

family felt the need for more privacy, — the Church School children needed more space, — and so, the Vestry authorized the purchase of a larger rectory, — the Arthur Schiller house, at the corner of Park Avenue and Church Street. The old rectory was then put to use as a Church School, with classes meeting there until 1963.

Nursery I and Nursery II had been meeting in the basement of School #1 and these little ones felt rejected because "there was no Cross over the door of the school" and "it was too far from the rest of the parish family". Fr. Ernst placed a Cross over the doorway of the old rectory, — Judge Jackson made a small Altar, — Mrs. Kookogey made a Dossal, — Mrs. Ahrens supplied cut glass vases, — and to complete the setting, the 4th graders covered the front windows with stained glass artwork, — Nursery I and Nursery II were very happy!

During the busy days of the 1950's and 60's, Lay-Reader John Bray, and Lay-Reader Frank Turner were giving assistance to the rector at the church services. In 1962 Lay-Reader Richard Terhune was giving assistance to the rector.

In 1959 the populations of the towns of Scotch Plains and Fanwood were increasing at such a rapid rate, that after a careful study of the situation, Fr. Ernst and his Vestry anticipated that by 1970 the number of Communicants could possibly be in excess of 900, with over 800 children enrolled in the Church School. A program of "Growth by Stages" was planned. There was a vital need in the parish for more room, — for many families, new in the community, attended All Saints' briefly, leaving because of crowded conditions to join churches elsewhere. Some left because they couldn't cope with having children attending Church School at two different sessions.

A Church Building Program was launched with a Parish Dinner, May 28, 1959. It was held in the Park Hotel, Plainfield, and was well attended. The Kirby-Smith staff, in charge of the canvassing, were introduced, — and the Rev. Richard J. Hardman, Rector of St. Paul's, Westfield, gave the Address. The plan was for an over-all expansion program to take place in three stages over a period of about seven years.

In 1958, a complete course in Ecclesiastical embroidery, — an art dating back to the Crusades, — was made available to Episcopal Church women at St. Paul's, Westfield. The teachers were Mrs. Helen Boyd of our Altar Guild, and Mrs. L. Fluckinger of St. Paul's Church. Three of our Altar Guild members, — Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Philip Cobb, and Mrs. Russell Wood, made beautiful silk damask vestments in liturgical colors for our parish. An Altar Guild Memorial Embroidery Fund was started, with parishioners donating toward the purchase of materials needed.

Another stained glass window was dedicated in April, 1959. Given in memory of Jessie and John Hudston Thompson, by their children, Mrs. George Kells and John L. Thompson, — this window pictures Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Crucifixion.

On May 3, 1959, the Rev. George Ernst dedicated the "Book of Remembrance" and its cabinet, —presented to All Saints' Church by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Williams in memory of her parents, Jessie and Ralph Robinson. The purpose of this Memorial Book; — to create an endowment fund for the church.

It was Fr. Ernst's suggestion that those interested in antiques consider the possibility of All Saints' starting an Annual Antique Show and Sale. The first Antique Show and Sale was held in October 1960, and every year since. Mrs. William Schubart and Mrs. Charles Whedon have been the Chairmen of this popular annual event. The Antique Show and the Christmas Fairs, — the latter since the year 1894, — are the two most popular and profitable money-raising events in the parish family, and members from all the parish organizations contribute their efforts toward making them the success that they are.

On July 24, 1960 All Saints' Church was renovated. The church was painted both inside and outside. The old pews were removed and given to St. Andrews Church, Murray Hill, — the porte-cochire door was walled over so that pews could go all the way back on the south wall of the church, —the Altar Rail and choir stalls were refinished to match the new pews, and blue carpeting was installed. While this work was being done, midweek services were held in the Parish House, and Sunday worship services were held in the old High School, across the street from the church.

VIET NAM WAR, 1961 - 1972

On November 15, 1962, the Rev. George A. Ernst resigned. He had been Rector of All Saints' for ten years. The Rev. Dr. Clarence Lambelet, and the late Rev. Canon Edward W. Tucker conducted our services until the Rev. Chester C. Hand, Jr. came to us from the Church of the Transfiguration,