



THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

150 Years in California

In 1856, San Francisco's Archbishop Joseph Alemany began what would become a 12-year campaign to bring the Brothers of the Christian Schools to California.

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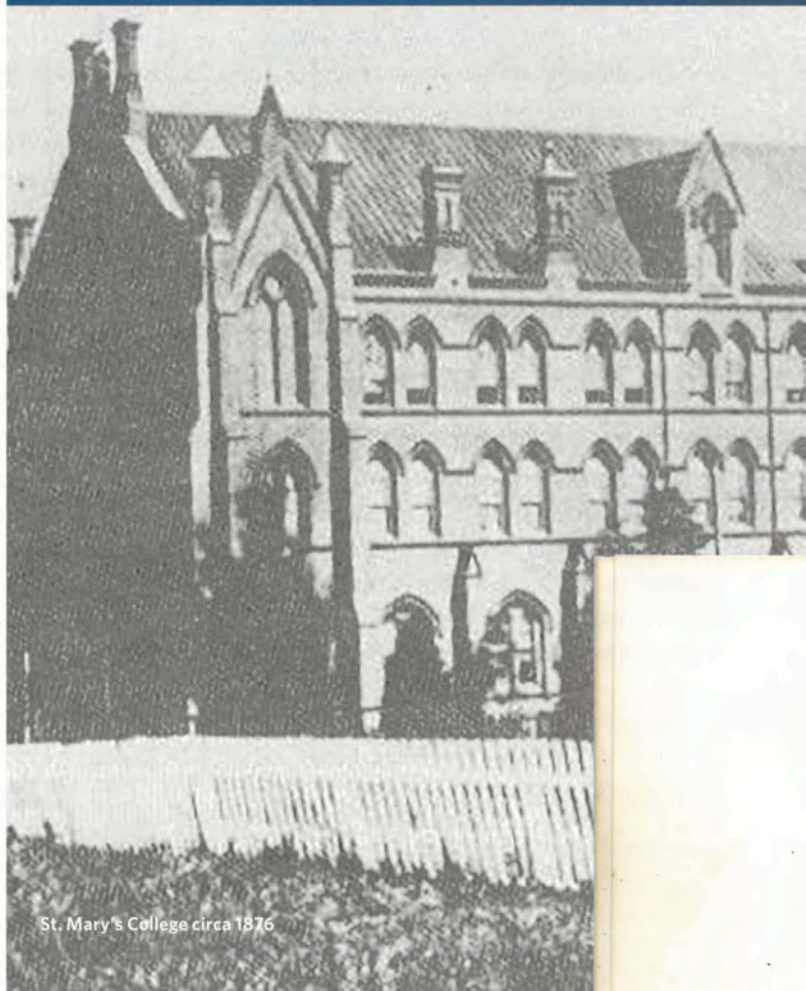
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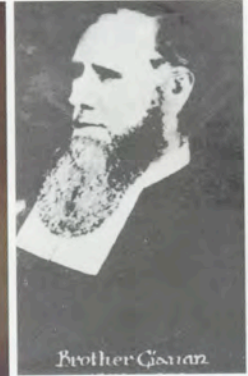
St. Mary's College circa 1876

Following numerous communications with the North American Provincial and the Superior General of the Brothers' International Institute, Alemany traveled to the Vatican in 1867 to appeal directly to the Pope. His prayers were answered with the arrival in San Francisco of eight Christian Brothers in the summer of 1868. Their charge, save the struggling St. Mary's College and bolster Catholic education in the fledgling state.

At a time when California teachers were often recent high school graduates and qualifying exams were inconsistent at best, the Christian Brothers were known to provide high-quality education in a nurturing, faith-filled environment. Within ten years of their arrival on the West Coast, the growing community of Brothers began work at elementary schools in Oakland, operating five parish institutions and establishing Saint Joseph's Academy in Oakland in 1870. Sacred Heart College opened in downtown San Francisco in 1874 and St. Patrick's Institute (now Christian Brothers High School) at the corner of 11th and K St. in Sacramento in 1876.

One hundred fifty years later, that tradition of faith and excellence lives on in what is now known as the District of San Francisco New Orleans. Part of the Lasallian Region of North America of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, the District of San Francisco New Orleans family is composed of more than 120 Brothers and over 1,400 Lasallian Partners. Together, they serve more than 13,000 students in 21 middle, secondary, and post-secondary

educational ministries located in Arizona, California, Colorado, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Washington, and in Tijuana, Mexico.



Archbishop Joseph Alemany (left), Br. Cisanan Griffin, FSC, Principal St. Patrick Institute 1876-1879; Br. Justin Mahon, FSC, first Brother Visitor of the District

LASALLIAN TRADITION

The Lasallian tradition of education dates back to 1680 when St. John Baptist de La Salle, a prominent French priest, founded the Brothers of the Christian Schools "to give a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor and working class." With great compassion, insight and vision, De La Salle emphasized that all people, especially the young, have an inherent dignity which comes from being created in the image of God. To him, education provided the means to develop this dignity for the well-being of each student as well as for the well-being of society.

De La Salle was an innovator in the development of teacher training programs that embraced both the art and science of teaching. He developed curriculum to meet and challenge the varying needs and abilities of every student, and was revolutionary in his insistence on education for all, regardless of their ability to pay.

At the time of his death, nearly 300 years ago on April 7, 1719, De La Salle not only left a network of quality schools throughout France, but a legacy of inspiring others how to teach and care for young people. Today, the De La Salle Christian Brothers continue that legacy around the world—sponsoring approximately 1,000 institutions of learning in 80 countries serving nearly 900,000 students—and have built upon their distinguished reputation for excellence in education.

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St. Patrick Institute.

[Handwritten text from a document, likely a letter or report, mentioning St. Patrick Institute.]



Christian Brothers 2017;
Christian Brothers 1918

A SACRAMENTO LEGACY

Christian Brothers High School, having just completed its 142nd year, is the largest, and longest-thriving Catholic high school in Sacramento. Its 1,166 students hailed from 74 zip codes and five foreign countries and the school leads the region in need-based tuition assistance providing \$2.7 million to 423 deserving students. This is quite a change from 1876 when the three-story St. Patrick's Institute opened its doors to 200 boys, in second grade through high school. Since then, the school has occupied three campuses and had six names. Yet, the Lasallian spirit and tradition of teaching and caring for young people in a community steadfastly dedicated to the intellectual growth and spiritual well-being of its students is as alive today as it was in the hearts and minds of the Brothers who bravely made the voyage to California in 1868.

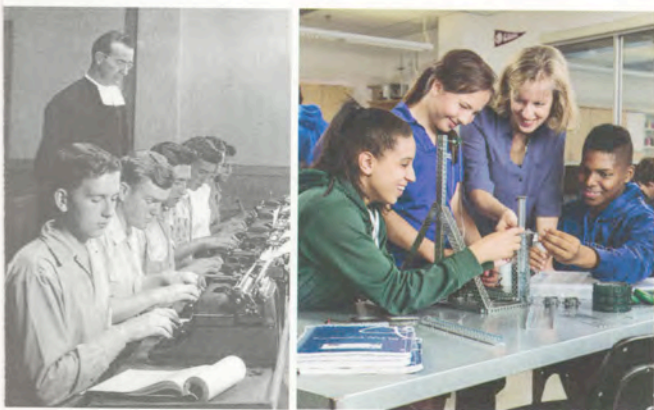
"The Christian Brothers College of 1907-1918 did not really consist of the aging, cramped building, nor even the curriculum. It came alive in the dedicated, humble and holy men who wore the loose black robe and white winged collar, the Christian Brothers of De La Salle," said Peter Mitchell — Class of 1918. "Their forthright, honest goodness is etched on my memory."

THEN AND NOW

"As an innovator in education, St. John Baptist de La Salle recognized that different localities, times and conditions demanded different advanced studies and solutions," explains Lorcan Barnes, president. "Ensuring that we meet the needs of today's students requires constant reinvention. Three hundred years ago, that meant students living near the ocean were taught knot tying and navigation. Students in the city learned bookkeeping and business

skills. Today's strong core curriculum with programs in science, technology, engineering, math and the arts is geared to developing ethical innovators, educators, researchers, and leaders who can solve the most pressing challenges facing our nation and our world."

In 1876, it was said that the St. Patrick's Institute carried "all of the major fields of human knowledge" with curriculum that was rigorous, well-rounded, and grounded in basic subjects with ample exposure to music and drama. The continued emphasis on giving students what they need emerged in varying programs throughout the years including a banking department in 1884, serving as a junior college in the 1890s, diverse paths of study including commercial and college courses to meet the needs of students planning to enter either the workforce or continue their college courses at St. Mary's College following graduation. During World War II, Physical Education and math courses were aligned with military training (see history article pg. 36) Following the Vietnam War, Christian Brothers launched the Humanities program which integrated English, Literature, History and Religion in the curriculum emphasizing the process of learning rather than pre-determined answers.



Br. Walter Smith, FSC, oversees typing class in 1939; Engineering class with Chris Thayer in 2017



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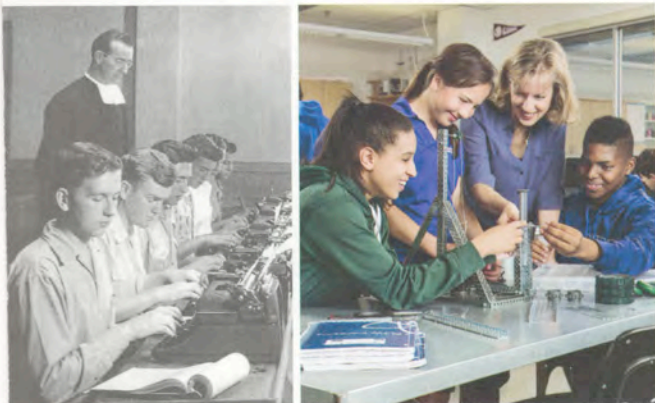
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"Societies, like individuals, grow old and die once the habits inherited from the past outweigh the will to renewal. It is not easy to balance fidelity to the institutions that sparked our origins and the requirements of life today. The school must...change...in its objectives by imparting to the students more than mere book knowledge and by emphasizing instead the development of the powers of observation, imagination, reasoning, and discrimination...in its methodology, by highlighting research and creativity rather than rote memorization...In this same vein, the school today stresses training in sensitivity, the ability to form judgments and the development of a critical mind." — The Brothers of the Christian School, A Declaration, C. 1974

In 1990, Christian Brothers High School evolved yet again as it opened its doors to young women for the first time in the school's 114-year history. Unlike the school's Bishop Armstrong co-instructional model where young men and women were educated in separate wings of the school (1956-1969), it was clear that both genders could and absolutely would learn, collaborate and lead together in the classroom. Looking back on the transition in the fall of 1990, the change marked a crucial turning point in CB's rich history.

"As a Lasallian Catholic school, it is our responsibility to prepare students to thrive in college, a workforce and world that include both men and women," says Barnes. "Rather than separating students during this important developmental time, our educators mindfully facilitate

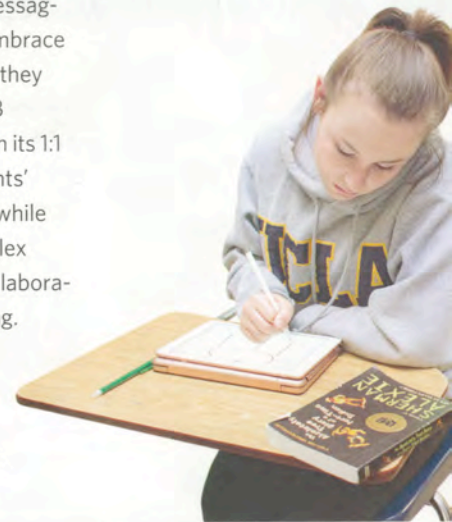
interactions that reinforce mutual respect, collaboration, friendship and learning to appreciate differences in others. We must also ensure that our students are prepared to take their place as ethical leaders in an interdependent, diverse and rapidly changing world. Today, that means an international, 21st century education that equips them with cultural knowledge, technological skills and integrity."

In 2012, CB launched an International Student Program. Since then, students have come to CB from various countries including China, Colombia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Sweden and more. Learning about other cultures is integrated throughout the curriculum helping students better understand the various perspectives that frame the world in which they live.

Technology is also a vital component of 21st century learning connecting students with the world in real-time. Teenagers are surrounded by technology — the Internet, cell phones, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, text messaging, etc. Their ability to multitask and embrace new technologies has changed the way they learn and, in turn, changes the way CB teachers teach. In 2013, the school began its 1:1 student iPad program to harness students' energy and enthusiasm for technology while developing essential skill areas of complex communication, new media literacy, collaboration, creativity, and self-directed learning. Knowing that science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills are greatly needed in America's workforce, CB launched an engineering



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Christian Brothers College 1900; Br. Leonard Casper, FSC, 1939; Br. Bertram Coleman, FSC, 1948



Br. James Bissett, FSC, 1981



Bishop Armstrong Girls' Cabinet 1964



CB Football 1948



CB Football 2017



Bishop Armstrong Vocation Exhibit 1964



CB's on-campus television station, KBFT, 2017

“My time at CB has been so full of joy and love and I am beyond grateful for every moment I have experienced on the stage at Christian Brothers.”

JACOB CHERRY '18,
UCLA '22

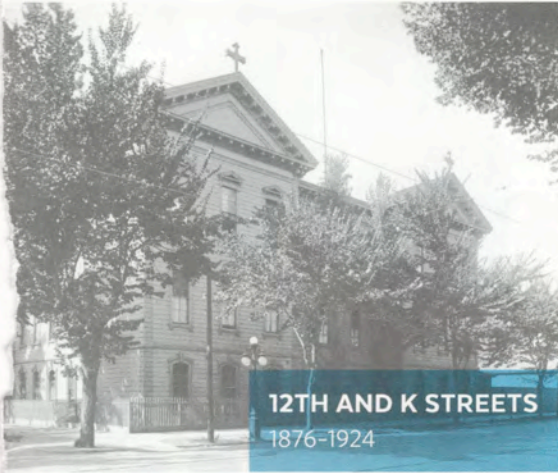
program in 2014 to augment its strong science and math curriculum and help develop future innovators and problem-solvers who also possess deep core values.

“I’ve had an amazing experience at Christian Brothers High School!” says Juliet Tochtermann '18, Columbia University '22. “Academically, the Scholar Program equipped me with the study skills necessary for college and beyond. The teachers, who serve as the foundation of CB’s excellent academics, go beyond their job description; they truly care about their students and want us to succeed. At the same time, they challenge us to better ourselves. Getting through high school would never have been possible without such great mentors for me to look up to.”

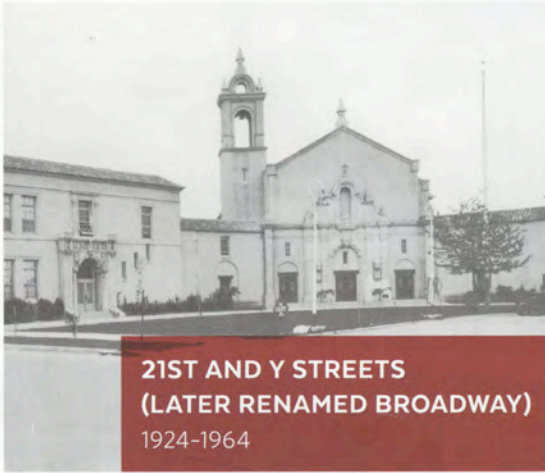
That same year also marked the opening of the George Cunningham '40 Performing Arts Center. Much like the Brothers commitment to a well-rounded education in 1876, the arts program at CB is thriving with a roster of six choral groups; six instrumental performance

groups; three annual theatre productions; and numerous art classes and exhibitions. KBFT, the school’s student-produced newscast offers hands-on experience in television, video and audio-engineering production. Students may also further their media studies in Sports Broadcasting, Writing for Publication courses and an Advanced Journalism course.

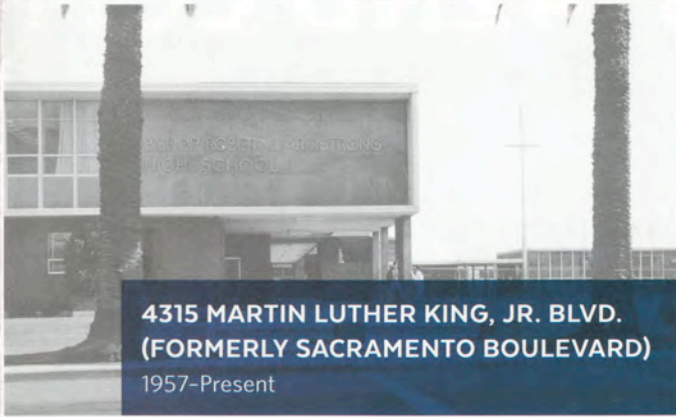
“I have been unbelievably fortunate to be a part of the Christian Brothers Theatre Program. As a freshman, I could not have imagined the incredible opportunities that were ahead. It has been such a joy to bring a diverse array of characters to life, from Harpo Marx to Hamlet. Not only did I have the privilege of working with exceptional leaders; I also worked and made memories alongside my very talented friends. My time at CB has been so full of joy and love and I am beyond grateful for every moment I have experienced on the stage at Christian Brothers,” said Jacob Cherry '18, UCLA '22.



12TH AND K STREETS
1876-1924

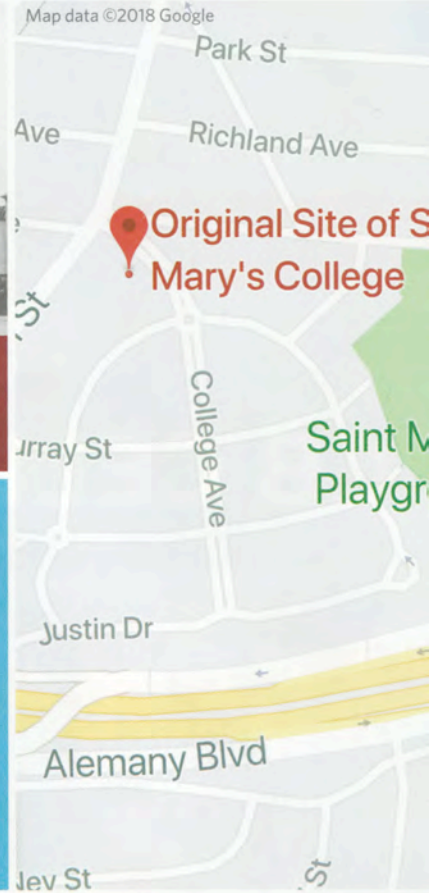


**21ST AND Y STREETS
(LATER RENAMED BROADWAY)**
1924-1964



**4315 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD.
(FORMERLY SACRAMENTO BOULEVARD)**
1957-Present

We are blessed in Sacramento with strong enrollment and financial stability and will continue to evolve to ensure that we carry on the sacred work of the Brothers that began more than 300 years ago in France and with their arrival in California 150 years ago.



Original Site of St. Mary's College

Streets around the original site of St. Mary's College in San Francisco Carry the Names of the early Christian Brothers.

A NEW TRADITION

The conclusion of the 2010-11 school year brought with it an expected, yet significant change with the departure of the Brothers living community. Following 135 years of devoted service to the Sacramento community, the decline in religious vocations nationwide hit home as the Christian Brothers made the decision to turn over school leadership to Lay Partners. Their influence, however, did not diminish with a change in address.

At the time, Br. Donald Johanson, FSC, who was then Director of the Brothers Community in Sacramento and Brother Visitor-elect, shared "On the part of the Brothers, this is truly a vote of confidence," says Br. Donald. "We have confidence in the administration, faculty and staff, and know that we are leaving the school in good hands."

"The vocation of the Christian Brothers is teaching. As such, they have been extraordinary teachers in sharing their mission, vision and values," says CB President, Lorcan Barnes.

"CB is still owned by the Christian Brothers District of San Francisco New Orleans. The Brothers' willingness to so generously impart the Founder's charism allows Lasallian Catholic education to thrive, not just in Sacramento, but, worldwide. We are blessed in Sacramento with strong enrollment and financial stability and will continue to evolve to ensure that we carry on the sacred work of the Brothers that began more than 300 years ago in France and with their arrival in California 150 years ago."

**CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
HIGH SCHOOL – NAMES**

- St. Patrick Institute: 1876-1879
- Sacramento Institute : 1879-1904
- Christian Brothers College: 1904-1924
- Christian Brothers School: 1924-1964
- Bishop Armstrong High School: 1957-1969
- Christian Brothers High School: 1969-Present