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Garberville Catholic Church Rectory Research

Susie Van Kirk

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Garberville Catholic Church Rectory Research
Feb.-April 2015
For Rich and Associates

Ownership
APN 032-135-017, 50 feet of lot 13; 100 feet of lot 14, Block 8; 150x110 feet. 515 Maple Lane, Fortuna. Roman Catholic Bishop of Santa Rosa, P.O. Box 115, Garberville, CA 95542-011


OR 698:164 (20 July 1962) Diocese of Sacramento Education and Welfare Corp. to Roman Catholic Welfare Corp of Santa Rosa, grant deed (19 July 1962) Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento To Roman Catholic Bishop of Santa Rosa, all parcels of real property in County of Humboldt in name of Grantor, excepting 40 acres in section 28, 4N3E and 320 acres in sections in 4N1E.

Site Visit, 10 April 2015; photos; Bill Rich and Joan Courtois from Church.
Joan explained that the church property has suffered from water damage, due to topography, drainage problems, paved parking lot on east side of the church, downspouts, etc. They have done extensive work to remedy resulting problems affecting the church edifice. When they began looking at the rectory, it was one problem after another until they decided it wasn’t worth trying to keep up the old building, but decided to demolish it and build a new rectory.

Since Father Tom Gowing died in 2002 (he lived there for six or seven years), nobody has wanted to live there. The present priest resides in Ferndale and comes to Garberville for services. Without a rectory, there is no chance of having a resident priest. Now they can’t even have a priest visit overnight or for a week for special events, because there is no rectory. She mentioned Father Jim Trent from Fortuna; Father Louis Coderra from Fortuna and Father Gary S from Scotia.

Front façade of church, at least an original porch or inset, has been enclosed with new vertical hardiplank and doors, providing a c.6-foot entry before entering the sanctuary. Colored glass in the windows along each side of the sanctuary have been replaced with clear, but textured glass. Redwood altar still there. Heavy solid pews are quite beautiful. To left is preparation room that goes into laundry room and then into the rectory. To right is a room, now divided/walled off where there is a janitors sink and a couple of bathrooms. Going back outside, east side of church, to the right are the double doors into the parish hall. At the rear (west end) are steps to the back yard, which is quite a drop off. The deck of the rear of the rectory had to be removed due to rot, also evident in rectory siding.

Present rectory has a living room, den (goes onto carport), three bedrooms, couple of bath rooms and a kitchen. A laundry room connects the kitchen to the church room where the priest prepares for services. Difficult to figure out this connecting room. Joan thought it was like a breezeway that has been enclosed. There is outside siding on the kitchen wall and an outside
window, indicating that the laundry room was not constructed when the rectory was. However, there is outside siding on the north wall of the laundry room. On the exterior the laundry room connection to the church siding is very well done, but not the attachment to the rectory. Who knows?

The rectory is a one-story, wood-frame house with front facing gable, measuring 30 feet across the front. The porch, also with gabled roof, is 6 feet deep, 10 feet wide with three steps. The door is centered at 15 feet. Original picture window to left of front door is 7 feet wide total including two sidelights 16 inches each in width, making the picture window 4 feet 3 inches. Side measurement overall is about 55 feet; to laundry room/connector 36.9 feet; from other side of connector to end of house 11.5 feet. Connector about 6.9.

Siding is a horizontal tongue-and-grove, about 4 inches wide. Original windows are double hung, wood-frame windows with latches between sashes. Front façade originally had two picture windows, one on either side of the front entrance. The original aluminum-framed picture window with 16-inch sidelights remains west of the entry; the window east of the entry was replaced with a vinyl window. Two other wood-frame windows remain over the kitchen sink.

References

HT (5 June 1938) Vacation In The Redwoods; advertisements for resorts: Visit the Unique Log House, Garberville. A.W.N. Johnson, prop. Thousands of beautiful hand-turned redwood novelties. This is the only house in the world constructed of cross-cut redwood logs. U.S. Patent No…Floral ceremony by the post. Right in the center of Garberville.

RR (2 Sept. 1938) Photo. Ten Years of Christian Service Marks Anniversary of Community Church of Garberville. By Rev. August E. Harris.—The community church has reached its tenth year as our organized church. Our church was organized as a community church to work in and for the community….Rev. Harold Morehouse began as a missionary here on Sept. 1, 1928. This church was then made a part of the Eel River Parish. On April 14, 1932, the church was definitely organized as a community church, under the care of the Presbyterian Church, USA. Harold Morehouse served as pastor and missionary from Sept. 1, 1928 until Nov. 8, 1934. Rev. Wesley Van Delinder was called as pastor Jan. 1, 1935. He served until Feb. 1, 1937. Rev. August E. Harris, May 13, 1937 to present. During this time 78 members have been received into the fellowship of the church. There are 63 active members on the roll at present; organized with 20 active members; Besides the church, a manse has been built strictly modern and architecturally correct. [more]

RR (13 Oct. 1938) Burlington Burly Cues, vol. 1:2—Unique Log House Story Told Boys by Arthur Johnson, interesting talk on one and only “Unique Log House” at Garberville by is owner and builder, Arthur W.N. Johnson; has US patent on Unique Log House, pictured in Ripley’s Believe It or Not.

RR (9 May 1939) Unique Log House in Believe It Or Not.

RR (8 Feb. 1940) Community Church and Adventist listed; no other religious organization.
RR (13 June 1940) Community Church and Adventists only listed churches.

RR (27 June 1940) Little Likes and Dislikes by ME—And—for the religiously inclined, there are church services—both Protestant and Catholic—in Garberville ever Sunday, with other church groups meeting during the week.

RR (27 June 1940) Catholic Church—Mass will be said at Garberville in the Firemen’s Hall at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday from June 9 to Sept. 8.

RR (5 June 1941) Catholic Church—Mass during summer at 10:30 a.m., Rev. Father J. O’Flanagan.

RR (12 June 1942) Catholic Church. Mass will be said every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. during the summer months at the Firemen’s Hall in Garberville, starting June 8. The services will be conducted by the Rev. Father J. O’Flanagan.

RR (3 Jan. 1946) Churches in Garberville: Community Church; Assembly of God

RR (1 Jan. 1948) Churches in Garberville: Community Church, Christian Science Society; Assembly of God

RR (6 Jan. 1949) Churches in Garberville: Community Church; Assembly of God; Christian Science Society.

RR (21 April 1949) Churches in Garberville: Community Church; Christian Science; Assembly of God; Seventh Day Adventists.


RR (1 Sept. 1949) Churches in Garberville: Community Church, The Little White Church; Christian Science Society, Civic Clubhouse; Assembly of God; Seventh Day Adventists meeting in Community church; Catholic Church Services at Fire Hall.

RR (6 Oct. 1949) Ground Broken for New Catholic church—On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 9 at 2:30, a short ceremony will take place on the site of Garberville’s new Catholic church at [unclear] of Maple Lane to dedicate the laying of the cornerstone or Blessing of the Foundation Stone, with Father McGrath officiating. Everyone is invited to attend.
Ground was broken on Tuesday of this week as the preliminary step in the building of a beautiful Catholic church edifice on the recently acquired lot, the Wagner place, situated two blocks east of Highway 101. The building, the exterior of which will be finished in natural redwood, will measure 44 by 74 ground feet and will have a seating capacity of about 270.

All local mills thus far contacted have been very generous in their co-operation, reports W.N. Nixon, who is chairman of the building committee.

Many individuals have contributed to the Catholic church building fund and others who wish to donate to the cause may do so by contacting Father McGrath at Scotia or the following at Garberville: Bill Nixon, Ed Warren, Tom Mealey, and Bernie Bush; Guy Cloney at Myers Flat.

RR (27 Oct. 1949) Catholic Church Services. Father McGrath, 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays, Civic Clubhouse, Garberville, 8 o’clock a.m.

RR (5 Jan 1950) Churches: Community Church; Christian Science Society; Assembly of God; Seventh Day Adventists; Catholic Church Services, Father McGrath, 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays, Civic Clubhouse, Garberville, 8 a.m.

RR (6 April 1950) Church Services; Catholic Easter service will be held in the new Catholic church on Maple Lane. Although the building is not complete, seating arrangements are assured for the occasion.

RR (27 April 1950) Churches in Garberville: Community Church, Christian Science Society; Assembly of God.

RR (25 May 1950) Catholic Services every Sunday morning at 10:30; New Church Edifice, Maple Lane.

RR (13 July 1950) Catholics to stage big bazaar event; at fire hall, dance, concessions including country store, cake booth, linen booth, bingo games, etc.


Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony which will begin at 10:30 a.m. on the front steps of the beautiful new all redwood structure which recently was completed except for installation of the pews which are expected to be set in place by early fall. With Bishop Armstrong officiating, mass will be conducted in the new church, immediately following the outdoor ceremony.

A special luncheon at Knapp’s Redwood Room at 12:30 has been arranged in the bishop’s honor, to which everyone interested will be welcome. Reservations may be made through Knapp’s Bill Nixon, Father McGrath or Ed Warren.

The new Catholic church measures 42 by 70 feet over all and will have a seating capacity of 270 to 300 when the pews are installed. Its beautifully designed redwood burl altar, built by Arthur W.A. Johnson of the Unique Log House in Garberville, is one of the only known two redwood burl altars in the world. The other one was also built by Johnson in Nevada a number of years ago.
Labor for the building of the new Catholic church was contracted by Robert Douglas of Fortuna, and all materials were purchased by a local committee who were accorded all-out cooperation by local merchants and individuals contacted. There were a number of outright donations besides many considerations at cost, all of which added up to give Garberville another very fine church.

RR (20 July 1950) Catholic Dance Bazaar Great Success, 400-450 people attended. A most gratifying sum of money was realized.

RR (27 July 1950) High Mass Marks Formal Dedication of Garberville’s New Catholic Church—Garberville’s new Catholic church, “Our Lady of the Redwoods,” was formally dedicated in an impressive ceremony last Sunday morning, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Robert Armstrong of Sacramento officiating at the high mass service.

Approximately 350 people gathered outside the beautiful redwood edifice at 10:30 when the bishop pronounced the blessing dedicating the church and naming it “Our Lady of the Redwoods.”

Every seat in the church was filled and many stood at the rear and on the steps outside during the mass with the Rt. Rev. Bishop Armstrong leading the service assisted by Fr. Patrick McGrath of Scotia, Fr. Cornelius O’Connor of Eureka and Fr. Luke of Sacramento.

Arrangements of white flowers and forest greens adorned the beautiful redwood burl altar besides the usual appointments used in Catholic services. The ornate vestments worn by the bishop added a note of rich color tone to the ceremony.

The rustic type church is built along gothic lines with four massive redwood pillars supporting the front and gothic type windows of opaque glass throughout. The interior with high arched ceiling is sheathed with sheetrock decorated in soft neutral tones and graceful pillared arches have been set at interval along each side.

The church is well lighted by fluorescent fixtures enclosed in glass panels set flush in the ceiling and hidden spotlights illuminate the altar. The redwood burl altar, designed and built by Arthur W.N. Johnson of the Unique Log House in Garberville, is a masterpiece of fine craftsmanship.

The luncheon honoring Bishop Armstrong and visiting priests was held in Knapp’s Redwood Room at 12:30. Tom Mealey of Garberville acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the honored guests, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Armstrong and Frs. McGrath, O’Connor and Luke and Leo J. Kulieck, who arrived later.

The bishop gave a short address commending the Garberville committee on their success in attaining such a beautiful church. Fr. McGrath, who is pastor of the Scotia church and also conducts services at Garberville, spoke encouragingly of the probability of a resident priest for Garberville in the near future.

Frs. O’Connor and Luke also voiced congratulations to the Garberville Catholics as did Fr. Kulieck and George Bertain of Scotia.

HT (30 July 1950) Photo 1. A combination of simplicity and beauty marks the interior of the new Catholic church at Garberville, “Our Lady of the Redwoods,” which was dedicated and blessed last Sunday. The redwood theme predominates throughout the new structure. Photo 2. Bishop Robert J. Armstrong of the Sacramento diocese leads the procession outside of the church just prior to its opening. Following are Fathers Powelson, O’Connor and McGrath. Photo 3. The age-
old tradition of the Catholic church in dedicating its religious edifices was carried out with as much dignity as though a cathedral was being opened. Here the crowd gathers about Bishop Armstrong at one point in the ritual. Photo 4. Standing before the all-redwood burl altar, Bishop Armstrong, right and Father McGrath, the pastor, left following the dedication ceremony. Photo 5. After the services, Bishop Armstrong visited with some of those who attended the blessing and the first Mass at “Our Lady of the Redwoods.” Left to right are Mrs. E.J. O’Neil of eureka, Bishop Armstrong, George Bertain and family members, and Ms. Dan Coakley, all of Scotia.

“Our Lady of the Redwoods” New Catholic Church Accentuates the Natural Beauties of Redwoods in Altar, Structural, Other Features. By Andrew M. Genzoli. A long awaited ambition was fulfilled for Catholics of the extreme part of Southern Humboldt last weekend, with the dedication and official opening of a beautiful new edifice, “Our Lady of the Redwoods,” at Garberville.

For many months the new church has been under construction, and every possible effort was made to keep the setting in theme with the surrounding countryside. In the heart of the redwoods, the new church is constructed entirely of redwood, with the natural exterior finish being preserved with a stain. Topping the edifice is a hand-hewn cross, while the entrance features are pairs of natural finish redwood pillars, still bearing the natural bark.

: Our Lady of the Redwoods” is indeed unique among the churches in the Humboldt area. Even the beautiful altar is made almost entirely of redwood burl of a high quality, selected for its particular use. There is a touch of simplicity, combined with beauty in the new structure, for there are arches of a Gothic nature to be found, blending in with the use of fiber-board, throughout. The communion rail is of redwood, highly polished, with its two gates leading to the altar.

Instead of the traditional choir loft, in the rear of the church, there is an alcove, wherein nestles the small organ, with room for a sizable choir, similar to the one which sang the dedicatory music at last Sunday’s Mass.

“Our Lady of the Redwoods,” is in itself significant, for the church is dedicated in honor of the Mother of Christ, and is the first time that the name of Our Lady has been associated with the forest giants in this state, although the Pacific, the mountains and other features have been used time and again.

Over the redwood burl altar, hangs a large crucifix, while directly below on the altar itself is the large metallic tabernacle which houses the Blessed Sacrament. Lacy altar cloths adorn the altar itself. There is no pulpit, but instead a reader’s podium suffices.

Last Sunday, as Catholics from all parts of Humboldt, as well as a large number of tourists passing through Garberville, gathered at “Our Lady of the Redwoods,” the age-old dedicatory and blessing ritual took place preceding the Mass. With Bishop Robert J. Armstrong of the Sacramento diocese presiding, the traditional procession around the church, and over church grounds was made. The Bishop was in his ecclesiastical robes, and carried the staff of his office—the crozier. With him were Father McGrath, pastor of both the Scotia and Garberville churches, Father O’Connor of Eureka, and Father Luke Powelson OFM, of Sacramento.

At the doors of the church, a brief ceremony took place, following which the clergy entered, followed by the faithful, where the final steps in blessing the structure took place. There was only standing room for many, while many more overflowed out onto the sidewalk.

After the dedication, Bishop Armstrong presided over a low Mass, with Father McGrath and O’Connor assisting him. The Bishop delivered the sermon, telling of the construction of the church, and the part it will play in the lives of the Catholics in the Southern Humboldt area. A
large number of those present received the first distribution of Holy Communion in the new church.

After Mass, many of the church-goers lingered for awhile, while some of them visited with Bishop Armstrong. At noon a luncheon was held at Knapp’s café, where many of those who took part in constructing the new church celebrated the occasion and paid tribute to the Bishop.

During the remaining summer months Mass will be held each Sunday at 10:30 at “Our Lady of the Redwoods” in Garberville.

RR (9 Nov. 1950) Resident Priest To Take Over Newly Named Parish Here—Announcement was made today of the establishment of the Garberville Catholic parish to embrace all the territory from and including Myers Flat south to the county line with a resident priest, Fr. Patrick Gleeson to preside.

Although no Catholic services are scheduled for next Sunday, Nov. 12, due to unavoidable circumstances, Fr. Gleeson will arrive here some time next week to arrange a schedule of masses for the future.

Appointed by Bishop Armstrong of Sacramento to be the pastorate of Garberville’s Our Lady of the Redwoods church, Fr. Gleeson comes here from Sacramento where he has been serving as assistant priest at Sacred Heart Church of that city.

RR (23 Nov. 1950) Catholic Services; Church of Our Lady of the Redwoods, The Rev. Patrick Gleeson, Pastor. Mass will be at 9 each Sunday morning for the winter months. Confessions each Saturday afternoon from 3 to 4 and evening 7-8. Catechism each Saturday 10:30 to noon.

RR (30 Nov. 1950) New Priest for Catholic Church—The Rev. Fr. Patrick Gleeson last Sunday officiated at his first mass in Garberville’s Catholic church, Our Lady of the Redwoods, as resident priest of the newly-established parish here….A native of County Tipperary, Ireland, Fr. Gleeson attended St. Patrick’s College in Thurles and was ordained on June 8, 1947.


RR (18 Jan. 1951) Churches in Garberville: Community Church; Christian Science; Assembly of God; Catholic; Alderpoint Community Church; Episcopal Services, Garberville Civic Clubhouse. FR. A.C. King, pastor.


RR (7 June 1951) First Baptist Church affiliated with Southern Baptist, K of P Hall, Maple and Locust streets. (21 June 1951) Church of Nazarene; (19 July 1951) Redwood Highway Mobile Ministry (Methodist)

RR (6 Dec. 1951) Church of Our Lady in the Redwoods. The Rev. Patrick Gleeson, Masses 8:00 and 9:30; Confessions, etc.

RR (8 May 1952) Churches in Garberville: Alderpoint Community; the Miranda Church; Catholic; Calvary Baptist; Christian Science Society; Community Church; Assembly of God; Church of Nazarene.


RR (26 Jan. 1967) Community Bids Fond Farewell to Fr. Gleeson. Photo—With more than sixteen years service in Southern Humboldt to his credit, the Rev. Patrick Gleeson, pastor of Our Lady of the Redwoods Catholic Church, has been notified of his reassignment to serve as pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Calistoga. He reports there on Monday, January 30. His duties will also include the pastorate of St. Joseph’s Church in nearby Middletown.

Fr. Gleeson can truthfully be called one of the most loved and respected individuals in our community. The announcement of his transfer brought an immediate response of dismay from citizens outside the Catholic community, as well as among his own parishioners. Last week a delegation bearing scores of letters and testimonials asking that Fr. Gleeson be allowed to remain in his present post, was received by The Most Rev. Leo T. Maher, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa. Bishop Maher was sympathetic to the feelings of the community and much impressed with the deluge of mail received in his office. However, he was adamant in his decision explaining that one of the key reasons for the transfer was to place Fr. Gleeson in a situation where he could have more help in carrying out his work. At Calistoga, he will be assisted by monks from a nearby Carmelite installation which will greatly alleviate the physical load which he has carried so long here in Our Lady’s parish.

An open house has been planned in Fr. Gleeson’s honor and will be held Friday Jan 27, 7-9 p.m. in the parish house of Our Lady’s Church, Maple Lane. All friends are most cordially invited to attend.

It was in December 1950 Fr. Gleeson arrived to assume leadership of Our Lady’s parish. At 22 years of age, just two years from his native Ireland, he had been named a full pastor, the youngest pastor in the history of the diocese. (The local area at that time was still a part of the Diocese of Sacramento with headquarters in the state capitol).

And so he arrived in Garberville to take over his duties as pastor. But pastor of what? In a fifty mile radius, there were 18 adults and seven children, his flock. Today the parish numbers 125 families, or an approximate 350 Catholics and has come a long way in making a place for itself in local community life.

Just how much the situation has changed Fr. Gleeson knows full well. He remembers clearly the distrust and suspicion that surrounded his arrival a little more than fifteen years ago, when after only a few days in town, he heard a rumor that a local delegation would be calling on him to help him pack his bag and leave. They never did and it is hard to admit such a bigoted attitude could have existed. Perhaps an indication of how far we have come along the ecumenical road is emphasized by the service of Prayer and Witness sponsored by the local churches and held last night at Our Lady’s church—a service of joint worship open to Christians of all denominations with the Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopal churches assuming active roles.

Through the years, Fr. Gleeson has been a source of strength not only to his parishioners but to all in the community in want or need who cried out for his help. This modest, hard-working man has a rare gift of understanding of people. His work with youth of the area has been outstanding. He has on occasion been referred to as “the unofficial chaplain of South Fork High.
He is an ardent sports fan rarely missing a high school athletic event and is a devoted golfer. In recent years he has taken over the duties of chaplain at the High Rock honor camp of the state prison system and had been recently appointed for a similar position at the new Eel Rock Conservation Center near Redway. Since the establishment of the Redwoods Monastery at Whitethorn, he has served as Director of the Monastery and Extraordinary Confessor to the Cistercians stationed there. He has always given great effort to serve his scattered parish, making it his chore to bring the Church to the people. In the early days, he conducted a Garberville service then flew with pilot Lee Etter to Alderpoint for service and on his return drove to either Miranda or Myers Flat to hold services there. And his pace has never slackened through the years.

During the 1964 flood he seemed to be everywhere at once helping anyone who needed assistance. His telephone bill for that period ran into the hundreds of dollars because of the number of calls of reassurance to family members of travelers caught and stranded and local residents who had no means of communicating with outside areas.

Fr. Gleeson’s first service was held in Our Lady’s Church before the structure was completed. It had a roof and side walls, but no floor. It was soon completed and has been steadily improved through the years with the most recent innovation a newly-constructed parish hall.

On Sunday, Jan. 29, Fr. Patrick Gleeson will deliver his final sermon, officiate at his final rites in the parish he has called home for so many years. It will not be easy to say goodbye, but another parish needs his service, other people need his help and the call must be answered.

All friends of the area are most cordially invited to attend the open house Friday evening and if they wish, the final service on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Our Lady’s new pastor, the Rev. Gerard Fahey, formerly of Eureka, will take up his duties here immediately.

Fr. Gleeson’s new address is The Rev. Patrick Gleeson, pastor Our Lady of Perpetual Help church, 901 Washington St., Calistoga, CA 94515.


RR (14 Dec. 1967) Local Churches Plan Christmas Services. Catholic. Our Lady of the Redwoods, Christmas Eve Mass at midnight; Christmas Day Mass 8 a.m. in Garberville; Rev. Gerard Fahey will also conduct services at 10 a.m. at Eel River Conservation Camp at Redway and 3 p.m. at High Rock Conservation Camp at Redcrest.


T-S (16 April 1969) Rev. Fahey officiated at funeral services in Garberville.

RR (2 April 1970) Marriage performed at Our Lady by Fr. Gary Timmons of Arcata.

RR (23 April 1970) Our Lady, Rev. Gerard Fehay


RR (3 Sept. 1970) Our Lady’s Church Assigned New Pastor—Fr. Gerard Brady preached his final sermon Sunday to parishioners of Our Lady’s Catholic Church and has gone to Crescent City to take up new duties as pastor of St. Joseph’s parish.
Fr. Philip Ryan assumed duties in Garberville on September 1 as pastor of Our Lady’s parish. Fr. Ryan was born, educated and ordained in Ireland. Following his ordination in 1957, he served in Australia until 1968 when he arrived in Fortuna [Eureka] to serve as associate pastor of St. Joseph’s parish.

RR (8 July 1971) Our Lady of the Redwoods, Rev. Philip Ryan.

RR (7 Oct. 1971) Catholic Church Roof, Paint Job Result of Community Donations—Our Lady of the Redwoods Catholic Church and parish house are displaying a new shake roof and will soon be newly painted.

According to Fr. Philip Ryan, the Boise Cascade Company through efforts of Hank Brown of Westport, donated the lumber for the shakes. Beryl Lewis hauled the material to Redway and donated his efforts to cut the shakes. Contractor Lou Spaggiari had charge of the actual roofing. Spaggiari then donated asphalt roofing for the church garage and the labor for this job was donated by Carl Christiansen and Jim Reese.

The next project will be the painting of the church and parish house. Through cooperation of Lt Stevens at the Eel River Conservation Camp, inmate crews will donate their time to do the work. Special Sunday offerings from parishioners and visiting tourists together with proceeds from church sponsored game nights provided the necessary cash outlays. The parishioners are most appreciative of the community interest and donations which have made these repairs possible.

RR (25 May 1972) 25th Anniversary for Fr. Patrick Gleeson. Photo. His many friends in the southern Humboldt area are invited to attend a Concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving and a reception commemorating the silver jubilee of the ministry of the Rev. Patrick Gleeson who served Our Lady of the Redwoods parish for 16 years prior to his move to Calistoga in 1967.

The invitation is extended by parish members of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Calistoga where Fr. Gleeson now serves. The Mass will be held on Sunday, June 4, at 2 o’clock in the Calistoga Church followed by a reception at Butler Pavilion, Calistoga.

RR (8 June 1972) Parishioners Honor Fr. Gleeson—Special greetings from parishioners of his former parish of his silver jubilee, marking 25 years as a Roman Catholic priest, the Rev. Patrick Gleeson [was honored on June 4].

A group of 12 from Garberville made the trip to Calistoga where Fr. Gleeson now serves to be present for a Concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and at a reception which followed in the pavilion of the fairgrounds.

The local contingent included Anne Dearborn, Bill and Elaine Nixon, Don and Shirley DeSomery, Des and Ora Switchenbank and son Allan, Kay Whiteley, Esther Miller and Dan and Pat Healy. They presented Fr. Gleeson a monetary gift from the southern Humboldt parish. Members of the Calistoga Parish gave a round-trip ticket to Ireland and Fr. Gleeson left Monday for a visit with his family. There were also other gifts from the many people who gathered to honor him on the 25th anniversary.

RR (21 Dec. 1972) Church Services—Our Lady’s Church the Rev. Philip Ryan has announced the Christmas schedule at Our Lady of the Redwoods Church….
RR (7 June 1973) Marriage at Our Lady performed by Fr. Philip Ryan.

RR (11 Oct. 1973) FR. Ryan Home from Ireland—Fr. Philip Ryan, pastor of Our Lady of the Redwoods Church, has just returned from a trip to Ireland. During his month's sojourn in Tipperary, Republic of Ireland, he visited with his mother, brothers and sisters and other relatives.

While Fr. Ryan was absent, two priests filled the pulpit. Fr. Charles O’Flynn had many interesting stories to tell of his 28 years experience as a missionary in Africa. Fr. Ed Murphy, a Jesuit priest from San Francisco, told of his experiences of 26 years in China, including two and half years in a Chinese concentration camp. In answer to queries about his vacation, Fr. Ryan commented that many Americans are enjoying visits in Ireland….

RR (19 Dec. 1974) Christmas Church Services…The Rev. John Healy of Our Lady of the Redwoods Church, Maple Lane, Garberville….