

The DREAM SCENE

A Monthly Update of Our Lady of Fatima's Building Project

Ground Breaking Today

The Dream Scene

Today marks the first issue of The Dream Scene which will be distributed on the first Sunday of each month throughout the construction process. Through this publication you will receive timely and pertinent information designed to keep you fully aware of each step along the way.

Each month we will bring you up to date on progress and developments on the actual construction, as well as where we stand financially. Also, each month in a special SPOTLIGHT column, we will profile the people or groups who have been and will be instrumental in our building process. This includes architects, contractors, designers, parishioners and anyone else who might pop up.

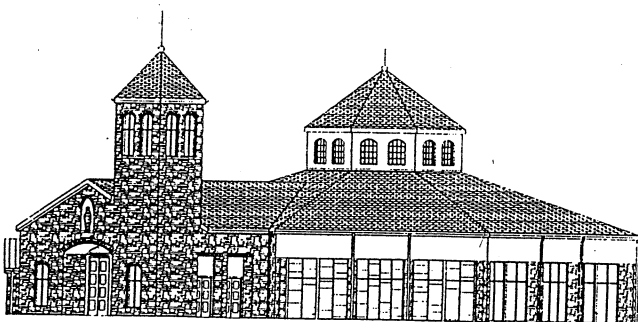
This is your publication. If you have any suggestions or comments for articles, please feel free to call the parish office.

Our Lady Of Fatima's Dream Is A Reality

More than four years ago, our parish community began preliminary studies and inquiries into the need for and feasibility of undertaking a building project. Upon evaluation of the data, after numerous parish meetings, and after much prayer and soul searching, we made the decision to proceed. At that time we selected a theme which had its roots 1000 years ago when a European city was planning a cathedral amid much discussion as to how, what and how much of a cathedral they should build. One of the church leaders stated his feelings very succinctly—"Let us build a cathedral so grand that when in the future people see it, they will wonder how we dared to DREAM IT POSSIBLE."

We dared to DREAM IT POSSIBLE. Today that dream begins to unfold as we witness our ground breaking ceremony. Over the next 12-15 months we will watch with pride, joy, wonder and thanksgiving as our dream takes shape.

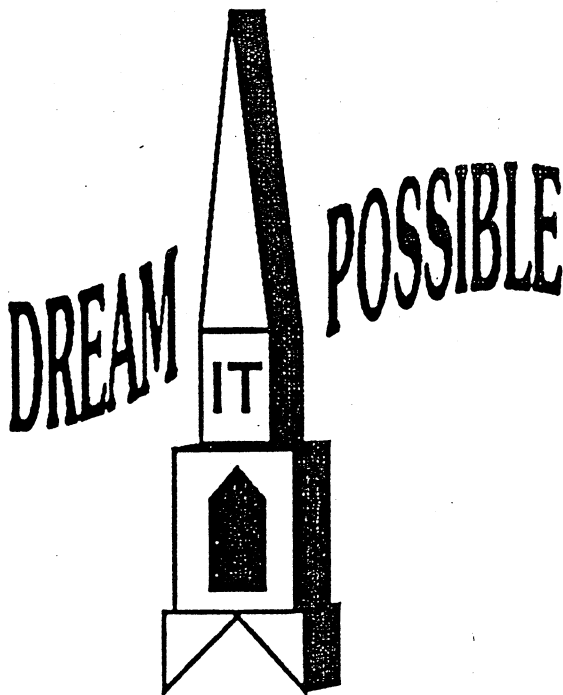
At this very special time it behooves us to pause for a few moments to thank: Our parish leaders for making the tough decisions; Bishop O'Connell for his willingness to accept our proposals; The City of Alcoa for their guidance and assistance in meeting city codes; Our parish membership for their trust, belief in the DREAM and generosity; God for his guidance and for all his miracles. We dared to DREAM IT POSSIBLE. With God's help our DREAM is becoming a reality.



Phase II Begins

We now begin the second phase of our building process. Over the next months we will be able to actually see our new church and social hall take shape. We must each be aware of the \$18,350 monthly loan repayment. Please review your Phase II pledge amount. If, for some reason, you have not yet made a Phase II pledge and wish to do so, please contact the parish office.

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS (since September 97): We welcome you and urge you to support our building program. It is due to the rapid growth of our community (325 families in 1993 to 650 families at present) that we found it necessary to build new facilities. Our Lady of Fatima is your new parish home. It is being built with you in mind. Please contact the parish office and learn how you can get involved.



To submit comments or suggestions for The DREAM SCENE, contact Francis (Brownie) Brown, 579-9328

MAY SPOTLIGHT: BREWER INGRAM FULLER ARCHITECTS INC.

In this first issue we felt it appropriate to SPOTLIGHT our architects as they were the first people officially contracted to assist our parish leadership in developing plans for the building process.

BREWER INGRAM FULLER were selected after a careful process. They were hired because they exhibited a sincere willingness to listen to what we wanted, rather than tell us what we should have. Over the years, in addition to innumerable meetings with building committee members, they were present at several general parish meetings for the sole purpose of listening to us as we told them what we wanted our new church to be. The church that they have designed represents the collective ideas and suggestions of the best minds in the parish. The design of the church has been coordinated according to sound liturgical and architectural principles. Hats off to BREWER INGRAM FULLER ARCHITECTS INC. for a job well done (and still doing).

The firm has won numerous awards for design of such diverse projects as churches, Blount Mansion, Ft. Loudon Yacht Club, and Sequoyah Birthplace Museum. LEE INGRAM was our project architect. Lee has worked in all areas of general architecture practice. He has taught courses in design at the University of Tennessee School of Architecture. He has served as project architect for medical facilities, office buildings, religious structures, sports facilities, museums, and other types of buildings. He is highly recognized for his work in the field of historic preservation.

Certainly we can thank God for guiding us in selecting BREWER INGRAM FULLER ARCHITECTS INC. They too dared to DREAM IT POSSIBLE.



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Let Construction Begin

Amidst the sound of thunder in the distance and the thunder created by the US Air Force Thunderbirds, the ground breaking ceremony for Our Lady of Fatima's new church was accomplished as scheduled on Sunday May 3rd. Early morning storms and the threat of afternoon thundershowers did not deter approximately 300 parishioners and area dignitaries from the historic event.

Several Blount County Pastors took time from their busy schedules to share in our celebration. Diocesan priests in attendance included; Fr. Joseph Fiedorowicz, St. Mary's in Athens, Fr. Joseph Julius, St. Francis in Townsend, Fr. Frank Brett, St. Joseph's in Norris, and Fr. Xavier Mankel, Vicar General, Holy Ghost in Knoxville. The guest of honor was Bishop Anthony O'Connell who made a flying trip from Confirmation Ceremonies in Oak Ridge (and fighting the air show traffic) to be with us.



Turning the first spade full of soil: Foreground, Bishop O'Connell; In rear from left to right, Fr. Brando, Francis Brown, Shannon Sapp, Jim Fiegle, Ed McNeely, Judith Spies, Larry Garner, and Lee Ingram

Just as Bishop O'Connell began speaking, streaks of lightning and claps of thunder began rolling across the sky. In what was undoubtedly the shortest talk in his 10 years as bishop, Bishop O'Connell reminded us how far we have come

and the joy we will experience when our building project is completed early next summer. At this point, the US Air Force Thunderbirds placed their stamp of approval on his remarks by performing an intricate maneuver that every one in attendance "knew" was not only a salute, but an expression of "God bless Our Lady of Fatima parish community on this your very special day."

One golden and eight silver shovels were distributed for the actual ground breaking ritual – Gold for Bishop O'Connell – Silver for Ed McNeely, Parish Council Chairperson; Jim Fiegle, Parish Finance Board; Shannon Sapp, Merit Construction, General Contractor; Larry Garner, Blount Excavating; Lee Ingram, Architect; Judith Spies, Building Committee; Fr. Brando, Pastor; Francis Brown, Fund Raising. At the count of three, everyone put their foot and backs into motion and turned a shovel of dirt to the accompanying applause of all assembled. Fr. Brando informed everyone that the sanctuary would be very close to the spot on which we dug.

One interested guest was Sam Sturm, our adopted seminarian, who informed everyone that he planned to be ordained in our new church early next summer. Every parishioner will anxiously be awaiting this holy event.

After the ceremony was concluded, refreshments were enjoyed by all. The atmosphere was one of joy and thanksgiving. A time for sharing. A time to come together as a faith community. A time to thank God for his guidance and his benevolence. Let the heavy equipment roll!

THIRD ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL 1998

It is that time again!!! We have had several meetings regarding this years Harvest Festival. In light of the conditions, we have had to make many decisions regarding the proceedings for this year. At this time, we have decided the following.

1. Yes, we indeed need to continue with our Harvest

Festival, since the main purpose is to help raise money for the new church.

2. It needs to be at the same general location.
3. This year needs to be streamlined to focus in on the more profitable areas.

The Festival target date is Saturday, August 22nd. The most profitable areas were the Arts and Crafts tent, the Sweet Shoppe, the major food tent and the Fun Food area. Next were the game booths that we either made ourselves, or borrowed from others. We believe that by streamlining the operation and focusing in on these areas we can be even more profitable than last year, with less effort. T-shirts will only be sold on a pre-paid basis this year. Tables will be set up after masses for ordering purposes starting sometime in June.

Another reason for the festival, and not any less important than the fund raising, is the wonderful fellowship it provides within our church family. If you have participated in the past you know how important each member is to the success of the festival. If you have not participated and would like to this year, please contact either Ginger Gilmore, 984-7332, or Wanda Miller, 982-5194. We need to start collecting art and craft items. If you have any to donate, please drop them by the rectory, or call and we will pick them up. If anyone has any ideas for games or other areas, we welcome your input. Volunteers will also be needed to man the booths, this will be done via sign up sheets handed out during the masses. Please find it in your heart to help make this years festival a success!!! Check the weekly bulletin for updates about the 1998 Harvest Festival.

-- Ginger Gilmore



OLOF parishioners enjoying refreshments and fellowship after ground breaking ceremony.

SITE PREPARATION UNDERWAY

The first thing one notices upon entering Our Lady of Fatima premises is that earth has and is being moved around. This is all part of the site preparation phase of our building process. The rainy weather delayed the start of excavation, but work is now progressing at full speed.

Blount Excavating Inc. has been contracted to carry out this most important step in our building process.

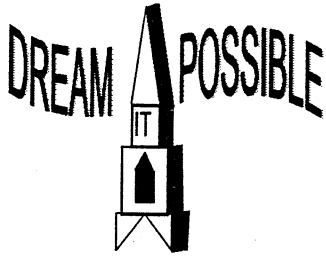
JUNE SPOTLIGHT: BLOUNT EXCAVATING INC.

Blount Excavating, a Maryville based grading and excavating company was incorporated in October 1975 and will be performing the site work for the new construction of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. The company is owned and operated by Maryville native Larry Garner. The company is a family operated business as son, Steve, acts as project manager and Secretary/Treasurer of the company. Long time friend Randy Pilkington acts as Vice President and field superintendent. The current office staff consists of two project managers, a construction estimator, an accountant, and an office manager along with Mr. Garner. Blount Excavating currently employs approximately 80 employees for the operation of its more than 100 pieces of heavy equipment.

Blount Excavating has made a reputation for itself in the construction industry as the grading company that can handle the "tough" jobs. This is evident in the numerous jobs that it has undertaken over the past 23 years. Some of the tougher jobs it has undertaken were for the University of Tennessee where Blount performed the site preparation for the Science and Engineering Building, Law Building, and the Intramural Field. These jobs were all critical with their tight confines, schedules and limited access. Blount Excavating is currently working on another tough job at McGhee Tyson Airport. The contract is for the site preparation for the new terminal and apron expansion. The work will consist of the grading adjacent to currently operational runways and taxiways, demolition of over 40,000 cubic yards of concrete, installation of new large diameter storm sewer. Other notable projects include the Home Depot, the Wal-Mart Super Center in Alcoa, Federal Express Expansion at McGhee Tyson Airport, the new Downtown Maryville Parking Garage, the new Ruby Tuesday's Corporate Center in Downtown Maryville, The Anchorage Subdivision at Alcoa Highway, several projects for Nippodenso in both Maryville and Athens, Tennessee, and several residential subdivisions in Blount and Knox Counties. Blount Excavating has completed the aforementioned projects and projects like them with most of the contractors and architectural/engineering firms in the surrounding area, including Blaine Construction, Johnson & Galyon, Merit Construction, Rentenbach, Cannon & Cannon, Barge-Wagner, Batson-Himes, and LeMay & Associates.

Welcome aboard and thank you for helping us "Dream It Possible."

To submit comments or suggestions for The DREAM SCENE, contact Francis (Brownie) Brown, 579-9328.

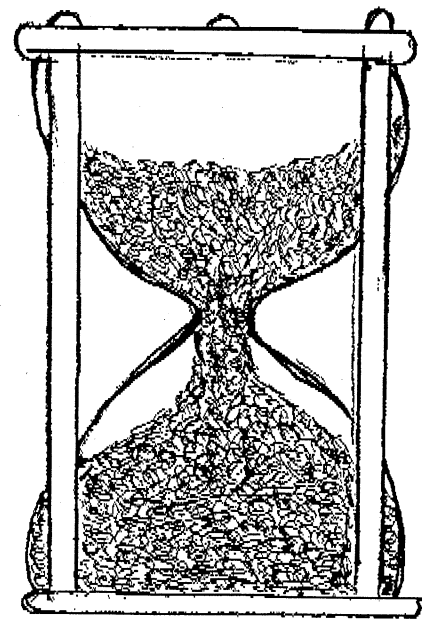


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Time To Build, Time To Think, Time To Pray

When you enter the sanctuary, you will notice the presence of our Dream It Possible Hour Glass. It has been recalibrated to measure the time remaining to completion of our new church. As we attend mass and other parish functions throughout the next year, each of us will also develop our own system for measuring construction progress. Measured week to week, this progress may seem painfully slow, but before we know it the year will pass and Bishop O'Connell will be presiding at the dedication ceremony.



The new Our Lady of Fatima combines the ideas, hard work, dedication and prayers of literally hundreds of parishioners. In offering suggestions you shared your vision – your dreams – your wishes of what the completed church would be. Your input helped determine the

physical makeup of the new building – size, shape, materials, interior layout, etc. Undoubtedly we will have a beautiful new church building, but the new Our Lady Of Fatima, and the community it represents, goes far beyond the bricks and mortar of the physical structure.

The new Our Lady Of Fatima will be, first and foremost, the sacred house of the Lord, where we as a community come to worship, to pray, to share our liturgy and to thank him for his blessings. The new Our Lady Of Fatima will be a safe haven when we are troubled or hurting and need the comfort that only God's love provides.

The new Our Lady Of Fatima will be the perfect outlet when we are happy and wish to have others share in that happiness. We know that our Lord revels in that joy with us.

The new Our Lady Of Fatima will provide an atmosphere conducive to developing a deeper understanding and appreciation for our beautiful catholic faith, be we youth or adult, child or senior citizen.

The new Our Lady Of Fatima will provide us with ample opportunity for developing fellowship and friendship with our parish members.

The new Our Lady Of Fatima will offer us an expanded opportunity to share our God given talents and resources with our parish community and the community at large.

The new Our Lady Of Fatima will be an integral part of life's important events—weddings, births, baptisms, first communions, confirmations, ordinations, profession of religious vows.

When our life on earth has ended the new Our Lady Of Fatima will be the sanctuary providing comfort and security for our family as they struggle with their grief. Comforted by knowing that life is really just beginning for their loved one.

Over the next months each of us must discern how this new church will affect us and our family as we experience the various stages of our lives. Please take time to prayerfully ask yourself "what do I want my church to be? What do I expect from my church? What am I willing to do to make it happen?"

HARVEST FESTIVAL UPDATE

The fourth planning meeting was held on Wednesday, June 24th. The date for the Harvest Festival is now firmly established as Saturday, August 29th, from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M.. There will be the usual assortment of good foods, cooked up by Joe Zappa and his group of volunteers, Fun Foods for the lighter menu, coordinated by Ralph Haberstroh, the General Store tent, coordinated by Helen Hennessey (crafts and white elephant items, such as: dishes, ceramics, jewelry, nick knacks, etc. We need your donations as soon as possible, so we can plan on an adequate size tent. Call Helen at 983-3745 or drop off in library at church. Please attach a suggested price for you donated items. **(NO CLOTHING OR SHOES, please!!)**

Kay Webb is coordinating the ticket and prize area, Keith Feltz and Phil Malach are overseeing the

structures, electrical and security areas.

Wanda Miller and Ginger Gilmore are overall co-chairpersons and are coordinating the game and entertainment

areas. Orange Volunteer sign-up posters will be located in the main hallway of Fatima Center – we need the help of everyone to make this years festival a success, please sign up for your favorite area as soon as possible. Tee-shirt sales started the weekend of June 20th and will continue through the weekend of July 19. Tee-shirts must be paid for at the time of order. The next Festival meeting is scheduled for July 15th and all interested are invited to attend. Remember, the main purpose of the Festival is to help raise money for our new church, but also to create an atmosphere of fellowship. Please let us know how YOU can help!!!!



JULY SPOTLIGHT: MERIT CONSTRUCTION CO. General Contractor For Our Building Project

Merit Construction Inc. is an East Tennessee company built on a strong foundation and committed to serving its customers through building quality projects. Established for 15 years, the company is locally owned and operated. Located in Knoxville, the company employs 88 full-time people that hold positions ranging from superintendents and engineers to highly skilled carpenters and welders.

The company specializes in areas that include high technology, industrial, institutional, medical, schools, commercial, and specialty projects like communication towers. Along with building structures, the company has nurtured its relationships and grown its business to approximately \$30 million in each of the last three years.

Its principals bring more than 75 years of combined experience in the construction industry. The company was founded in 1982 by Charles Hayes, Jr., who continues to co-own the business. It is also co-owned by Bruce Bosse, president, and Marvin L. House, vice chairman.

President Bruce Bosse said that Merit workers particularly enjoy working on church projects. "We always enjoy taking part in the construction of a building that will be a sacred place where people gather for years to come," said Bosse. "Along with the detail and beauty in design, this project is an opportunity to make a meaningful addition to the community."

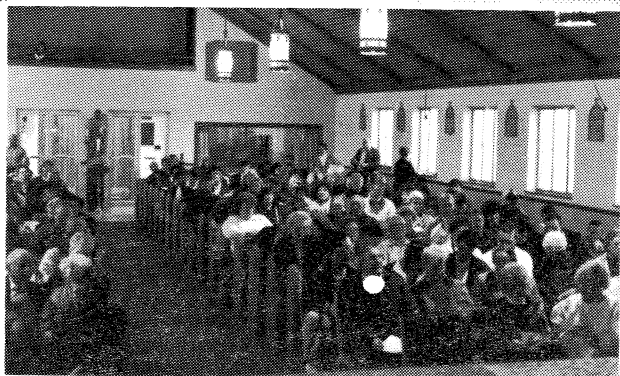
The Our Lady Of Fatima Church project is managed by Shannon Sapp. Other projects have included the Farragut Church of Christ and the First Presbyterian Church and Sacred Heart Church, both of Knoxville.

In recent years, the company has taken pride in the detailed restoration of the General Morgan Inn of Greeneville and in the new construction of the Karns Middle School, the Southern Nights Dinner Theater in Sevierville, the Tusculum College Student Commons Building and the Carson Newman Student Activities Center.

We look forward to our association over the next months. Thank you for your important part in helping us realize our Dream.

To submit comments or suggestions for The DREAM SCENE, contact Francis (Brownie) Brown, 579-9328.

PARISH VOTES TO MOVE CAMPUS



February 12, 1995, proved to be an important day in the history of Our Lady of Fatima Parish. On that day the decision was made to relocate our campus, our parish, to a new site. It happened at a Parish Meeting held in the Church at 3:00p.m. with 179 parishioners present. **Father Brando** opened the meeting with prayer and gave a welcoming address. **Carl Guilotte**, chairman of the Building Committee, related the history and scope of the project. Architects **Anthony Fuller** and **Margaret Butler** presented two masterplans --- one for the present site, and one for the site on Louisville Road. Based on a number of reasons, including space, visibility, expandibility, flexibility, functioning, accessibility, and parking space, they concluded that the Louisville Road site would be more adequately sized and configured to meet the long-range plan for the parish. They estimated that the cost of construction and renovation on this site would be 1.9 million dollars, while it would be 1.6 million dollars on the new site. The long-range cost would be about even for both sites.

Father Brando then made his proposal to the parish, being that we relocate based on the following facts:

1. There is more land -- 8.5 acres. Present site has 4.94 acres.
2. We would have new and newer facilities.
3. The existing building is well constructed.
4. The location is more convenient for most parishioners.

5. The Catholic Church would be much more visible in the community.
6. The location will be located at a center of commerce.
7. Additional growth is possible there. There is no room here.
8. It will cost less to develop new property.

A period of questions and discussion followed during which twenty topics were covered. A motion was made and seconded to accept **Father Brando's** proposal. Voting was conducted by secret ballot. While the votes were being counted, those present retired to the social hall for refreshments. The vote was 173 to 6 in favor of accepting the proposal to relocate to Louisville Road, and place the present campus up for sale. It is presently on the market, and the price is \$840,000. All inquiries concerning this property should be directed to **Donna Bailey** at 983-4463 or 984-5697.

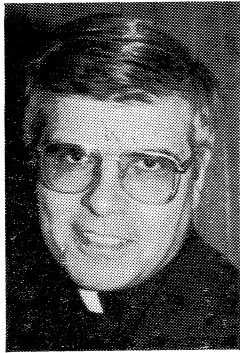
OPEN HOUSE HELD AT NEW PROPERTY



The Open House at our newly acquired property on Louisville Road and Hwy 129 on January 22 was very well attended. There was a steady flow of people throughout the building during the afternoon, and there was a

constant crowd around the tables of goodies prepared by the ladies of the CCW.

Madelaine Woodman's touch was clearly evident. Thank you, ladies, for this special treat.



A Note From Father Joe

There's a lot happening in the parish nowadays. We're trying to plan the building of a church. We're waiting patiently for a buyer for our present plant. We're going through the always painful budget process planning for the 1995-96 fiscal year

which begins July 1st. But most importantly we're trying to get closer to Christ.

Let me start with the last item. No project can be more important than tending to our spiritual lives. This Easter season can get us well on our way to unity with Christ. If your Lenten pilgrimage can be evaluated, it can only be in terms of how joyous we are that Christ is risen and present in our lives. That joy translates into praise for God and putting his word into action. May the true spirit of Easter be with you.

So many people have worked so hard in the parish to make us ready for Easter. Our educators, especially those working with adults, have done wonders. Those involved with Christian Initiation of Adults have been outstanding in their devotion to their ministry. As the time for First Communion and Confirmation draws near, our young Christians are gaining a genuine enthusiasm caught from their teachers. May the rest of the parish get turned on by the sparks which emanate from them.

All those who worked on our Holy Week Liturgies also have done well putting the spirit of our Faith into a form that expresses itself to God in our devotion to the Lord.

Nor does that devotion end in church. We've put our lives on the line in many ways. Those responsible for fund-

raising have inspired many to sacrifice joyfully for the sake of our parish future. Already about \$250,000 is pledged for our new church building. Nor is that dream merely for the sake of brick and blocks. It is a way of showing our faith and inviting others to worship with us. They have given us hope. Thanks to all who have led the way by their gifts. By the time schematic drawings and models are available, the rest of the parish can be motivated not just by beautiful renderings but by the trust put forward by our initial givers.

Just a word about what the new Church will look like. Right now, the first line has not yet been put to paper. The designing process begins not with architecture but with theology. Early in May a group will be formed. Their function is to learn, to pray, to listen to each other and in so doing to determine what kind of Church we want. They will not draw up plans or specify where things are to go. More importantly, out of these meetings we will discover what kind of people we are. So our house of worship will reflect our spiritual longings. If you would like to be part of this group, you're welcome. Keep reading the bulletin to find out when and where it will meet.

Pray for the Parish Council. For two months they and the Finance Board have been struggling with the budget. Despite the increasing collections we find it difficult to balance projected expenditures with donations. Due to our owning two campuses we will have a hard time funding the projects we already have going. One dream I had, of having an associate pastor in residence, has proven impossible due to lack of money. I urge you to consider our parish in your charity. We have many needs.

But if our needs are many, even more plentiful are our major assets, namely you the people of Our Lady of Fatima. You are good and getting better every day. With your prayer and your Faith, the future of our parish is as hope-filled as these wonderful days of Easter.

Behind the Scenes

BAPTISMS

- Jan. 7, 1995 Michael Leebler Crenshaw, Jr.
Son of Michael, Sr. & Wilma Crenshaw
- Feb. 18, 1995 Dustin Scott Teeple
Heather Nicole Teeple
Brittany Dakota Teeple
Grandchildren of Gene & Faye Teeple
- April 2, 1995 Raymond Wesley Hinkle

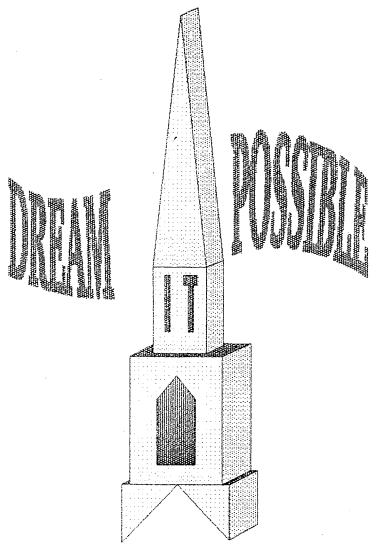
WEDDINGS

- March 14, 1995 Anthony Ponkauskas & Anissa Whitson
- March 18, 1995 Janet Dean & Archie Clark
- March 23, 1995 Shirley Wasielewski-Parsons & Robert Gallagher

DEATHS

- December 31, 1994
Mary White

The FOCUS on OUR DREAM! Special center story on the start of the journey.



FUND-RAISERS ARE OFF AND RUNNING

The Fund-raising Committee has been meeting regularly since November 1994. We have a wide array of talent within our membership which includes: **Melissa Edler, Angie Feltz, Jim Feigle, Fran Gullotte, Collen Harbison, Jack Henson, Thish Hickman, Raina Kant, Ed McNeely, and Judy Myers.**

Our obvious reason and purpose for existence is to develop and implement the fund-raising for our building process. This involves many different aspects, such as:

- securing short-term (pre-construction) and long-term (10 to 15 years life of the mortgage) commitments
- promoting concepts of ownership and stewardship.
- getting entire parish community involved.
- communicating fund-raising needs to parishioners in an agreeable manner.
- maintaining normal level of donations for day to day parish expenses.

Our pledge throughout the whole process is to provide continual and complete communication, and to ask one question at each decision making point: Is it the will of God?

One of our major short-term fund-raisers took place on March 28th, which was the successful Support the Dream Dinner, and the other will be a wine and cheese tasting and silent auction on June 24th.

Several long-term fund-raisers are in the planning stages: an annual festival or carnival, various youth projects, buy a brick, pew, window, or tree campaign, multiplying the talents, and the Annual Stewardship Appeal in October.

An ongoing project is the Knights of Columbus food certificate program through Kroger's and BI LO food stores. This is a painless way to put 2 1/2% of your total food bill into the Building Fund. Realistically, this can amount to \$8-10,000.00 per year.

We are certain that the inherent generosity and commitment of each parish member in union with God's guidance and grace will bring our Dream to reality. **CATCH YOUR SHARE OF THE DREAM**

Francis Brown, Chairman

The Dream Begins With Good Times

The Fund-raising Committee held their kick-off event on March 28, 1995. It was a dinner held at the Green Meadow Country Club, and 88 people enjoyed a delicious four course dinner. The tables were decorated with beautiful arrangements made by **Sharon Montano** of the Flower Committee. Speakers included **Francis Brown**, chairman of the Fund-raising Committee, **Father Brando**, **Bishop O'Connell**, and **Father Francis Schilling**, our previous pastor. A videotaped talk by **Monsignor Paul Clunan** was shown. He was the pastor of the parish when the present church was built, and he had many interesting stories to relate about the early days of our parish and the construction of our church. He was a most entertaining speaker, and gave us his blessing and enthusiastic support. **Dottie Haren**, who has been a parishioner since the time of Monsignor Clunan, also gave an account of the early days of the parish. And we were pleased to have the company of another longtime parishioner, **Gladys Miller**, who joined us for the evening. **Father Julius** of St. Francis Church in Townsend presented our parish a check in the amount of **\$5,000.00** on behalf of his parishioners. We are most grateful for their generous support, and we send a very heartfelt, "THANK YOU."

The attendees were asked to fill out cards stating the amount of their pledges to the fund over a year's time, and the total came to **\$121,000.00**. These parishioners are to be complimented for their generosity and continued support of this wonderful project. The members of the Fund-raising Committee are to be commended for providing an entertaining and enjoyable evening and taking their first step to help make The Dream possible. We are looking forward to their future efforts.



Francis Brown,
Chairman of the
Fund-raising
Committee

L to R -
Tish Hickman,
Roger and Debbie
Jones, and Tim
Bryant enjoy the
festivities



Father Francis Schilling (left) and
Bishop O'Connell

NEXT FUND-RAISER TO BE IN JUNE

A Wine and Cheese Celebration and Silent Auction will be held at Royal Oaks Country Club on June 24th. A wine representative will be there to guide you through the tasting of four to six different wines. The Silent Auction will include such items as a "Wet Jet" from Mastercraft, a trip from Delta Airlines, a set of luggage from Foothills Travel, furniture, and other items. If you need any further information or have items you wish to donate for the auction, please contact **Raina Kant at 977-1177**. All proceeds will benefit the new church.

FOCUS

ON FATIMA

A Parish Moves - June 9, 1996

The process of moving the parish really started at 4:00 PM on May 1st when the closing ceremony took place at the church office which officially transferred the title of our property to the Praise Temple Assembly of God. Father Joseph J. Brando, pastor, and Donna Bailey of HHB Realty III and a member of the Building Committee represented Our Lady of Fatima. The Rev. Wayne Simmons, pastor, and Alda Riden of Re/Max Realty represented the Assembly of God.

The Board of Trustees of Praise Temple and Bob Tipton of Sun Trust Bank were also present. After the required signatures were completed, Rev. Simmons presented Fr. Brando with a check in the amount of \$650,000.00, and Fr. Brando relinquished the keys to the buildings to Rev. Simmons. And thus another chapter in the story of Our Lady of Fatima Parish closed and our pilgrimage began.

The church office was the first to pack and move into temporary quarters. The school was the next area to vacate as soon as the

term ended. Happy Hands Pres-school followed shortly. And the church was the last building vacated. It was a constant process of sorting, packing and moving from May 1st through

June 9th and many parishioners worked long and hard to accomplish such a formidable task of moving an entire parish. Not the least of the task was finding a place to store everything. Willing parishioners stored many of the items in their homes and business

as renovations in Fatima Center were in progress and very little space was available there.

The church moving began on Saturday, June 8th. The day was overcast with intermittent rain showers, some quite heavy. The sun would pop out quite unexpectedly for a few brief moments and then disappear behind the clouds again. About six parishioners with pickup trucks moved all manner of things to the Center throughout the day in spite of the rain. Gerald Brimer, fearing that the rain which

was expected to continue on Sunday would soften the ground too much to get his heavy rig in the yard, elected to bring it in Saturday afternoon and bring the statue of Mary down from her standing place above the front entrance. Just as she was secured with a belt and lifted into the air, the rain poured down, and by the time she was placed on the ground the sun was shining on her head.

On Sunday, June 9th, the Feast of Corpus Christi, the last Mass was celebrated in the church at 11:00 AM. The

On Sunday, June 9th....the last Mass was celebrated in the church...

church was overflowing with people as Fr. Brando began the Mass.

Many of the 25 charter members were present. Two of the altar servers were also servers at the Dedication Mass in the church on December 6, 1952, which was celebrated by Bishop William Adrian. They were Phil Malach of our parish and his long time friend, Rick Cantley, who now lives in Virginia. Cris Karnowski, our organist since the Dedication Mass, played for the last time before beginning her retirement. Fr. Brando spoke of the journey ahead of us to a new site as be-

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The statue of Our Lady is removed with the help of Gerald Brimer

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Parish Prepares for New Church, Part II

As reported in the last issue of the FOCUS, we are involved in a mission of discovery to find out who we are as a parish, how we can honor Our Lady of Fatima for whom our parish was named, and what we do as a parish. These facts are important when designing a new church because the whole complex must reflect our parish which is unique from all others.

Small focus groups have met in homes to discuss these issues. Each series lasts for six weeks. The first one, held last fall, concluded that our parish is best portrayed by the sacramental model of church in which the altar is the central architectural feature. The second series was held this spring to find ways to honor Mary's appearance at Fatima and develop a motif for the new church. On

May 8th the nine groups met with our architects, Anthony Fuller and Lee Ingram, to report and summarize their suggestions. It was a very productive meeting with many exciting possibilities brought up. The final outcome was that our new church should personify a mother's nurturing and caring which gives birth to a place of prayer, peace,

“On May 8th the nine groups met with our architects...to report and summarize their suggestions.”

and reconciliation. This will be accomplished through the selection of art, architecture, furnishings and environment.

The third series will begin this fall. It

will focus on what we do as a parish. This will cover what we do during our different liturgies and the kinds of spaces we will need for these purposes. It may cover as well the things we do as a parish under the headings of worship, fellowship, discipleship, outreach, and mission. It will be a time of introspection, for we need to ascertain our strengths and weaknesses in carrying out these aspects of being true disciples of Christ and what spaces are necessary for

each of them to be accomplished in our parish setting. Watch the Bulletin for information about this series of meetings and plan to attend as many as you can. This may well be the most important one of all.

A Parish Moves, cont

(Continued from page 1)

ing similar to the Exodus and thus the theme, so to speak, and the spirit of our moves began to be called a pilgrimage.

At the conclusion of Mass Fr. Brando conducted a ceremonial removal of our possessions from the building. Parishioners had signed up in advance to be responsible for the transporting of items of their choice. As each name was called to come forward and claim the items, Fr. Brando explained the significance of them and led the congregation in a pertinent prayer as the items were taken from the building. The furnishings in the Social Hall were also loaded into trucks, vans and cars. The statues from the shrine were removed and the statue of Mary which had been

lowered the day before was again lifted by a crane onto a truck and secured for her journey. When the work was completed, a farewell luncheon was served by Los Amigos Restaurant, and then the caravan of cars, trucks, and vans led by Fr. Brando wound its way to our new site at 860 Louisville Road. There the items were stored in various places until the renovation of the building was completed and we were allowed to occupy it. Jim and Cissy Fiegle coordinated the moving process. They and the numerous parishioners who took part are to be commended on the wonderful job they did. It is rare that a operation of this magnitude goes as smoothly as this one did.

Continuing in the spirit of pilgrimage,

we had a rest stop at the Fine Arts Center on the Maryville College campus where Mass was celebrated from June 15 to July 28th. Then our pilgrimage began again as we moved to the Fatima Center for the first Mass there on August 3rd. This will be our interim home until our second church is built.



Building Project Makes Progress

Fr. Brando

With the moratorium over, we are beginning to make up for lost time. Our architects, Brewer, Ingram, and Fuller have the project on their front burner. They presented the Building Committee a draft of a Site Plan based on the most current information they received from us. Our committee reviewed that draft and many aspects were criticized. Fr. Brando went to the architects' office and discussed the details with Lee Ingram and Anthony Fuller. They saw even more modifications that could be made. Those changes are incorporated into a Site Plan they are sending to the parish as THE FATIMA SUN goes to press. By the time you read this edition, you should be able to view this revised Site Plan in the Fatima Center.

The architects also presented us a time line. If all goes well, it calls for a ground breaking in late April or early May 1998. The next key date on that time line is the completion of the Schematic Design. That date is the end of April 1997. When completed, it will be on display for the parish to view also. We all should keep in mind the tentative nature of these drawings. They are made to be critiqued. If anyone sees something that can be improved upon, he or she should make that known to the Building Committee. The committee will be the parish's conduit to the architects. Of course, with over 634 families in the parish, there is no way everyone can have their "dream" church. One family can hardly construct their dream house. Considering the financial aspects of our quest, many compromises will be made between now and the final plans. So, please look at these and all future plans with a positive attitude desiring to contribute to a beautiful church building for a united church community.

To get from where we are now to the final plans for the church, we need a liturgical consultant. A sub-committee of the Building Committee has worked on that issue. They have reduced the number of candidates to four. With the full Committee's approval they will ask for pictures of the candidates work and make arrangements for the remaining candidates to be interviewed by the Committee. The hope is to have the consultant on board by the middle of May. This person is well versed in all aspects of Catholic Church Worship. He or she will be versed on the state of art in the United States and the world. The consultant will advise us on the best use of the space we have to work with, on the vendors we would desire to purchase pews, windows, and sacred art. He or she would work with the architect on design and see that our wishes are carried out. We hope to build a church that will serve our needs for generations to come. A consultant will see that what we build will not be dated and ineffective in a few years. It will be classic. It will also serve our spiritual needs now as a pleasing expression of our relationship with the Lord. It will also adhere to the living traditions that come to us from our Catholic Liturgical documents.

Fund Raising for New Church Resumes

— Francis Brown

Now that the decision has been made to construct our new church building on the present site, the fund raising committee will be devising the Capitol Giving Plan. Factors being considered include:

- Amount of capitol needed for the down payment;
- Amount of annual debt service required to amortize the mortgage;
- HOW to raise the above funds;
- Publicity and communication to the parish during this period;
- Coordination with other parish organizations.

Within the next few weeks schematic design plans will be developed for our new church building. It is intended to ready these plans for presentation to the parish by mid-September, 1997, with groundbreaking planned for the following spring.

As we move ahead with plans to make our new church a reality, we should all take a few moments to thank our parish leadership and our fellow parishoners for their involvement in developing the heart and soul issues so necessary in a project of this magnitude. Above all we must thank God for His guidance, and pray for His blessing as we proceed towards our objective.

Looking ahead, let's all commit ourselves to completing the fund raising phase so that our theme of "Dream it Possible" can become "Our Dream is Realized".



Introducing OLOF'S Adopted Seminarian-- Sam Sturm

Hi! My name is Sam Sturm, and I'm a seminarian, studying for the Diocese of Knoxville. I'm completing my third

year of a five-year program of study for the priesthood. I'm enrolled in the School of Theology of St. Meinrad Benedictine Archabbey in southern Indiana (about a six-hour drive from Alcoa).

I'm the oldest of six kids, originally from the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri -from where Bishop O'Connell hails, and where my parents Herb and Alma Sturm still reside. I was "adopted" by Our Lady of Fatima parish, when Bishop O'Connell assigned me here to get some parish ministry experience, under the direction of Fr. Brando. Ever since that summer of 1995, I've tried to return to Our Lady of Fatima to visit or help out (where I could) during the Christmas and Easter seasons. So, the past Christmas Week and Holy Week, I was here trying to learn as much as I could about liturgical roles, and how to be a master of ceremonies.

One of the requirements of the Master of Divinity degree is that one must get experience as a chaplain in a hospital. The program is called Clinical Pastoral Experience or CPE. I've been accepted at the UT Medical Center to do my CPE this summer, so I'll get to live at the rectory. I am looking forward to being here with my "adopted" family as I complete yet another course of study for the priesthood.

THE FATIMA SUN

Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Alcoa, TN

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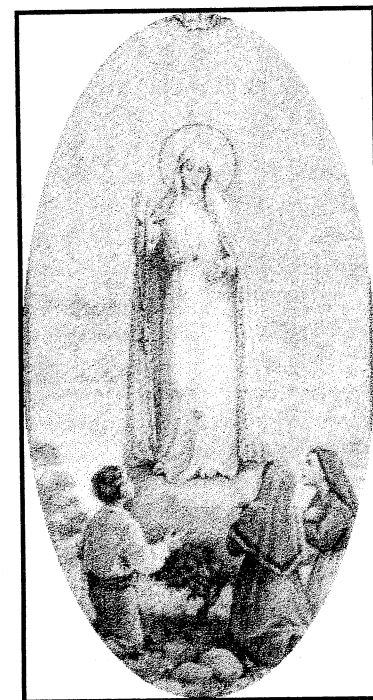
PRAYERFUL REFLECTION NEEDED FOR FUND RAISING COMMITMENT

During the past several weeks each parishioner had the opportunity to view the preliminary designs for our new church and to make suggestions. The feedback and comments we heard were most favorable. Your fund raising committee wholly endorses the direction in which the architects are going. Obviously, changes will be made to meet liturgical, functional, and personal (our unique community) requirements. In early September the architects will complete final designs for presentation to the parish community.

As you all know, the next few months are critical to our building process. As we plan and develop the formal Capital Giving Campaign, each of us must begin thinking what our personal financial commitment will be to this process. Together we are building God's church, and each day at Mass when we recite our Prayer for the Parish we say "We consecrate to you all of our efforts as we build a place of worship that reflects our faith". These are powerful words. Let us all seriously and deeply reflect on them, while remembering: Everything we have comes from God - time, talents, and treasures. God expects us to be good stewards over what He has given us.

We must give back to Him from an attitude of love. We will reap all kinds of rewards because of our generosity. The more we give, the greater our rewards.

As each of us does our part, God will do His part, and together "Our Dream is Realized".



*Our Lady Of Fatima
Pray for us*

Community Food Connection Thanks Parishioners

These are excerpts from a letter from Ann Meyer, a board member of the CFC.
Dear Members and Youth of Our Lady of Fatima Church,

On behalf of the many people who come to the Community Food Connection in need of food, and the volunteers of Community Food Connection, we would like to thank you for your great help during the annual Postal Carriers food drive this past Saturday, May 10.

We do sincerely thank you for the caring and sharing of your time to help others of our community. Your church has certainly always been most supportive of the Community Food Connection from its beginning some five years ago and we do appreciate you!

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- Discerning the Priesthood--
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- Young Adults Begin
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- Religious Education News
- Parishioners in the News
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Word
- Bloom in His Spirit

THE FATIMA SUN

Volume 1, Issue 5

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC
CHURCH

September/October

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982-3672

Fr. Boisvert
Assoc. Pastor
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Youth Minister
&
Choir Director
981-9049

Fatima Center
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toral Council

Fund Raising for New Church Successful

On Monday, September 22 and Thursday, September 25 our parish hosted two fund raising dinners at William Blount High School. Approximately 50% of our parish family attended these two dinners and pledged \$570,385 for Phase I to be paid by ground breaking in August, and \$957,700 over the next five years. We are very grateful to those parish-

ioners who made this sacrifice to make our new place of worship become a reality. We are presently making arrangements to meet with the other 50% of families that did not attend, to secure their pledges.

We also wish to thank the twelve high school members of the CYO who selflessly gave their time at each dinner to set up and serve coffee and deserts. Our dinners would not have been possible without their help.

-Ed McNeeley



Bishop O'Connell and Father Brando present Anna Marie Borbeck with a plaque honoring her late husband Frank Borbeck for his pioneering efforts in the needs assessment of Our Lady of Fatima and his vision of the growth of the Catholic Church in Blount County.

**For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
Matthew 6:21**

There is a Way to Return to the Church

Do you know of anyone who is a non-practicing Catholic who has stayed away because of some "obstacle" or another? They may be staying away because they have been "hurt" by their church in some way, or because they feel they have broken a "rule" that can never be repaired. Yet, they miss their church and the comfort it brings

them, and they desire to return. *Landings* may be the answer. The *Landings* program is a series of 8-10 weekly meetings where those who want to return meet with active parishioners who act as companions on this journey. At these meetings we pray, share our faith stories, discuss topics of contemporary Catholic issues, and in general try to overcome the "obstacles" that block the

road back.

If you or anyone you know is interested in this program, or want more information on *Landings*, please call the parish office at 982-3672 and leave a name and telephone number. Someone from *Landings* will return your call as soon as possible.

Seeking companions for *Landings*. It
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