

Dear Fellow Laborer for the Lord.

Did you ever think of yourself as a Laborer of the Lord? I know I never did, and when you talk to people they don't have that reflective view. But, as we approached our 25th Anniversary I started to think about what, as a Parish, we should do. It struck me that each and every one of us has been called and has served as a "laborer for the Lord". Reflect on Luke 10:2-3 "The harvest is rich, but the laborers are few, so pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to his harvest". We are admonished to pray for laborers, but did you ever think that you are the answer to those prayers?

In the displays, we have tried to capture in photographs and other mementos, the history of St. Thomas a' Becket Parish. A history of a Parish, which saw itself as a family community which would grow as families do, but with one difference;

Families interminable in our Christian faith and trust in God.
We divided the 25 years into five-year segments to capture the evolution of our family growth. These segments are titled:

"The Creation Years"	1977-1981
"The Early Development Years"	1982-1986
"The Formative Years"	1987-1991
"The Teenage Years"	1992-1996
"The Young Adult Years"	1997-2001

The first segment is like a newborn, the first years saw much growth in creating, ministries, commissions, etc. The second segment involves understanding working within our means. The third segment developed again gaining new capabilities through expanded facilities. The fourth segment is analogous to a teenager trying to establish the course they will follow. Finally, the current segment sees us as the young adult ready to start out on life's journey. With the Father Porcari Family Life Center for family functions and gatherings, the addition and expansion of classrooms and the new church, these facilities will provide even greater religious reward to our Parish Family.

Like our own families, the parish has struggled and faced many challenges. Look at these displays with a joyous heart and give thanks to the Lord for "HE" has answered our prayers. You have been sent as "laborer for the Lord". "The harvest is rich, but the laborers are few, so pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to his harvest". YOU are the answer to our prayers.

25th Anniversary Committee