

Through the Years 1868 - 1968

For the past century, the Christian Brothers have labored successfully in California educational fields of elementary, secondary and collegiate teaching. Their beginnings were not ostentatious as the community of Sacramento some 93 years ago did observe. At that time, in July of 1876, Christian Brothers was founded as an out-growth of St. Rose's parish school, first called St. Patrick's by the pastor, Rev. Father Scanlan. Eventually, when the Christian Brothers of San Francisco accepted a new three-story building at the corner of 12th and K Streets, the school assumed the name of Christian Brothers College.

Here, the tradition of "CBC" flourished, impressing upon Sacramento its educational benefit and prominence. Although it never achieved a degree granting status, it was Sacramento's first school to offer college courses. In due time, however, Christian Brothers pursued the interests of a secondary school. By November 5, 1924, the State of California, by incorporation, restricted Christian Brothers to a high school in its new Mission styled buildings on 21st and Broadway Streets. Attracting students to its boarding department, the school here enhanced its reputation for academic excellence and athletic prowess in the Sacramento area. Finally, the pressure of need and change re-situated this worthy school on Sacramento Blvd., its present campus, where a thriving, renewed Christian Brothers continues its educational influence and success.

Such historical facts of Christian Brothers reflects the centennial year of the Brothers coming to California in 1868 to undertake the administration of St. Mary's College, then located in San Francisco. These pioneers of Catholic education to the West Coast, and subsequently their other co-laborers, are a lay religious teaching order of the Roman Catholic Church, founded in Rheims, France in 1684, by a French nobleman and priest, St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle. Now, in California, some 200 Brothers dedicate themselves to the religious life, and teach more than 7000 students in 12 schools throughout the state.

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