



100

ST. ROBERT PARISH

The Sixth Decade

1962-1972

- **1960's** - Circles were card clubs that met regularly and made donations to the parish annually. February 24, 1963, bulletin - "We thank the ladies of the St. Candace Circle for a gift of \$100 which will be used for furnishing of the convent. This is their fifth contribution to the parish."
- **February 24, 1963** - CFM (Christian Family Movement) sponsored a Cana Night in the multi-purpose room. CFM was an action group dedicated to learning how husbands and wives can work as a team to love their neighbor more effectively as couples, Christians and citizens.
- The Knights of the Altar was an organization for altar servers. Rev. Patrick Dowd, assistant pastor, was the organizer.
- **January 19, 1964** - Bulletin announcement: 2,000 books were borrowed during 1963 from the Parish Library. Sixteen volunteer librarians staffed the Library, located in the lower level of the church and open Sunday mornings.
- **March 14, 1964** - The funeral service for Mary Fuerstenberg, Msgr. Reilly's housekeeper for over 30 years, was held at St. Robert Church.
- **September 6, 1964** - Fr. McGinnity, pastor, announced that to celebrate his 40th anniversary of ordination he would travel to Ireland in September, the land from which his great-grandparents emigrated.
- **January 3, 1965** - With the reduction of the Eucharistic fast to one hour, the need for a school day 11:15 Mass ceased. Beginning January 4, the school children attended Mass at 8:15. Those who wished to receive Communion finished their breakfast by 7:30. The school day began at 8:55.



The main altar was moved forward toward the congregation in the late 1960s- early 1970s. The tabernacle, which had been on the main altar, was placed on a pedestal table under the baldachine. A platform, carpeted in red, was built out from the level of the baldachine platform to accommodate the downsized Altar. This location enabled the priest to face the congregation when celebrating Mass.

- **Friday, April 7, 1965** - Rev. Gerald E. McGinnity, pastor of St. Robert Parish, died unexpectedly while bowling at Milshore Bowl on Capitol Dr. He had served as deacon at the funeral of a classmate that morning.

- **June 1965** - Msgr. Frank M. Schneider, Rector of St. Francis Seminary from 1946 to 1965, became the third pastor of St. Robert Parish.

1962 - 1972

St. Robert of Newminster Parish



March 8, 1964 - Christian Family Movement sponsored an Ecumenical Open House of the church. One of the guides is showing Fr. Cary's confessional to the visitors.

- **1966** - The St. Robert Athletic Association was established when Pastor Msgr. Schneider informed parishioners that the parish could no longer afford to fund an athletic program as it had almost from the founding of the school in 1915. The Association took over the responsibility of raising funds for the program and finding coaches for the teams.

- **1967** - The St. Robert members of the Serra Club presented the school with framed portraits of priest-sons of the parish. The pictures were hung in the second floor hallway.



Rt. Rev. Frank M. Schneider celebrates his 25th anniversary of ordination in this photo. While pastor of St. Robert Parish, Msgr. Schneider celebrated his 40th anniversary in 1970.

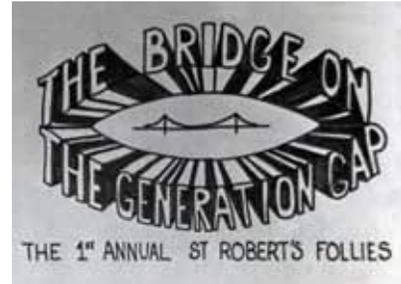
- **1968** - A Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) board was formed to oversee a program that would offer religious education to parish children attending public schools. Parishioner Mary Ellen Fromm became the first principal of the religious education grade school program. She served until 1972 on a volunteer basis.

- **April 1970** - A committee was appointed to explore the concept of a Parish Council for St. Robert Parish in an effort to com-

ply with directives of the Second Vatican Council that encouraged more lay involvement in the Church.

- **June 1970** - The St. Anne Society, founded in 1913 to support the spiritual and temporal welfare of the church, after a long history of activity and service, came to a quiet end because of lack of leadership. The Society had monthly social meetings and was active in fundraising projects for many building and expansion projects in the parish.

- **June 1970** - The St. Robert Holy Name Society that received its charter from the national organization in November, 1915, was disbanded in 1970 for many of the reasons that the St. Anne Society ceased to exist: parishioners who had been members of these societies were becoming members of committees of the Parish Council and leadership was difficult to raise up.



April 1969 - The Home and School Association presented the First Annual St. Robert Follies - "The Bridge Over the Generation Gap." Eight Follies in all were staged, the last in 1977.

- **February 14, 1971** - Results of the first Parish Council election were published. Six members at large were elected and five members were appointed representing parish societies. Ex-officio members were the pastor, school principal and two trustees.

• **During the 6th Decade:**

Popes John XXIII (1958-63) and Paul VI (1963-78)
 Archbishop William E. Cousins (1958-77)
 Pastors Gerald E. McGinnity (1956-65) and Frank M. Schneider (1965-73)

Assistants: Patrick A. Dowd (1959-64), Peter J. Cary (1960-68), Raymond Callahan (1962-68), Guy (L.L) Gurath (1964-71), John Flanagan, S.C.J. (1968), John J. Wutscheck (1968-71), Thomas R. Shefforgan (1968-69), John L. Brophy (1969-73), Charles Reiner, O.S.B. (1971-72), Joseph Coerber (1972-76), Richard L. Grebasch (1972-77)

Principals: Srs. Marie Robert Letford, O.P. (1959-65), Jordan (Patricia) Powers, O.P. (1965-71), and co-principals M. Loretta McIlvenna, O.P., and Mary Fox, O.P. (1971-76)

Parish Trustees: Francis G. Daley (1953-69), Richard G. Maas (1970-72), Paul Noelke (1972-74), Steven E. Keane (1960-76)