

ST. JOSEPH'S - ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.saintjosephscollege.ws

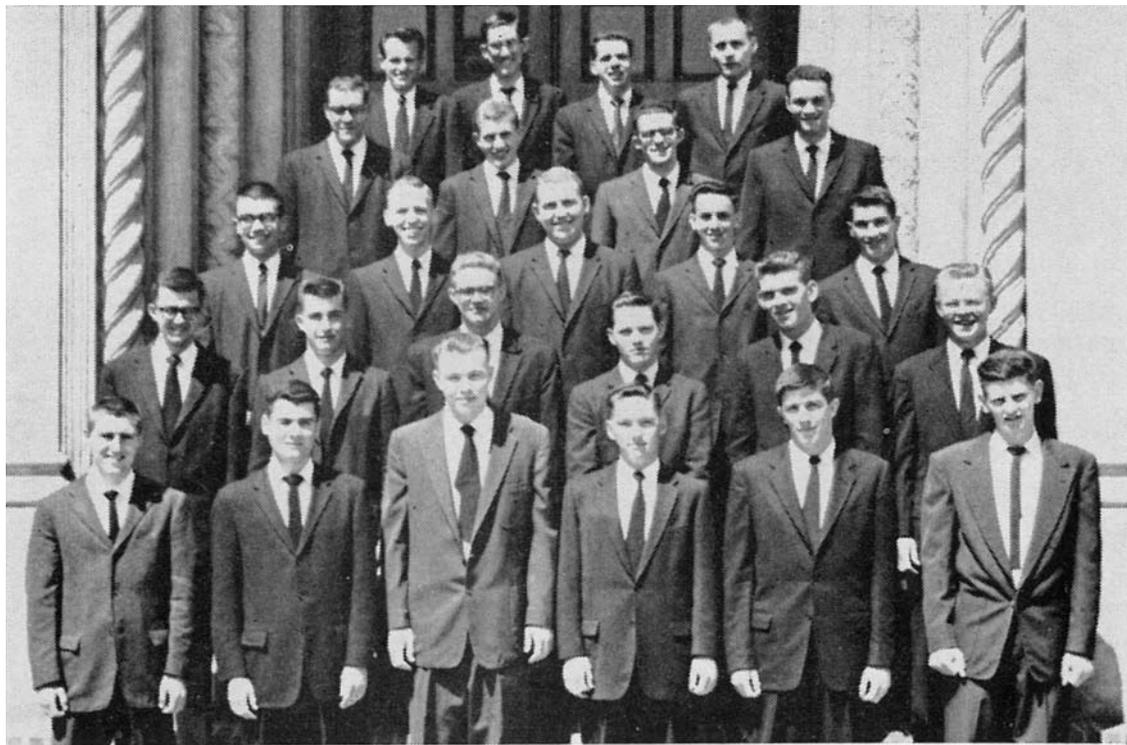
Spring 2011 Newsletter

*We honor the past; We celebrate the present;
We plan for the future.....TOGETHER*

ALUMNI DAY

APRIL 24, 2010

HOMILY DELIVERED BY REV. JERROLD F. KENNEDY, R'60



St. Joseph's College: the Graduation Class of 1960

Front Row: Philip Avellar, Richard Mangini, Thomas Barrett, Jerrold Kennedy, Brian Cahill, Daniel Holland. Second Row: Laurence Jacobs, George Doub, Richard Laveroni, William Kennedy, William McClure, John Hinsvark. Third Row: Gilbert Mata, James Morris, Stephen Morrissey, James Purcell, Charles Quinn. Fourth Row: James Riordan, John Rodgers, Kevin Rozzano, John Sandersfeld. Fifth Row: Robert Stickey, Francis Tamba, John Van Hagen, Thomas Wertz.

Teihard de Chardin once said "Growing old is like being increasingly penalized for a crime you haven't committed." The reason why I am the homilist today reminds me a little too much of that remark. Rather than being penalized, though, it is an honor to be here.

Many years ago, Father Lyman Fenn labeled St. Joseph's College "The Little City of God." More recently, perhaps influenced by the writings of Henri Nouwin, a vocations flier spoke of St. Joseph's College as: "preparing healers for a wounded world." This year, one of my classmates described

the college in different words. He said that the college was a place to pray, to play, to prepare and to rebel. Whatever description we use, we all remember the college in our own ways.

For us, it began on September 8, 1954. Fifty six "sixth latiners" arrived that day. We were a band of boys with noble dreams, armed with brooms, dust-mops and laundry properly numbered for the The Little Sisters of the Holy Family.

The new president, Father Jim (Beansie) Campbell was

Continued on page 2

there to welcome us with one of the Rhets, Vic Schmensky, at his side. I was impressed.

I had the good fortune of having my brother Bill to show me the ropes. We decided to go for a swim. It was a good idea, ---until Father Chuck Dillon swam over to us to advise "the brothers Kennedy" that we should not spend too much time together. I was not impressed.

By the way, my brother Bill and I were one of 22 sets of brothers in the student body at that time. Bill and I shared a double room on the fourth floor around the corner from Father Jack Olivier and down the hall from Fathers Paul Purta and Gene Strain.

In second high, a new wing and chapel opened allowing the student body to swell to over four hundred.

I remember that after the new mosaics finally arrived for the chapel, we looked up each day at the words: "**Deus providebit sibi victimam**"

We did not know what the future would bring, but it was encouraging to be reminded that "God will provide".

For the next six years, we saw our youthful dreams refashioned and honed, shaped and reshaped and sometimes shattered, until they were transformed into maturing personal convictions about life, the world and the church.

Indian lore speaks of dreams as messages from the spiritual world. Dream catchers were to filter out bad dreams and allow good ones to flourish. The seminary faculty made it their task to be our "Dream Catchers" as they helped fashion and reshape our maturing dreams.

Our spiritual lives were well regulated and all embracing. Days were speckled with reminders of who we were and what we were about. Morning meditations, multiple Masses, silent meals, and martyrologies were meant to make us men of prayer.

Academics were all-important and challenging, but also inspiring with teachers like Father William O'Connor, Pop Rock, Joe Ferrario, Fathers Martin, Gregoire, Cronin, Dillon, Riddlemoser, Strain, Olivier, Taylor, Canfield, Doyle and Krupleman among others.

I can't remember but I think Joe Harrington, Larry Jacobs and Tom Barrett were awarded a fair share of the academic premiums, but others were spread among the bunch of us, including Father Taylor's favorite writer, Kevin Starr. I do know that Jim Purcell and Rich Laveroni were selected for Rome.

Ramblers, Indians, Bears and Trojans were given a welcome and prominent place in our lives as energetic, competitive and confined students.

Those years of prayer, studies and sports became the foundation for the deep friendships which have lasted over the past 56 years.

Our class was small and seen as "independent, down to earth, unassuming, bright, friendly and hard-working". I have watched my classmates over the years. They have moved in different directions. They have built lives of integrity. They have caught hold of their dreams. They have followed their convictions. They have found personal and unique ways to be healers for a wounded world.

Having spent twelve years in the seminary, fifteen years as a Vocation Director and five years as a faculty member at St. Patrick's, I can say that over the years I have seen so many of you do the same thing. I personally am very, very proud to be numbered among you.

On Alumni Day this year, we returned on the weekend the Church celebrates Good Shepherd Sunday and The World Day of Prayer for Vocations. On this weekend, God's word challenges us to be a community of men and women who follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

Father Frank Norris wrote the following in "**God's Own People**":

"The early Christians, as we learn from the catacombs, loved to portray our Savior as a beardless and handsome young man carrying a lamb upon his shoulder. It was, in fact, their favorite way of picturing Him. The title of Good Shepherd-one that Christ gave to Himself-suggests tenderness and compassion, strength and dependability. It evokes all that attracts us most to the personality of our Lord. But the similitude of the Good Shepherd also teaches us something about the nature of the community that Jesus came to establish."

Frank went on to say that it is only when we realize that Christ is appropriating to himself an image used in the Old Testament (from the prophet Ezekiel) to describe the relation between God and Israel that we feel the impact of what He is saying. Christ's words were unmistakably intended to recall to His hearers the passage describing God himself as the Shepherd of Israel.

As a priest and as a member of today's church with all its faults and all its failings, I must admit that parts of Ezekiel's Chapter 34 still scare me!

As the Jerusalem Bible translation puts it, "Shepherds, the Lord Yahweh says this: disaster is in store for you. Well fed and dressed in wool, you did not feed and protect the flock...You failed to make weak sheep strong or to care for the sick ones, or to bandage the injured ones. You have failed to bring back strays or look for the lost."

I sometimes use that chapter from Ezekiel as an examination of conscience. It always makes me remember that being a priest and being a Christian is a privilege, but it also a responsibility.

A good shepherd was needed most when days were bleak and stormy, on winter days which tested the shepherd's courage, compassion and concern.

The Irish theologian, John O'Donohue, once compared the experience of bleakness to the winter before Spring comes. He said: "Bleakness is never as bleak as it first appears to be. And Spring doesn't just happen. Spring is the long work of winter which produces that beautiful new life."

As a church, we are enduring a long winter of disappointments. Hopefully, God will provide us with the honesty, the courage, the transparency, and the changes needed to become a healthier community of believers.

Whatever abilities you have for leadership and service, please continue to use them. The church needs men and women who can be perceptive leaders and humble servants.

What you are capable of doing cannot be measured. Your efforts are needed. They make a difference, especially when they embody the tenderness, compassion, dependability and strength of the Good Shepherd.

That's the good news for the alumni and friends of St. Joseph's College and good news for the church.

We came to the college in our youth with dreams and visions of a future church. May those dreams carry us on as we gather around the table of the Eucharist. Here the Good Shepherd himself nourishes us with courage for change and with the gift of healing for a wounded world.

Please remember to whisper a prayer for a new springtime, for vocations, and for the Church. ■

Rev. Charles 'Chuck' Dillon, S. S. Revisited

By Bruce Atkinson

Our Winter 2003 edition of the Alumni Newsletter led off with a reproduction of the eulogy given by Rev. John A. Ward, S. S. on the occasion of the death of Chuck Dillon.

The following is a copy of a letter written by **Bruce Atkinson, R'52**, to John A. Ward, S.S., on December 31, 2003.

Dear John,

In 2002, you wrote me a very complimentary note about my article in the SJC Alumni bulletin. You told me how much enjoyment the article gave you "Well written", "packed with details", "wonderful anecdotes", and "optimism" were some of the phrases you used.

Your article about Chuck Dillon was better. Your comments on his strictness and his awareness of it, his later regrets, his mellowing, and his happiness and freedom in retirement really touched me. You knew the man and you liked him with his good qualities and his not so good ones.

When I was a student at St. Joseph's, I was not fond of Chuck Dillon. I thought he was a terrible teacher. Years later I thought of him when I studied about unplanned effects of teaching. Some researchers on this subject proposed that the most common unplanned effect of teachers is that they often teach students to dislike the subject. I thought Chuck did this in his chemistry course.

When I was a novice teacher at St. Joseph's, I disagreed with Chuck on most issues. This was true in faculty meetings and in private conversations.

Then I went to Solitude where, like most people, I became much more serious. At the end of the year when it was time for assignments for the coming year, I was amazed to learn that he had made a special request to the Provincial that I return to SJC as Prefect of Discipline.

I think I learned the reason for this a year or so later. Chuck liked people who stood up to him and disagreed with him. Jack Olivier told me he told Chuck he could not be his Vice President because he did not agree with Chuck's policies. Chuck said, "That's why I picked you. I need someone to present the other side of issues to me." I don't think most people came to know this side of him. There was more to his character than what you saw at first glance.

While I was still in Solitude, after I had received my appointment, I consulted with Jack Canfield. I asked for his advice about being a Prefect. I think everyone would be surprised at what he told me. He said, "Don't be too strict. Give the students a break. Don't take things personally. Be moderate and understanding."

I'm afraid I wasn't able to follow this advice under the pressures of a very difficult position. But Chuck was always supportive of me and of my efforts. At the end of the year, he was transferred to St. Charles. When he said goodbye to me, Chuck said: "You did a good job this year, but you were too strict. I know you realize that and you'll do a better job as you go along."

Since those days, I've always thought of Chuck Dillon as a kind of father figure. That's the way he treated me. I have a soft spot in my heart for him.

I don't think Chuck Dillon had a lot of close personal friends. But I'd like to think that you and I are two of them. We saw the qualities that turned some people against him. But we saw more. We saw the goodness beneath his harsh exterior. ■

ALUMNI DAY RAFFLE AND REUNION – APRIL 30, 2011

Alumni Day is almost here! Remember to send in your raffle tickets now. If you mistakenly put them in the 'round' file, call Jim Murphy at 650-591-3492 or email him at MURPUR@aol.com, and he will send you tickets. Please be generous and increase your chances of winning great prizes. **We use the raffle proceeds to put on Alumni Day, publish the Newsletter and serve you!**

Last year Honora Connolly, wife of Kevin Connolly, R'59, won Walt Harrington's trip to Hawaii. By the way, she took her sisters and left Kevin at home in Santa Rosa! Msgr. Bucky O'Connor, R'54, won the trip to Napa and John Brennan took home a case of Taft St. wines. Other winners: Chuck and Barbara Smith won the Mahoney Vineyard tour; Barbara Kohles-Kit Carson Lodge; Bob Lujan- Tom Brady football; Jim and Bernie Purcell-SF Giant

Tickets; Tom O'Rourke-49er tickets; and Rev. Ray Kenny-Jason Kidd basketball.

Come celebrate with the featured Class, the Rhet Class of 1961 and meet and greet the Four Captains: Bears, **Mike Murray** (my favorite); Indians, **Mike McNamara**; Ramblers, **Dennis O'Brien**; and Trojans, **Mike McLaughlin**. Make sure to visit the Rhet Class of 1961's website at www.sjcrhetclass61.com created by Paul Feyen-it's fantastic!

Also come and honor our Alumni of the Year! We will be celebrating and recognizing **Kevin Ryan, R'53, Deceased**, Alumni Board Vice-President, and **Rev. John J. Cloherty, R'54**, former Pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Mill Valley-simply known as Big John to all CYO Campers!!! ■

RHET CLASS OF 1965 REUNION ON FEBRUARY 20-21, 2010

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ENTRY INTO ST. JOE'S IN 1959

By Richard J. Brett, R'65

I was at the Olympics this weekend. And we won all the Golds!

Owen, McGrath, McCarron, Ducey, Brett, Gannon, Goodin, Jones. And some great Ghosts--Ganci, Silva, Shea, Arvin. And Saso and Rizza and Golden and Plimley (there is no class who had a President whose tongue was as golden as his) and Herning and Yates and Guinan and Gordon and Nicholas and Schneider and Kelly (let me give him a bigger gold Medal!) and Dineen and Driscoll and McGrath and Dinga and Augustiny. And Dr. Cervelli whose great heart beats and Bob Banfield, and that prince of a priest-Joe Gordon. Paveo (and his brave wife Kathy who joined with us) and Bousquet! Sing songs!

Thank you Charlie Golden and Gary Saso. Your fine intelligence and organizational skills brought these mostly 65 year old guys together. We are so different. So unique really. But there at this Catholic place Vallombrosa we were Catholic and joyous and funny, and we enjoyed the food and wine and conversation and family we all are. We like food and wine and remember that Jesus used (uses today too) wine and food to say I AM HERE!

50 years ago. Let me write that again-50 years ago the class of 1965 (ordination 1971) started that walk of our lives which is our walk in this time of America and California and the world. We missed the dear people who could not make it and this is blood true because we are unique. No contest here. No politics. Merely unique.

A very great highlight of the night was singing Happy 90th Birthday to Father Olivier who heard it by phone in his room in Baltimore and engaged a whole lot of us in conversation that was merely stupendous. Fly Olivier to California again Murph the Older! Meet him at SFO and put him up at the best place with the best piano. Music has God all over and in and fused in it.

I sing **Te Deum! Te Deum Laudamus! and Amazing Grace!** We prayed and remembered those who have died before we die. 50 years some of us have known each other. I say Blessings and Memories and Joys. I say Alleluia! And with the deepest feeling, thank you all!!!

WE WON THE GOLD! We know each other. YOU are the Gold Medals!



Class of '65 on steps of St. Pat's



Brian McGrath and John Dineen



Gary Saso, Charlie Golden and Wally Nicholas



Gene Cervelli and Denis Ducey

A WALK DOWN NOSTALGIA LANE

Sixty Years Ago at St. Joseph's College
February 21, 1950

BOXING AND WRESTLING AT THE PALESTRA

GALA FIGHT CARD: EIGHT TWO ROUND BOUTS AND TWO WRESTLING MATCHES

TONIGHT'S CARD

Fight fans, the gala fight card you will have the pleasure of watching tonight is, without a doubt, the greatest fight card ever staged within the 'squared-circle' of this Auditorium. At no other time in the long history of the Palestra has more talent ever been brought together in one night to treat fight fans to a more action-packed program than you will see tonight.

A glance at the names on the card will show that the cream of the world's fistic crop is represented here tonight along with the world's great-name grapplers. Yes fight fans, this is the "stellar presentation of the century".

BOXING

All bouts will consist of two, two minute rounds.

Bob Nicholson vs. Webster Nolan (flyweights)
"Bucky" O'Connor vs. "Spike" Hanley (light-heavies)
Jim Kennedy vs. Mike Barragan (lightweights)
Angelo Atondo vs. Alvin Mendonca (middleweights)
Bob "Gorilla" Gorman vs. Harry "Tiger" Yim (middleweights)
Mel Waggoner (welterweight) vs.
"Count" Bruce Atkinson (featherweight)
Paul Messner (light-heavy) vs. **Felix Luna** (middleweight)
"Igi" Guevara vs. Harry Lema (welterweights)

WRESTLING

Mike Collins vs. Don Cefalu
Joe Hester vs. Dan Cardelli
(15 minutes; 2 out of 3 falls)

Charlie Renati vs. "Tiny" Tim Thorsen
(20 minutes; 2 out of 3 falls)

Seconds: **Jim Walsh** (Blue Corner);
Art Harrison (Red Corner)

Timekeeper: **Jim Casey**

Announcer: **Jim McKay**

Wrestling Referee: **Jim Keeley**

Boxing Referee and Judges: To be announced later.

UPDATE ON MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

In our Winter Newsletter 2010, Ladd Dwyer, R'53, and Don Carroll, R'58 proposed having a Day of Reflection in the Fall of 2011 for those interested in enriching and celebrating their Marriage.

At the March meeting of your Board of Governors, Ladd invited Fr. George Matanic, O.P. , Director of the Vallombrosa Retreat Center in Menlo Park to address the Board on a Marriage Enrichment Program entitled **REFOCCUS**. Fr. George is a certified trainer for FOCCUS and REFOCCUS and has taught many priests, deacons and lay ministers in the Bay Area on how to facilitate these programs.

Fr. George demonstrated that the REFOCCUS program is adaptable to a one-day format as a tool to help a couple enrich, nourish and celebrate their relationship.

Currently, we have **6 Alumni couples' positive responses** to the proposed marriage enrichment program. We thought it best to have a small group of ten couples in the initial group. There are Saturdays open for scheduling a one-day program at Vallombrosa this coming October or November. We invite you to participate in this one day event and celebrate your marriage. For more information, go to the REFOCCUS website at www.foccusinc.com/refoccus-inventory.aspx.

Board Members Fr. Jim McKearney, S.S., Rector of St. Patrick's Seminary and University and Rev. Joe Gordon, R'65, gave high praise to this program. Both have used it in their parish ministry with great success.

Loren (Ladd) Dwyer
(650) 368-9372; ldwyer@smace.org

Or

Donald C. Carroll
(650) 322-8632; dccarroll@pacbell.net

REMEMBERING BILL FINNEGAN, R'61

By Greg McAllister



BILL FINNEGAN, R'61

Bill was an **orig**, meaning he had entered St. Joe's right out of the eighth Grade so he'd already been there two years when I showed up in third high. He was a classy guy, with black curly hair and a square, dark-stubbed jaw. The rule said your clothes had to be "conservative in style and color" and that you couldn't have any "faddish haircuts," but Bill's hair formed a natural fishhook, or "dink," over his forehead, and he always wore his MacGregor jacket with the collar up, as if to say, "I can't help it if I'm cool." He lived across the hall from me, and on Thursday mornings when we dutifully emptied our wastebaskets and shook out our rugs and dust-mops, I couldn't help but notice that his room was a lot tidier than the rest.

In Latin class, Bill seemed to be a favorite of Father Olivier, another classy fellow, who evidently appreciated Bill's polish as well as his clear tenor choir voice and his translation skills. By the time I arrived, Bill had quite a bit of status in our class, mainly due to the fact that he had been kicked in the rear end a year earlier by Father Larry Taylor, our brilliant but surly English professor. Larry had a bad back and medicated it with a combination of pain pills, alcohol, and swimming. He was coming out of the pool one evening when he overheard Bill doing an imitation of him to a group of his friends. Coming up behind him, Larry planted his size 12 shoe right in Bill's posterior. The story was recounted many times in our frequent BS sessions, and Bill would always just shake his head and laugh, "Yeah, the SOB scared me to death." Years later he clarified one detail for us: "Actually, I was totally innocent. It was some other guy doing the imitation and Larry thought it was me. When I told my confessor, Jack Olivier, about it and asked what I should do, he said, "Do nothing and pray."

Bill left the seminary right after high school and entered USE. During his four years there he played soccer on their championship team. A few years later he came back to St. Pat's for a visit and told us about it. "I was one of the few local guys who'd ever played soccer before. The rest of the team were all ringers recruited from Mexico and South America. It was a lot different from the seminary because at St. Joe's we had no offside rule, so we never learned how to dribble and pass—we just tried to kill each other."

Bill prided himself on being a realist, and to that end he loved to play the role of cynic and curmudgeon. In hindsight, we gave him a lot to be cynical about during our seminary years.

For the past seven years, Bill has waged an uphill battle against a rare and complex protein disease. He and his partner, Dena, have inspired us all with their courage and fortitude.

Rest in peace, Bill, And make sure you get Larry to apologize for that kick.

IN MEMORIAM

Leach, Wallace P., R'39, 2009, in San Francisco.

Arnold, Bruce, C'82, on January 9, 2010 in Ben Lomond, CA.

Munoz, Robert M., R'51, on January 26, 2011 in Los Altos; survived by his wife, Stephanie and four children: Robert, Theresa, Christine, David and ten grandchildren.

Bava, Dennis J., C'72, on January 26, 2011 in Milan, Italy; survived by his wife, Annamaria, and son, Brian; brother of Dan Bava, R'62, Fr. David, R'66 and John, C'73.

Leipelt, John, R'59, on April 20, 2010; survived by his wife, Karin, and six children; taught Social Studies at Woodside High School for 37 years..

Valtierra, Rev. David D., R'67, in May of 2010; ordained in 1976; served the poor and college communities at The Oratory in Rock Hill, South Carolina; good friend of Steve Essig, R'67; member of the last Rhet Class at St. Joseph's College

Russell, Rev. Robert L., S.S., on June 16, 2010; former Professor at St. Joseph's College in 1957.

Allen, Paul D., R'64, on August 14, 2010; survived by his wife, Mary Kay, and three children; brother of Michael Allen, R'61; worked in money management for many years.

Waggoner, Melvin E., R'54, on August 29, 2010; survived by his wife, Emogene and four children; worked many years for Oregon Public Broadcasting as a grant writer and Director of Planned Giving.

Brown, Norman J., R'50, on September 3, 2010; survived by his wife, Virginia, and five children.

Broderson, Donald, R'62, on September 19, 2010; ordained 1968; brother of Phillip Broderson, C'69.

Hanson, Rev. Kirby, SPS'70, on October 14, 2010; ordained 1970; former Chancellor of Archdiocese and Pastor of St. Isabella, St. Brigid, and St. Thomas the Apostle.

Fry, Thomas, SPS'63, on October 12, 2010; ordained 1963.

Hayes, Karen, on November 13, 2010; wife of Jim Hayes, R'62 and four children; kindergarten teacher in Portola Valley for 33 years.

Brainard, Rev. Ernest, R'40, on December 14, 2010; ordained 1945; founder of ARDOR (Alcoholism Relief Diocese of Oakland Resources).

Finnegan, William J., R'61, on December 21, 2010 of primary amyloidosis; survived by his wife, Dena Heath and two children; tax and estate planning attorney; Treasurer and Board Member of St. Joseph's College Alumni Association.

Doub, George T., R'60, on December 28, 2010 accidentally; survived by his wife, Emily, and two children; social worker and marriage counselor; pioneer in therapy for the poor of San Jose.

Ashe, Kenny, R'62, on January 11, 2011; survived by two children.

Carter, Michael P., R'62, on January 27, 2011; survived by his wife, Trudy, and four children; dedicated Rambler and two term President of the Board of St. Joseph's College; dedicated member of St. Simon's Parish; "he lived his life as most people dream-sincerely, generously, and with an undying devotion to his family and his church".

Diffley, Vincent J. "Diff", on February 10, 2011; father of Joe Diffley, R'66; founder of Diff's Moving and Furniture.

Pult, Thomas M., R'62, on February 27, 2011; survived by his wife, Mary, and three children; worked for New York Life for 31 years; longtime member and lector at St. Joan of Arc; ordained May 2, 1968; "his voice will be remembered as "the voice of God".

Poggi, James, R'45, on March 17, 2011; survived by his wife, Patricia; ordained June 16, 1951; former Spanish Professor at St. Joseph's College; counselor and director of the Lutz Center in Grass Valley (Adult Day Care Center).

Knapp, Rev. William, R'43, on March 20, 2011; brother of Msgr. Richard Knapp, R'49; ordained 1948; former pastor of Mater Dolorosa and Principal of St. Vincent's School for Boys.

**Your
contact. . .**

If you need to contact our Alumni Director with any Alumni concern (opinions, suggestions, alumni updates, changes of address), you may write Jim Murphy at St. Patrick's Seminary or you may contact him directly as follows:

James P. Murphy

1710 Robin Whipple Way • Belmont, CA 94002-1851

Phone: (650) 591-3492 • Fax: (650) 654-3503

E-mail: MURPUR@aol.com

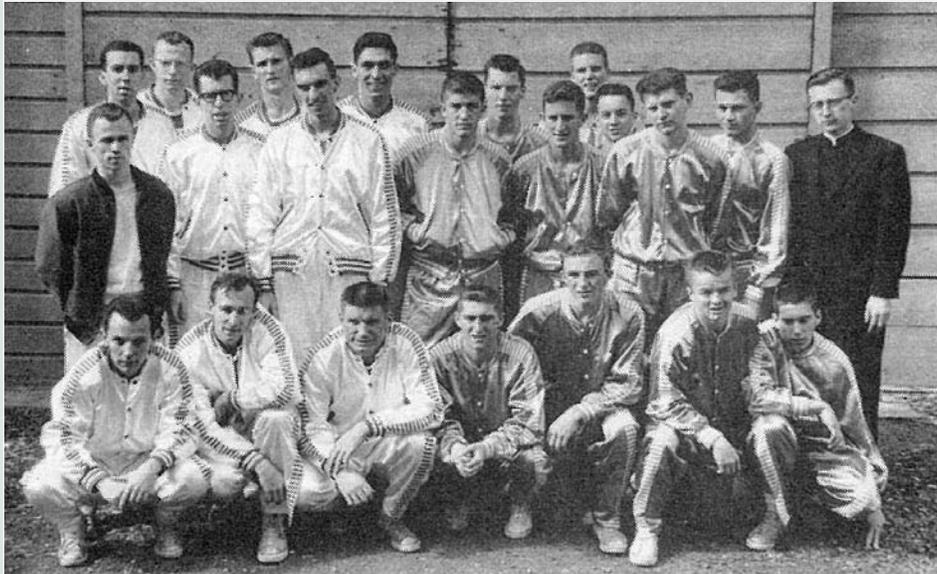
**St. Joseph's -
St. Patrick's College
Alumni Association**
320 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD
MENLO PARK, CA 94025

FIRST-CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MENLO PARK, CA
PERMIT No. 271

ALUMNI DAY
Saturday, April 30, 2011

Happy Easter!

St. Patrick's Seminary and St. Joseph's College 1960 House Teams



St. Patrick's Team in white uniforms: Standing: Ray Kenny, John Cloherty, Phil McCrillis, Dennis Moriarty, Bill Kane, and Russ Terra. Coach: Jim Kennedy. Kneeling: Bill McGuinness, Jerry Horan, and Frank Brady.

St. Joseph's Team in blue uniforms: Standing: Brian Cahill, Phil Brady, Mike McNamara, Paul Laveroni, Jim Purcell, Dan Holland, Rich Gorrige. Coach: Brian O'Kane. Kneeling: Phil Avellar, Jim Mehlfeld, Jack Conneely, and Charlie Welsh.