

History of St. Joseph Parish continued.

1925 – 2003

Those Who Assisted Fr. Heslin



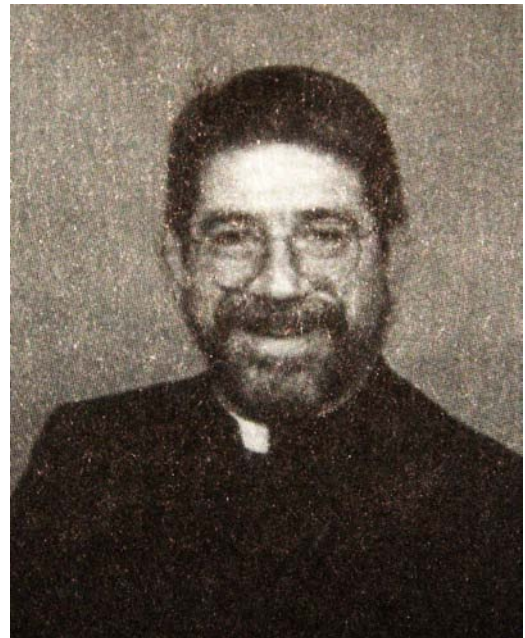
r. William Neumann

Father Neumann, who is now pastor of Our Lady of the Springs in Ocala, brought a special sense of joy to his work in the parish. He ended each Mass with a recitation of the prayer, “Hail Holy Queen.” Shortly after he received a new assignment, he told parishioners that he said the prayer for his previous parishioners. At his new assignment, he would be saying the prayer for the people of St. Joseph.



r. Matthew Mello

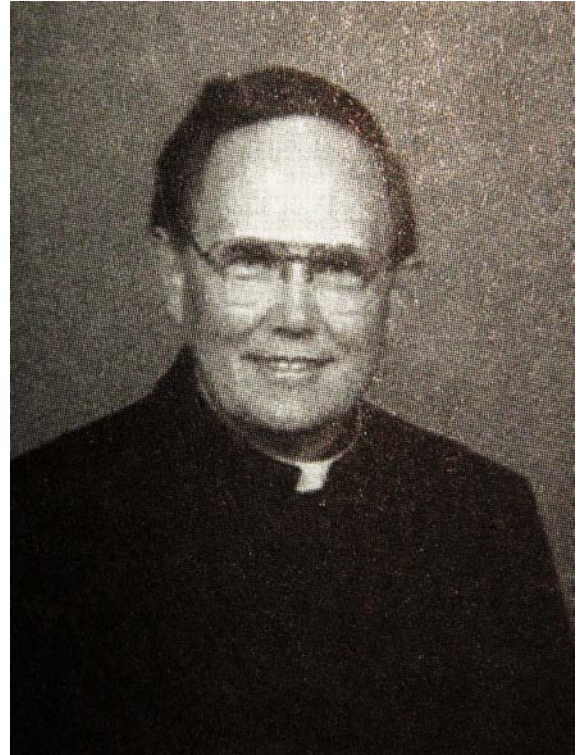
Father Mello helped at St. Joseph for a short time while he also worked at Santa Fe High School. He is remembered for his ability to give amusing and enjoyable impressions of famous people like the president and the pope. He enlivened the birthday celebration given for Fr. Anderson’s 80th birthday with these impressions.





r. Joseph Pinchock

Father Pinchock is now pastor at St. John the Baptist in Dunnellon. Father Pinchock, who remained assist to Fr. Anthony Bluett, created special displays surrounding the altar to commemorate liturgical events and he encouraged parishioners to wear the colors of the liturgical season, particularly Lent and Advent. He celebrated his 25th anniversary of ordination here surrounded by his mother, father, sister, friends and parishioners.



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Edwin Maddex, who had been working with the parish on financial matters. Was ordained a permanent Deacon and was able to offer the parish support with spiritual functions Deacon Maddex died in February, 1988.

James Zowinski and his wife, Rosemary, moved from Ft. Pierce to Winter Haven about 1987. Their young daughter, wife of Dr. James Martin was dying of cancer and they moved to help care for the children after her death. Deacon Zowinski served here until 1993 when they returned to Ft. Pierce. Deacon Zowinski has since retired because of his health.

Sisters at this Time



number of Sisters worked in the school during this period. Principals of the school were Sr. Rita Lynn, SND followed by Sr. Rosanna, SND and Sr. Jean Rene. Others in the school were Srs. Patricia Sipan, Helen Chasar and Ellen Beebe, all Notre Dame sisters. Sr. Mary Katherine, also a Notre Dame Sister, was in charge of the RCIA and other religious education programs. Sr. Therese Hart, IHM continued her work with the elderly and was joined by Sr. Eileen Markey, IHM and Sr. Gloria Glinski, IHM.

Fr. Heslin remarked, “We’ve seen a tremendous involvement of the laity in all kinds of ministries.” This was necessary because the congregation had grown from the original 12 families to number some 1600 permanent families and swelled to twice that size in winter. At that time, St. Joseph, with 4000 members, was the largest congregation of any denomination in Polk County.