paul Spang, *Co-Chairmen*
Anne Baker, *Secretary*
David Cardillo
Benito Barsanti
Lawrence McCluskey
Paul Conway
Henry McConville
Edward Quinn
Daniel Sullivan
Alfred Minahan, Sr.
William Snell
James Melanson
John Drugan
Frank Coolidge

BUILDING FUND COMMITTEE

Edward Quinn, *Chairman*
Anne Baker, *Secretary*
Robert Spang
Paul Spang
Frank Coolidge
William Snell
Daniel Sullivan

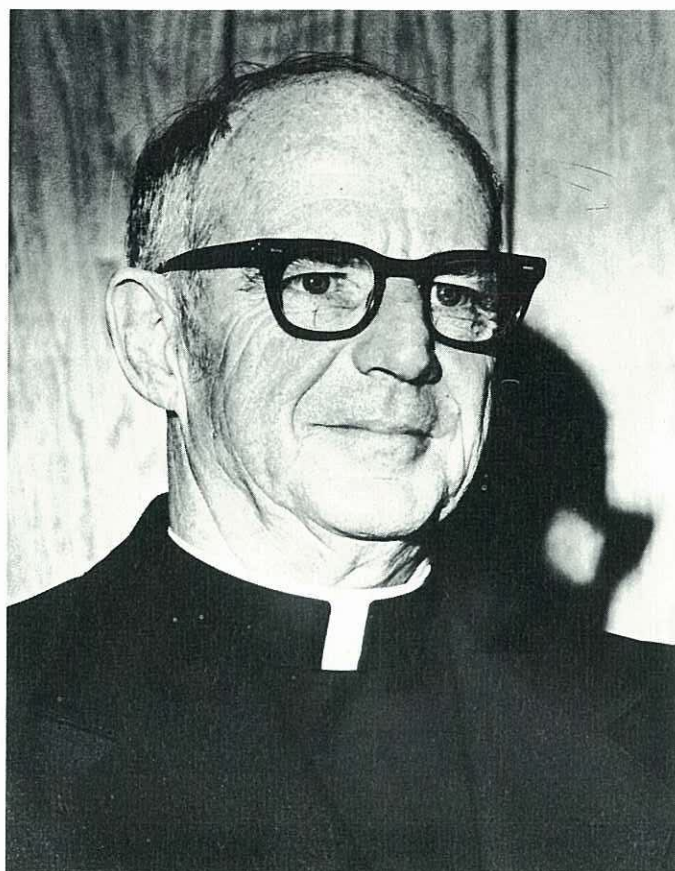
DEDICATION COMMITTEE

Peter and Marion Whiting, *Chairpersons*
James and Margaret Maguire
William and Irma Hayes
Gerald and Ann Glynn
Judy Bode, *Dedication Booklet*
Sister Catherine Lee, *Liturgy*
Patricia Donnelly
Joan McRae
Susan Henshaw
Eleanor Hannoosh
Philip and Nina McCarty

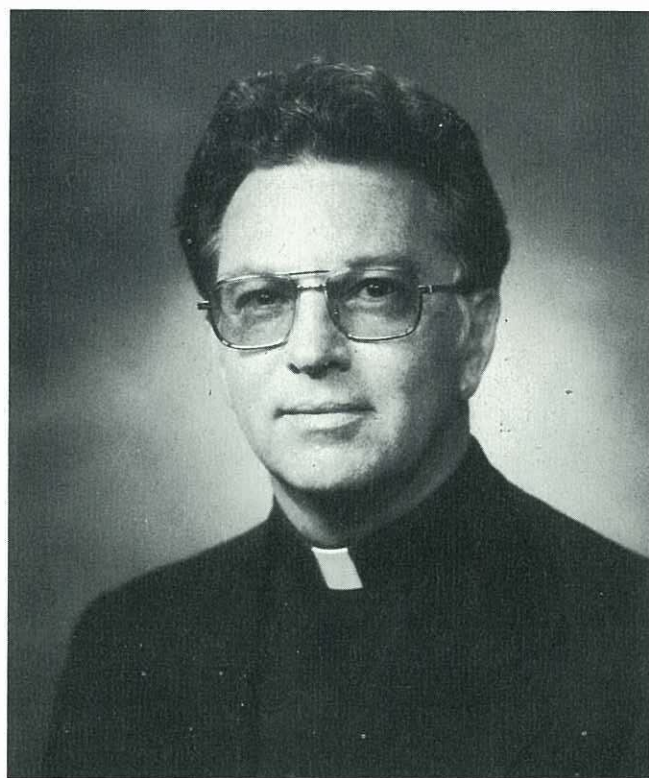
A word of thanks . . .

I would like to thank Mary Burns Lally, Julie Leone Morgan, Ellen and Ted Quinn, Joseph Mc Mahon, Larry McCluskey, Mr. William Jones of the Historical Society, Mrs. Augustin Landry, Mitch Hannoosh, the Payro family, Don Young, and the patient librarians at the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library for their assistance with the research and pictures for this booklet.

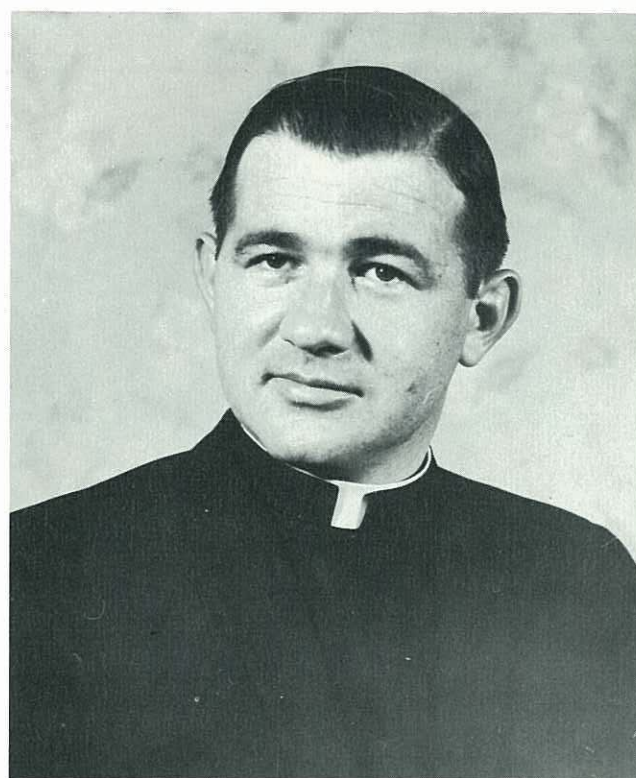
*Judy Bode
Parish Council, 1980*



Reverend Edward F. Gillis, *Pastor*



Reverend Raymond Lambert



Reverend Joseph Fusoni



Checking on a detail are the Parish Council of 1980. Seated are Marion Whiting, President, and Reverend Edward Gillis. Standing left to right are Richard Doherty, Mitchell Hannoosh, William Hayes, Judy Bode, Alice Ellis, Anne Baker, Secretary, and James Maguire. Unable to be present were Sister Catherine Lee and Edward Quinn.



Building Advisory Committee members whose expertise include many areas. Seated are Mitchell Hannoosh, Chairman, and Nancy Gambone. Standing left to right are Walter Maloney, Lawrence McCluskey, William Wallace, Clinton Beaven, Richard Boutiette, Edward Sanchez, Richard Doherty, Reverend Edward Gillis, Pastor, and Don Young.



Some members of the Building Fund Committee are left to right: Frank Coolidge, Paul Spang, Reverend Edward Gillis, and Anne Baker.



The First Church called St. Mary's

THE STORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Foreword

*It is with gratitude and praise
that we acknowledge the efforts
of all those people who have
contributed so generously to
the welfare of St. Joseph's
Church. Without their faith
and devotion, we would not be
able to present this account
of the eventful past.*

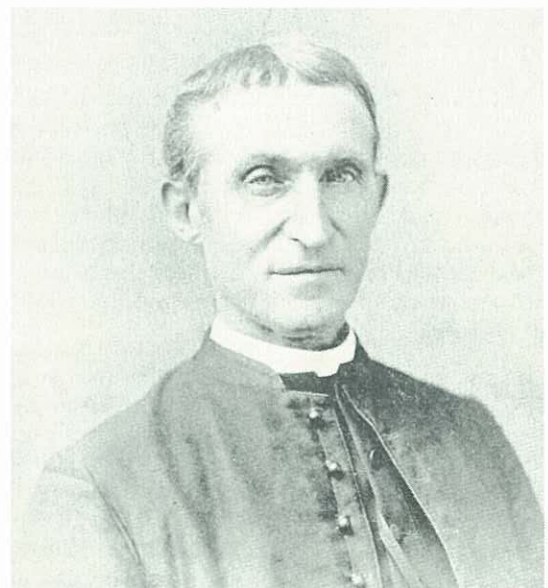
Early beginnings . . .

Wakefield was in the process of becoming a busy industrial community during the second half of the 19th century. The advent of the Boston and Maine Railroad brought many people to Wakefield who established permanent residences here. Businesses such as Cyrus Wakfield's Rattan Company and Boston and Maine Foundry flourished, homes and schools were built, the population had jumped to 1,500 people by 1850, and new churches were organized. Among them was St. Joseph's.

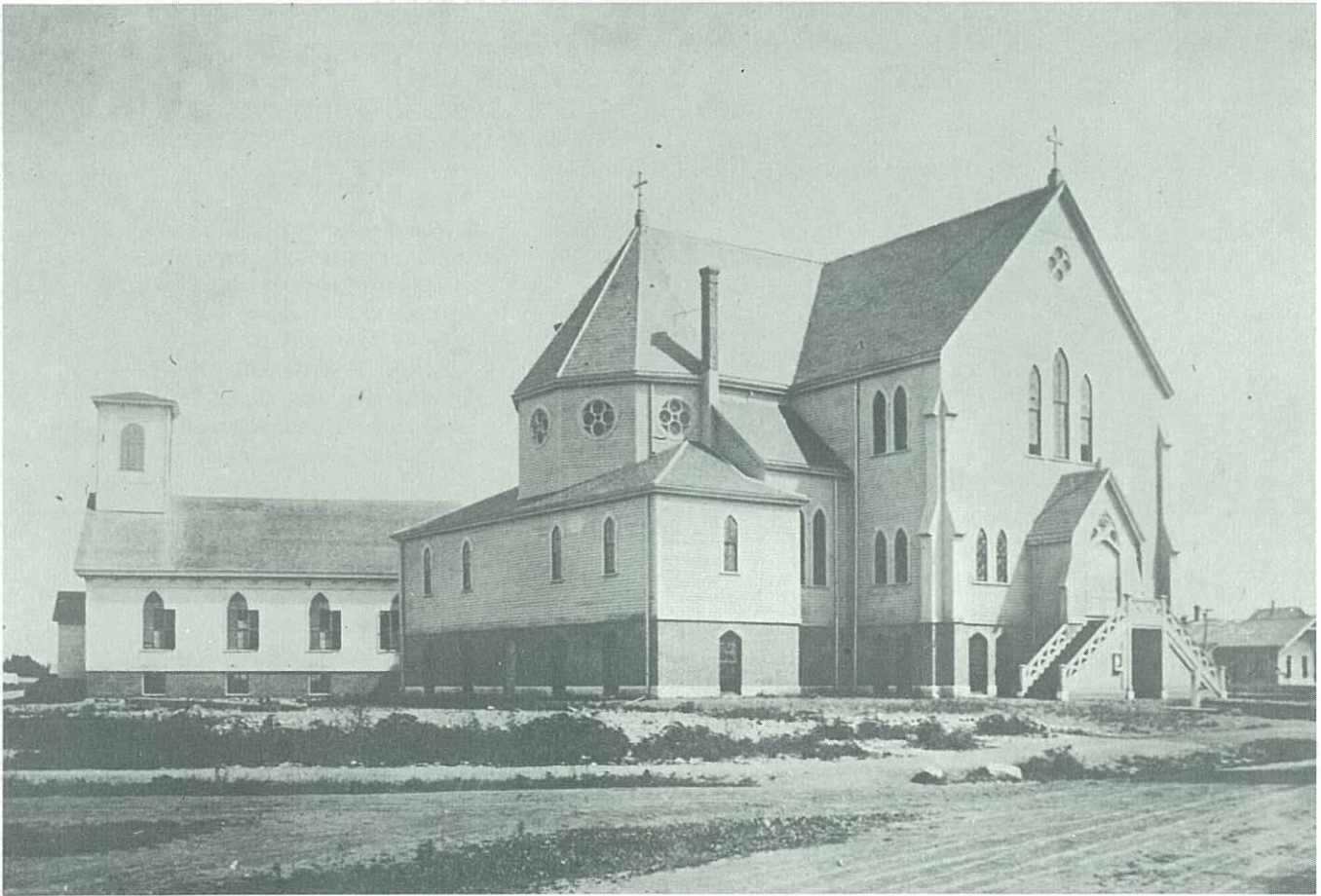
Before 1850 the few Catholic families in Wakefield walked to Mass in Lynn, where services were held in the town hall and later in St. Mary's Church. The first Mass in Wakefield, then called South Reading, was held in July of 1851 at the home of Malachy Kenney, who lived near the Junction.

It is recorded that the Reverend Thomas Shahan, pastor of St. James' Church in Salem, while waiting at the Junction train stop enroute to visiting his relatives in Melrose, one day was asked by several Catholics to say Mass for the faithful in South Reading. Receiving permission from Reverend P.F. Lyndon, pastor at Charlestown, to whose jurisdiction South Reading belonged, Father Shahan agreed. This first Mass was attended by the few Catholic families in South Reading but attracted between 200 to 300 people from the surrounding towns of Melrose, Stoneham, Winchester, Woburn, and Wilmington. With the monies collected, Fr. Shahan bought a piece of land, 150 feet by 80, on Albion Street, part of the present parochial site, and the building of a chapel was begun in 1852. It was dedicated on August 19, 1854, and named the Church of St. Mary.

Fr. Shahan continued to serve as pastor until 1854. He was succeeded by Reverend John Ryan of Malden; Reverend John McCarthy of Woburn, 1862; Reverend Thomas Skully of Malden, 1866; Reverend John McShane of Malden, 1867; Reverend M. X. Carroll of Malden, January, 1868; Reverend Thomas Gleason, July, 1868; and Reverend William H. Fitzpatrick of Stoneham, September, 1868. None of these priests had a residence in South Reading because they were attached to the principal parishes mentioned, and the parish of South Reading was considered a mission.



Rev. Thomas Shahan



St. Joseph's Church, 1880, front on Albion Street

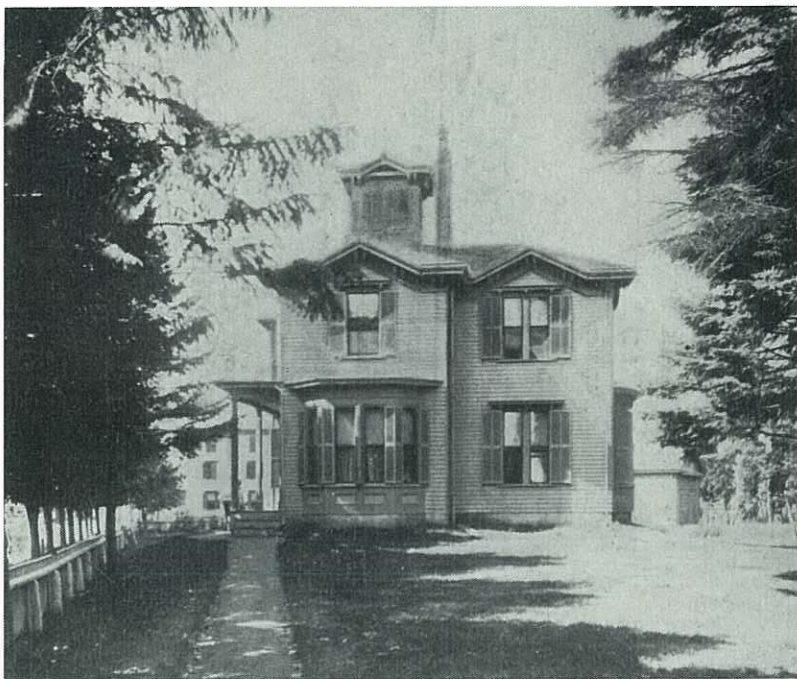
Locally, the decade between 1860 and 1870 was a noteworthy one. The name of the town of South Reading was officially changed to Wakefield on July 1, 1868, in honor of its leading benefactor and businessman, Cyrus Wakefield. The Wakefield Citizen and Banner, the forerunner of the Wakefield Daily Item, reported that the number of houses built in 1862 was 7, but in 1873, it was 108. Population in this picturesque yet thriving community reached upwards of 6,000 citizens, and the local rattan and shoe industries employed hundreds of workers, many of whom were Catholic Irish and Italian immigrants who had left their native lands to seek a better life in America.

The little chapel on Albion Street became much too small to accommodate its growing number of parishioners. In 1870 Fr. Fitzpatrick had plans drawn up for a new church to seat 800 people, and the original Church of St. Mary was eventually moved to Murray Street and renamed Lyceum Hall. It was later to become St. Joseph's Hall. By November, 1871, the new church was opened. (It is interesting to note historically that no mention was made of this occasion in the local weekly newspaper.) Although it did not fulfill Fr. Fitzpatrick's

original plans, to build the church in cruciform shape, at that time it was sufficient in size for the needs of the Catholic community. As originally built, St. Joseph's was comprised of the chancel, transept, and first nave section, and its entrance faced Albion Street.



Reverend William Fitzpatrick



The first rectory, a house purchased from the Beebe family.

Wakefield became a parish and the dedication of the new church, named St. Joseph's, took place in summer, 1873, with Reverend Michael F. Flatley its first resident pastor. His rectory was located at the junction of Gould and Albion Streets. Fr. Flatley organized a Sunday School with Joseph M. Skully acting as Superintendent for many years, succeeded by Matthias Hollander and Eugene McDonald before the end of the century.

Soon, as was the custom, every seat was hired, and the new church again became too small. More land was

First resident pastor

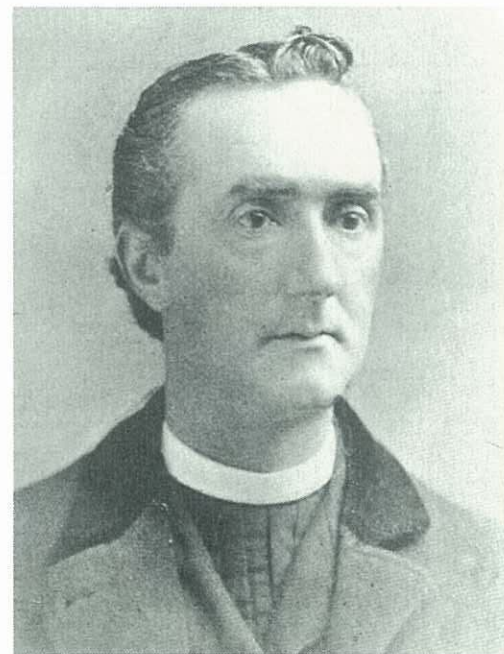


Reverend Michael J. Flatley

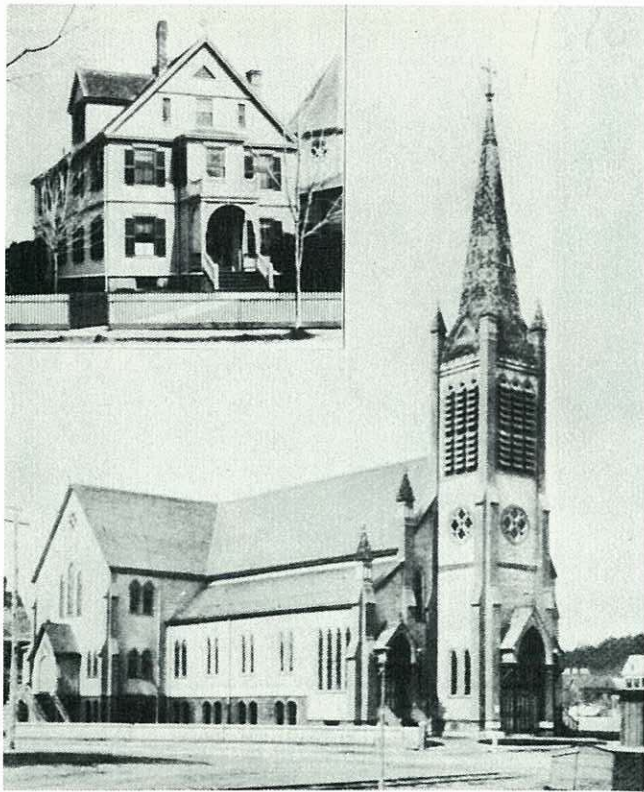
purchased by Fr. Flatley and the St. Joseph's Society and the church was added on to over a period of 16 years until it fulfilled Fr. Fitzpatrick's original design. The new church was moved closer to the railroad tracks, the nave was extended, the landmark spire was erected, the church entrance was changed to face what is now Tuttle Street, and a basement was added. Fr. Flatley's successor, Reverend P.J. Hally, arrived in 1884 and built a new rectory just behind the church at the corner of Albion and Murray Streets in 1885.



The new rectory built by Fr. Hally



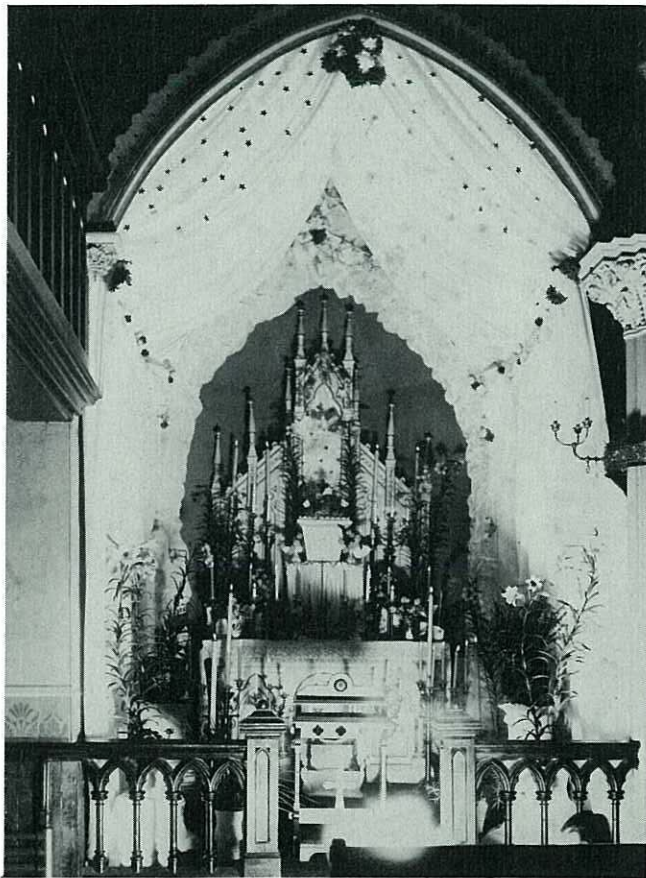
Reverend Patrick J. Hally



St. Joseph's Church and Rectory, 1894



Commemorative picture of the 1890 dedication, showing the church, the rectory and Assistant Reverend William O'Connor on the left, Pastor Millerick in the center and Assistant Reverend James McNiff on the right.



The Sacred Heart Altar, a gift of the Lyons Family of Montrose, as it appeared in 1895.



The beautiful main altar in 1895.



Reverend Jeremiah Millerick

The cornerstone of the enlarged, remodeled church was laid in September 8, 1889, and the magnificently appointed building was officially dedicated by Archbishop Williams of Boston on November 9, 1890. Irish-born and Holy Cross educated Reverend Jeremiah E. Millerick, who became pastor in 1887, was the overseer of an extensive physical plant.

1890 Dedication . . .

A lengthy account in the Wakefield Citizen and Banner of November 15, 1890, described the interior of the new St. Joseph's Church. "The decorations or frescoing are indeed magnificent, and it is safe to say that the entire work far surpasses anything of the kind in this vicinity." There were three altars, the largest one in the middle, which was intricately fashioned in gold and white. The many stained glass windows were gifts of various parish organizations and individuals, the carpeting within the sanctuary was of a rich red and green design, the supporting pillars were massive and crowned with stucco-work of elaborate design and color, and the sanctuary lamp, a gift of Thomas Curley, was suspended from the ceiling. Because Wakefield did not have electricity at that time, gas lamps illuminated the interior. A large organ was located in the east gallery, and heat was supplied by steam. The seats were described as being "neat in appearance and comfortable" and were made of ash with cherry trimmings. Seating capacity, including the two galleries on the sides and the one in the rear, amounted to 1,200. The entire church cost about \$30,000. There were 1,700 Catholics in Wakefield at that time.

Organizations connected directly with the church were St. Joseph's Lyceum, Holy Name Society, Sacred Heart Society, and the Church Debt Society.

St. Joseph's enters the 20th century . . .

Reverend John Colbert succeeded Fr. Millerick in 1902 and remained in Wakefield until 1913. Under his personal guidance, the interior of the church continued to grow in beauty. Stained glass windows were installed in the sanctuary, and the entire church was renovated, including the basement. In May, 1909, Greenwood Catholics celebrated Mass in the Hose House Hall. A wooden chapel of Gothic design was gradually built for them on Main Street in Greenwood, and opening services were held on New Year's Day, 1927. Greenwood became a parish in 1931. Fr. Colbert also organized the Wakefield Catholic Club in 1905.

Over the years this organization was busily engaged in spiritual and social works in the parish. Outings for destitute Catholic children from Boston, whist parties, candy sales, donations to many charities, and annual plays, minstrel shows, and musical comedies will always be remembered by some of the senior members of the parish.



Reverend John Colbert



Monsignor Florence J. Halloran

The next pastor, Reverend Florence J. Halloran, was truly a saintly man who left an indelible mark both on the Catholics of his parish and the citizens of his community. He succeeded Fr. Colbert in 1913. He was loved by all during his 33 years in Wakefield. A priest for 53 years, Fr. Halloran's tenure was a fruitful one. He oversaw the building of St. Joseph's Parochial School, which opened with one first and one second grade in 1925, located on what had been the Blanchard estate on the corner of Gould and Emerson Streets. Purchased from Mrs. Hugh Morgan in 1922, this valuable property was large enough to accommodate the modern eight-room brick school. Alterations were made to the old Blanchard house, and it served as the convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph until it was demolished in 1958 when the present spacious convent was built in its place.

A mission for the Catholics of South Lynnfield was also built in 1922. Fr. Halloran was largely responsible for the building of the South Lynnfield chapel on Route 1, built in 1937. That same year South Lynnfield became independent of Wakefield and was recognized as a parish.

Within Wakefield, Fr. Halloran helped the Italian Catholics attend Mass in their own neighborhood, the east side of the town. The Santissima Maria del Carmine Society had erected a building on Water Street and Mass was celebrated on the second floor of the building. The

Society transferred title to their building and land to the Catholic Church, and this chapel remained a mission of St. Joseph's until 1947, when a new parish was formed and named St. Florence's in memory of Fr. Halloran.

During World War I and World War II, Fr. Halloran urged his parishioners to support the American war efforts. It is said he personally bade a warm good bye to each departing military-bound parishioner.

Two more women's clubs were added to the parish in the 1930's. St. Joseph's Mothers' Association was formed in 1930 to help in the maintenance of St. Joseph's School, and the Wakefield Junior Catholic Club, an organization for young Catholic girls, was founded in 1938. The Holy Name Society numbered over 800 men in its membership, and the Catholic spirit was kept glowing with the work of the Ladies Sodality, the Children of Mary, the 500 students in the Sunday School, the Advanced Class of Religion and Bible History with 300 high school-aged participants, and the popular C.Y.O.

In an effort to recognize Fr. Halloran's many contributions as a priest, Pope Pius XII, through the then Archbishop Cushing, elevated the local pastor to the rank of Monsignor in 1946. When Fr. Halloran died in March, 1947, public schools were closed out of respect to his memory.

Additional improvements to the church during his years were the redecorating of the sanctuary and the installation of the stations of the cross. It should also be noted that throughout his many years, Fr. Halloran improved relations with many of the Protestant denominations in town.

St. Joseph's Church welcomed a new pastor, Reverend Frederick J. Deasy, in the spring of 1947. For 17 years, Fr. Deasy tended to the continuously growing parish. He redecorated the upper church and basement chapel, installed a baptistry in the chapel, authorized a program of repairs for St. Joseph's School and St. Joseph's Hall, and installed aluminum siding on the church and rectory in the early 1960's at a cost of \$15,000.

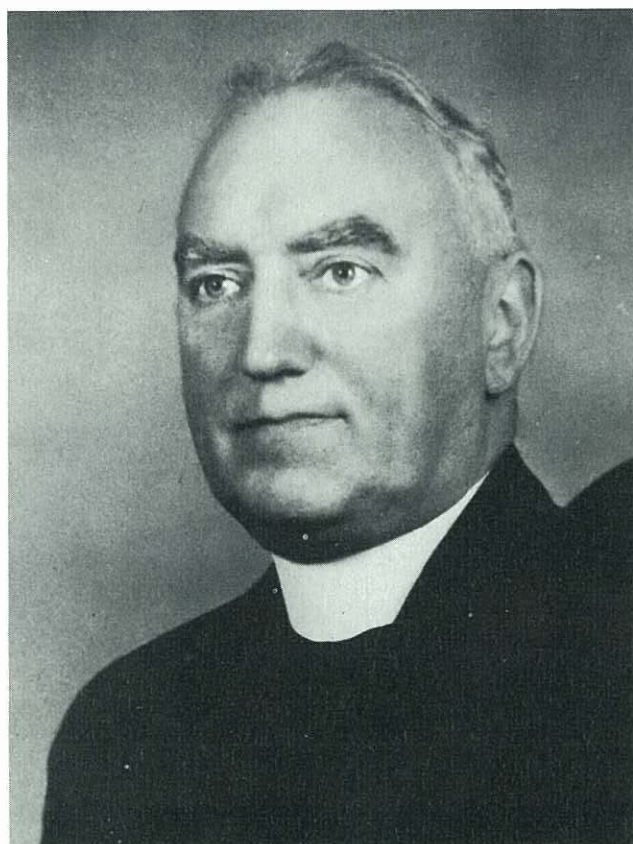
On Tuesday morning, October 12, 1954, St. Joseph's celebrated its centennial with a huge outdoor Mass on Wakefield Common. Nearly 1,000 people participated in the solemn high Mass, and many visiting clergy and nuns were in attendance. There were special celebrations and Masses in connection with the 100-year anniversary, and the occasion was concluded with a banquet in the state Armory, currently the Americal Civic Center.

A general alarm fire was discovered in the wooden church on September 20, 1963. There was substantial water damage but the alert efforts of the firemen, who covered the altar and sanctuary with cloths, saved virtually all of the beautiful interior. Indeed, the efforts of firemen of six communities were commended by the then fire chief, William Hurton.

A \$10,000 scholarship was established in Fr. Deasy's memory and is awarded annually to several deserving high school boys and/or girls who live in Wakefield and graduate in the top third of their class.

The residence of St. Joseph's next pastor was a short one. Monsignor George Wiseman came to Wakefield in 1964, after experiencing many years of priestly service as a Maryknoll missionary in the Orient. Father Wiseman, a traditionalist and a conservative in church matters, suffered poor health during his three years here and was ably assisted in his administrative role by Fr. Connick. It may be remembered by visitors to the rectory that the walls of the dining room were enhanced by Oriental paintings, souvenirs of Fr. Wiseman's tenure in the Far East.

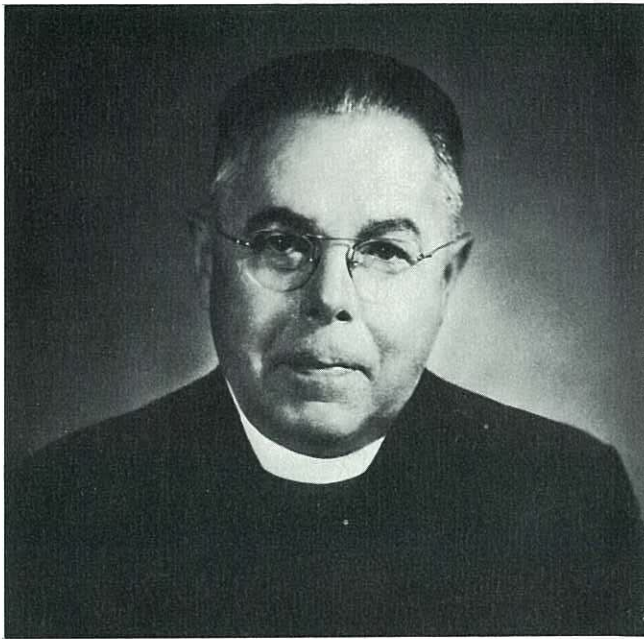
Reverend Fabian Sammon became St. Joseph's new pastor in April, 1967. Under the guidance of this gentle, cheerful priest, the parish was steered into adapting some of the decisions of Vatican II. The Parish Council was established early in the 1970's, additional lay readers were encouraged, and special liturgies for children's Masses at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Pentecost were originated by caring parishioners. Fr. Sammon shared his great spiritual convictions by taking a personal interest in the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Legion of Mary, both organizations which have given many years of devoted service to the less fortunate, sick, or new members of the parish community.



Reverend Frederick J. Deasy



Monsignor George Wiseman



Reverend Fabian Sammon

During his residence also, the Sisters of St. Joseph were withdrawn from the parochial school by their leaders, and Fr. Sammon worked diligently to retain the local school by securing a commitment from the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth to supply the school with a principal. In August, 1973, Sister Winifred Ann arrived to assume her duties, and she was accompanied by Sister Mary Holt who had agreed to act as librarian.

A new chapter was begun in the story of St. Joseph's School. It remained open in compliance with the wishes of the parishioners who had voted to continue its existence in a parish-wide questionnaire, and an all lay faculty greeted the youngsters in September of 1973. A kindergarten was soon added, followed by the formation of a nursery school in 1978. Through the efforts of the school's present principal, Sister Catherine Lee, the school continues to offer quality education to the children of Wakefield.

In the late fall of 1972, the lower church was panelled, and for the next two years the Parish Council worked unceasingly to completely refurbish the main church. It was repainted, new carpeting was installed in the sanctuary and aisles, new lighting fixtures were hung, the majestic columns were cleaned and repaired, as were the religious paintings. The giant task was initiated with an effort to restore rather than to drastically change the existing church. Soft colors ranging from golds to brown tones were used throughout.

All was in readiness for the rededication visit of his Eminence Humberto Cardinal Medeiros on October 13, 1974.

In February of 1975 the St. Joseph's Mothers' Association was enlarged to include men, and all parents of children in the parochial school were invited to work together to benefit the school. A new name, the St.



**Fr. Burns Fr. Lambert Fr. Sammon
Cardinal Medeiros Fr. Coughlin Fr. Rogers**

Pictures taken during rededication in 1974.



Signing autographs for young parishioners

Joseph's Boosters' Club, was subsequently taken and this active organization has been responsible for much of the financial stability of the school during the past five years. The \$1,000 Club is a direct offshoot of the Boosters' and all revenue from the club is channeled for the maintenance of the school.

Additional organizations operating within the parish have been the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Girls' Softball Team, and the successful St. Joseph's Band and Color Guard.

No history of the last 10 years would be complete without mentioning St. Joseph's updated CCD program. The religious education program has grown to encompass more than 1,200 students. There are many adults who instruct, and there are 20 specially trained Master Teachers. Ever aware of change and the need to involve Wakefield's Catholic youth in a meaningful program, St. Joseph's has worked to develop a program recognized as one of the best in the Archdiocese.

Fr. Sammon retired as pastor in September, 1975, and he will always be remembered for his inspiring sermons and his gracious, unassuming manner. He recently celebrated his Golden Jubilee here on April 11, 1980.

Our current pastor, Reverend Edward Gillis, came to Wakefield in 1976 and was installed as pastor on October 31 of that year by Bishop Mulcahy. A public reception was tendered him in St. Joseph's Hall that same afternoon.

Fr. Gillis, a former Navy chaplain and a native of Somerville, was ordained by Cardinal Cushing in 1946. After serving in a number of parishes throughout the Archdiocese, he was diocesan director of vocations from 1953 to 1955, and in September of that year became a U.S. Navy Chaplain. His tours of duty included many American cities as well as time spent aboard an aircraft carrier in the Gulf of Tonkin during the Vietnam conflict.

Fr. Gillis began his Wakefield assignment with vigor. On March 24, 1977, however, less than six months after his arrival, St. Joseph's Church was completely gutted by fire — a spectacular blaze that took hundreds of firemen from 16 communities much of the day to put out. The cause of the fire was ruled "accidental use of burning materials" by the State Fire Marshal's office and the church was declared a total loss. Masses had to be held in the Junior High School auditorium.

Offers of help and donations for a rebuilding fund began to pour in to the rectory from people of all faiths within the community, and Fr. Gillis assumed the monumental task of building a new church. He was aided by his three assistants: Fr. James Rogers, Fr. Raymond Lambert, and Fr. William Coughlin as well as by the Parish Council.

Determined to maintain the stability of his large parish, Fr. Gillis has dedicated his past three years towards one goal: rebuilding a new church.

An architectural firm was chosen, a pledge program initiated, and the design of a new building complex was submitted. The clergy, the Parish Council, the Building Advisory Committee, and the Finance Committee would not accept the design so the contract between the architect and St. Joseph's Church was terminated. After

many months of arduous work, there was despair within the parish community.

Working closely with the professional members of the various committees, Fr. Gillis welcomed a new concept in selecting a builder: the contractor would work with an architect and the design and the building programs would proceed simultaneously.

The architectural team of Moore and O'Marah joined talent and expertise with the Volpe Construction Company, and the creation of a new St. Joseph's began to be a reality.

An interesting anecdote is that Peter Volpe of the building company had been married in the old St. Joseph's Church and he has strong ties to the town of Wakefield.

Idea, design, discussion, redesign, reconsider, acceptance — these functions have occupied the minds of the many people who have devoted hours of time to all aspects of the building program. Encouraged by the spiritual, intellectual, and financial generosity of the entire community, a new St. Joseph's Church complex now exists.

The complex contains a church seating 700 people, a chapel seating 75 people, an entry hall, a social hall that can hold 400 people, and an adjoining rectory. The rooms are carpeted throughout in soft earth-toned rugs, and natural wood products abound. Oak pews and support columns add a quiet dignity to the elliptically shaped church interior, and indirect lighting contrasts dramatically with the vibrant primary colors of the stained glass stations of the cross windows and the free form fusion of bursts of green, orange, red, and yellow in the windows in the chapel. These more modernistic windows depict the circular center of the universe, or God, surrounded by all matter in motion towards Him.

The sloping floor, upon which seats are placed ampieheater style, allows all within the church to follow the movements at the altar, which is placed under a massive baldochino from which an Italian hand-carved linden wood crucifix is suspended.

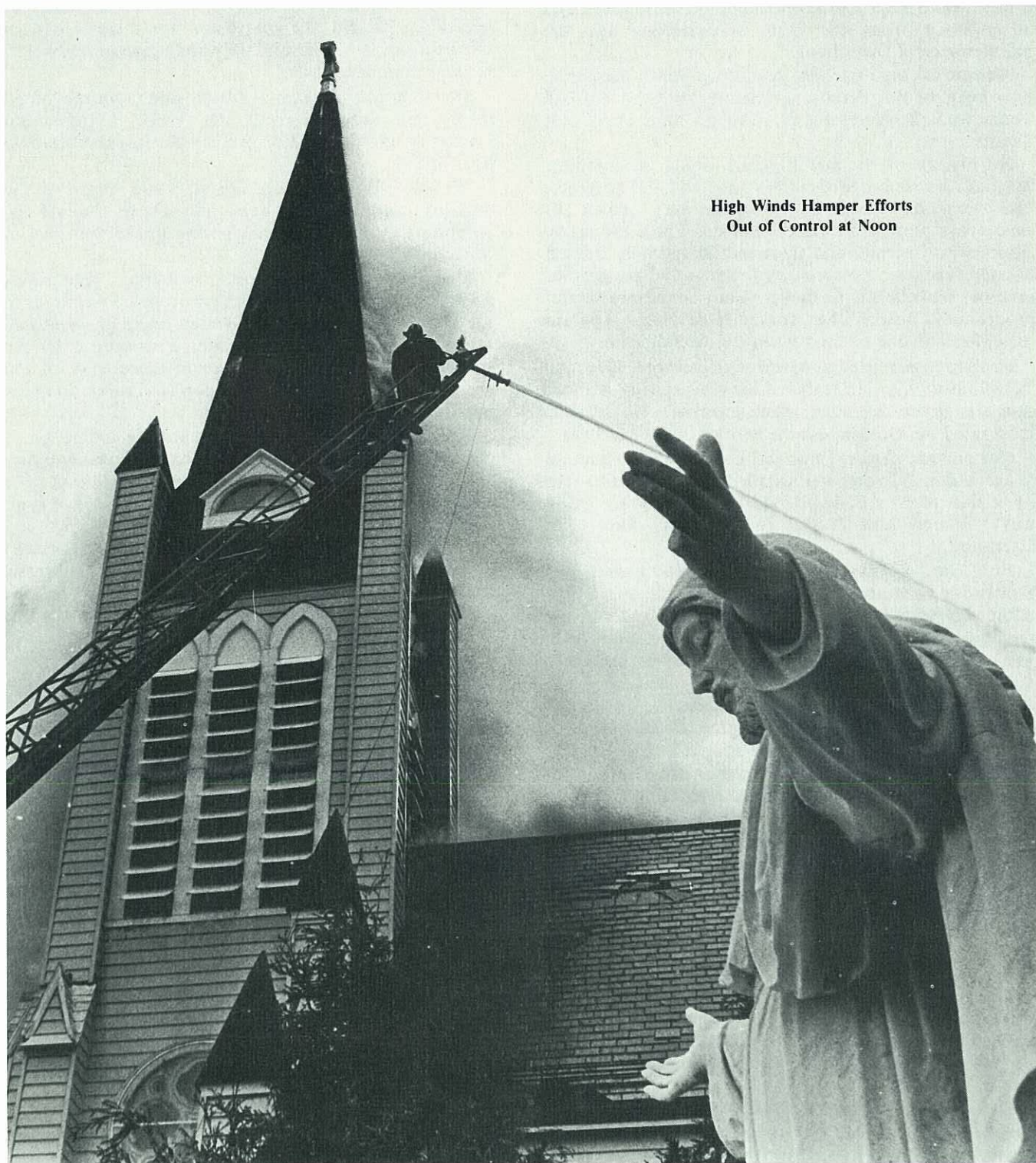
Brick has been used on the exterior of the church and a huge bell tower and its clock can once again be seen and heard throughout Wakefield. Three of the original four bells had been saved from the fire. They have been repaired by the same firm that cast the bells before they were dedicated in the memory of Thomas Dwyer in 1924 and have been set in the new belfry. Through the possibilities of modern technology, the bells can ring electrically, and they can sound the Angelus.

Music is supplied within the church by a double computer-type organ whose speakers are situated directly behind the altar.

A system of total environmental control heats, cools, and ventilates the interior.

The entire church complex cost 2 million dollars.

The St. Joseph's Church of 1980 is a structure which reflects many diverse artistic expressions. It blends the realities of space and need with the quest for a refuge where one can seek inner peace while worshiping his God.



**High Winds Hamper Efforts
Out of Control at Noon**

Fire totally consumed St. Joseph's Church on March 24, 1977.

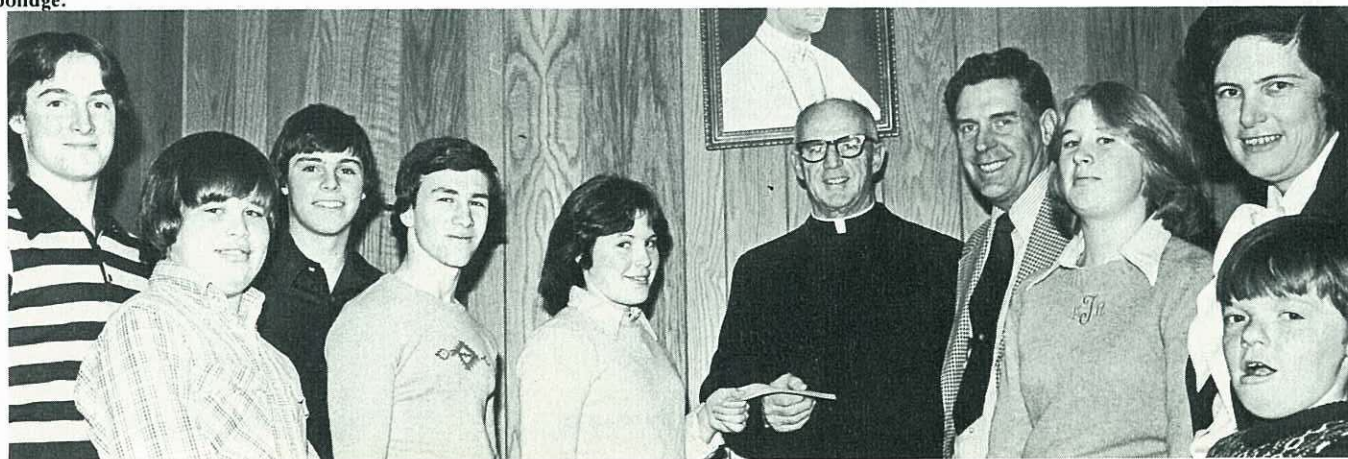
THE REBUILDING BEGINS . . .



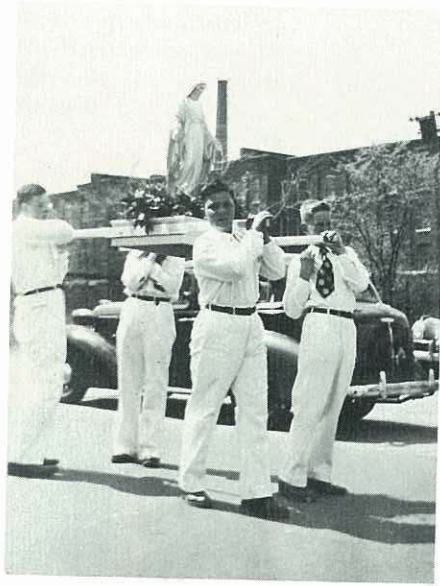
Groundbreaking! July, 1979



Preparing to launch a "Buy A Brick Sale." From left to right: Bill Snell, Marion Whiting, Ted Quinn, Fred Yebba, Fr. Gillis, Anne Baker, Daniel Sullivan, Frank Coolidge.



Everyone helps Rebuilding Fund. Bazaar proceeds presented to Fr. Gillis by Paul Mooney, Michael Tassinari, Mike Barrétt, Jim Fitzgerald, Pam Mooney, Fr. Gillis, Leonard Wenyon, Lisa Tassinari, Lillian Coolidge, and Charles Coolidge.



Over the years
a strong religious spirit grows

Souvenir Program

BAZAAR
PARISHIONERS

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH FAIR,
OLD CHURCH, ALBION STREET.
Begins September 23d, 1875.
DOORS OPEN EVERY EVENING AT 7 O'CLOCK.
ADMISSION - - 25 CENTS.

Graduation Exercises
of the
Bible History Class

of
St. Joseph's Church

Princess Theatre

Sunday, June 23, 1940

8.00 p. m.

—
Rector, Rev. F. J. Halloran

Joseph's Parish

WAKEFIELD

MASSACHUSETTS
Victory Ball
May 31, 1946



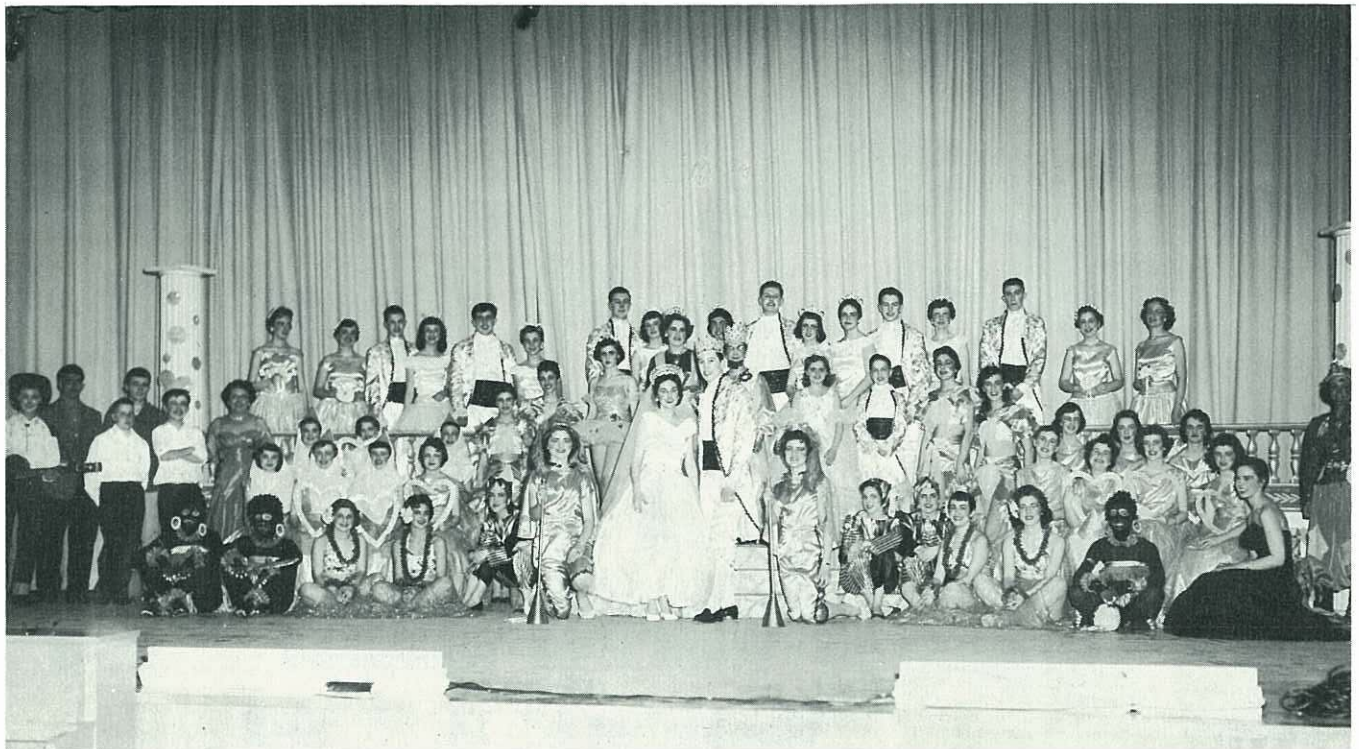
by
The Junior Catholic Club
and
Holy Name Society

Town Hall, Wakefield
November 13, 14, 15, 1941

Examples of an
involved parish community



And away we go — 1955



Hearts are trumps — 1956

Jr. Catholic Club Performances

1980

St. Joseph's Parish

173 ALBION STREET
WAKEFIELD, MASS. 01880

REV. EDWARD F. GILLIS

Rev. Raymond P. Lambert

Rev. Joseph Fusoni

WEEKEND MASSES:	SATURDAY: 4:00 & 5:30 P.M. SUNDAY: 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 12 Noon, 5:30 p.m.
HOLY DAY MASSES:	7:00 & 9:00 A.M. — 12:00 Noon — 5:30 & 7:00 P.M.
WEEKDAY MASSES:	7:00 & 9:00 A.M.
CONFESSIONS:	Before Saturday Masses
BAPTISMS:	By Appointment
MARRIAGES:	By Appointment

TELEPHONES:

Rectory 245-5770

School 245-2081

