

## PIONEER PARISHIONERS

### CECILIA PALOMAR

Cecelia Palomar responded to our Bulletin notice looking for early parishioners. She and her late husband, Alfonso, and their 4 children all attended St. Matthias Church in the early 60's. She reports, "Our children went to the Church's Day Care Center when it was headed by Sister Ann and my 2 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren were all baptized here."

She notes, "One of my fondest memories is when Msgr. Flynn officiated at the celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary." Cecelia adds, "He was such a fine priest. Our whole family was very fond of him."

Cecelia reports, "And of course, we really valued his compassionate help when our precious young daughter drowned soon after being confirmed."

Cecilia was born and raised in Redwood City. During the war years, she worked at the Shipyards. She recalls, "I was a welder's helper assisting with the building of ships for our war effort." After the war, she married Alfonso. She says, "We met when he was working across the street from the nursery where I worked (making gardenia corsages)." She adds, "I am so glad that we had 64-1/2 years together."

She continues, "When we were first married, we lived in a little guest cottage behind his parents home in Woodside while we saved money to buy our own home. My husband worked in construction and I worked part-time for the Redwood City School District. I held that position for 22 years." She notes, "I had a perfect schedule there. I was able to see the children off to school in the morning and I was back in the early afternoon to pick them up after school."

She notes, "During our years at St. Matthias, we have enjoyed wonderful pastors. This includes: Fr. Lacey, Fr. McCaffrey, Fr. Meyer, Msgr. Flynn and now Fr. John Glogowski." Talking about her involvement with St. Matthias, Cecelia says, "I worked with Virginia and Ed Coleman on the fund-raising Bingo sessions. And, I helped with housekeeping tasks for the nuns at Mount Alverno Convent during my summer break from work."

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*Note: We are still looking for more Pioneer Parishioners to highlight. Please contact 650-365-0699 or [jcartercom@aol.com](mailto:jcartercom@aol.com) if you know someone who was here in 1961.*