

implemented. The priest now faced the people; the language of the Mass and the Sacraments was in the vernacular; there was the emergence of the layman and laywoman; the Parish council, and the lector were originated. The anointing of the sick and the new penitential rite were further innovations of Vatican II. The wafer in the hand was easily accepted once it was understood. The Neo-Catechumenate was restored to introduce deeper spirituality into the parish. These profound changes provided new experiences for the priests and the laity. People were no longer detached, silent spectators; they were active participants in the Mass. It was a confusing period of re-education, and Father Murphy led the parish through the transition before he died on September 30, 1969.

Bishop Francis J. Mugavero, the fifth Bishop of Brooklyn, appointed Father Thomas J. Sutherland as the new pastor of Blessed Sacrament. Father Sutherland came from St. Laurence in New Lots, Brooklyn, where he had been the founding pastor. The Bishop indicated that one of the first priorities as pastor was to accommodate the Spanish members of the parish with a Mass and the Sacraments in their native tongue. Father Charles Repole, O.F.M.Cap. was in charge of the new parishioners and he made them feel very welcome.

The influx of Dominicans, Colombians, Ecuadorians, Cubans, and Argentinians into Jackson Heights has made the area more of an ethnic melting pot than ever before. There is co-operation between the old guard Irish church members and the new Hispanic group. Once a year, the parish sponsors an international dinner-dance to which each ethnic group brings specialties of its native background.

Of the eight-hundred students in the parish school, over 65% are Hispanic. Principal Sister Mary Patrick, herself a 1930's graduate of the school, has arranged English classes for Spanish-speaking people in the school under church auspices. In addition there are two classes of exceptional children in the school. Although these students are not necessarily parishioners, Catholic Charities supports the program.

During 1971, the parish buildings were refurbished, air conditioning was installed,

and the grounds were landscaped. Fathers Patten and Bukofsky helped to make the Hispanic community an integral part of the church. The church boasts a beautiful shrine to Our Lady of Cuba and there is a festival in her honor. Father McGuirl imbued the teenagers of the parish with inspiration and motivation. Because of his success, the Bishop appointed him Diocesan Director of Vocations. It appears that every priest has brought some special gift or talent which has added to the enrichment of Blessed Sacrament.

Priests Who Have Been Assigned To Blessed Sacrament Parish

PASTORS:

Monsignor James McMahon	1929-1958
Monsignor John King	1958-1966
Father Charles Murphy	1966-1969
Father Thomas Sutherland	1969-1979

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

Reverend Austin Hughes	1929-1933
Reverend Jeremiah J. King	1930-1933
Reverend William A. Burke	1933
Reverend Francis J. Kelly	1933-1939
Reverend Louis A. Rausch	1933-1961
Reverend Aloysius Dlag	1937-1944
Reverend James P. McDermott	1944
Reverend Raymond Spengler	1939-1944
Reverend Francis H. Leonard	1944-1955
Reverend John F. Hayes	1944-1947
Reverend Joseph G. Konrad	1944-1947
Reverend Joseph J. McDermott	1947-1954
Reverend John A. McGowan	1938
Reverend Michael J. Fleming	Weekend help for over 25 years
Reverend Daniel G. Babis	1954-1956
Reverend Michael Cantley	1955-1956
Reverend Joseph P. Bynon	1956-1960
Reverend John J. Newell	1958-1974
Reverend Bernard Lee	1964-1965
Reverend Michael Mellet	1966-1967
Reverend Eugene McGovern	1956-1962
Reverend Gerald Langelier	1962-1966
Reverend William Sears	1964-1968
Reverend William A. O'Leary	1961-1969
Reverend Gerard Fennelly	1967-1969
Reverend Gerard Dennon	1970
Reverend Eugenio Fajardo	1970-1971
Reverend Cesar Paz	1970
Reverend James Sickler	1969-1970
Reverend William Boylan	1969-1972
Reverend Patrick O. Patten	1971-
Reverend John A. McGuirl	1972-1978
Reverend Leo P. Wobido, S.J.	1972-1977
Reverend Thomas P. McGann	1974-1977
Reverend James W. Bukofsky, S.C.J.	1977-1979
Reverend Cyril Doody	1978-