

IN 1949 THE LADIES OF LORETTO-THE SISTERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ( THE ORDER OF NUNS WHO HAD TAUGHT MONSIGNOR TWOMEY'S MOTHER IN IRELAND) ARRIVED. THE SCHOOL BEGAN WITH SIX GRADES AND SIX TEACHERS. THE FOUNDING SISTERS OF SAINT PHILOMENE'S SCHOOL INCLUDED MOTHER MARY CATALDA, SUPERIOR AND PRINCIPAL AND 6TH GRADE TEACHER; MOTHERS ST. FREDERICK AND MARY EMMANUEL (GRADE 3); MOTHER ANDRE (GRADES 4 AND 5); MOTHER ST. EDMUND (GRADE 2); AND MOTHER LAURENTIA (GRADE 1). THE FIRST TO VISIT, ARRIVING BY THE SANTA FE TRAIN TO STOCKTON, WERE MOTHER MARY VICTORINE AND MOTHER MARY THERESA. MET ON A RAINY NIGHT IN STOCKTON BY TWO PRIESTS, A SMALL BOY, AND A WOMAN FROM ST. PHILOMENE, THEY WERE DRIVEN THROUGH MISERABLE WEATHER TO SACRAMENTO. OVER THE YEARS THE SCHOOL HAS EXPANDED TO SEVENTEEN CLASSROOMS (EXTENDED DAY CARE, KINDERGARTEN THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE INCLUDING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND A LIBRARY). MOTHER MARY CATALDA SERVED AS PRINCIPAL FROM 1949 TO 1955, DURING WHICH TIME THE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT GREW FROM 6 GRADES AND 6 TEACHERS TO 8 GRADES AND 11 TEACHERS. SHE WAS SUCCEEDED BY MOTHER MARY EMMANUEL, WHO SERVED UNTIL 1958; MOTHER MARY CLARE, FROM 1958 TO 1964, MOTHER PERPETUA, FROM 1964 TO 1969; SISTER FRANCIS XAVIER, FROM 1969 TO 1972; AND SISTER ARLENE, FROM 1972 TO 1980; SISTER ALOYS FROM 1980 TO 1983; SISTER MARGUERITE CAULFIELD FROM 1983 TO 1987; MRS. BARBARA VALDEZ FROM 1987 TO 1989; MR. CHARLES SANCHEZ FROM 1989 TO 1997; AND MRS. DEBRA MOSBRUCKER FROM 1997 TO PRESENT. BRIEFLY, LET US PAUSE AND IMAGINE WHAT THESE WONDERFUL "LADIES OF LORETTO" HAD AGREED TOO. THEIR FIRST CONTACT READS: " FOR HOUSING AND FURNISHINGS, WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THEIR RELIGIOUS ORDER, WITH PARTICULAR SPIRITUAL NEEDS, AND FOR A SALARY OF \$50/MONTH THAT IN THE ENSUING YEARS INCREASED TO \$75/MONTH. THE GOOD SISTERS PROVIDED THE BEST TEACHING NOT ONLY TO THE PAROCHIAL ENROLLED STUDENTS, BUT ALSO TO THE CHILDREN OF PARISHIONERS WHO COULD NOT SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO PAROCHIAL SCHOOL, FOR THEY RECEIVED EQUALLY EXCELLENT RELIGIOUS CLASSES WITHIN THE CCD PROGRAM. ONE ONLY HAS TO LOOK TO THEIR ADULT CHILDREN OR TOWARDS OURSELVES TO SEE PROOF OF THEIR ENDEAVORS.

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