

THE HISTORY OF
SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

An Essay

Presented to
the California Pioneers
of Santa Clara County

by

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Preface

St. Joseph Cathedral started out as a small adobe church in 1803, and over the years has transformed itself, with the help of the community, into the beautiful cathedral that it is now. Dedicated to Saint Joseph and the Virgin of Guadalupe, St. Joseph's is a place where the Roman Catholics can come to worship God. It is a historic and touristic spot in the heart of downtown San Jose where people of all races and creeds, generally belonging to the Catholic religion, can gather for the purpose of worshiping God and to find solace in an hour of need. Saint Joseph's Cathedral is probably the most beautiful building of downtown San Jose with its august dome, Odell organ, paintings, and people.

First Church

If you've ever walked down the streets of Market and San Fernando in downtown San Jose, then you have probably seen the city jewel, Saint Joseph Cathedral, at the corner of South Market and San Fernando Streets. The beginning of the cathedral came when the people of San Jose began asking for a church of their own in 1799. (1) In 1802, a group of townspeople met with the town's top authority, Commissioner Macario Castro, and requested that he ask for authorization from the commanding officer in Monterey, Jose de la Guerra y Noriega, to construct a church in San Jose. Commissioner Castro applied to the clerical and governmental authorities in Monterey who eventually granted the request. This was the beginning of the first Saint Joseph Church.(2)

The official letter arrived from Monterey in 1802 giving authorization for the construction of a church. The letter of approval from Jose Joaquin Arrillaga appealed to each family to tithe by giving half a bushel of grain yearly for the cost of the church. (3) Lt. Moraga who had proposed some building sites for San Jose, proposed the building site on his map on the corner of South Market Street and San Fernando Street. (4) Antonio Sunol, the most opulent and eminent citizen and a Catalan settler of San Jose, donated the building site of the church.(5)

A year after receiving consent, the ardent people of San Jose, who numbered 217, assembled on July 12, 1803, for the laying of the cornerstone of the new church. (6) It wasn't until 1812, however, that the church was completed. (7) It was dedicated to the patron of the town, Saint Joseph and the Virgin of Guadalupe. (8) The Commanding officer, Jose de la Guerra y Noriega, refused to officiate at the ceremony mentioning his "pressing duties". (9) Instead, he sent Jose Maria Estudillo, a representative of the government, in his place to join Sergeant Macario Castro in presiding at the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone. (10)

Mr. Estudillo wore a traditional presidial officer's dress- a black hat trimmed with white plumes and gold braid, a suited purple velvet waistcoat, light blue trousers with a gold stripe down the side seam, and black half boots, and executed the ceremony. He placed coins representing reigns of several Spanish sovereigns along with a statement of the ceremony in a sealed box under the cornerstone prepared by the Indians beneath the location of the future altar, so that the occasion would be remembered for a long time. (11)

The original St. Joseph's was constructed by Spaniards, Indians, mestizos, women, and children. (12) One hundred and fifty Indians were provided by Mr. Sunol for the making of the bricks. (13) The Indians had

trouble finding good soil for making adobe bricks. It was necessary for them to get the consent of the land owners if they found good soil on their property. Many of the bricks were made in the plaza, in back of the present church. Each brick was eighteen inches long, fourteen inches wide, three inches thick, laced with straw, and sundried.(14)

Mrs. Fremont Older in 1812, wrote in a series for the San Jose Evening News a record of events given to her by Mrs. Luisa Sepulveda Mesa, who got it from her mother, Francisca Pacheco Mesa, about how the women worked on the church despite that they were dainty.(15)

The original church was covered with a thatched roof of tules and the pews were added later.(16) It had few pictures which were primitive paintings by Indians. Some statues were brought over from the Mission Santa Clara. The windows were narrow on the outside and wider on the inside to give more light, resist rain and wind, and keep the church cold in the summer. It had a dirt floor.(17)

Once completed the church became the center of town life for meetings, parties, and masses. Holy days and big events called for a temporary platform of processions around the plaza. They would carry statues of saints on platform poles for the feast of Corpus Christi.(18)

Father Catale and Father Viader were the first priests assigned to

say mass in the new church. Since they couldn't come on a regular basis, the news of them coming was very exciting. (19)

While the residents were celebrating the feast of Saint Joseph on March 19, 1812, they saw the miracle of the swallow legend extend as birds came in hordes and began building mud nests under the eaves of the church. According to a story in the San Jose Mercury by Marion Bailey Kaufmon, every year on St. Joseph's Day swallows returned like they do at Mission San Juan Capistrano.(20)

Unfortunately, an earthquake in 1818 cracked the walls of the church and in 1822 another severe earthquake damaged the roof.(21) However, the church was still standing in 1830 despite a fire.(22) The damage from the events and the need of a bigger church eventually resulted in a petition sent to Governor Figueroa in 1835 to ask that the tithes the congregation paid could be used to meet the costs of a new structure. Figueroa authorized it and personally donated thirty pesos to the project.(23) Thus, the original structure was replaced by a larger building.(17) There was speculation regarding site of the first church, whether Antonio Sunol donated all the land for the second church or to augment the first one.(24)

Saint Joseph Church began under Spanish jurisdiction of the

archbishop of Mexico City. It was the first parish in California belonging to the Roman Catholic religion. (19) It was replaced or augmented in 1835, thus starting a new episode in St. Joseph's with the second church.(25)

The Second Church

The construction of the second adobe church began in 1835. Upon completion of construction in 1846, the church was blessed, and like the first church it was dedicated to Saint Joseph and the Virgin of Guadalupe.(26) The church was only a chapel, an appendage of Santa Clara. (27)

The cornerstone was laid in the same location in 1835. It was built under the supervision of Mr. Antonio Maria Pico, the mayor, assisted by Mr. Antonio Sunol. The church was completed in 1845. The second version was larger and wider, and it had a tile roof instead of a tule roof because the latter had leaked for many years.(28)

The Bishop of California Francisco Garcia Diego, was asked by Antonio Sunol for help for the church's poverty since it didn't possess many artifacts. The Bishop responded that same day and donated two sets of vestments, one black and one velvet, and six large wooden candlesticks.(29)

Some prominent members of the second church included Jose Joaquin Estudillo and his wife Maria Jesus, the Martin Murphy family, the Charley White family, James Reed's family, Thomas Kell, James Enright Julian Itanks, and Ramon Cesina.(30)

Upon the completion of the second church, it became the largest building in San Jose. A map of the mid 1840's shows fifty-one structures of the entire town, including St. Joseph Church. (31) (24) After 1840, during the Mexican period under jurisdiction of the bishop, of Upper and Lower California, (Francisco Garcia Diego y Moreno followed by Father Jose Maria Gonzalez, the vicar general), Upper California became part of the United States and the diocese of Monterey (established in 1850), came under the control of Bishop Joseph Sadoc Alemany.(32)

For the first forty-six years of its existence, St. Joseph's had no resident priests nor parish status and it depended on Santa Clara for its clergy.(33) The second church needed to be converted into a full fledged parish with resident priests and parish records of its own. On October 7, 1849, it was finally proclaimed a parish. On April 21,1853, Bishop Sadoc Alemany entrusted the church to the Jesuits.(34)

Father Jose Pinyero was the first resident priest of the new church. He replaced Padre Moreno after his death in 1849. Father Pinyero arrived on May 30, 1849. His first official act on the day of his arrival was to baptize an eighty-eight day old child, the daughter of Don Jose Castro and Donna Petra Castro.(26) The first Catholic marriage in San Jose was performed by Father Pinyero on November 29, 1849, between Jesus

Vasquez and Altagracia Encinos. The marriage was celebrated seventy-two years after the founding of San Jose.(32)

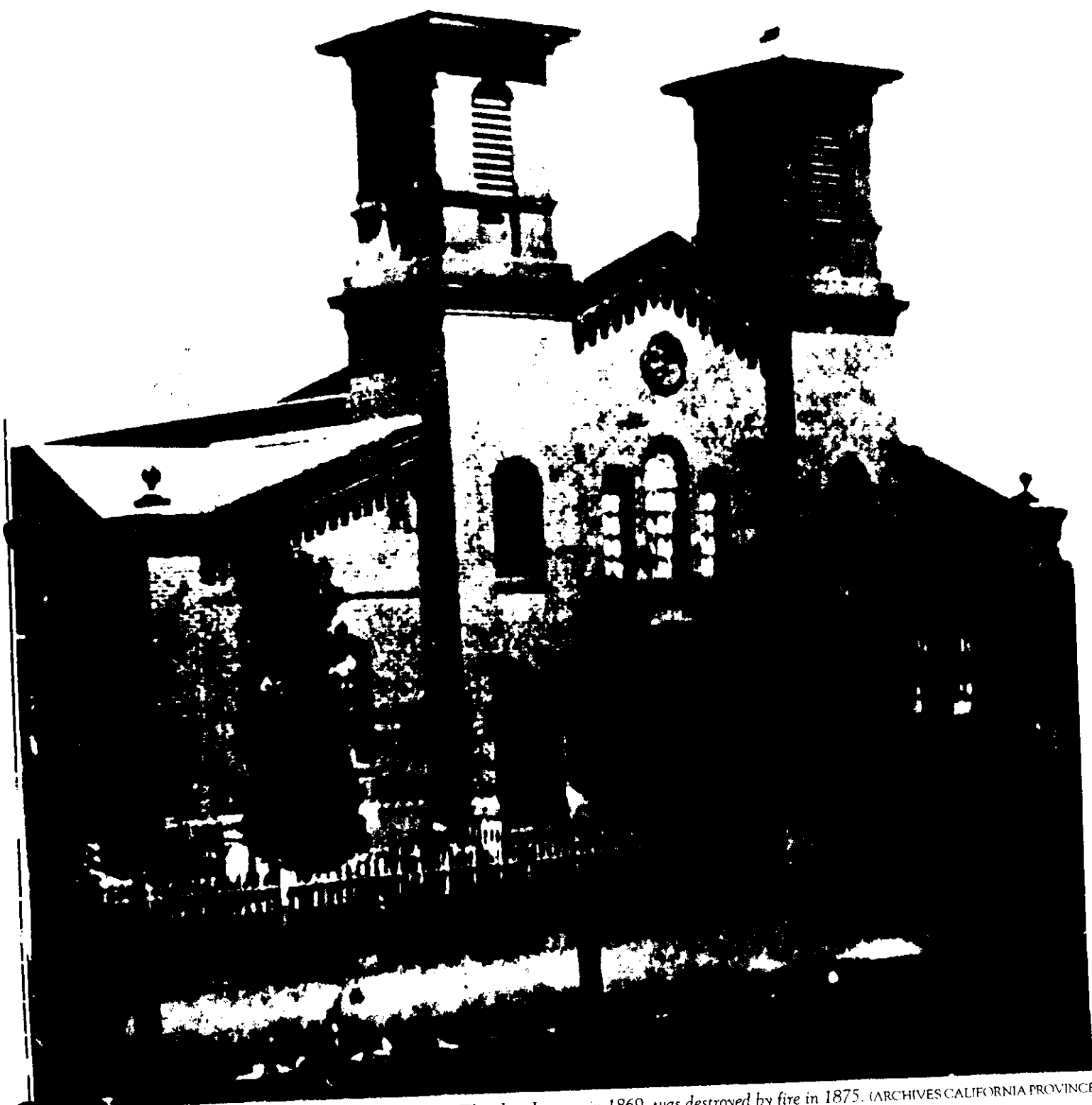
In 1849, St. Joseph's parish was started downtown by the Jesuits (members of the Society of Jesus) to take care of the increasing growth of San Jose. Father John Nobili, an Italian Jesuit priest from Willamette, Oregon, was sent to help Father Pinyero with the English-speaking people. He arrived in San Jose in April 1850. Father Pinyero spoke no English. His first official act was to baptize an Indian baby.(37) The relationship between Father Nobili and Padre Pinyero wasn't a good one because Padre Pinyero was biased against Jesuits, though he had never met one before, and he resented Father Nobili.(38) Father Anthony Goetz was assigned to be the pastor of St. Joseph because Father Nobili had been asked to start a college at Mission Santa Clara.(39)

Bishop Sadoc Alemany announced in 1851, that St. Joseph Church was a parish under the Jesuit Fathers. Bishop Alemany ordered Father Nobili to take full charge of the parish of Santa Clara and the town of San Jose.(40) Father Anthony Goetz became the pastor of Saint Joseph's. His assistants were Father Peter de Vos and Father Veyres as Padre Pinyero had gone back to Mexico.(41)

On Friday, November 25, 1858, at 1:30 a.m., there was substantial

damage to the church from a potent earthquake. The most severe earthquake was at 8:00 am and that lasted for forty-twoseconds, followed by light earthquakes until November 4. (42) The second church was in a wane state from the damage caused by the earthquakes, so Father Anthony Goetz decided that it needed to be reinforced and renovated. With the sanction of the Archbishop and the support of newcomers and Californios (native born Californian), the adobe building was encased in brick and the two towers were added later. The work was completed in 1856. It was said by visitors that it resembled a Dutch barn.

The priests of St. Joseph's got an upgrading of their living quarters during the reconstruction of the church. Father Goetz and his assistant, Father Peter de Vos, had been living in a little house on the Peralta property north of Santa Clara Street. The location was inconvenient and the quarters were shabby. When a piece of property became available next to the church, they gathered 1000 pilasters to purchase and put up a little house. The new location made it easier for the priests to supervise the construction work. Unfortunately, the second church suffered irreparable damage from a great earthquake on October 1, 1868, and it had to be transposed by an entire new building in 1869.(43)



*The third St. Joseph's Church, designed by Theodore Lenzen in 1860, was destroyed by fire in 1875. (ARCHIVES CALIFORNIA PROVINCE
+ SOCIETY OF JESUS)*

Third Church

In 1868, the new church was to be built in the form of a Greek cross with the towers on either side of the facade. The construction for the third church began in 1869.(44) The church had to be commodious for the expanding community. It was supposed to be built on the same location as the two previous adobe churches, on the corner of South Market and San Fernando streets. The third church cost over \$39,000 and was designed by Theodore Lenzen. Father Aloysious hired Theodore Lenzen, a native of Prussia and reining architect from 1860 until the turn of the century, to work on the church. Other of his notable works, included the Vendome Hotel and the Auzerais House.

Theodore Lenzen avoided adobe churches because of their fate, so instead he designed a building of wood with brick trim, square twin towers, and a 500-seating capacity. The third church of 1869 was an admirable building that had the walls adorned with paintings, a special organ, towers on the left as a belfry, and accommodations for 500 people.(45)

Jacob Lenzen, Theodore's brother and a member of the church choir, was the contractor for the church. His brother Michael Lenzen did the decorating and painting for the church. The congregation was proud of the

church's organ that was built especially for the church and of the paintings by European artists.

In December 1869, the Archbishop Alemany presided at the laying of the cornerstone for the new church, and an Indian Jesuit, Father James Chrysostom Bouchard, was the speaker for the enthusiastic crowd of San Jose. Vicar General, Reverend James Croke came from San Francisco for the dedication on December 16, 1869, in place of the Archbishop Alemany, who was in Rome. The sermon was given by Father Bouchard. (46)

The church had trouble raising enough funds for the bell that was to be hanged in the belfry of the left tower of the church. The bell that they wanted was \$1500, four feet in diameter, weighed 3115 pounds, and was cast by Meenely Bell Co. of Troy, New York. It was silver, with ingot copper, and tin. Father Bouchard gave a lecture which raised \$450, but they were short over \$1000. Thanks to St. Joseph's benevolent Edward McLaughlin and C.T. Ryland, the quandary over the lack of funds was solved when each donated \$1000, specifying that the remaining money would go for the ritual robes worn by the clergy. The installation of the bell in 1871 was an important occasion where the whole town turned out. The bell was welcomed by the townspeople who relied on the ringing of the bell to tell the time.(47)

The third church was finished in 1869.(48) Father Nicholas Congiato, a native of Sardinia, was appointed the new pastor. He was sent to St. Joseph's for rest and recreation because of his bad health condition. His first order of business was to organize St. Joseph's Benevolent Society for the benefit of the members, help of the poor, and corporal works of mercy.

Five years after the completion of the church, on April 25, 1875, a conflagration annihilated the church.(49) It had been constructed of wood to avoid the yielding to earthquakes that had destroyed the previous adobe structures. The cause of the fire began with some small boys smoking in a nearby stable. Flames reached the church with the help of a north wind. It consumed the frame structure, and all that remained were only two towers.

Patrick McGuire, a drayman, raced in his wagon to the church, getting some fellow members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians along the way. Mr. McGuire was the first to enter the church. He came out with the statue of St. Patrick. Mrs. Catherine Fitzpatrick had given the statue of Saint Patrick to the church in memory of her spouse Patrick. She had also honored him with a stained glass window and by giving the Saint Catherine of Sienna window. With his deft instructions, for his business was moving, his crew managed to salvage the pulpit, altar, and the treasured

Meenely bell. (50)

Before the year 1875 was over, architect Bryan Clinch had completed the plans for the present church. (51)

Temporary Church

During the period of rebuilding, the congregation of St. Joseph's worshipped in two temporary locations. One lasted three months at the City Market Hall. (52)

On May 19, 1875, a contract was signed for a temporary church on the southwest corner of San Pedro and San Fernando streets for the price of \$1,950.00. The church was finally ready for use on July 9, 1875. It was a small frame church that stood on the west side of San Pedro Street. This church was the cause of many arguments. (53)

Father Congiato moved the altar, tabernacle, and the pews that had been salvaged from the fire to a rented hall at Market and Post streets. The church wasn't big enough for all of the church's members. Father Congiato had decided that the temporary church be built at San Pedro and San Fernando streets so that it could be converted later into St. Joseph's School. Three months later the building was finished and ready for Sunday services. (55)

This temporary church was later raised a story and the lower floor was divided into three classrooms. It became the new St. Joseph's High School with Rev. Thomas Leonard as the principal. The upper floor served

as a hall. In 1898, the Brothers of Mary (the Marianists) came to operate Saint Joseph's High School.(56)

Fourth Church

Father Congiato knew when he was planning for the fourth church that the cost was beyond immediate reach, but he decided that the ornaments would come later. He then held a competition with about five architects, which included Theodore Lenzen, who submitted designs. The winning plans for the new church were completed by September 23, 1875, and were submitted to Archbishop Alemany who gave his approval. (57)

One of these architects was Bryan Clinch, a member of the San Francisco- San Jose architectural firm of Hoffman and Clinch, who was Irish-born. He had done a commendable job of reconstructing the Santa Clara Mission after the earthquake of 1868 and had designed the Boy's Chapel at Santa Clara and received a commission. Clinch's design for the new church was in the form of a Greek cross. It was comprised of four cubes, each five feet in length, interlocking to form a fifth cube in the center of the church. Clinch's design was based on the 1434 concept of the Renaissance artist Alberti. The nave of St. Peter was later lengthened for processions.(58)

Clinch had also designed a pair of matching Carrara marble altars; Mary the Immaculate Mother of God for the north transept and the Sacred

Heart altar for the south transept. The San Francisco artist, Gregorio Bianchi, made a thorough search for the proper hardwood. He found it in the mast of a ship (Stella Maris or Star of the Sea), and he left the name on the back of the carving.(59)

Michael Callahan, the donor of the Sacred Heart altar, was a commissioned artist asked to carve the statues of St. Michael the Archangel and the Guardian Angel, taken from paintings by the Italian artist, Guido Reni, that hung in the church of the Capuchin Fathers in Rome. Father Congiato contracted Bartolome Tortore to do three large paintings for the church . He became a Jesuit Brother, responsible for painting and decorating many of San Jose's churches. He also taught art to Andrew P. Hill and Ernest de Sasset, both members of the church.(60)

In 1885, Catherine Dunne donated the companion altar of Sacred Heart. George Bianchi carved the statue of Sacred Heart standing on a globe lettered in Latin, "Come to Me Ye All". On the left side is the statue St. Peter and on the right is St. Paul. "Our Lady of Guadalupe" altar was a gift from the Spanish speaking people in 1891.

The Mexican artist, Jose M. Obarravan Ponce, was hired to reproduce the original shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe near Mexico City where the Virgin appeared to Juan Diego in 1531. Ponce worked for three months on

the painting. He wrote on the back "painted to the best of my ability, dated 1887,". It was set in gold leaf frame, centered over the altar of Italian marble with panels of Mexican onyx.(61)

The construction progressed on the fourth church and on May 19, 1876, the foundation was ready for the laying of the cornerstone.(62) The first mass was said at the altar of St. Aloysious on the feast of St. Aloysious, June 21, 1892. There was a parade, a brass band played, and children sang. The names of those who contributed to the church were written on a document that was placed in a golden heart held on the arm of the statue. St. Aloysious's altar was a gift from the youth of the church in 1892.

Father Congiato hung Bryan Clynch's drawing of the church in the entrance as a reminder of ornamentation that would add to the beauty of the church. In 1883, the only exterior adornment was in front. It was a medallion over the entrance carved in wood by a San Jose sculptor, Edward Power, with Greek letters representing the Holy Name of Jesus and the badge of the Jesuits.(63)

With financial help from Edward McLaughlin and C.T. Ryland, the porticos with their four Corinthian columns were finished in 1884. Above the columns in gold letters was engraved, " Deo Optimo Maximo In Honorem

S Josephi" (To the Best and Greatest God in Honor of Saint Joseph). This inspired the congregation to even greater heights. Mr. Ryland gave \$5000.00 to add one of the towers and the church put on a drive to pay for the other one. (64)

With the completion of the bell towers came the job of placing the 3,115 pound Meneely bell which had been saved from the third church. When the bell was being hauled into place, in front of a large crowd, the ropes broke and it fell onto the roof. It was caught in the timbers of overhanging eaves, but the watchful workmen with new ropes secured it into place. Once the front exterior of the church was completed, the additional progress of construction came with each year.(65)

The brick work for the new church was entrusted to Michael Keeney. The south towers were built with the money donated by C.T. Ryland, an early day attorney and banker, and held the bell saved from the fire. Jacob Lenzen was the contractor and Fred J. Byers did the sheet metal work on the bell towers.(66)

The congregation focused on the dome of the new church because they were dissatisfied and couldn't produce one as grand as the one Mr. Clynch had planned. They compromised and built one smaller than his design but bigger than the existing octagonal copper dome. They also added

four small domes to the rounded chapels and cornices to the roofline. In 1890, Kuchenheiser & Sons Ironworks on South Second Street installed the iron picket fence around the front and south side of the church, with lamps on either side of the front gates. As late as 1969, the beautiful ironwork fence in front of the church showed the embossed name of Kuchenheiser on its ornate posts.(67)

In 1890 Mr. Edward McLaughlin donated the Carrara marble altar which is lavishly decorated with gold leaf. By the time of the feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 1875, the church was ready for the laying of the cornerstone. The cornerstone was dedicated unfurnished because the construction was rushed.(68) The grand portico, north, and south towers were added later. Bryan Clynch furnished the plans and specifications for the portico. The contents of the cornerstone were comprised of copies of the San Jose Mercury, San Jose Patriot, and San Francisco Monitor, catalogues of St. Ignatus and Santa Clara Colleges, a silver medal of Saint Joseph's Benevolent Society, a couple of Americans coins, and a parchment with Latin inscription stating day, month, year, and the names of those who had participated in building the church. When it was placed over the receptacle, the Archbishop sealed it in place with his silver howl, blessed it, and sprinkled holy water over the foundation. (69) The Archbishop's

address compared the little adobe church of 1803 with its tule roof to the new church undergoing construction.

In the ceremony for the laying of the cornerstone there were three processions headed by St. Joseph's Benevolent Society in full attire, followed by Right Rev. Bishop Alemany of San Francisco, and members of the society of Jesus, who marched across the platform and stopped at the eastern wing, where devotional exercises were done. Then Bishop Alemany, assisted by Father Marinete, Father Congiato, and others, went to the stone. The stone was sixteen inches of cube of sandstone with the receptacle, eight inch square and six inches deep.

The following year, in April 1877, the new church was ready for its first service. Two thousand people inundated St. Joseph's at the dedication ceremony on April 22, 1877.(70) Bishop Alemany reveled the high pontifical mass assisted by twenty Jesuit priests from Santa Clara Mission and College. Father James Chrysostom Bouchard preached the sermon, the choir performed under Mrs. Dagenais's and the orchestra was directed by Professor Manning. The evening services were officiated by Father Bixio and the Archbishop gave homily.(71)

Four-by-four stained glass windows were a feature in place for the dedication. Some were hand blown by a Bavarian artist in Munich, others

by Italian craftsmen.(72)

The church was finished on December 5,1883. The structure was interdependent wood trusses anchored in massive brick walls.(73) The dome was completed in 1885 and in 1886 the Odell pipe organ was installed.(74) Amanda and Myles T. O'Connor donated the heating system and the Odell organ, the only one on the West Coast, which cost \$28,000. It took a man from Troy, New York, a month to install it. Dr. George Seifeit gave a stained glass window in memory of his parents. (75)

In 1877, Father Congiato rendered the first baptism in the church for the baby boy of Mr. and Mrs. William McEvoy Edwards. A couple of days later Father Bixio married Bolum Scresovich and Mary Molinary.(76)

While the earthquake of 1906 caused no structural conflicts, it did create large interior damage to the new church. Masses were given in a tent on the grounds of Notre Dame College until the damage was repaired. And in the meantime, priests lodged with the Brothers of Mary or in private homes. Building inspectors claimed that the church was not perilous but advised repairs on the north and south gables down to the cornices. St. Joseph's Academy moved its classes to the Y.M.I. Hall. (77)

Father Walshe worked hard to pay off the \$90,000.00 debt for the restoration from the earthquake of 1906 but, he was unable to so and was

transferred to a less burdensome assignment. In 1907, St. Joseph's lost Father Traverso, who had for twenty-seven years looked after the spiritual needs of the parish. He died at the age of eighty-two. Father Henry Whittle took over Father Walshe's position as pastor of St. Joseph's. Shortly after he took over, Father Whittle had to deal with an increased debt. In addition, a fire broke out in an arcade next to the church which destroyed the second and third floors of the college and 3000 books. Father Whittle began a fundraiser like the fair which became an annual event from October 14 through the 24. (78)

Again the church was blessed with a generous gift from Amelia Bihn. She donated a Carrara marble statue of St. Joseph holding baby Jesus in memory of her husband, Joseph Bihn. Bishop DuMaine picked that statue to represent St. Joseph at the entrance to the headquarters of the Diocese of San Jose on Lenzen Avenue. The Bihn Family were altruistic advocates of the church.

One of St. Joseph's highlights came on March 19, 1926. It was the fiftieth anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone. The church was filled to its capacity. It was headed by the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus in full attire. Visiting priests and officiating clergy preceded the Most Reverend Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, deacons of honor, 120

choir boys in surplices, twenty-five priests, and the Very Reverend Joseph M. Piet, San Jose Provincial of the California Province of the Society of Jesus, and pastor Father Joseph Crowley.(79)

To the church came a special pastor with artistic talent, Father Luigi, who labored in the hall of the empty school building in back of the church.(80) He and four other assistants transferred his sketches to large canvases which were divided into squares and spent five months gluing them to the dome, ceilings, and walls. He decorated four vaulted ceilings. His work blended frescoes and oil paintings on canvas. He used the *trompe l'oeil* technique (fool the eye) for many of the column capitals, cornices, and moldings. He achieved a 3-D effect. He used his family for his models, including pastor Father Ivancovich for St. Joseph in the murals behind the marble altar. He considered St. Joseph's his most important work. He requested that Armando Marchigani, his protege, be hired to assist him.(81)

In the 1930's the church was the center of social life for the congregation. It was a custom for a young man to stand outside the church, watch the girls, and pick the one which he wanted to take out for a soda. Many of those young men belonged to the church orchestra from St. Joseph's High School and Sodality Band.(82)

Since St. Joseph's was cherished by many people, it's not strange that Robert Benson, a Studebaker dealer, would leave his entire estate to the church and to Santa Clara University. He was always a benevolent advocate of the church. When the church needed new carpeting he paid the bill.(83)

The church's centennial parish was marked in 1949 and just a year later, in 1950, Father Ring began the structural work on the dome and other restoration work, and replaced the crosser. (84)

World War I

During World War I, Charles O'Brien chaired the church's drive to raise \$50000.00 for the needs of the soldiers. On the committee were D.M. Burnnett, Joy McGabe, Robert Bressani, Nicholas Pellerano, Joseph Solari, and C.O. Wendt. When the congregation augmented fathers were able to set up the names of the 480 members of the parish in the armed service and the names of the ten men who had died.

The noonday mass increased in the numbers of worshippers during the time of war. Businessmen, office men, and shoppers began coming to the church with more frequency to pray for family members and friends that were in the war. (85)

Education

St. Joseph's handled all of San Jose's parochial education until the coming of St. Mary's school in 1901. The grammar school was established at St. Joseph's and was later transferred to the Brothers of Mary located at Locust Street and River Street. It then moved to a new building which was constructed in 1907 on the north side of Park Avenue. (86) In 1851, Bishop Sado Alemany ordered that the Jesuits would take over St. Joseph's for education. (87)

St. Joseph's High was founded by the Jesuits in 1898 and was taught by the Marianist Brothers until 1907. The high school was closed in 1935, as the enrollment dropped during the Depression. However, there was always a grammar school. The students were first taught by the Notre Dame nuns from the early 1850's. Beginning in 1875, the fathers at St. Joseph's started teaching all boys at the school.

The new school was constructed in 1892, a part of St. Joseph's. It suffered wreckage in the earthquake of 1906. Another school was built at Locust Street and River Street. Archbishop Riordan came for the dedication. The last St. Joseph's School was built on the same site in 1948.

Sister Joseph Marie Petar of Saratoga was the principal of St. Joseph's School as late as the 1930's. The Sisters taught the students of St. Joseph's from the first to the fourth grades. When St. Joseph's was built the sisters taught the girls and the Marianist Brothers taught the boys Saint Joseph's School (built in 1907) was the only original remaining building at Park Avenue and River Street. Carl Fisher (a descendant of Jose Agustin Narvaez) was baptized in St. Joseph's and attended St. Joseph's School. The bond with the church was so strong that fifty-five years later the alumni group still held its barbecue reunion yearly.(89)

Saint Joseph's Church and College was conducted by the Fathers of the Society of Jesus. The college was founded in 1851 and incorporated in 1865. It was intended for day use only. Students of any denomination were admitted. The school was divided into three district departments. One was exclusively used for the Preparatory Classes, another for the Commercial course, and the third for the Classical Commercial Department. That one offered special opportunities to those preparing for a mercantile career. It comprised a thorough drilling in math and bookkeeping, careful training in penmanship, studies of history, geography, composition, English, and grammar. The Classical Department embraced Latin and Greek, English

grammar, poetry, composition, math, history, and geography.(90)

The college would open its classes on the first Monday in August of each year. The courses of studies in the Preparatory and College Department were free of charge. The tuition for the Commercial course was \$4.00 per month.(91)

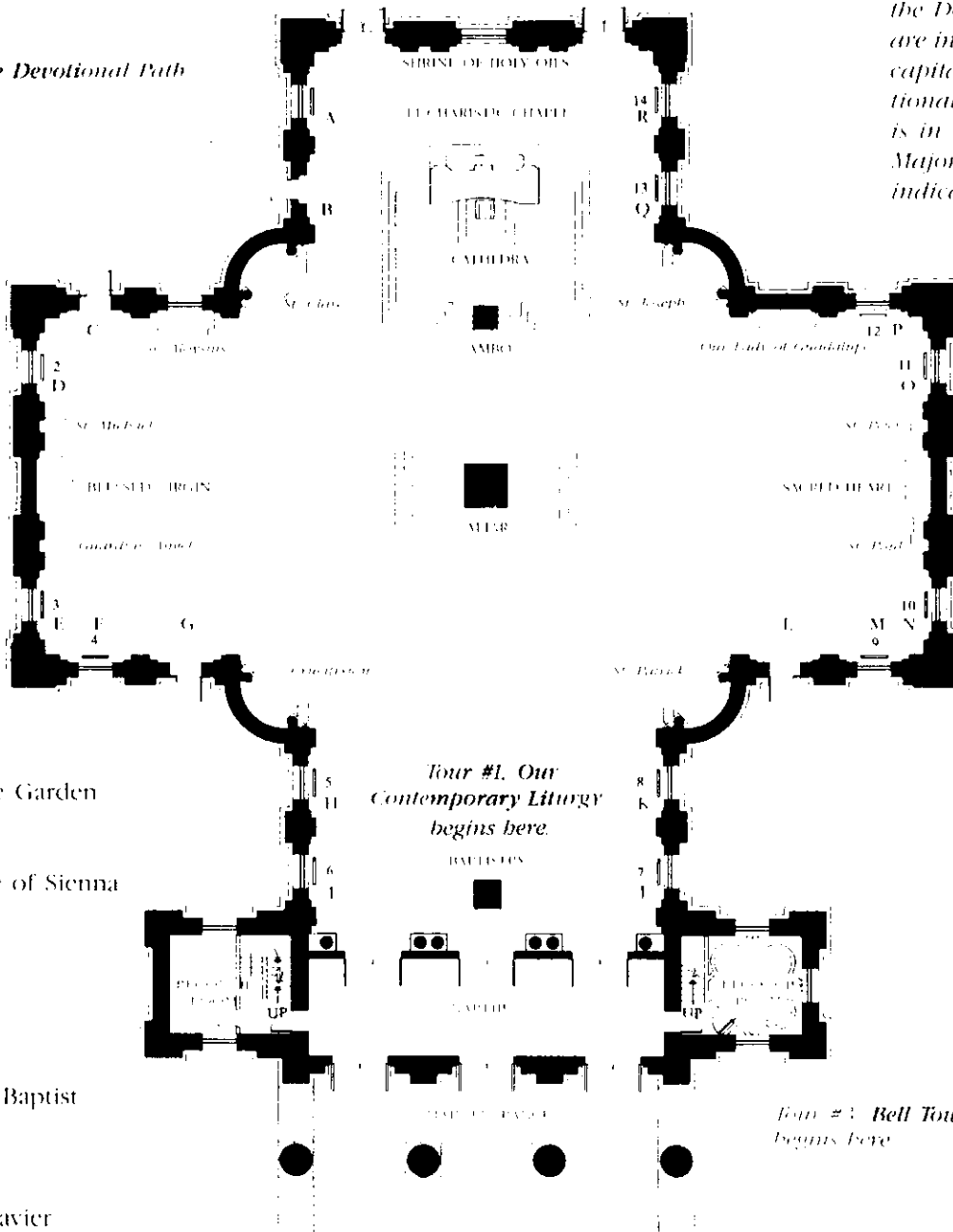
EAST TRANSEPT

The 18 large stained glass windows along the Devotional Path are indicated in color capital letters. Additional stained glass is in the bell towers. Major statuary is indicated in italics.

Tour #2, The Devotional Path begins here.

NORTH TRANSEPT

- A. Agony in the Garden
- B. Crucifixion
- C. St. Aloysius
- D. St. Catherine of Sienna
- E. St. Patrick
- F. St. John
- G. St. Luke
- H. Holy Family
- I. St. Casimir
- J. St. Edward
- K. St. John the Baptist
- L. St. Mark
- M. St. Matthew
- N. Sacred Heart
- O. St. Francis Xavier
- P. Bl. Claude de la Colombiere
- Q. Resurrection
- R. Ascension



Tour #1, Our Contemporary Liturgy begins here.

Tour #3, Bell Towers and Loft begins here.

Fifth Church (The Renovation)

The years weren't kind to Saint Joseph's Church, and along with the rest of downtown San Jose the church grew shoddy and decrepit. (92) In 1984, Bishop Pierre DuMaine petitioned the Sacred Congregation of Bishops for authorization to convert Saint Joseph Church into the cathedral of San Jose. Bishop DuMaine was granted permission, and all that was needed was to renovate the church.(93) There was, however, tension between those who were contented with the church and those wanted to restore the church.(94)

Bishop DuMaine had met with the priests of the Diocese of San Jose on May 29, 1986, to discuss his plans of building an agency abutting the church for the parish priests, staff, and parish meeting rooms, and adding three stories to that agency to create office space for the diocesan headquarters. He also announced that the fundraising drive for the project wouldn't directly affiliate the donors to the Annual Diocesan Appeal and that the director of development for the diocese, James Pfeigger, would head the cathedral campaign and the major portions of the money would be sought in the civic and enterprise district which had an interest in

refurbishing the church. (95)

In a letter sent to donors and others, Bishop DuMaine estimated the cost for the project at about six million dollars. Three and a half for refurbishing the church and two and a half or more million for the parish offices and possible diocesan offices in the new building behind the church. The Diocese had temporarily headquartered at St. Joseph's College Seminary in Los Altos. (96)

By the 1980's the interior of the church had become crowded with statues and paintings, some of which were refined artistically and some were not. Some of them were sanctioned by Rome and the rest were given by the worshippers. Since some of those artifacts had a strong religious value to the members, Bishop Pierre DuMaine was faced with the responsibility of arranging the cathedral according to the church law and also to the wishes of the members. Though Bishop DuMaine didn't want to curtail the church's atmosphere, he said some artifacts had to vacate as the rule is one statue per saint.(97)

In its early years, St. Joseph was the only parish between Morgan Hill and half Moon Bay, the worshippers brought statues of saints as symbols and gifts of their tenet. In 1986, there were forty-four statues in the church, mostly saints, in shrines, niches, and alcoves of the church.

The statues were cleaned and repaired for their dwelling in the renovated cathedral.(98) Andrzej Bossack, from Poland, and his wife Barbara Bossack, were designated to restore the art work. They located their studio in the old St. Joseph School.(99)

The neoclassical dome-topped cathedral had its murals reworked. The restoration architect stressed the design by moving the altar to a central location under the dome. The Odell organ pipe with its sixty pipes was taken apart into 1000 pieces to be cleaned, the new copper roof was laid on the dome, and the metal carriage for the bell was replaced with an older wooden one.(100) The employees of Sheedy Drayage of San Francisco worked on the moving of the altar which was turned 180 degrees.(101)

In December 1989, about 70% of the interior and 90% of the exterior work was finished. The facade and porticos were painted a bright white. Some basic concerns were about the air conditioning and heating, and why the altar was moved.(102) The new 13,500 square foot edifice was built in the parking lot behind the church. The architect for the renovation was CZL Associates, the contractor was Carl N. Swenson Inc., and Frank Fiscalini, president of the Alexian Brothers Hospital, chaired the renovation committee and was also the executive director of the restoration.(103)

In November 4, 1990, the church was dedicated into the present cathedral.(104) The new Saint Joseph Cathedral is invaluable. There is no true expenditure for this august edifice, although the art work in the cathedral is valued at fifteen million dollars.(105) Saint Joseph's offers much to the community in times of need and in times of joy. All the money that went into the restoration of the cathedral was money well spent because it allowed the cathedral to portray its beauty.

Saint Joseph's is an important asset to the community. It is used for concerts, theater, music recitals, masses, baptisms, marriages, confirmations, first communions, and other community events. It is the cherished city jewel of downtown that offers solace to those who needed it, rich or poor. It is a place where the multifarious people of San Jose gather in special times like Christmas and Easter. Two thirds of the congregation are Mexican- American and many of the services are held in Spanish. (106) The historical value of the cathedral is priceless.

Staff

Like any important place it takes hard working, responsible people to make sure that an institution functions properly. In St. Joseph's case it is the job of sixteen people to take care of the cathedral. It begins with Most Rev. Pierre DuMaine Ph.d., the bishop of San Jose. He is the administrator, the spiritual leader of all of the churches of Santa Clara County. He presides at special masses and ordains men to become priests. Bishop DuMaine lives on Twelfth St.

Rev. J. Patrick Browne, Ph.d. is the pastor, Rev. Rick Rodoni, is a Parochial Vicar, and Rev. Abel Lopez is the other Parochial Vicar. These men say mass, counsel people regarding depression, or alienation from the church, marriage problems, family problems, and engaged couples. They perform first communions, funerals, confirmations, baptisms, and confessions. They've been at the cathedral an average of five years. They have one and a half days off per week.

Rev. Fausto Lopez is the pastor in residence. He is off duty and presently doesn't do too much because of his health. He is in charge of the youth group and he counsels people.

Tony Eiras is the director of music. He writes music for the church instruments, concerts, services, and church music. He's in charge of a choir with fifty adults and a thirty-five to forty member children's choir. He also writes music for people getting married and for the masses in English and Spanish.

Sharon Miller is the director of Social Ministry. She works with the poor and homeless people, teaches them how to fill out good applications to get jobs, and job training. They do their laundry which the church provides. This part of the church is the most important because the purpose of a church is to help the poor.

Sister Marie Annette Burkart, SND, is the director of Liturgy. She's in charge of making sure that everyone follows the rules and how the church is being used. She teaches couples that are how it's done. She approves what is done, the do's and don't's.

Susan Olsen is the director of Religious Education and Business Manager. She is in charge of the religious education for baptisms, confirmations, first communion, Sunday school classes. She teaches teenagers and adults to receive sacraments. For the business part she tells how much money is available.

Jim Del Biaggio is the Cathedral Gift Shop Manager. He runs the gift

shop and does tours, giving the history of the church.

Janet Bahringer is the Administrative Assistant. She is the bookkeeper, counts the money, writes forms to take money from the bank, and a little of office work.

Nina Trachina is in charge of the parish office. She's the secretary, handles donations and money carefully, keeps things organized, receives the mail for the priest and the people of the Social Ministry. She keeps the record books and writes information down for the sacraments.

Greg Ortiz is the Sacristan. He's the evening janitor, he helps Sister Annette with the church services. He knows how things are run and he locks up the cathedral.

Roberto Solorzano and his wife Rosa are in charge of the maintenance. He does everything from being the handyman to settling disputes. His wife does the housekeeping for the priests.

John Bondi is the Facilities Consultant. He is in charge of the building, security, making sure things are working, sound system and technical things. (107)

These people are the ones that should be thanked for making sure Saint Joseph Cathedral functions smoothly.

(Note: All the information in this section was provided by the
Parish secretary, Nina Trachina.)

Programs

Some of the programs that are offered by the church are the youth group in Spanish, where they also hold bible study. Volunteers take the communion to sick people. The Bible study in Spanish is on Tuesdays at 4:00 PM.

The Guadalupenans are dedicated to organizing the mananitas for the Virgin and they hold bake sales. The Carmelitas are a group of people who go to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. They meet one Saturday a month.

Three to four times a year there are prayer services for different reasons when different religions come together. (108)

These are the programs that keep the cathedral active and interesting. All the programs are run by the church staff.

(Note: All the information in this section was provided by the Parish secretary, Nina Trinchina and Roberto Solorzano.)

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