

Bishop Leipzig

Despite Dangers, Hardships, Early-day Priests Lived Long

By BISHOP
FRANCIS P. LEIPZIG
Retired Bishop of Baker

Thirty-five years passed before Archbishop Blanchet lost a priest by death, namely Father Julian De Creane in Salem, Sept. 12, 1873. He had been appointed pastor of the Catholic Parish merely four months before he was called to his Maker. His death was caused by inflammation of the brain. He was buried in St. Paul Cemetery.

Considering the tremendous hardships of the early missionaries in their travels by horseback, nearly impassable roads, by canoes and with the fasting before Masses, this seems almost impossible. History records however many narrow escapes in their travels, from 1838 to 1873.

The longevity of these early missionaries astonishes one. It may be true that some of them were young priests; others who were older worked here for a time and then returned to their native lands in Canada and Europe.

Behold the life span of 85 years

Father Julian De Creane

Archbishop Blanchet

Father J. F. Jayol

Father B. DeLorme

Mons. Adrian Croquet

Father Patrick Madden

Father Hermann Ostermann

Mons. Peter De Roo

Father Charles Keveny

Father McDevitt

Father J. P. O'Flynn.

Archbishop Howard

Mons. Anthony Hillebrand.

Human Interest File

of Archbishop Blanchet, and 61 years as a priest and archbishop.

Consider the years of the first two ordained priests in St. Paul in 1847. Father J. F. Jayol was ordained as a diocesan priest, but shortly after his ordination joined the Oblate Order. His death was at 82, after 59 years in the priesthood.

The second priest ordained in the fall of 1847 was Father B. De Lorme at the age of 22. He served in the Archdiocese until a few years before his death in France. He was 76 years of age at death and was a priest for 54 years.

HOLLYWOOD could well depict on screen the arduous labors of Msgr. Adrian Croquet in his work among the Indians at Grande Ronde and Siletz. Yet he lived to the age of 82 with a record of 58 years as a priest.

While on the subject of death of priests, the records show the youngest priest to die was Father Patrick Madden, age 26. He drowned in Ireland while visiting his family, July 12, 1958.

Father Hermann Ostermann had the privilege of the priesthood only one year and six days. He was ordained with Father V. L. Mollenbeier Jan. 6, 1927, and died on Jan. 12, 1928.

Of the Archdiocesan deceased priests Msgr. Peter De Roo has

the longest period in the priesthood, 61 years. He died at the age of 87, Sept. 7, 1926.

Father Charles Keveny lived to the ripe old age of 89 years and six months, followed closely by Father H. J. McDevitt with 89 years and two months.

Of the living priests, Father J. P. O'Flynn will observe his 64th year in the priesthood next month and will be 89 years of age this fall. May he outlive all of those who have gone before him, in number of years of life.

In the narrative of ages and years in the priesthood the writer would be brought to task if he did omit the age of 96 and 68th year in the priesthood of the retired Archbishop Howard. In the history of prelates he is second only to the late Bishop John MacGinley who died at the age of 98. This record takes in all the prelates serving in the United States since 1790. If the writer were a betting man he would lay a wager that Archbishop Howard will surpass the age of Bishop MacGinley.

Just a passing thought to the pastors who have served long in one parish: you have a long way to go to exceed the record of the late Msgr. Anthony Hillebrand, pastor of St. John's Parish in Oregon City for 52 years.

Fr. James Flynn To Observe 63rd Ordination Jubilee

By BISHOP
FRANCIS J. LEIPZIG
Retired Bishop of Baker

Father James P. O'Flynn, retired, will be the first diocesan priest of the Archdiocese of Portland to serve 63 years in the priesthood when he celebrates the anniversary of his ordination July 25. He now resides at Mt. St. Joseph residence at Portland.

Only two priests of western Oregon have observed the 60-year marks: Msgr. Peter De Roo (62), and Father H. J. McDevitt (61).

Father O'Flynn was born in Ireland, Sept. 14, 1885, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan O'Flynn. He attended the National School for six years; preparatory work for five years and philosophy for three years, both at the Jesuit college, Limerick, and four years of theology at St. Patrick's Seminary, Thurles, all in Ireland.

He received his minor orders, subdiaconate and diaconate from Archbishop Fennelly at St. Pat-

rick's Seminary, Thurles, and was ordained to the priesthood at Skibbereen, Ireland by Bishop Kelly, June 25, 1910.

Following are his appointments by the late Archbishop Alexander Christie: assistant, St. Lawrence, Portland, September, 1910; pastor, St. Cecilia, Beaverton; March, 1912; St. Charles, Portland; March, 1919; St. Peter, Portland; March, 1922.

ARCHBISHOP Edward D. Howard appointed him to the following positions as pastor: St. Rita, March 25, 1930; Assumption, 1948; St. Lawrence, Feb. 1, 1953; and Blessed Sacrament, Sept. 1, 1960. He retired in August of 1968.

Father O'Flynn was one of the early directors of the Catholic Truth Society of Oregon, having been selected for this work as early as April 24, 1924, only two years after the founding of the organization.

Msgr. Edmund J. Murnane, Veneta, and the writer had the pleasure of visiting Father O'Flynn a few weeks ago. He was pacing up and down the garden of Mt. St. Joseph Residence. His knowledge of the past 63 years will be invaluable for the historical committee of the Archdiocese.

An endeavor had been made for some time to secure the history of Father James P. Donovan, assistant at St. Francis Parish and St. James Parish, McMinnville, in 1919. Father O'Flynn in his visit to Ireland in 1919 met Father O'Donovan in a hospital, where he had been for some time with a brain injury incurred by being struck on his bicycle in Ireland. Father O'Donovan never returned to this part of the country but decided to remain in Ireland.

Father O'Flynn's narrative of his difficulties in returning to Oregon in 1920 was interesting. With his Irish brogue, he stated "My passport was taken up by the police and was held for a long time. It had as many stamps (seals) on its face as hairs on your head.

"The offices of the American consuls were besieged with hopeful emigrants and berths had been booked months in advance. Finally I sailed on April 10, 1920, on my way to New York."

Explaining why he joined the Archdiocese of Portland, Father O'Flynn said, "The late Father George Thompson, former pastor of the Madeleine Parish of Portland, was in Ireland representing the late Archbishop Christie in securing vocations for the priesthood. At that time, Father Thompson was assistant at the Cathedral in Portland.

"I had heard of reaching out of your windows to pluck roses at Christmas time; also the thoughts of fishing, hunting and horses attracted me to this section of the West."

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel--1870-1988

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of note.

Type of Material _____ Picture _____
Main Character or Place _____
when Archbishop Howard Appointed _____
General Scope of Information Given: _____

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Date Feb. 10

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Four priests and a bishop who were serving in the archdiocese of Portland when Archbishop Edward D. Howard was appointed to head the see in 1926, were hosts to the Archbishop at a luncheon Feb. 8 in Portland. Left to right are Msgr. T.J. Bernards of Oregon City, pastor at Lebanon in 1926; Msgr. Edmund J. Murnane of Eugene, pastor at North Bend in 1926 (I have the impression that Msgr. Murnane was at Monroe when Archbishop Howard came and shortly after Archbishop Howard appointed him to North Bend. Bishop Leipzig); Archbishop Howard; Bishop Francis P. Leipzig of Baker, pastor at Corvallis in 1926; Msgr. Thomas J. Tobin, pastor of All Saints parish, Portland, who was assistant at the Madeleine parish, Portland, in 1926; and Father Martin Doherty, pastor at Albany, who was assistant in St. Andrew parish, Portland, in 1926. Seven other priests were serving in the archdiocese when Archbishop Howard arrived and were unable to attend the luncheon. They were Father Charles J. Keveny, retired; Father J. P. O'Flynn, retired; Father George Sniderhon, chaplain at Mercy hospital, Roseburg; Father John D. Neelon, chaplain at Christie school; Father Michael Wallace, retired; Father John Mitchell, retired; and Father Lucian Lauerman, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Files:

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Archbishop Howard
Msgr. T. J. Bernards
Msgr. E. Murnane
Bishop Francis Leipzig
Msgr. Thomas Tobin
Father Martin Doherty
Father Chas. Keveny
Father J. P. O'Flynn
Father George Sniderhon
Father John Neelon
Father Michael Wallace
Father John Mitchell
Father Lucian Lauerman

Lebanon
Oregon City
St. Mary, Eugene
North Bend
Monroe
Corvallis
Madeleine, City
All Saints, City
Albany
St. Andrew, City
Retired Priest (4)
Mercy Hosp., Roseburg
Christie Home

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of note.

Type of Material	Article
Main Character or Place	Fr. J. P. O'Flynn Retires
General Scope of Information Given:	

5319
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1966

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Date July 22

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4-5

Column

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Father James P. O'Flynn, oldest active priest in the Portland archdiocese, has announced his retirement as pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish in Portland.

To be 81 years old this fall, the Irish-born priest said he plans to live in retirement in an apartment in Madeleine parish, travelling occasionally to the coast, where fishing is one of his favorite pastimes.

Father O'Flynn, ordained in Ireland in 1910, on the feast day of his patron, St. James, began his ministry as an assistant pastor at the former parish of St. Lawrence, in southeast Portland. He was pastor there in 1960, when the once-large parish was dissolved in the path of urban renewal.

Father O'Flynn first served at St. Lawrence parish for two years, and then became pastor of St. Cecilia parish in Beaverton the year before the old St. Lawrence church was built in 1913. When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

He returned to the parish in 1953, after service at Assumption, St. Charles, St. Peter and St. Rita parishes in Portland.

Father O'Flynn's 50th anniversary of ordination coincided with closing of the St. Lawrence parish school. In the fall of 1960, he was assigned as pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish.

Father O'Flynn is the second oldest priest in the archdiocese in the number of years as a priest. Father Charles D. Keveny, who retired as pastor of St. Lawrence in 1952 and now lives at Mercy hospital in North Bend, was ordained in 1909.

Files:

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Retirement of Priests (2)

Blessed Sacrament, Portland

Madeleine, Portland

St. Lawrence, Portland

St. Cecilia, Beaverton

Assumption, Portland

St. Charles, Portland

St. Peter, Portland

St. Rita, Portland

Jubilee of Priests

Father Charles D. Keveny

Mercy Hospital, North Bend

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

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IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests, Clergymen, Schools, Associations, Hospitals, etc., List of notes.

Type of Material Article
 Main Character or Place 50th Anniversary
 General Scope of Information Given Blessed Sacrament
Parish to Mark 50th Anniversary on April 19

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1964
 Volume (Year)
 Date April 10
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 Column 2

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Blessed Sacrament parish will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of its church Sunday April 19, at a special Mass at 6.30 p.m..

Blessed Sacrament parish was established in September of 1913. Mass was celebrated in a store building until a church could be built.

On April 1914, Archbishop Alexander Chrisite blessed the new parish church, Father B. V. Kelly, first pastor of the parish, celebrated the Mass on the day of dedication.

There have been five pastors at Blessed Sacrament. Father Kelly, Father F. W. Black, Father J. M. O'Farrel, Father Henry Orth and the present pastor, Father J. P. O'Flynn who was appointed to the parish in September of 1960.

The Parish also was served by two administrators after the deaths of two of the pastors.

Father Patrick Dooley became administrator at the death of Father O'Farrel. Father James Mosley served as administrator after the death of Father Orth.

The present rectory was built by the parishioners in 1917. A combination school and convent was constructed in September of 1922. Additions to the school were made in 1950 and in 1955. A separate convent was built in November 1957.

Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque served in the parish from 1922 until June of 1942. In August 1942, Sisters of St. Francis of Glen Riddle Pa replaced them. Among the Sisters arriving in August of 1942 was Sister Raphael, now principal and superior of Blessed Sacrament school and convent.

Among the young men of the parish who became priests are Father Cornelius Linehan, Father Jeremiah Linehan, Father Joseph Crowe, Father Joseph Vanderbeck, Father Francis Maloney, Father James Farrell and Father Joseph Bosch. (Then they include a large number of sisters that came from this parish Leipzig).

Files:

Blessed Sacrament, Portland	Father J. M. O'Farrell	Father Cornelius Linehan
Jubille - Parishes	Father Henry Orth	Father Jeremiah Linehan
Blessing of Churches	<u>Father J. P. O'Flynn</u>	Father Joseph Crowe,
My File	Father Patrick Dooley	Father Joseph Vanderbeck
Cheryl	Father James Mosley	Father Francis Maloney
Father B. V. Kelly	Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque	Father James Farrell
Father Francis Maloney	Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque	Father Joseph Bosch

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

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IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of bishops, priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc. List of notes.

Type of Material Article

Main Character or Place Blessed Sacrament

General Scope of Information Given Parish Pays Off

\$39,000 Debt

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Father J. P. O'Flynn, pastor of blessed Sacrament parish, announced to his congregation that it had paid off the entire parish debt, which was \$39,000 when Father O'Flynn became pastor in September, 1960.

The debt was paid through ordinary offertory collections and no special drive for funds was made. In addition to the debt payment the parish spent more than \$20,000 in improvements, Father O'Flynn reported.

The accomplishment was in spite of the fact of the handicap of loss of 70 families who were forced to move from the parish to make way for the Minnesota freeway.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

Blessed Sacrament, Portland

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Human Interest File

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of bishops, priests, churches, schools, associations, hospitals, etc., worthy of note.

Type of Material Article and pictures.

Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard

General Scope of Information Given: Announces New

Appointments for Priests.

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Volume (Year)

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Page 1

Column 4 & 5

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Pastors, Assistants Named For Archdiocese Parishes.

(Please Xerox the article, continued on pages 4 & 5. Type the first column on page 5, which is so close to the binding. Bishop Leipzig.)

Pastors, Assistants Named For Archdiocese Parishes

Pictures Pages 4-5

Archbishop Edward D. Howard this week announced new appointments for 14 pastors and 13 assistants in parishes of the archdiocese and named a new vice principal for Central Catholic high school in Portland.

Father Francis J. Schaefers, now pastor at St. Thomas More, Portland, will become pastor of Cathedral parish Aug. 31. Father Alan J. Kennedy has been administrator of the Cathedral parish since the death of the pastor, the Very Rev. Arthur J. Sullivan, last December. Father Kennedy will continue as assistant to Father Schaefers in the parish.

Father Schaefers' first assignment after his ordination by Archbishop Howard on June 10, 1933, was an assistant at the Portland Cathedral. Next he became pastor of St. Thomas More, then principal of Central Catholic high school. After serving as principal, he returned to St. Thomas More until his new appointment as cathedral rector.

Monsignor Edmund G. Van der Zanden, pastor of St. Andrew parish, Portland, and chancellor of the archdiocese, has been appointed pastor of St. Thomas More parish. He has been parish priest at St. Andrew since Feb. 1, 1947. Previously he had served as assistant at the Madeleine parish and at St. Lawrence parish. He also served for a time as secretary to the archbishop.

Father Thomas Gadbois, pastor of St. Paul parish at Silverton, since 1955, will succeed Msgr. Van der Zanden as pastor of St. Andrew in Portland. Since his ordination in 1938, he has served as an assistant at the Cathedral in Portland and at the Madeleine parish, at St. Rose, Portland and at Astoria and as pastor at Sheridan and North Bend.

Father Pius Baur, pastor at St. Edward parish, Lebanon, since 1951, will go to St. Paul parish, Silverton. Father Baur has served at Seio, Jefferson, Jordan, Lyons, Mill City and as pastor at Ashland.

Father William Dooley, pastor at Holy Name parish, Coquille, since 1955, will become pastor at Lebanon. He has served as assistant and administrator at St. John, Milwaukie, and at St. Peter parish in Portland and on the faculty of Central Catholic high school.

Father Michael Fleming, assistant at St. Cecilia, Beaverton, has been appointed pastor of Holy Name parish, Coquille. He has

(Continued on page 5)

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Father James Mosley, assistant at Blessed Sacrament parish, Portland, since 1955, is now pastor of St. Augustine parish, Oceanlake. He has served as assistant at All Saints and St. Lawrence parishes.

Father Leland A. DeJardin, formerly of the staff of Central Catholic high school and chaplain at Jeanne d'Arc residence, becomes pastor of St. John Fisher parish in Portland. He has served as chaplain at Mt. St. Joseph Residence and as an assistant at Blessed Sacrament parish.

Father Lawrence Saalfeld, faculty member at Central Catholic since 1952, becomes pastor of Immaculate Conception parish in Stayton. Father Saalfeld has served as an assistant in St. Patrick parish, Portland, and as chaplain at the Sisters of the Holy Names' provincial house at Marylhurst. He succeeds the late Father Mathias Jonas at Stayton.

Father Nicholas Deis, pastor at Oceanlake since 1957, becomes pastor at Our Lady of Victory parish, Seaside, effective Sept. 6. Father Deis was pastor at Seaside from 1949 to 1953. He has served also as pastor at Medford, Sheridan, McMinnville; at St. Cecilia, Portland, and St. Rose parish, Portland. He also has served as assistant at St. Lawrence, Portland and St. Joseph, Salem.

Father Cornelius Shea, pastor at Our Lady of Victory parish, Seaside, since 1953, becomes pastor of St. Anthony parish, Waldport. He has served as pastor at Seaside, Forest Grove, McMinnville, Canby, North Bend and Siletz. Previously, he served as assistant at St. Stephen parish, Portland, at Milwaukie and at Beaverton.

Father Joseph Neuville, faculty member at Central Catholic, has been named vice principal at the high school. He has served as assistant at Cathedral parish and as chaplain at St. Mary's academy, Beaverton.

Appointments as assistant pastors and chaplains were:

Father John Keane, from Central Catholic high school to assistant, St. Therese parish, Portland.

Father Vincent Cuniff, from St. Joseph parish, Salem, to assistant, Immaculate Conception parish, Stayton.

Father J. Brendan Fleming, from St. Cecilia, Portland, to assistant, St. Cecilia, Beaverton.

Father Henri Arata, newly ordained, as assistant at St. Cecilia, Portland.

Father Carl J. Flach, from St. Mary parish, Eugene, to assistant, St. Andrew parish, Portland.

Father Neil Moore, newly ordained, as assistant, St. Mary parish, Eugene.

Father Paul Parrington, newly ordained, to staff of Central Catholic high school, in residence at Holy Cross parish, Portland.

Father Carl Gimpl, assistant, St. Therese parish, Portland, to assistant, Blessed Sacrament, Portland.

Father Anthony Juliano, faculty member at Central Catholic, with residence at St. Andrews, to chaplain at Jeanne d'Arc residence.

Father Harold McKennett, assistant at St. John Fisher parish, Portland, to staff of Central Catholic high school and chaplain at Marylhurst college.

Father Edward Altstock, newly ordained, to staff of Central Catholic high school, in residence at St. Rose parish, Portland.

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served as assistant and administrator at St. Luke parish, Woodburn, and as assistant at Blessed Sacrament, Portland.

Father James P. O'Flynn, pastor of St. Lawrence parish, Portland, becomes pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish, Portland, Aug. 31. He succeeds the late Father Henry Orth as pastor. Father O'Flynn's first assignment in the archdiocese 50 years ago was as an assistant at St. Lawrence parish. Later, he was pastor at St. Cecilia, Beaverton, St. Charles, St. Peter, St. Rita and Assumption parishes.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Father Earl R. Larson, assistant at St. Andrew parish, Portland, is new pastor of St. Louis parish, St. Louis, Oregon, and its missions. He has served previously as assistant at St. Rose parish, Portland, and at St. Matthew parish, Hillsboro.

Father Bernardin Singleton, pastor at St. Louis parish since 1958, becomes pastor of St. Anne parish at Grants Pass. He has served in the Archdiocese since 1957, serving at All Saints parish, Portland, and as chaplain at St. Vincent Hospital.

Father Daniel Kelly, pastor at Grants Pass and adjacent missions since 1949, is taking a protracted leave of absence at the suggestion of his physician. He plans to visit Ireland.

"We will look forward to the return of Father Kelly after this period of recuperation," Archbishop Howard said. "His contribution to the Church has been outstanding and we will welcome his return to active duty in the archdiocese with vigor renewed."

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

Oregon Journal 1, 11/22/76

Death Of A Neighborhood

By JACK FEMENT
Journal Staff Writer

(First of two parts)

Except for flood-ravaged Vapont City, no settlement of people in the Portland area has been subjected to an upheaval so sudden and total as the one suffered by the district once called "South Auditorium."

South Auditorium was so named because its 85 acres of dwelling places and businesses were situated just south of decaying Civic Auditorium. Its boundaries were SW Market and Arthur Streets, Harbor Drive and 4th Avenue. Except by some of those who lived there, it was considered obnoxious. It was called "a major blighted area."

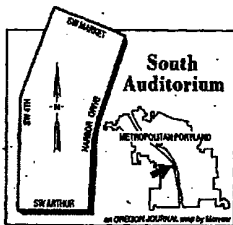
Charging that it had to go, the Oregon Journal in 1937 described South Auditorium as "an unsightly hodgepodge of substandard houses and marginal businesses . . . suffering from a creeping blight that threatens the core of the city."

In the same era, a new tool was being widely discussed in Portland. The tool was called "urban renewal," which had been brought into being under terms of the Federal Housing Act of 1954.

Urban renewal was hailed as a "ready-made instrument for preventing further deterioration rundown areas and rejuvenating salvable areas . . . a made-to-order device for clearing away obsolete, unsafe, unsanitary and crowded dwellings and commercial buildings, which are unfit for human habitation or are public eyesores and replacing them with new multiple-unit housing or commercial and industrial projects."

Such a mechanism, it was generally agreed, seemed made to order to deal with South Auditorium. Through federal financial assistance, the part of South Auditorium could be eradicated once and for all from the face of the city.

So it was that machinery came into motion, energized by City Hall and Housing Authority forces, to make South Auditorium the No. 1 project of a new agency to be called the Portland Development & Civic Promotion De-



partment.

But to bring this governmental entity into being, it was necessary for the people of Portland to approve it at the polls. Thus a promotional campaign was instigated in its behalf, led by Mayor Terry D. Schunk.

The campaign included a visit to the city by Richard Ives of San Francisco, regional director for the Federal Housing & Home Finance Agency.

"If Portland voters turn down the ballot measure out of which you could pay the city's one-third share of the net cost of the South Auditorium urban renewal project," Ives said at a well-attended press conference in March, 1958, "we will have legitimate reason to question the city's willingness and ability to complete future projects."

This was blust. It may have been the nostrum needed to assure South Auditorium's violent extinction. Voters didn't want their "future projects" jeopardized. At the polls in May, they gave birth to the Portland Development Commission.

Up to that point the estimated 2,300 people living in South Auditorium had not acted cohesively. It's possible that many of them were not fully aware of the impact Proposition 52 on the municipal ballot would have on them.

In any event, it was after the fact of the election that a group of South Auditorium citizens calling themselves the Property Owners Committee appealed to City Hall for relief from the blow

that was about to descend on them. Mayor Schunk told them that their plan was "a backward step."

Those who were present in the chambers of the City Council when the South Auditorium case was appealed will not easily forget the tormented faces of the men and women who hesitantly approached the public address microphone to plead for reprieve, often clumsily and brokenly.

But in gesture and expression they were eloquent. Sometimes they spoke as if to themselves, as the former Rebecca of Ivanhoe had done when called upon to defend herself in a Templar court, and like Rebecca they "seemed to look upward for a reply."

Some of them had been counted once among the poor, huddled masses who had rejoiced on seeing the lifted lamp beside the golden door as they sailed into the harbor of New York. They spoke on behalf of people with names like Engracio Tigro, Max Mazurosky, Marvie Archuleta, Zolchi Komachi, Angelo Medici, Angelina Mazzocco, Rosemary Kabischka, Swante Yrjo and Patrick Kelly. But they were ill organized to "fight City Hall."

As he did for any group arguing any problem, Mayor Schunk afforded them all the time they wanted to be heard. But they didn't change any councilman's mind.

"I agonize for those old people," Commissioner Ormond R. Bean, himself aging, confided outside their hearing, "but the die has been cast." Commissioner Nathan Boody fixed his solemn heavy-lidded eyes on his colleague but said nothing. Better than Bean, Commissioner Boody knew about South Auditorium. His mother had settled there. He had grown up there.

The die had indeed been cast. Lawyers had come forth to proclaim that it was legally impossible to undo what had been done.

So 470 families and 1,000 single dwellers were helped in finding other places to live, given money to move their belongings, and ordered out of their abodes, for which the owners (ab-

sentees, some of them) were given fair market value.

And South Auditorium with its 300 separately owned pieces of property was brought to the ground.

Now, these 18 1/2 years after the people of Portland voted it to happen, everything that had been promised for this newly vacated space has indeed happened. Along with all other suggestion of blight, the name South Auditorium has been discarded. The area is a showcase of the inner city.

But there are still those who remember and speak fondly of old "South Portland" where once they dwelled in what seemed to them pleasant communion and reasonable contentment. Were it ever so humble, it served as their home.

Next: South Auditorium 1976



Father's Happiest Time

Young Father James P. O'Flynn was elated when, fresh from his native Ireland, he first set eyes on St. Lawrence Catholic Church in 1910.

"The parish was composed of friendly and generous people who were eager to support their church in good style," he recalled in a recent interview. "I served there two years as assistant pastor. Perhaps because I was so young and was newly ordained, I remember those years as among the happiest of my life."

Father O'Flynn served other parishes in the Portland area after leaving St. Lawrence. But in 1930 he was assigned back to St. Lawrence — this time as pastor in charge.

"What changes had come about?" said Father O'Flynn. "All the people I once knew there had moved away. The Depression had begun. I guess St. Lawrence had become, instead of one of the more affluent parishes in town, one of the poorest. But I remember my life there with joy."

Father O'Flynn continued to serve at St. Lawrence until it was crushed by the urban renewal project of South Auditorium. At the age of 91, he lives at St. Joseph's Residence on SE Stark Street. Once in awhile he still hears from his friends at old St. Lawrence.

"A couple I met the other day told me I had married them 86 years ago," chuckled Father O'Flynn. "I didn't recall that, but I was a little proud over what they said. It reassured me that my marriage rituals had good staying power."



PASTOR — Father James O'Flynn, ordained in Ireland, served at St. Lawrence.

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

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IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of bishops, priests, churches, schools, academies, hospitals, etc., lists of notes.

Type of Material Article and picture.
Main Character or Place Father J. P. O'Flynn
General Scope of Information Given To Mark Golden Jubilee on Sunday.

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Date June 23

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Column 1 & 2

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Father James P. O'Flynn, pastor of St. Lawrence Church, will reflected this week as he approached his Golden Jubilee as a priest.

Father O'Flynn, ordained in Ireland 50 years ago next month on the feast of his patron, St. James, began his ministry half a century ago in St. Lawrence, which closed its parish school this spring as the first step in eventual evacuation under the Portland Urban Renewal Project.

In 1910, St. Lawrence was one of the largest parishes in the city. It was located at SW Third and Sherman.

Today, the St. Lawrence church, school and rectory face destruction and the neighborhood is being razed under the urban renewal program.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Father O'Flynn spent two years in St. Lawrence parish after arriving in Oregon as a newly ordained priest in 1910. The parish embraced some 500 families and was raising money to construct the church in 1913, now the second oldest Catholic church in Portland.

Father O'Flynn, however, was assigned pastor of St. Cecilia parish in Beaverton the year before. He returned to St. Lawrence in 1953, after service in several Portland parishes, including Assumption, St. Charles, St. Peter and St. Rita.

Seventy-five years old, Father O'Flynn can claim more years of active priestly service than any other priest in the Portland archdiocese. He is the second oldest priest in the archdiocese in number of years as a priest. Father Charles D. Keveny, who retired as pastor of St. Lawrence in 1952 and now lives in Mercy Hospital in North Bend, was ordained in 1909.

Files:

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Jubilee - Priests

St. Lawrence, Portland

St. Cecilia, Beaverton

Assumption, Portland

St. Charles, Portland

St. Peter, Portland

St. Rita, Portland

Human Interest File

Father Charles D. Keveny
Mercy Hospt., North Bend

GOLDEN JUBILEES
Since August 26, 1926
(Living)

NAME

ORDINATION

Howard	66	June 12, 1906
<u>O'Flynn</u>	62	<i>July</i> June 25 , 1910 : '960
Murnane	51	April 30, 1921
Bernards	50	October 21, 1921
(Fall of 1972 - 51)		

9/27/72

CONFIDENTIAL

PD 2045

Historical Research of Files of The Catholi Sentinel

4129

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of notes.

Type of Material	Article
Main Character or Place	Archbishop Howard
General Scope of Information Given	Archbishop Changes Three Pastors.

INDEX UNDER	
1953	
Volume (Year)	
Date	Nov. 22
Page	1
Column	2

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Archbishop Howard announced the following appointments of pastors:

The Reverend John M. Berger, from Sacred Heart, Medford, to Assumption parish, Portland;
Very Reverend N.J. Deis, from Our Lady of Victory, Seaside, to Sacred Heart church, Medford;
Reverend J. P. O'Flynn, from Assumption, to St. Lawrence, Portland.

The above appointments are effective Feb. 1, 1953.

Files:

Father John Berger

Father N. J. Deis

Father J. P. O'Flynn

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Medford

Assumption, Portland

Seaside

St. Lawrence, Portland

Change of Assignments

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

03734

INDEX UNDER

1948

Volume (Year)

Aug. 26

Date

Page

1

Column

7

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of note.

Type of Material Article

Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard

General Scope of Information Given: Archdiocesan

Clergy Given Appointments

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The Rev. J. P. O'Flynn is pastor of Assumption parish in Portland; the Rev. Erwin Vandehey assistant at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Salem; the Rev. Louis Rodakowski is assistant at St. John the Baptist Church in Milwaukie.

These appointments are effective September 1, 1948.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Assumption, Portland

Father Erwin Vandehey

St. Vincent de Paul, Salem

Father Louis Rodakowski

St. John, Milwaukie

Priests listed in the Catholic Directory 1919-1927

F. A. Archambault

John Bernard

Theodore J. Bernard

Francis Black

Henry Bernick

Henry Brunsagall

J. R. Buch

M. J. Burkell

George J. Cankrell

Albert J. Canedy

J. L. Carver

George Chisholm

Joseph P. Chisney

John Chisholm

S. Cengel

William B. Cowan

Barth P. Cowley

William A. Cull

M. J. Cull

P. Cull

Lucas E. Cull

Hugh E. Cull

John E. Cull

George E. Cull

William Hanson

A. Hildebrand

William Hagan

John Hagan

Thomas Jackson

Earl Jarrett

Matthew Jones

George L. Kase

B. V. Kelly

C. V. Kewey

Thomas P. Kieran

Charles Kieran

J. S. Kieran

Anthony Kieran

Arthur Kieran

Lucas E. Kieran

Thomas Kieran

L. A. Kieran

C. A. Kieran

W. J. Kieran

J. E. Kieran

William Kieran

Thomas Kieran

George Kieran

William Kieran

William Kieran

John J. Mitchell

Edwin J. Marnane

M. P. Murphy

J. Neelan

Joseph O'Farrell

J. P. O'Flynn

Edwin V. O'Hara

P. A. Olivetti

Joseph O'Neill

Henry O'Neil

John O'Neil

L. J. O'Neil

John B. O'Neil

Joseph O'Neil

Lucas O'Neil

Francis O'Neil

J. P. O'Neil

Charles O'Neil

William O'Neil

Charles O'Neil

George O'Neil

Francis O'Neil

William A. O'Neil

George O'Neil

William O'Neil

George O'Neil

The Catholic Sentinel, June 19, 1924, Page 4, Col. 4:

St. Peter's Parish.

Father Philip, O. S. B., of Mount Angel, will have charge of the parish during the absence of Father O'Flynn in Ireland and will reside at the rectory.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

6/74

Files:

St. Peter, Portland

Benedictine Fathers

Father O'Flynn

Guest Editorial

Jubilee of Truth Society

By BISHOP FRANCIS P. LEIPZIG,
Retired Bishop of Baker

The Golden Jubilee of the founding of the Catholic Truth Society of Oregon merits a review of the splendid work accomplished by this organization during the past 50 years.



During this spiritual month of November for the poor souls, our hearts are opened to the founders of this work which began Nov. 2, 1922, and our prayers for the priests who assembled 50 years ago to bring the Gospel of Christ not only to the people of this commonwealth of Oregon but far beyond the confines of this state.

The original board consisted of the six priests now gone to God—Father John C. Hughes, Father Charles M. Smith, Father Warren A. Walitt, Father John Bernards, Father Gregory Robl, OSB, and Father I. E. McNamane.

Father John Hughes was appointed president and Father Charles M. Smith, executive secretary of the society. The late Archbishop Alexander Christie blessed, sanctioned and ordered the work to bring an educational campaign to inform non-Catholics on what the Catholic Church really is and is not. This was to be accomplished by a systematic distribution of Catholic literature, use of the public press, publicity given to works of charitable and educational institutions.

This society has received the blessing in later years from Archbishop Howard, retired Archbishop of Portland in Oregon, and the present metropolitan, Archbishop Dwyer.

The work consisted in many phases of educational work, commencing with the distribution of pamphlets, etc. Records indicate that during the first two years, 250,000 pamphlets and books were distributed in various requesting areas, included in this distribution were 25 states of the United States, the Philippine Islands and parts of Canada.

Free lectures were held in halls in Portland and elsewhere in the state. In 1925, a series on education was held in the Portland municipal auditorium on four different dates and four were held in public schools.

During the first two years 132 lectures were given in public places outside of the city of Portland but within the confines of the state.

The instrument of the radio was utilized early in the history of the society. On Sept. 1, 1925, a weekly broadcast began over the Oregonian radio station, KGW, for one-half hour. These weekly lectures continued until the National Catholic Hour was broadcast.

Permit the writer to inject a personal note of his first radio talk on KGW Radio on Dec. 9, 1926, on the subject of "The Divine Providence of God." I recall with fear and trembling that half hour on my first radio broadcast.

In order to bring the truth into the smaller towns and remote districts, the society utilized the auto chapel car, a miniature chapel and rectory on wheels. The dedication of the chapel car was on May 31, 1927. It was to take the place of the old chapel cars of the Catholic Church Extension Society that utilized the railroads nearly 20 years before this time. Priests of Oregon willingly offered their services for this splendid work. The work was extended in the purchase of the Catholic Sentinel in July 1928—a work that has continued for 42 years.

Funds for the payment of Society expenses were on a voluntary basis from the time of its founding.

The directors of the organization have been various since Nov. 9, 1922, contribut-

ing their share to this magnificent work. Only three priests of the Archdiocese who were living at the time of the foundation are still alive, namely Father P. J. O'Tyler, ordained in 1910, Msgr. Edmund J. Mur-nane, Veneta, and Msgr. Theodore Bernards, now retired, both ordained in 1921. Msgr. Bernards served as a member of the board from 1942 until his retirement. Records indicate Father O'Tyler was a member of the board of directors as early as April 24, 1924.

On Aug. 16, 1927, plans were outlined by the Society to secure Missionary Sisters Catechists to train lay catechists. An early attempt was made at the meeting of Dec. 17, 1929, to formulate plans to assist Archbishop Howard in securing funds for the building of an archdiocesan high school in Portland. This was 10 years before the actual building of Central Catholic High School.

One of the major projects of this society was the building of the former Chancery office at 2053 SW Sixth St. The lot was purchased in 1931 for a sum of \$3,800 and the final building was erected at a cost of \$18,000, with E. J. Barrett as the contractor. The building was dedicated in November, 1931, with the Archdiocese leasing a portion of the structure. In later years it was sold to the Archdiocese of Portland.

The Catholic Sentinel building, under the auspices of the Catholic Truth Society, was constructed in the early 1950s. Both the old Chancery office and the Catholic Sentinel building were demolished in the building of a new freeway and the present building at 2816-38 E. Burnside has been utilized since June 7, 1963.

One of the early projects of the Catholic Truth Society was the printing of a monthly Sunday missal. A letter to Father Charles M. Smith contained the following from Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate in the United States, (later Vatican Secretary of State) April 3, 1931: "The importance of training the laity in the rich and deep significance of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass cannot be over-emphasized. The use of the missal is, of course, the ideal way of assisting at that Holy Sacrifice and of learning to love and cherish its inexhaustible treasures. The Sunday missal issued in such a convenient booklet form each month is admirably conceived and its use cannot but instill in the laity a love and appreciation for the most beautiful and sublime Act on earth."

Members of the present board of the society are: Archbishop Dwyer, president; Father John Laidlaw, secretary; Father Willis Whalen, Father Leo Remington, Father Emmet Harrington, Father Edmond Bliven and Gorman Hogan, executive secretary.

The Society publishes the Catholic Sentinel weekly for the Archdiocese of Portland and the Diocese of Baker, and more than 500,000 copies each month of Today's Missal, recently redesigned successor to My Sunday Missal.

(Editor's note: Bishop Leipzig was a member of the board of directors of the Catholic Truth Society of Oregon for a number of years, beginning in April, 1925.)

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

4580

IN GENERAL: History of the town or country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Convents, Hospitals, etc. worthy of note.

Type of Material Article. (picture at bottom of page 1).

Main Character or Place St. Peter's Church. (Ptld.)

General Scope of Information Given: Dedication next Monday.

INDEX UNDER

1957

Volume (Year)

Date Dec. 5

Page 1

Column 8

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The new \$205,000 edifice will be opened for worship by Archbishop Howard December 9.

Monday's dedication will mark the first time in the 46-year history of the parish that parishioners have worshiped on Sunday in one complete church building.

The new church is located on S. E. 87th Avenue between Foster and Woodstock Blvd.

Seating for 700 persons is provided.

In January, 1911, the Rev. Peter Beutgen was named pastor of the newly established parish of St. Peter's, the combination parish and parish hall located at 91st and Ellis St. Under the following pastorate of the Rev. J. P. Flynn, now pastor of St. Lawrence's, Portland, the present parish church was purchased. Although elaborate foundations were laid for a new church, the depression interfered with the planned program. Assuming the pastoral duties in

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

March 1930, the Rev. George O'Keefe, now deceased, erected the building of the superstructure over the basement foundation. Part of this served for the parish church until June of 1956. The other part served as a school which was opened in 1936 when Rev. Stanley Cregan was pastor. Father Cregan is presently pastor of St. Francis, Portland. Under Father Dooley, who assumed the pastorate in 1946, adjoining properties were purchased, including the site of the new church.

Files:

St. Peter, Portland
Dedication of Churches
Father Peter Beutgen
Father J. P. Flynn
St. Lawrence, Portland
Father George O'Keefe
Father Stanley Cregan
St. Francis, Portland
Father Patrick Dooley

[Handwritten signature]

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

5733

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., likely of note.

Type of Material Article
Main Character or Place St. Peter Parish
General Scope of Information Given: 50th Year Marked;
New Convent in parish.

INDEX NUMBER 1970

1961

Volume (Year)

Date Dec. 7

Page 13

Column 2 & 3

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

St. Peter parish, Portland, marked its 50th anniversary Wednesday.

The Mass was followed by the dedication by Archbishop Howard of a new convent built at an estimated cost of \$135,000. At the same time the 25th anniversary of the founding of the parish was observed.

St. Peter parish was established in January of 1911 with Father Peter Beutgen as pastor. The first church was located at S. E. 91st and Ellis Street. Father J. P. O'Flynn was named pastor in 1920, and property was purchased at SE 87th Ave. and Foster Rd. The rectory was moved there and work started on a new church.

Fathers George O'Keefe and George Sniderhon served the parish as pastors, and in 1936, when Father Stanley Gregan was pastor, the parish school was opened.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—repeat on separate forms.

Father Patrick Dooley, the present pastor, was appointed in July, 1946. Under his direction, new school classrooms were added and the old Lents Methodist church was purchased. It was converted into a gymnasium then used as a temporary church while a new church was being built.

A residence was purchased in 1949 and converted into a convent for the five Sisters teaching at the school.

The new church was completed and opened in November, 1957. It was dedicated by Archbishop Howard in December. The church, costing \$254,000, seats 700.

Present assistant is Father Thomas McMahon. Father Morton Park, director of Catholic charities, is in residence at the parish.

Files:

Jubilee - Parish

St. Peter, Portland

Father Peter Beutgen

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Rectory

Father George O'Keefe

Father George Sniderhon

Father Stanley Gregan

Father Patrick Dooley

Dedication of Churches

Father Thomas McMahon

Father Morton Park

Catholic Charities

CONFIDENTIAL

PD 2052

The Catholic Sentinel, August 26, 1920, Page 6, Col. 3:

Father O'Flynn Speaks of Conditions in Ireland.

Father P. J. O'Flynn of St. Peters, Lents, just returned from an extended visit with his relatives in Ireland, addressed a large group of Hibernians.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

7/74

Files:

Father O'Flynn

St. Peters, Portland

The Catholic Sentinel, June 24, 1920, Page 4, Col. 7:

Father O'Flynn Succeeds Father Beutgen.

Father J. P. O'Flynn, formerly of St. Charles Parish, has been appointed to St. Peter's, Lents, the parish formerly in charge of Father Beutgen.

Father Beutgen has been ailing for some months at the home of his sister, and has been moved lately to St. Vincent's Hospital where his condition is reported unchanged.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:

Father O'Flynn

Father Beutgen

St. Charles, Portland

St. Peters, Portland

FATHER O'FLYNN IS RETURNING

PORTLAND PASTOR HAS BEEN
VISITING FORMER HOME
IN IRELAND.

BROTHER ARRESTED

FIRST-HAND EVIDENCE SEEN OF
ARBITRARY RULE OF FOR-
EIGN ARMY.

The Rev. J. P. O'Flynn, pastor of St. Charles parish, Portland, writes to The Sentinel from Ireland, where he has been visiting his former home, to say that he intended to sail for America on April 10. As an indication of the state of affairs in Ireland he reports that his youngest brother had been arrested in his bed at 4 A. M. and sent off to jail without charge or trial. Father O'Flynn writes:

"I intended to be with you all last night before this. My passport was taken up by the police and was held up to a short time ago. It has as many stamps (seals) on its face as hairs on your head. It has been impossible to secure a passport before the 10th of April, and it was only by chance that I obtained one for that date.

"Things are desperate here. An inquest is being held these days on the body of the Lord Mayor of Cork, who was brutally shot down at midnight in his own home in the presence of his wife and little children, by a disguised band of 22 men. The victim was elected on the Sinn Féin ticket a few months ago and was one of its important men. It may seem incredible to you—but it is easy of belief—that his murderers were policemen from a nearby barracks; and the evidence at the inquest proves this almost conclusively. It is no use talking of such things here as American letters are carefully perused, in fact, things American are by no means viewed with favor.

Brother is Arrested.

"This household is in rather bad humor today. Last night at 4 A. M. a body of soldiers and police surrounded the house and rearrested my youngest brother in bed. No charge, no trial, no pretense of either; just shipped off to jail, perhaps in England, for an indefinite period. My brother-in-law was arrested on the night of the 17th in a similar manner. No pretense of justice. I am sick with the injustice of it all.

Emigration Increasing.

"The offices of the American consuls are besieged with intending emigrants and berths have been booked months in advance, though the people are prosperous and work is plenty and wages excellent. I am sailing on the 10th of April on the 'New York.'

The Catholic Sentinel, April 22, 1920, Page 1, Col. 7:

Father O'Flynn is Returning.

Portland Pastor Has Been Visiting Former Home in Ireland.

(It's quite a long article, in case someone is more interested in it.)

Father O'Flynn left for Ireland in 1919 and intended to return for home, but during the war he was unable to return. He intended to sail on April 10, 1920.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:

Father O'Flynn

Human Interest File

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

03814

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of note.

Type of Material	Article
Main Character or Place	Archbishop Howard
General Scope of Information Given	Saint Peter's
	Parish Burns Mortgage

INDEX UNDER
1949
Volume (Year)
Jan. 13
Date
1
Page
1
Column

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The 25-year mortgage of St. Peter's parish was burned last Wednesday evening in the parish hall. Present were Archbishop Howard and the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul parish, Salem and former pastor of St. Peter's, Father George O'Keefe. Also present was the present pastor, Rev. Patrick J. Dooley.

St. Peter's parish was established Jan. 15, 1911, by Archbishop Christie who appointed Father Peter Beutgen as pastor. During his time, a combination church, school and hall was constructed at 91st and Ellis St. In 1920, Father P. J. O'Flynn replaced Father Beutgen as pastor; in 1923 Father O'Flynn changed the site of the parish to 87th Ave. and Foster Road. Father George O'Keefe served as parish priest from 1930 to 1932 and was succeeded by Rev. George Sniderhon who remained as pastor until 1936, at which time Father Stanley Cregan took over the parish. It was during Father Cregan's first year that he opened the doors of the first St. Peter's School to 75 children. Father Cregan remained as pastor until his appointment to St. Francis of Assisi parish, Portland, when Father P. J. Dooley was installed as the parish priest.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

St. Peter, Portland
 Father George O'Keefe
 Father Patrick Dooley
 Father Peter Beutgen
 Father P. J. O'Flynn
 Father George Sniderhon
 Father Stanley Cregan
 St. Francis, Portland

The Father Donovan we spoke about, in which Father O'Flynn met him in Ireland, and I asked him the year that he met him there, and I thought it probably should be 1920, but he didn't remember. I notice here in the Sentinel, April 22, 1920, Father O'Flynn is returning in April. We may find when he intended to sail from America April 10, it doesn't state how he went there. He stated, "I expect to be home a few months before this." It could be possible that he could have gone in 1919 even. I'm inclined to believe that he met him in 1919, in the fall. He got delayed there, and probably had three or four months. For this reason: I went to McMinnville in March of 1920 and nobody seemed to know anything about ~~Father Donovan~~ who had been the assistant there. I went there in April, rather, and I know that Father ^{HAMPSON}~~Hansen~~ had been alone for a long while. So, at least for the present time, we'll put that he met him in the fall of 1919.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:

Father Donovan

Father O'Flynn

McMinnville

Father Hampson

119
~~The Catholic Sentinel~~, January 7, 1974 (retype)

(For my desk.)

I just discussed the matter of St. Charles Parish, Portland, with Father O'Flynn, who was pastor of St. Charles a number of years ago.

He says that Father Daum was the first pastor. There was no house there at the time; he does not know how long he lived there.

We have run into some information that the Redemptorists took care of it for some time.

Father O'Flynn stayed with Father Sniderhon. They had very little furniture or cooking material when he was pastor of St. Charles.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

7/74

Files:

Copy for Bishop

St. Charles, Portland

Father O'Flynn

Father Daum

Redemptorist Fathers

The Catholic Sentinel, September 25, 1919, Page 5, Col. 3:

St. Charles Parish.

Father O'Flynn is in Ireland at the present time.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:

St. Charles, Portland

Father O'Flynn

CONFIDENTIAL

PD 2060

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests, Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of note.

Type of Material	Article
Main Character or Place	Archbishop Howard
General Scope of Information Given	St. Charles'
	Church Dedication This Sunday.

03972

INDEX UNDER

1950

Volume (Year)

Date Nov. 2

Page 1

Column 1

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

St. Charles Church was originally located at 5028 N.E. 33rd Avenue. The parish was founded in 1913. For several years a store building was used as a temporary chapel. The former church was built in 1916 and dedicated on October 1 that year by Archbishop Christie. Rev. George M. Sniderhon was pastor at the time.

In 1918 a bungalow house was purchased by Father O'Flynn who was then the pastor. In the following year this was remodeled into a two-story structure which became the parish hall and rectory. On June 27, 1924, the church was partially destroyed by fire. Extensive repairs were made and the edifice was rededicated on November 23, 1924. In 1935 the rectory was also damaged by fire, to a considerable extent. Reverend Michael Wallace was appointed the parish priest by Archbishop Christie on August 5, 1920. Last April Father ~~Wallace~~ was named pastor of Immaculate Heart parish at Williams Avenue and Stanton, Portland. What is now St. Charles parish was originally included in the boundaries of Immaculate Heart territory.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

St. Charles, Portland

Father George M. Sniderhon

Father O'Flynn

Father Michael Wallace

Immaculate Heart, Portland

The Catholic Sentinel, June 20, 1918, Page 4, Col. 5:

St. Charles Parish.

P. ^{O'}Donovan, who was recently summoned by His Grace the Archbishop from ~~the~~ Grand Seminary at Montreal, and who will be ordained by His Grace on June 29, is the guest of Father O'Flynn who knew him when "we were boys".

(Here's what I think actually happened regarding Father ^{O'}Donovan. He was ordained in 1916, and in the spring of 1919 he went back to Ireland for a visit and according to a story we have on the life of Father O'Flynn, ^{Donovan} he was hit by a bicycle and had a brain injury. He was in the hospital when Father O'Flynn met him there in Ireland. They grew up together there in the same community in Ireland. He never returned. In going back through the history, we find that he was assistant for a time at St. Francis, and in the Catholic Directory he was appointed, apparently in the summer of 1919, to McKinnville.

Very likely Archbishop Christie expected him to return in the Fall, not knowing he was injured, and he actually never went to McKinnville, but remained in Ireland.

Bishop Leipzig.)

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

2/74

Files:

Father P. ^{O'}Donovan

Father O'Flynn

St. Francis, Portland

McKinnville

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., history of note.

Type of Material Article & Pictures

Main Character or Place St. Charles

General Scope of Information Given: St. Charles Inaugurates

Tithing Program January 1

1962

Volume (Year)

Date Dec. 6

Page 14-15

Column

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Picture - First St. Charles Church

Picture - Architect's perspective of the completed St. Charles church and school building.

Father John Laidlaw is pastor.

Long article in case someone wishes to go into it more fully.

Golden Jubilee Dinner Planned for December 30.

Founded in 1913 by Archbishop Christie, the first church was located temporarily in what used to be a store building. Not until 1916, with Father George Sniderhon as pastor, was a church built and dedicated on Oct. 1 at its former location of NE 33rd and Summer.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—repeat on separate forms.

Father James P. O'Flynn, its next pastor, added a bungalow house in 1918 which he purchased to serve as a rectory. In the following year he had this remodeled into a two-story structure so that it might serve as a parish hall as well.

Father Michael Wallace, pastor of St. Charles for 30 years, was appointed to that post in 1920 by Archbishop Christie, and it was during his administration that both major structures of the parish were jeopardized by fire. In June of 1924, the church was partially destroyed by flames. It was not until November of that year that the repairs were completed and the edifice rededicated. In 1935, it was the rectory which suffered damage by fire.

Father Laidlaw's first move was to purchase four acres at the present parish center at NE 42nd and Emerson. With funds existing then in the parish treasury, he began construction of a school hall and four classrooms. The hall was used as the church and two of the classrooms were used as a parish hall. Four more classrooms were added to this unit in 1951, but not until 1953 was the church ready for occupancy.

Four more classrooms were added in 1956 and a final four classrooms in 1962. Between these two additions, the parish also constructed a convent capable of housing 16 Sisters of the Holy Child of Jesus who teach and administer the St. Charles program.

The one million dollar unit is now complete in the mind of its pastor, Fr. Laidlaw.

They have undertaken a construction program since 1951 that has actually amounted to \$780,000 and have already liquidated \$530,000 of that total.

The 1,000 family parish is bounded on the south by NE Mason, on the north by the Columbia River, on the west by NE 25th, and on the east by NE 72nd.

The Catholic Sentinel, November 22, 1917, Page 5, Col. 3:

St. Charles Parish.

The Rev. J. P. O'Flynn has recently been appointed pastor of St. Charles Parish, and his residence will be 1111 E. 30th Street North.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

2/74

Files:

St. Charles, Portland

Father J. P. O'Flynn

1916

And, Bishop, I'd suggest you talk to Father James P. O'Flynn, who's in residence at St. Joseph's Home, because he was appointed the last pastor of St.

Anthony's Parish, Cedar Mills, by Archbishop Christie, with the instructions to move the parish from Cedar Mills to Beaverton. So he was a co-pastor. And Father O'Flynn had told me, when he was pastor at St. Lawrence, how he used to ride horseback. I would suggest that you talk to Father O'Flynn.

He told me that the last Mass said in Cedar Mill at the old St. Anthony's Parish Church was in 1916, it was a funeral Mass. Shortly after that they dismantled the old church, and they used the lumber of that church to floor the old cheese factory that they had purchased for a church, in St. Cecelia's which is now (I think Damerow Ford took that building over), the cheese factory, I think it was a cheese factory. Tony Gerace could give you more information on this, because he was appointed there in 1950, and I know he lived in that old house which is now the Dark Horse, right by the railroad track as it crosses the Tualatin Valley Highway. Just east of that was where the cheese factory was, which is now Damerow Ford, and that was, I believe, the church upstairs and school downstairs, or vice versa. Tony could tell you this. The lumber from that old St. Anthony's Church was used to floor that building. I think Father O'Flynn could give you more information.

(Bishop Leipzig)

FPL:mta

10/73

Files:

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Father Gerace

St. Anthony's, Cedar Mills

St. Cecelia, Beaverton

on Fr. Joseph
McMahon
10/9-73
+ J.P.R.

The Catholic Sentinel, December 2, 1915, Page 4, Col. 5:

St. Cecelia's Parish, Beaverton. Father O'Flynn states:

"Having always felt a strong inclination to veracity the pastor wishes to correct the printer's error which gave the parish school 10 pupils too many. So far 59 are enrolled and the number is expected to reach 65 by the end of January."

Father O'Flynn is pastor of Beaverton.

(For my desk, please.)

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

1/74

Files:

Beaverton

Father O'Flynn

Cooper Mountain

(This was given to me by a Sister out at Beaverton. Bishop Leipzig.)

At Cooper Mountain the Church was named St. Peter and Paul. It was donated by a family named Gassen who left about five acres on Feb. 11, 1884, and it was built in 1903 or 1904. It was torn down in 1933. Mr. Kammerer at Beaverton will have more information on it.

At the present time there are twenty-nine graves in the cemetery, according to the Oregon Historical Society.

The last Mass was said by Father O'Flynn, perhaps in 1914 or 1915.

(This information was given to me by a Sister from Beaverton. Bishop Leipzig.)

December 6, 1974.

Files;

Father O'Flynn
Cooper Mountain

November 7, 1974, Chancery office

3 or 4 Acres

(This is a little different. I just got it over the telephone.)

Cooper Mountain was called St. Peter and Paul. The property was donated by Mrs. Gassner. It contained 6 1/2 acres. Then, later they said it was donated by Mrs. Gassner and family on February 11, 1884. It was built in 1903 or 1904 and torn down in 1933. Mr. Leopold bought the lumber and the furnishings inside the church went to St. Mary's, to the Catholic Church at Beaverton.

The Historical Society counted the graves and there are twenty-nine graves there.

The last Mass was said by Father O'Flynn in either 1914 or 1916 and Mass was said there on the fifth Sunday of the month.

(Some Sister of Beaverton, St. Mary's of the Valley, I didn't quite catch her name, phoned in this information. Bishop Leipzig.)

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta
11/74

Files:

Cooper Mountain, Oregon

St. Cecilia, Beaverton

Catholic Cemeteries

Father O'Flynn

Sister of St. Mary of the Valley

17. PS

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel—1870-1938

1301

GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Laity of etc.

Type of Material Article

Main Character or Place Beaverton Church Dedicated

General Scope of Information Given:

INDEX UNDER

43 1913

Volume (Year)

Date June 12

Page 4

Column 7

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

June 8, 1913 - New Catholic Church at Beaverton, Oregon, dedicated by Monsignor James Rauw, V.G., assisted by Father Smith, C.S.P., and Father O'Flynn.

Rev. P. J. O'Flynn is rector.

The Catholic Sentinel, Xerox copy #1301

Beaverton Church Dedicated

The new parish building contains a chapel and a school. The chapel is on the first floor and the school is above. The parish school will be open in September.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:

Beaverton - St. Ceciliass

Monsignor James Rauw, V. G.

Father Smith, C.S.P.

Father P. J. O'Flynn

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., Lately of note.

Article
Type of Material _____
Main Character or Place Archbishop Howard
General Scope of Information Given: Archbishop to Dedicate New Beaverton Church

03884
INDEX UNDER

1949

Volume (Year)

Date Oct. 27

Page 1

Column 7 & 8

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The new St. Cecilia Church in Beaverton will be solemnly dedicated next Sunday, October 30, by Archbishop Howard.

The new church, which is located at the corner of Fifth and Franklin Sts., is 55x149 feet, and seats approximately 500 persons. The cost of the new building when fully completed is about \$110,000.

The new edifice was erected under the direction of Father George M. Sniderhon, who has been pastor of St. Cecilia's parish since March, 1944.

The first Catholic church in Cedar Mills, near Beaverton, was commenced in 1878, and blessed October 22, 1884, under the title of St. Anthony. This church was 20x40 and was built under the direction of Father Joseph E. Hermann.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

St. Anthony's parochial school at Cedar Mills was opened September, 1888, under the direction of the Dominican Sisters, who then had charge of St. Joseph's School in Portland; 75 pupils attended that first term.

The rectory at St. Anthony's Church, Cedar Mills, was completed in October, 1888. Later, the Sisters (page 3, col. 1) of Mercy took over the school at Cedar Mills, in September, 1899. Their convent at that place was dedicated September 24, 1899, by the late Archbishop Christie.

Although Mass had been offered in Beaverton as early as 1903, it was not until 1913 that the site of the original parish at Cedar Mills was changed to Beaverton. The building which until very recently had served as a church and a school was dedicated on June 8, 1913, by the Rt. Rev. James Rauw, V.G.; Father J. P. O'Flynn was pastor at that time; in September, 1913, school was opened in the new building by the Sisters of St. Mary.

Since the pastorate of Father O'Flynn, various other diocesan priests have been in charge of the parish; i.e., the present incumbent, the Rev. George M. Sniderhon, followed the Rev. George O'Keefe, who in turn succeeded the Rev. Joseph N. O'Neill, who died in 1935.

Files:

St. Cecilia, Beaverton

Father George Sniderhon

Cedar Mills

Father George O'Keefe

Father Joseph E. Hermann

Father Joseph N. O'Neill

Dominican Sisters

Sisters of Mercy

Father James Rauw

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc., List of note.

Type of Material Article and pictures

Main Character or Place Beaverton, Oregon

General Scope of Information Given St. Cecilia parish

3587

INDEX UNDER

1946 1913

Volume (Year)

Date Jan. 17

Page 1

Column 4 & 5

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The first Catholic church at Cedar Mills, near Beaverton, commenced in 1878, was blessed October 22, 1884; under the title of St. Anthony by Father Fierens of the Cathedral, Portland, assisted by Fathers O'Dea and White, with Father Herman and Father Thibau in the choir. The church, 20 by 40 feet, was built under the direction of Father Herman, the pastor.

For years there was a mission at *Cooper's Mountain* attended from here.

St. Anthony's parochial school, Cedar Mills, was opened in September, 1888, under the direction of the Dominican Sisters, who had charge of St. Joseph's school in Portland.

The rectory at St. Anthony's church, Cedar Mills, was completed in October, 1888.

The Sisters of Mercy took over the school at Cedar Mills in September, 1899. Their

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

convent at that place was dedicated September 24 of that year by Archbishop Christie.

Masses were offered in Beaverton as early as 1903, and in 1913 the site of the original parish was changed to Beaverton. The present church building there, a two-story combination chapel and school, was dedicated June 8, 1913, by Rt. Rev. James Rauw, V.G., assisted by Father Michael Smith, C.S.P., and Father J. P. O'Flynn, the pastor. The title of the church became "St. Cecelia". Classes were opened in the new building in September, 1913, by the Sisters of St. Mary.

Since the pastorate of Father O'Flynn, various other diocesan priests have been in charge of the parish.

After the death of Rev. Joseph M. O'Neill in 1935, Father George O'Keefe served as pastor until his transfer to St. Vincent de Paul, Salem, in 1944. Rev. George Snidehon is the present incumbent.

Files:

St. Cecilia, Beaverton

Cedar Mills, St. Anthony

Father Fierens

Cathedral

Father O'Dea

Father White

Father Herman

Father Thibau

Dominican Sisters

Father George Snidehon

St. Joseph, Portland (German)

Cooperton (*Cooper's Mountain*)

Father James Rauw

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Father Michael Smith C.S.P.

Sisters of St. Mary

Father J. M. O'Neill

Father George O'Keefe

St. Vincent de Paul, Salem

The Catholic Sentinel, March 14, 1912, Page 5, Col. 1:

St. Lawrence Parish.

Father O'Flynn, who has been assistant at St. Lawrence Parish for two years, was promoted last week by Archbishop Christie to the pastorate at Beaverton.

Father William Cronin, an assistant at the Cathedral, succeeds Father O'Flynn.

Father Cronin is an alumnus of St. Mary's Seminary and enjoys the distinction of being the first Portland youth raised to the ranks of the diocesan clergy in the state.

(Father Bernard Murphy was the first priest ordained, but he became a Benedictine.

Bishop Leipzig.)

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

5/74

Files:

St. Lawrence, Portland

Father O'Flynn

Beaverton, Oregon

Father William Cronin

Cathedral

~~FIRST~~

Benedictine Fathers

The Catholic Sentinel, September 7, 1911, Page 5, Col. 1:

Father O'Flynn A. O. H. Chaplain.

Father J. P. O'Flynn, assistant pastor of St. Lawrence Church, has been appointed county chaplain of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the A. O. H. by Archbishop Christie. Father O'Flynn succeeded Father Molony, who recently returned to Ireland.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

12/73

Files:

Hibernians

Father J. P. O'Flynn

St. Lawrence

Father Molony

Immaculate Heart, Portland

'March 4, 2002'

Most Reverend John Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Most Rev. Vlazny:

I am writing this letter to you as I feel compelled to do so and believe my recovery depends on this.

Fr. James O'Flynn molested me when I was in elementary school at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Portland, Oregon. I know he molested me and other girls in my parish, of this I am absolutely sure. I have been in and out of therapy for years and continue to explore these issues. What has come up for me most recently is a desire to speak out and to know that procedures are in place to protect and prevent future abuse. I cannot remain silent and cannot live with these memories unless I take some action and speak my truth.

I want to convey to you how difficult this is to live with, how it has impacted my life, and how strongly I desire to be free of the anxiousness, terror, and rage inside me. I wish you could step into my body for one hour, one therapy session where we pick the scab off that old wound. Then you would see.

Over the last 10 years I have done some research on Fr. O'Flynn. I did not want to believe this could happen to me. I spoke with another victim of his and asked her to just listen to all the places and situations I remembered being with Fr. O'Flynn before she spoke of her personal experience with him. She listened and said that those were all places/situations where he molested her as well. I spoke with Sr. Raphael Balduc, OSF, around this same time. She was one of my teachers and principal of Blessed Sacrament School. She said that yes, he had molested girls. She warned parents to keep their girls away from him.

I began pulling away from the Catholic Church when my daughters were about the ages I was molested. I didn't understand that then, but I see it now. I did not discourage or prevent them from going to Mass but I could not fully live out my own Catholic faith. I feel a great deal of guilt about this. I have been honest with my children, hoping that by sharing my experience they will be safer in the world.

My sexuality, my spirituality, and my image of God, was distorted by the abuse I suffered at the hands of Fr. O'Flynn. I feel as if sex is my enemy. This has put a strain on our marriage. My husband and I take our sacramental vows seriously and have continued to seek help in sorting out the issues that adversely affect our marriage. We have been separated for over two years and moved back together 10 months ago.

I am currently working with two therapists. One is doing EMDR and focusing on the traumas in my life, which include the molestation. This is very difficult work but I have been blessed with a gentle and patient therapist who does not judge or push me, rather she follows my lead. The other has journeyed with me for 3 years. She has a healthy and strong Catholic spirit and a loving God that she brings to our sessions. She gently nudges me toward a renewed spirituality and I know she prays for me as she does all her clients.

A while back The Oregonian featured the stories of several men who had been molested by their parish priest. I read this story avidly and was pleased to hear how the church responded and ministered to these men. It gave me a spark of hope.

CONFIDENTIAL

I was very distressed however, to hear on the news recently about a defrocked priest, John Geoghan, being convicted for sexual abuse in Boston. I was upset to hear about more victims, but more so to hear Cardinal Law apologize for reassigning this priest to other parishes knowing he was a child molester. So, I have decided that I must write this letter for my recovery and for the intention of helping others.

My goal is for the Archdiocese of Portland to remove these priests from parish work and immediately send them to be evaluated and treated. I do not believe they should be allowed to return to parish work or be protected and hidden by the Catholic Church. What is the message that is sent to the victims when pedophile priests are reassigned to another parish? These are adult men who prey on children. Remove them and do not reassign them. Minister to the needs of the victims. Be proactive. Let the parishioners know why this man is being removed. Minister to the wounded of the parish. Inform all priests, religious, church staff, parishioners and children that you will not tolerate this behavior. I believe these men should be charged with these crimes and proceed through the criminal justice system.

Do you have a screening process in place for young men wishing to enter the priesthood that would alert you to individuals who have pedophile tendencies?

Publish the names of the abusers so we can protect our children. It has been shown that it is extremely difficult to rehabilitate pedophiles. Trust that and protect your entire flock, not just the shepherds. Offer counseling service and/or compensation for those recovering from sexual abuse at the hands of priests. I believe if the church reached out to the victims and offered support there would be less lawsuits. I'm not convinced the lawsuits are about the money, rather about getting our voices heard and preventing these men from harming more children.

I will continue my therapy. I will continue to be vigilant. I challenge you to be proactive, to speak out about this, not in shame but as a way of healing others and making the clergy understand the seriousness of this disease. Encourage them to be vigilant as well. Tell people where they can go if they are suffering. Hold your hand out to the victims; do not wait for them to come to you with lawyers in tow. Please believe me. Please hear me. Please have the courage to speak the truth. Please name the priests, claim responsibility, and on behalf of the Archdiocese, ask for forgiveness.

It is my understanding that if a therapist becomes aware of physical or sexual abuse to children, by law, this must be reported to the police. I have read the book "In His Steps" by Charles M. Sheldon, that coined the now popular phrase "What would Jesus do?" I ask you, what *would* Jesus do? I believe he would do the honest and humbling deed of speaking out, taking responsibility for any wrongs that have occurred, protecting the children and validating those of us who are still suffering as adults.

I will pray for you, as I know this is a very difficult responsibility to bear. I humbly ask for your prayers as well as I seek to find some good, some seed of hope in what I have shared with you today.

Respectfully,

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL

March 7, 2002

Most Reverent John Vlazney
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

- Dear Most Rev. Vlazney:

The enclosed letter is one I have been composing for several months. I finished the letter last week and decided to check the Archdiocesan web site before mailing. I was surprised and encouraged to read the News Release dated February 4, 2002.

I was encouraged because some of the issues I raised in my letter were addressed. The five principles of the Archdiocese's Child Abuse policy are in line with what I was hoping for. Screening and educating all Church personnel is a very positive step, as are discussions about safe touch in the school curriculum. Having worked in catholic affiliated institutions for 13 years, I was surprised to see that this policy has been in place since 1992.

It is still unclear to me whether a pedophile priest would be placed in another ministerial role after "appropriate medical evaluation and intervention." I'm curious to know where in that statement is *treatment* and what is the current congregation told when a priest is removed for accusations of sexual molestation. I would still like to see a list with names of priests who have been accused of sexual abuse and I want to see Fr. O'Flynn's name on it. I find it difficult to believe I'm the only victim of his to speak up. Even if I am, there had to have been reports and reasons for moving him.

I do not blame you for the actions of Fr. O'Flynn, nor do I blame you for the way these situations were handled back in the '60's. I do know however, that you can make a difference in how the church proceeds, particularly how the Archdiocese of Portland responds.

Thank you for taking the time to read these letters. It means a great deal to me to have this opportunity to express my voice. I am hopeful that the Church, under the direction of bishops such as you, will come forward to see true reconciliation.

Respectfully,

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

FILE COPY
Office of the Archbishop

March 22, 2002

Dear

Thank you very much for the letters you sent to me in early March. I was away when they arrived but I have had a chance to review them this week. First of all, I want you to know how saddened I am to learn of all that you have been suffering over the years as a result of all that you describe in your letters. I can understand why you would think the worst of me, but I stand before God with a clean conscience and assure you that during my fifteen years as a diocesan bishop I have been trying my best to reach out appropriately to victims of child abuse and also to support measures that will prevent such abuse from occurring in our Catholic community.

Because you mentioned Father James O'Flynn specifically in your letter, I looked into his personnel file. He retired from active ministry in 1966 and died in 1980. There is no record of any other allegation being raised against him. I want you to know that if the church can be of assistance to you at this late date, I will make every effort to provide such assistance. Your healing and your reconciliation with the rest of us in the faith community is important to me.

Let me assure you that when we know that a priest is guilty of child sexual abuse he is no longer allowed to return to parish work. I concur that such charges should proceed through the criminal justice system. Unfortunately, most of the allegations that are raised these days come from the distant past and it is too late for criminal charges. The church bears the burden with the civil charges that can still be raised even after many years.

Seminarians today are very carefully screened and the time of preparation before ordination is long and quite extensive and intrusive. On a few occasions I have had the opportunity to work with victims in providing assistance and helping them seek spiritual support in the process of healing. But most of the time these matters come to us through lawyers and they usually do not want us to speak to their clients until the litigation is resolved.

If you would like to pursue this matter further within a safe environment, I shall do my best to provide such an opportunity for you. You will be in my prayers and I ask the Lord to bless you as we prepare now for the celebration of Easter.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+ John G. Vlazny

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-1895 503/234-5334

REDACTED

NOV 22 2002

November 12, 2002

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Archbishop Vlazny:

Thank you for your letter dated March 22, 2002 in response to my letters written earlier in that month. I have discerned, prayed, and conferred with trusted confidants about how I wish to proceed. I sought the advice of an attorney who specializes in cases such as these and conferred with other victims of Fr. O'Flynn. While the attorney and others advise me to proceed legally, it is not in my heart to do so. I am seeking comprehensive healing, which I will not find solely through monetary retribution.

While you state there is nothing in Fr. O'Flynn's file to substantiate molestations, I would strongly encourage you to talk with Fr. Carl Gimpl. While he was in no way involved, myself as well as other victims have memories of his presence. He was a young assistant pastor and I would imagine he did what he could to stop this from happening. I mentioned in my earlier letter that the principal during Fr. O'Flynn's assignment as pastor was Sr. Raphael Balduc. As an adult woman I shared concerns about Fr. O'Flynn and molestation. She confirmed that parents had approached her about this and she advised them to keep their children away. I think this was true for Fr. Gimpl as well. He may not remember the names or faces of the victims, but I believe both Fr. Gimpl and Sr. Raphael know what happened between Fr. O'Flynn and children such as myself . . . in the sacristy, in Fr. O'Flynn's upstairs living quarters, in his car and at his property on Skyline Blvd.

Some of my memories include:

- My memories seem to come in bursts. I remember him fondling me in the vaginal area and his wet kisses. I remember him offering me candy bars when I'd leave. I remember he would withhold candy bars if I was not a *good little girl*. I remember feeling devastated by that and wanting desperately to be in this man's good graces again. I wanted him to love me.
- I remember dropping by the rectory to see Fr O'Flynn and three sisters who were spending the night with him (Fr. O'Flynn had an open door policy). I called out and couldn't find him. Then I heard voices and was drawn towards the back bedroom on the main floor of the rectory. I saw him in the downstairs bedroom with the three girls dressing them in their nightgowns in the middle of the day. I remember being curious about that. He saw me and scolded me and told me I wasn't to walk in like that anymore. I was hurt and confused.
- I remember being in his upstairs living quarters, being in the sacristy of the church and around the altar, of being in his car alone with him and being on his private property on Skyline Blvd.
- I remember going to his door one Saturday morning, and he poked his head out the door and told me to go home, that I must not come there again. He said my father said I wasn't to come there anymore. Then he closed the door. To this day, I can still feel the hurt, rejection and loss from that conversation. I remember trying to go see him anyway and being told to go away.

Unlike my sister, I never told my family about this. I've kept it buried inside of me. My first memory occurred while on a week-long family session for [REDACTED] who was in a treatment center. Some of the clients were there for sexual addiction. I woke up suddenly in the middle of the night in my motel room with a memory of Fr. O'Flynn offering me and other children candy bars. With that thought came a sinking feeling that there was more

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL

PD 2078

to this memory, it wasn't just about free candy bars. I even woke my sister up to tell her, as it felt so important and filled me with terror. I have seen numerous counselors over the years and while I said I "may have been" molested by a priest, I could not claim that for truth...but that squirming, uncomfortable feeling would not go away in my stomach. I do not know why it's been so deeply buried. I have to assume some of it was what he must have told me, as well as shame and embarrassment.

I have never had a stuttering problem but since I have begun to *tell* on Fr. O'Flynn the stuttering is pronounced. It has been extremely frustrating to me as I know I need to talk about this in order to heal, but there is a very strong and frightened part of me that does not want me to talk.

Sex has always felt *dirty and nasty* and this has been difficult on my marriage. My husband is aware of my abuse and is sympathetic and very understanding; nevertheless I am striving for a healthier sex life.

You state that "your healing and your reconciliation with the rest of us in the faith community is important to me," and "if you want to pursue this matter further within a safe environment, I shall do my best to provide such an opportunity for you."

There are several things that would help with my healing and reconciliation:

- One would be for the Archdiocese to cover the cost of my counseling, from January 2001 and for an indefinite time in the future. I am enclosing the statements from _____ from _____, Trauma Therapist.
- Another would be a Diocesan sponsored support network for adult victims of priest molestations. This could be in the form of retreats, ongoing support groups, or something of this nature that would enable victims to talk openly with others and move towards healing.

Enclosed with this letter are statements of support from the following people:

victim of Fr. O'Flynn and my sister
victim of Fr. O'Flynn
my personal therapist for 3 ½ years
trauma therapist who I have seen for 10 months

This is a very challenging time for the Catholic Church as it is for my family and me. I do not know that I will ever be fully reconciled with my Catholic faith but I hope you will help me begin the process of healing and reconciliation.

Respectfully,

Enclosures

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL

What I need for my own healing:

- To know that the Archbishop believes me when I say Fr. O'Flynn was a child molester and he molested me.
- If there were other victims, I want them assisted to come forward and receive help also.
- [redacted] and my sister, [redacted] both wrote letters in support of my molestation by Fr. O'Flynn. [redacted] is in great need of a response from the archdiocese. I ask that you respond to her letter promptly.
- For the Archbishop to write a letter to the members the North Portland Catholic Community saying that Fr. O'Flynn sexually abused young girls while in residence in Blessed Sacrament Parish during the years of 1961-1968 and welcome victims to come forward.
- For the Archbishop to have more "Ember Days" services. At these services to introduce a mediator/therapist who could speak briefly about how she can support the victims in discovering what they need to heal and provide a meeting with the archbishop. Business cards could be made available after these services. This should not be a priest or sister in my opinion. A mediator/therapist individual who has experience in religious sexual abuse. I believe this could remove the need for lawyers and multi-million lawsuits.
- A support group or speakers meeting where victims could stand up before their peers and/or in front of priests who have molested children and tell their story and the recovery they have made and how the archdiocese has enabled their healing.
- To be able to continue to see [redacted] and a traumatologist.
- To be reimbursed for all my husband's and my counseling from January 2001 (the time when we seriously began to delve into my distaste of, and reluctance to talk about, sex) to present and for my future therapy costs.
- To be reimbursed [redacted] net, for the year I was unable to work due to my increased anxiety and panic attacks and very low self-esteem. I was pre-occupied and did not process my thoughts well).

REDACTED

*gave this
to Archbishop at their
meeting on 2/1/03
1/31/03 - 9:55 AM - Page 4*

CONFIDENTIAL

2.7.03

Dear Archbishop Vlazny:

Thank you for your gracious hospitality to
+ I last Saturday. I appreciate your attentiveness
and concern as I shared with you how Fr. O'Flynn's
sexual abuse has affected me.

It was especially meaningful to hear you say
you believed me. That was a powerful moment
for me. Likewise when you invited me to
release any guilt I may be carrying
about my withdrawal from the Catholic
Church. I needed to hear that from you.

I am relieved to hear the archdiocese
will meet my financial requests. - These
have been of great concern for me and I as
we wait to continue on with our therapy
sessions, and the year I was unable to
work set me back a bit.

I understand some of the healing
points you need to consider more deeply. I
will be patient in waiting for a response on
these items.

My prayer this week has been centered
on gratitude. My meeting with you has
relieved a great burden I've been carrying &
your candor and honesty built my trust
in you. Again - thank you.

Respectfully yours -

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL

PD 2081



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

FILE COPY

Office of the Archbishop

March 4, 2003

Dear [REDACTED],

Please excuse my delay in responding to you after your visit on February 1. I appreciate very much your kind note that arrived in mid-February. I felt privileged to be able to spend some time with you and I thank you for your candor and courage.

Presently the financial assistance the archdiocese will be able to give you is under consideration and I am hopeful that you will soon be contacted about this matter. Unfortunately, there was a death in the family of the person I asked to assist me and the matter has been delayed. But I believe soon you shall hear from us, if you have not already.

Your other recommendations are still under consideration and I am working on a way we might be able to organize a support group under archdiocesan sponsorship. I shall be having another healing prayer service on the Archdiocesan Ember Day of Lent, April 2. It will take place at St. Joseph's Church in Salem. But my intention is to keep the focus on prayer. That is the goal I have in mind and not another kind of a forum.

[REDACTED] is coming to see me soon. I believe a date has been set for later this month. You continue to be in my prayers, particularly as we begin the holy season of Lent. God bless.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+ John G. Vlazny

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-1895 503/234-5334

REDACTED

November 1, 2002

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Archbishop Vlazny:

My sister [REDACTED] and my close friend [REDACTED] asked me to write a letter detailing my recollections of activities with Father O'Flynn. Father O'Flynn was the pastor of the parish during the time we attended Blessed Sacrament grade school.

Father O'Flynn frequently hosted young girls from the parish in his private living quarters at the rectory. He also took them on outings. Here are some details of specific memories.

Father O'Flynn asked [REDACTED] and me to perform duties at the church. This mainly involved laying out the vestments and getting the altar area ready for the next day's Mass. We did this after school. I'm not sure of exact dates but I know I was doing this during the seventh grade at the ages of eleven and twelve. On several occasions Father O'Flynn came into the sacristy as [REDACTED] and I were performing the tasks. He hugged and kissed us. I remember talking with [REDACTED] about how "yucky" the kisses were. I told my [REDACTED] that Father O'Flynn "kisses funny". She asked me what I meant. I told her that he sticks his tongue in my mouth. My [REDACTED] said, "That must be how they kiss in Ireland". Following that conversation I was not allowed to visit Father O'Flynn. I'm not sure I understood why at the time. [REDACTED] continued to do tasks for Father O'Flynn including some bookkeeping duties. I thought it was odd at the time and remember being a little jealous of the attention she got from Father O'Flynn.

Father O'Flynn took us to the Catholic Book Store where we selected religious items that he purchased. I think I only went once. [REDACTED] continued to receive gifts over a period of time.

Father O'Flynn took a carload of kids to his property on Skyline Road. We romped around the property. I remember seeing Father O'Flynn come out of a wooded area with a young girl. I believe it was my sister [REDACTED] but I can't say for sure.

One memory stands out because of my embarrassment. I was in Father O'Flynn's bedroom with [REDACTED] and Father O'Flynn. We were standing up. I believe Father O'Flynn was kissing us. [REDACTED] and I started giggling and I urinated on the floor.

Father Gimpl, who was the assistant at Blessed Sacrament at the time, came into the living quarters at least once and saw us with Father O'Flynn.

REDACTED

These events seemed to have a minor impact at the time, but I was later abused by a priest in high school. I underwent counseling several years ago and feel that the issues of anger, resentment, sadness, loss and guilt are resolved as much as possible. I talked with Fr. Lienert about my experiences in high school and am satisfied with the help he provided me.

This letter is mainly to corroborate the information shared by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in their letters to you. I am not looking for anything from the diocese for me. I am pleased to see that you are taking a proactive approach to addressing the concerns of victims of abuse. There are many victims who do not choose to pursue legal remedy, but who need help and support to get beyond the childhood trauma. Providing reimbursement for counseling, organizing support groups, providing spiritual guidance for these victims are some ways the church can acknowledge the damage that was done and minister to the victims as they struggle to strengthen their relationships with God, the church, and their families.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support your efforts.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

March 29, 2003

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Archbishop Vlazny,

Thanks so much for meeting with [REDACTED] and me on Thursday. I was sure that meeting with you would be a healing experience for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Your sincere commitment to addressing this complicated issue is evident in the way you responded to their stories. [REDACTED] has spent a lifetime "not dealing" with the wounds from abuse.

When I learned she and [REDACTED] were having discussions with an attorney I became concerned about whether they were headed in a direction that would lead to more pain and victimization. While money is a concern to both of them for the counseling they need, their ultimate goal is to heal, to reconcile with the church and with God, and to move on to fulfilling lives.

Listening to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] made me realize that I had not completely resolved the issues I had with the abuse I experienced in high school despite counseling I received years ago. I believe the support network that you set up through Providence will be a big help to me and other victims.

I can't imagine what it must be like for you to help shepherd the Church through this crisis. I am impressed with what you accomplished so far and my prayers are with you as you continue to reach out to victims.

Thank you again for your empathy and willingness to share your time with us.

Sincerely,

REDACTED