

PERSONAL RECORD OF REV. GREGORY SIERRA SHERIDAN #262

NAME IN FULL

Father's and Mother's (maiden) name Mariano Sierra & Raimunda Perez

Birth Date and Place December 1st, 1911, Alagon, Zaragoza, Spain.

Baptism Date and Place December 3rd, 1911, Alagon, Prov. of Zaragoza, Spain.

Present Citizenship American.

If Naturalized, Date and Place January 4, 1943, El Paso, Texas.

Elementary School—Dates and Places Sisters of Charity School of Alagon, Zaragoza, 1915-1918  
Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School (Claretian Fathers) of Alagon, Prov. of Zaragoza, from 1919-1922.

High School—Dates and Places Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School of Barbastro, Province of Huesca, Spain, from 1922-1924.  
Artieda Province of Navarra, from 1925-1926, with the Rec. August. Fathers.

College—Dates and Places Sos del Rey Catolico, Prov. Zaragoza, Spain, 1928-1931.

Seminary—Dates and Places Atchison, Kansas, U.S.A. from Sept. 25, 1931, May 31, 1935.

Post-Graduate Work—Dates and Places None

Degrees—Dates and Places None

Ordination Date and Place January 13, 1935, Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Leavenworth, Kansas

Ordaining Prelate Most Reverend Bishop Johannes D.D. of Leavenworth, Kansas.

Ordained for what Diocese Recollect Augustinian Fathers.

If incardinated in San Diego, Date ~~AUGUST 29, 1948~~ 6/30/52 <sup>SRS</sup>

If not incardinated, Date of Arrival October 11, 1948.

What foreign languages can you speak? Spanish, Italian.

Name and address of nearest relative or friend Rev. Thomas Egan, Casa Blanca, Riverside, Calif.

State where last will and testament is filed None, as yet.

List of ecclesiastical dignities and date of reception None, Honorary Prelate 4/7/79

State any special work or assignment and give dates Boy Scout Master from May 1941-April 1944

SIERRA-RCBSD 0001

Please type answers in full and return to the Chancery Office, 1528 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, California

(Over)



PERSONAL RECORD OF REV.

Frank A. Sierra

NAME IN FULL

31 15

Teacher's and Mother's (maiden) name..... Frank A. Sierra, Sr. and Josephine Lovato.....

Birth Date and Place..... April 13, 1922 - In Del Norte, Colorado.....

Baptism Date and Place..... 1922 - Del Norte, Colorado (Holy Name of Mary Church)

Present Citizenship..... American, U.S.A.

If Naturalized, Date and Place..... -----

Elementary School—Dates and Places..... 1928 - 1935 - Del Norte, Colorado.....

High School—Dates and Places..... 1935-1936, Sapin Spain  
Rome, Italy, 1936-1939

College—Dates and Places..... Rome, Italy 1940-43 Carmelites  
Rome, Italy 1943-1946 Laterano (University)

Seminary—Dates and Places..... Rome, Italy, 1937-1945

Post-Graduate Work—Dates and Places..... Western University, Silver City, N.M.  
1966-67

Degrees—Dates and Places.....

Ordination Date and Place..... March 16, 1946, San Giovanni Laterano, Rome, Italy

Ordaining Prelate..... Archbishop Traglia

Ordained for what Diocese..... Sons of the Holy Family (Congregation)

If incardinated in San Diego, Date..... April 6, 1981-----

If not incardinated, Date of Arrival..... September 1, 1970

What foreign languages can you speak?..... Spanish, Italian, (Latin, Catalan)

Name and address of nearest relative or friend..... 18151 Dewberry Way, Irvine 92664  
(Mrs. Wanda Moore)

State where last will and testament is filed..... (Sons of Holy Family)  
(The Clergy are obliged to deposit at the Chancery the original or a copy of their last will. Dioc. Stat. No. 231)

List of ecclesiastical dignities and date of reception..... -----

State any special work or assignment and give dates..... Mission work in Argentina 1949-  
in Chapels and in Country (estancias)

SIERRA-RCBSD 0003

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

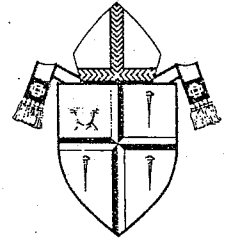
Have you contracted any funded debts such as bank loans?..... Yes  
 For what amount?..... Car Payment, \$2000. 00  
 Do you owe any current accounts?..... Yes  
 For what amount?..... \$ 100. 00

List of Appointments since Ordination

TOWN	PARISH	CAPACITY	DATES
Italy		Teaching	1945-
Maine		Teaching	1947
Argentina		Teaching	1949-1952
Santa Cruz, N.M.	Holy Cross	Assistant	1953
Winter, Colo.	St. Francis Jerome	Pastor	1954-1958
Seelye, Colo.	Our Lady of Peace	Assistant	1959
Santa Cruz, N.M.	Holy Cross	Assistant	1960 -1961
Albany, N.M.	Our Lady of Fatima	Pastor	1962-1968
Paso, Tx.	Our Lady of Light	Pastor	1968-1970
CITY OF SAN DIEGO	St. Joseph	Associate	10/28/70 - 2/ 4/74
PELLA	O.L. of Soledad	Associate	2/ 4/74 - 7/ 1/75
STAS	St. John	Associate	7/ 1/75 - 7/2/79
BY	O.L. Perpetual Help	Pastor	7/2/79 - 2/1/88
ERRA RETIRED	2/1/88. In residence at Our Lady of Guadalupe in		
co.			
	<i>In residence at Nazareth House</i>		1993
esa	Little Flower Haven	In Residence	2/1/2005

SIERRA-RCBSD 0004

From: Michael Croll  
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2005 11:09 AM  
To: Olivia Granados  
Cc: Steve Callahan; Donna Daly  
Subject: RE: Priest Health Ins



Office of the Vicar General

Deacon Frank Reilly has agreed to visit Fr. Sierra today at Little Flower Haven and see what he can do to help resolve the Medicare billing issues for Fr. Sierra. He will call us back.

Mike

Michael Croll  
Director of Human Resources  
Diocese of San Diego  
(858) 490-8282  
[www.diocese-sdiego.org/](http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/)

**REDACTED**

-----Original Message-----

From: Olivia Granados  
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2005 3:50 PM  
To: Michael Croll  
Subject: Priest Health Ins

- I called to question him about a vision bill that has a balance of \$24.84. He is under the impression to always mail his Bills to HR for payment, even if the balance is his responsibility, and the Diocese will take of it. Is his statement correct ? All the bills in the past that he sent to me have been taken care of by the Insurance's leaving a zero balance for him. I called the doctor's office on this current vision bill which they state Medicare paid a portion and has sent the balance to Gallagher for payment on 3/24/05, the bill remains outstanding. I left a message with Gallagher to see if they paid. If Gallagher says they won't pay the balance than do I tell Fr. James to pay or is his above statement true that we will automatically pay for him ?
- I called to question him about all his bills that combined have a balance of \$145.00. His response is that he thought he needed to send all bills to HR for payment and also mentioned how can he be left paying these bills when the Diocese took him off payroll and pension, while still working full time at Good Shepherd parish. I told him that I would have to talk with the Chancellor's office to see if their was an arrangement made to give him this impression (I did not say all that to him just that I would call him back on it) that we are to pay his bills. If not I need to mail all these bills with a note stating that any balance remaining after all insurances has processed would be his responsibility to pay.
- Fr. Frank Sierra - Out of all these bills I have only 2 left have a remaining balance of \$824.37 and the other \$157,871.60. This is the case were I don't think Fr. Sierra understands what has happened and does not know how to fix it. He needs someone who can call on his behalf because Medicare will not talk to me unless I have power of attorney. The hospital says he only has Medicare part B. I don't know what happed to part A so I called Little Flower Haven and spoke with a lady that said would help call for him while Fr. Sierra is on the other line giving permission to her so that she can fix this problem. In the meantime these bills are still outstanding and Gallagher sent us a fax indicating that Medicare denied charges and therefore Gallagher can't pay either. What can we do to help him ? I know that you are trying to set up something but I thought I would write all this out.

Olivia Granados, HR Assistant  
Diocese of San Diego  
PO Box 85728  
San Diego, Ca. 92186-5728  
Tel (858) 490-8283  
Fax (858) 490-8272  
[www.diocese-sdiego.org](http://www.diocese-sdiego.org)

SIERRA-RCBSD 0005

8505 La Mesa Blvd.  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
(619) 337-4027

**REDACTED**

October 5, 2005

State Hearing Division CA-DSS  
744 P Street  
Mail Station 19-37  
Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA FAX: 916-228-4110

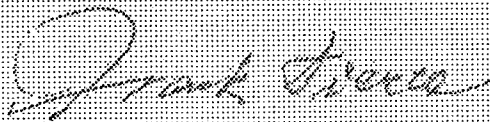
Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Reverend Francis A. Sierra, born April 13, 1922, and currently residing at Little Flower Haven in La Mesa. I have applied for CMS/Medical benefits through the offices of San Diego County Health and Human Services. My application was denied. I wish to appeal that decision.

I believe my ill health, my age, and my lack of understanding of the options prevented me from making an informed decision regarding spending down my savings. I have appointed Deacon Frank Reilly to act as my designated representative in making this appeal.

Please contact me at the address noted above, or my designated representative, Deacon Frank Reilly, telephone (619) 696-0794.

Sincerely,

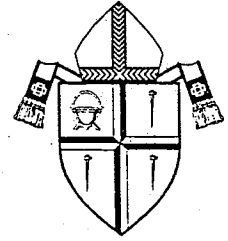


Rev. Francis A. Sierra

Cc: Deacon Frank Reilly, 7777 Alvarado Road, #118, La Mesa, CA 91941

SIERRA-RCBSD 0006





Office of the Vicar General

June 3, 2005

Reverend Frank Sierra  
Little Flower Haven  
8585 La Mesa Boulevard  
La Mesa, California 91941

Dear Father Sierra:

I hope you are finding Little Flower Haven to be a good place for you to live. I write at this time to ask what you are able to contribute to the Diocese of San Diego on a monthly basis for the cost of your stay there.

Feel free to contact me by phone at 858-490-8310 or make an appointment to see me if you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven F. Callahan".

Very Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan  
Vicar General

SIERRA-RCBSD 0007

June 2, 2003

Very Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan  
Office of the Vicar General  
P.O. Box 85728  
San Diego, California

Dear Monsignor Callahan,

Thank you so very much for your generosity in the check you sent us recently for Fr . Sierra's room and board.

We are very glad to be able to help Father. He has been a blessing to us since he was our pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Brawley. He has been our pastor and our friend. He has seen to our spiritual needs and now we feel we can reciprocate in a small way in his physical and emotional need.

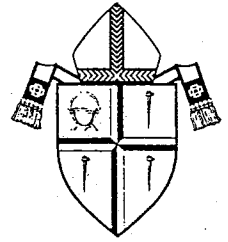
Please know that we will try to do whatever we can for him. The money you send will be put to good use to help make Father comfortable.

Again, thank you for your consideration and we pray for you and the work that you do.

Sincerely,

**REDACTED**





Office of the Vicar General

**REDACTED**

May 23, 2003

Dear :

Father Frank Sierra, a retired priest of the Diocese of San Diego, informed me that he has been living at your home since April 1 of this year. He recently asked me whether the diocese could offer some payment to you toward reimbursement of costs for his room & board with you.

Father Sierra told me that he would contribute \$200 a month. On behalf of the Diocese, I would like to offer an additional \$200 a month. Enclosed is a check for \$400, representing our contribution for the months of April and May.

Thank you for your generosity in extending hospitality to Father Sierra. May the Lord bless you both in the Easter season.

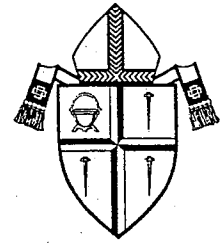
Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Steven F. Callahan*

Very Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan  
Vicar General

Enclosure

SIERRA-RCBSD 0009



Office of the Chancellor

March 4, 2002

Reverend Frank Sierra  
Nazareth House  
6333 Rancho Mission Road  
San Diego, California 92108

Dear Father Sierra:

This is to put in writing what I communicated to you in our meeting today, in particular, that effective today Bishop Brom is limiting your faculties to the following:

1. You may offer Mass and hear the confessions of residents at Nazareth House.
2. You may serve as chaplain to the Missionaries of Charity for Mass and provide the sacrament of reconciliation if the sisters request this for themselves, but not others.

I appreciate your cooperation in abiding by these conditions. Prayerful best wishes to you in this holy season of Lent.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven F. Callahan".

Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan  
Chancellor

SIERRA-RCBSD 0010

*File:  
Sierra*

**MOST REVEREND ROBERT H. BROM  
BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO**

**Dear Bishop Brom :**

**This letter is to have your permission to baptize a child in Brawley. The family has lived there all their life. This family belongs to the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Father Moreno is the Pastor.**

**The family has spoken with Fr. Moreno, and he has given his consent. The date for the baptism is the end of December 1998.**

**Sincerely grateful for all consideration given to this matter I beg to remain Sincerely yours in Christ,**

**Fr. Francis Sierra**

**Dated November 12, 1998**

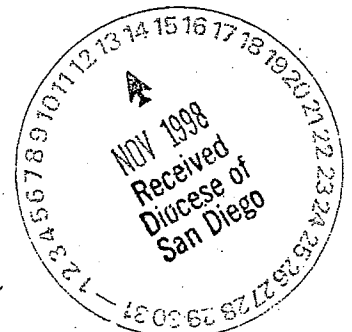
*Fr. Francis Sierra*

SIERRA-RCBSD 0011

285-9590

*Permission granted  
by phone 11/16/98*

*Fr. Steve Callahan*



July 10, 1998

Dear Father Frank:

I am happy to grant your request to celebrate the Wedding Mass at St. Anthony's in Imperial and First Communion Mass at All Hallows providing that, in each case, permission of the pastor has been given.

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Nazareth House  
6333 Rancho Mission Road  
San Diego, CA 92108

RHB/rs

Most Reverend Robert Brom

July 8, 1998

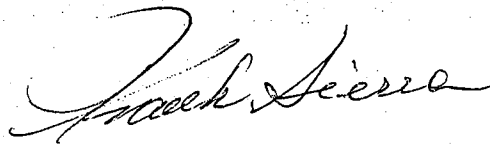
Dear Bishop :

I am asking for permission from you  
to celebrate a Mass for a wedding in Imperial Valley,  
at the Church Of St. Anthony's, in Imperial . It is  
to take place in April of 1999.

Another Mass is to be in the Church of  
All Hallows, in La Jolla, August , 1998. This Mass  
is for the first communion of a child, request of a  
family from La Jolla.

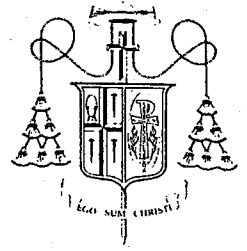
Sincerely your brother in Christ,

Father Francis Sierra

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis Sierra". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

SIERRA-RCBSD 0013

COPY



Office of the Bishop

December 18, 1997

Dear Father Sierra:

This is to put in writing that as of January 1, 1998, in addition to the regular subsidy of retired priests, the diocese will make payment in the amount of \$900.00 per month to Nazareth House for your residency there. You, of course, will be responsible for whatever is due to Nazareth House beyond that.

As you may become available for increased ministry for which you would receive payment, it may be possible to reduce further the help you need from the diocese.

Prayerful best wishes for many Advent and Christmas blessings.

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Francis Sierra  
Nazareth House  
6333 Rancho Mission Road  
San Diego, CA 92108

cc: Msgr. Dillabough  
Accounting

RHB/lj

SIERRA-RCBSD 0014

Fr. Sierra

• Memorandum

To: Rev. Msgr. Daniel J. Dillabough  
From: Ray Dene  
Date: December 16, 1997  
Re: Fr. Francis A. Sierra

---

Fr. Frank was ordained for Sons of the Holy Family 3-46

He was first assigned in Diocese of SD 10-28-70 (17 years & 4 months of service)

Incardinated 4-81 (6 years & 10 months of incardination)

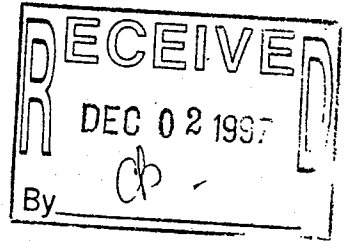
Retired 2-88. His retirement pay which goes to him is \$783.75. We (the diocese) pays \$1100 to Nazareth House for his room and board.

to 900  
as of January 1, 1998





J. M. J.  
 NAZARETH HOUSE  
 6333 Rancho Mission Rd.  
 San Diego, Calif. 92108-2099  
 Ph. 563-0480



November 30, 1997

*fyi  
copy*

Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego  
 PO Box 85728  
 San Diego, CA 92186-5728

RE: Fr. Francis A. Sierra—#1373

Effective January 1, 1998, your monthly residential room and board rate will increase to \$1,100.00.

This increase is due to our ever increasing operating costs.

I thank you for the privilege of being able to continue to serve you here at Nazareth House.

Sincerely,

NAZARETH HOUSE

*Sister Fidelis McCormack*

Sister Fidelis McCormack  
 Administrator

SFM:skd

*The diocese pays the entire \$1100 =*



PERSONAL RECORD OF REV. Frank A. Sierra

#150

NAME IN FULL

Father's and Mother's (maiden) name Frank A. Sierra, Sr. and Josephine Lovato

Birth Date and Place April 13, 1922 - In Del Norte, Colorado

Baptism Date and Place 1922 - Del Norte, Colorado (Holy Name of Mary Church)

Present Citizenship American, U.S.A.

If Naturalized, Date and Place -----

Elementary School—Dates and Places 1928 - 1935 - Del Norte, Colorado

High School—Dates and Places 1935-1936, Sapin Spain  
Rome, Italy, 1936-1939

College—Dates and Places Rome, Italy 1940-43 -Carmelites!  
Rome, Italy 1943-1946 Laterano (University)

Seminary—Dates and Places Rome, Italy, 1937-1945

Post-Graduate Work—Dates and Places Western University, Silver City, N.M.  
1966-67

Degrees—Dates and Places -----

Ordination Date and Place March 16, 1946, San Giovanni Laterano, Rome, Italy

Ordaining Prelate Archbishop Traglia

Ordained for what Diocese Sons of the Holy Family (Congregation)

If incardinated in San Diego, Date April 6, 1981

If not incardinated, Date of Arrival September 1, 1970

What foreign languages can you speak? Spanish, Italian, (Latin, Catalan)

Name and address of nearest relative or friend 18151 Dewberry Way, Irvine 92664  
(Mrs. Wanda Moore)

State where last will and testament is filed (Sons of Holy Family)  
(The Clergy are obliged to deposit at the Chancery the original or a copy of their last will. Dioc. Stat. No. 231)

List of ecclesiastical dignities and date of reception -----

State any special work or assignment and give dates Mission work in Argentina 1949-1951  
in Chapels and in Country (estancias)

SIERRA-RCBSD 0018

Please type answers in full and return to the Chancery Office, Alcalá Park, San Diego California 92110  
(Over)



J. M. J.  
NAZARETH HOUSE  
6333 Rancho Mission Rd.  
San Diego, Calif. 92108-2099  
Ph. 563-0480

November 30, 1995

Roman Catholic Diocese of  
San Diego  
Post Office Box 85728  
San Diego, CA 92186-5728

RE: Fr. Francis A. Sierra---#1373

Effective January 1, 1996, your monthly residential room and board rate will increase to \$1,050.00.

This increase is due to our ever increasing operating costs.

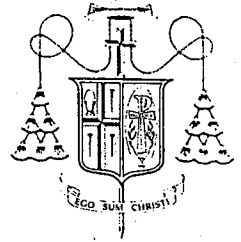
I thank you for the privilege of being able to continue to serve you here at Nazareth House.

Sincerely,

NAZARETH HOUSE

Sister Margaret Brody  
Administrator

SMB:dfb



Office of the Bishop

March 23, 1994

Rev. Frank Sierra  
Nazareth House  
6333 Rancho Mission Road  
San Diego, CA 92108

Dear Frank:

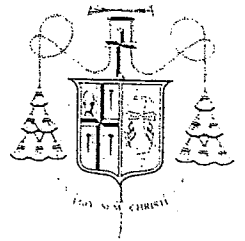
I am writing in response to your request to concelebrate a wedding Mass with Msgr. Timothy Harnett at St. John's Parish in Encinitas in April, 1994.

Bishop Brom is not able to grant your request. He previously granted you limited faculties to celebrate Mass publicly and to hear confessions of adult men at Nazareth House only. Your active priestly ministry in San Diego needs to remain within those limits.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Steven F. Callahan  
Assistant to the Bishop

SIERRA-RCBSD 0020



Office of the Bishop

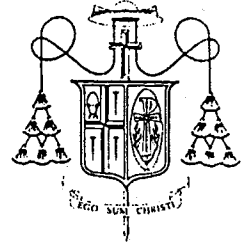
MEMORANDUM

**Date:** January 21, 1994  
**From:** Reverend Steven F. Callahan *SFC*  
**To:** Reverend Frank Sierra  
**Subject:** Permission to Celebrate Mass

---

Bishop Brom has granted permission for you to celebrate Mass at your family reunion in the summer of 1994 in Colorado.

SIERRA-RCBSD 0021



Office of the Bishop

24 November 1993  
Confidential

Dear Father Sierra:

I have your request regarding permission to say Mass publicly at Nazareth House, and your request for limited faculties to hear confessions there.

Given the earlier report from your counsellors which indicated that these kinds of activities would not be such as to pose risks, and, more importantly, so long as you are faithful in your program for wellness, I am pleased to be able to permit you to say mass publicly and to hear the confessions of adult men at Nazareth House only.

My prayers remain with you.

Fraternally in our Lord,

*+ Robert H. Brown*

Bishop of San Diego

*Steven Callahan*

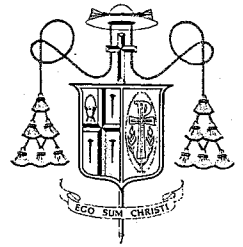
Rev. Steven Callahan  
Vice-Chancellor

Rev. Francis Sierra  
Nazareth House  
6333 Rancho Mission Road  
San Diego, CA 92108

SIERRA-RCBSD 0022

PASTORAL CENTER





Office of the Bishop

Decree in regard to irregularity  
for the exercise of orders

In accord with 1983 CIC 1041, n. 1 & 1983 CIC 1044 § 2, n.2, and having consulted with Fr. Sierra and experts, I have determined that Fr. Sierra is, at present, incapable of rightly carrying out priestly ministry, and I therefore prohibit Fr. Sierra from the exercise of priestly ministry (except for the celebration of Mass completely in private) until such time as I might again confer with experts and perhaps determine to permit Fr. Sierra the exercise of ministry again.

Done by me this 25th day of January, 1993, at the Pastoral Center in San Diego.

*+ Robert H. Brom*

+ Robert H. Brom  
Bishop of San Diego

*Fr. Steve Callahan*

Fr. Steve Callahan  
Vice-Chancellor  
*Sigillum Diocesis*

SIERRA-RCBSD 0023

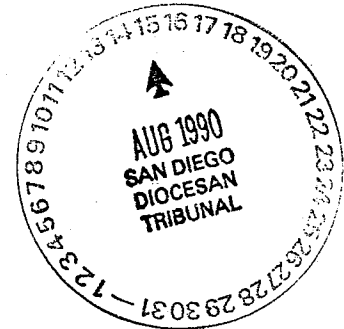
ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA

(Ordinariatus Castrensis)

962 WAYNE AVENUE  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910

Telephone (301) 495-4100

13 August 1990



The Most Reverend Robert Brom  
Bishop of San Diego  
PO Box 80428  
San Diego, CA 92138

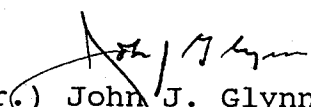
Dear Bishop Brom,

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Endorsement of the Archdiocese for the Military Services for Father Frank A. Sierra to serve as a contract chaplain at Naval Air Facility, El Centro, California.

This endorsement is being sent today to the Chief of Navy chaplains.

Again, let me thank you for allowing Father Sierra to serve the people of God in the United States Navy.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

  
(Rev. Msgr.) John J. Glynn  
Chaplain Personnel Department

SIERRA-RCBSD 0024

**ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA**

(Ordinariatus Castrensis)

962 WAYNE AVENUE  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910

Telephone (301) 495-4100

COPY

13 August 1990

RADM Alvin B. Koeneman, CHC, USN  
Chief of Chaplains (OP097)  
Navy Department  
Washington DC 20350-2000

Dear Chaplain Koeneman,

The Ecclesiastical Endorsement of the Archdiocese for the Military Services is granted for Reverend Frank A. Sierra to serve as a contract chaplain at Naval Air Facility, El Centro, California.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev. Msgr.) John J. Glynn  
Chaplain Personnel Department

SIERRA-RCBSD 0025

# ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSING AGENT CERTIFICATION

Form Approved  
OMB Number 0704-0190  
Expires Jan 31, 1990

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

## Privacy Act Statement

COPY

**AUTHORITY:** Title 10, United States Code, Sections 532 and 591; and EO 9397, November 1943 (SSN)  
**PURPOSE:** To certify the professional qualifications of clergy for appointment in the Military Services.  
**ROUTINE USE:** This form is an essential element of a chaplain's professional qualifications and will become part of a chaplain's military personnel record.  
**DISCLOSURE:** Voluntary; however, failure to provide all the information requested may significantly delay the processing of this endorsement.

1. FROM:	a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME OF ENDORSING AGENCY ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE SERVICES	b. ADDRESS (Street, City, State, and Zip Code) 962 WAYNE AVENUE SILVER SPRING, MD 20910
	2. TO:	a. CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS (X appropriate block)

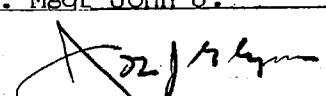
(1) Army	b. ADDRESS (Street, City, State, and Zip Code) Navy Department Washington DC 20350-2000
XX (2) Navy	
(3) Air Force	

3. APPLICANT INFORMATION

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Sierra, Rev. Frank A. (San Diego)	e. NUMBER OF YEARS APPLICANT HAS COMPLETED ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL/PASTORAL EXPERIENCE (after completing the requirements for the Chaplaincy).
b. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)	f. NUMBER OF YEARS APPLICANT HAS COMPLETED PRIOR ACTIVE COMMISSIONED OFFICER SERVICE. Number of years ordained 44
c. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)	g. APPLICATION IS FOR (X one) <b>CONTRACT CHAPLAIN</b>
d. ADDRESS (Street, City, State, and Zip Code) 124 East 5th Street Calexico, CA 92231	(1) Inactive Reserve
	(2) Extended active duty
	(3) Appointment to regular commissioned officer
	(4) Appointment to National Guard

4. ENDORSER INFORMATION

a. AS THE AUTHORIZED ENDORSING AGENT FOR (name of religious faith group) ROMAN CATHOLIC AND IN RECOGNITION OF DoD DIRECTIVE 1304.19, I HEREBY CERTIFY THE ABOVE APPLICANT PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED AS CLERGY AND ENDORSED FOR THE MILITARY CHAPLAINCY.

b. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Glynn, Rev. Msgr. John J.	c. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) (301) 495-4100
d. SIGNATURE 	e. DATE SIGNED (YYMMDD)

5. AUTHORIZED AGENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS PERTAINING TO THIS ENDORSEMENT (DoD Directive 1304.19, Paragraph E.2.c.)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Glynn, Rev. Msgr. John J.	c. ADDRESS (Street, City, State, and Zip Code) ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES 962 WAYNE AVENUE SILVER SPRING, MD 20910
b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) (301) 495-41000	

6. COMMENTS  
 THIS PRIEST IS APPLYING FOR DUTY AS A CONTRACT/AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN. SHOULD HE DESIRE TO GO ON ACTIVE DUTY, INACTIVE RESERVE OR NATIONAL GUARD DUTY, HE MUST SECURE ANOTHER ENDORSEMENT FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES. THIS FURTHER ENDORSEMENT WILL ONLY BE PROCESSED WHEN PERMISSION OF THE PRIEST'S ORDINARY OR RELIGIOUS SUPERIOR IS RECEIVED AT THE ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES.

REDACTED

SIERRA-RCBSD 0026

**ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA**

(Ordinariatus Castrensis)

962 WAYNE AVENUE  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910  
Telephone (301) 495-4100



5 June 1990

The Most Reverend Robert H. Brom  
Coadjutor Bishop of San Diego  
PO Box 80428  
San Diego, CA 92138-0428

Dear Bishop Brom,

I would like to thank you for your recent letter to CAPT Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN, in which you state that permission is granted for Reverend Frank A. Sierra to serve as a contract chaplain at Naval Air Facility, El Centro, California.

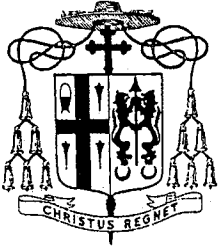
We at the Archdiocese for the Military Services are grateful to you for your interest in the spiritual welfare of our military family. We will begin the process today whereby Father Sierra will be able to become a contract chaplain within the near future.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John P. Gilhooley".

(Rev. Msgr.) John P. Gilhooley  
Vice Chancellor, Military Personnel

SIERRA-RCBSD 0027



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcalá Park

May 17, 1990

Reverend Frank A. Sierra  
124 East Fifth Street  
Calexico, California 92231

Dear Father Sierra:

I am happy to appoint you as Naval Chaplain at:

Naval Air Base  
3353 Palm Drive  
El Centro, California 92243-5001

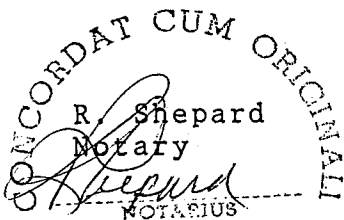
effective August 1, 1990.

With my best wishes in this appointment, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM/rs



SIERRA-RCBSD 0028

Diocese of San Diego  
Office For Apostolic Ministry

April 10, 1990

Dear Captain Kelley:

I am pleased to recommend Father Frank A. Sierra to serve as Chaplain at the Naval Air Facility in Seeley, California. Father has substituted there on a number of occasions and has been well received.

Sincerely,

Coadjutor Bishop of San Diego

Capt. Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN  
Force Chaplain  
COMNAVAIRPAC (Code 013)  
NAS North Island  
San Diego, CA 92135-5100

RHB:dc  
cc: Rev. Frank A. Sierra

SIERRA-RCBSD 0029



Father Frank Sierra  
Our Lady of Guadalupe  
124 E. Fifth Street  
Calexico, CA 92231

May 1, 1990

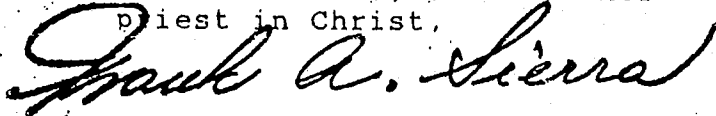
CAPT Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN  
Force Chaplain  
COMNAVAIRPAC (Code 013)  
NAS North Island  
San Diego, CA 92135-5100

Captain Kelley,

Since Father Fitzgerald is leaving his office as Command Chaplain of the Naval Air Facility in El Centro, he has indicated to me that I can make this facility the center of my Sunday priesthood. It is for this reason that I write to you as person in charge of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA requesting ecclesiastical endorsement to qualify for this appointment.

I am sending a similar letter to Bishop Robert Brom of San Diego requesting his endorsement of my assignment. I look forward to receiving your approval.

Most Sincerely, your brother  
priest in Christ,



Father Frank Sierra

*Copy*

SIERRA-RCBSD 0030

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH  
124 E. 5TH STREET  
CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA 92231  
(619) 357-1822

April 28 th. 1990

Most Reverend Robert H. Brom  
Bishop of the Diocese of  
San Diego, California

Here is the letter that I mentioned to you the night of confirmations at Our Lady of Guadalupe, El Centro, California, and also the visit to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Calexico, that is concerning a position as Chaplain at the NAF , the base that is located in Seeley, California.

I have served there at the NAF Chapel on sundays many times in the past. My health is better than many years back, since sleep apnea was discovered and the remedy found for me, now I have lost 30 pounds in two months, I jog up to six miles before sunrise and also gotrid of diabetes.

I now ask your Excellency to accept the request of the position for me aas Chaplain of the Navy Base Chapel, and to write a letter to that effect to the

Capt Edward J. Kelley,CHC,USN  
Forxe Chaplain  
Comnavairpac (code 013)  
NAS N. Island

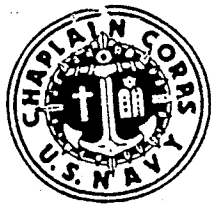
SAN DIEGO, CA. 92135-5100

Sincerely , in Jesus name.



Rev.Fr. Frank A. Sierra

SIERRA-RCBSD 0031



COMMAND CHAPLAIN  
NAVAL AIR FACILITY (002)  
EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA 92243-5001



1730T  
002/90-64:sjh  
07 May 1990

The Most Reverend Joseph T. RYAN  
Archdiocese for the Military Services, U. S. A.  
962 Wayne Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN ENDORSEMENT

Most Reverend and my dear Archbishop:

Greetings and a "high five" from this desert outpost of our Archdiocese...."Where the Sun spends the Winter" the local C of C brags.

I am retiring from active duty and being transferred to the Retired Reserve (just turned 60 in FEB) 28 SEP 90. I'm being relieved by a Methodist Chaplain. With less than 300 active duty aboard, NAF has been lucky to have had 12 priests consecutively, but I've prepared the people for the up-coming substantial change. The small but solid Catholic Community (largely retired and civilian) needs a good leader to support their Faith. The nearest English Mass is 7 miles away.

Father Frank A. SIERRA, ordained 16 MAR 1946 for San Diego, retired Pastor from Brawley and long-time Imperial Valley resident, has been my faithful supply. The Commanding Officer approves his appointment as Auxiliary Chaplain at NAF, effective 01 AUG 90. Bishop Robert BROM, the co-adjutor of San Diego becoming Ordinary 01 July 90, has encouraged Fr. Frank to request endorsement from AMS for service at this Facility. You should be receiving Fr. Frank's own petition for endorsement, according to directions given the AMD Chaplains' Newsletter 11/88 and 4/90, as well as SECNAVINST 1730.3G of 12/88.

I want to visit you sometime next Fall/Winter, during a brief sabbatical before VCII update FEB-MAY 91 at NAC, The Vatican. Upon return from Rome and The Holy Land, I expect to accept a Pastorate in Los Angeles. May God approve these plans, as beneficial to the Kingdom of God.

Very respectfull, in Christ The King,

Father JOHN FITZGERALD  
CDR CHC USNR

Copy to: Father Frank SIERRA  
Bishop Robert H. BROM, D. D.  
Commanding Officer, NAF El Centro

SIERRA-RCBSD 0032

PRODUCED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE - REPRODUCTION OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL NOT AUTHORIZED

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH  
124 E. 5TH STREET  
CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA 92231  
(619) 357-1822

May 8 - 1990

Archbishop Joseph T. Ryan, D.D.  
Archdiocese for the Military Services  
U.S.A. - 962 Wayne Avenue  
Silver Springs, Md. 20910

Re: Chaplaincy at El Centro NAF

Dear Archbishop Joseph T. Ryan:


Greetings from the Imperial Valley,  
home of the El Centro NAF.

Since my good friend John Fitzgerald is about to retire,  
the time has come to find the replacement in the position he now is in  
charge of, that is the chaplaincy of the NAF base in El Centro, Ca. at  
Seeley.

I would like to be considered the one chosen for this  
office, since I have the time, since I have been participating there at  
the Base and Chapel, during the services during the last two years.

I have informed my Bishop, Robert Brom, and also  
Capt. Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN - Force Chaplain, NAS North Island,  
San Diego, Ca. 92135 -5100.

With every best wish for you in your Holy work,  
I remain yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,

  
Reverend Father Frank A. Sierra

*Copy*

SIERRA-RCBSD 0033



Diocese of San Diego  
Office For Apostolic Ministry

April 10, 1990

Dear Captain Kelley:

I am pleased to recommend Father Frank A. Sierra to serve as Chaplain at the Naval Air Facility in Seeley, California. Father has substituted there on a number of occasions and has been well received.

Sincerely,

Coadjutor Bishop of San Diego

Capt. Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN  
Force Chaplain  
COMNAVAIRPAC (Code 013)  
NAS North Island  
San Diego, CA 92135-5100

RHB:dc  
cc: Rev. Frank A. Sierra

SIERRA-RCBSD 0034

Father Frank Sierra  
Our Lady of Guadalupe  
124 E. Fifth Street  
Calexico, CA 92231

May 1, 1990

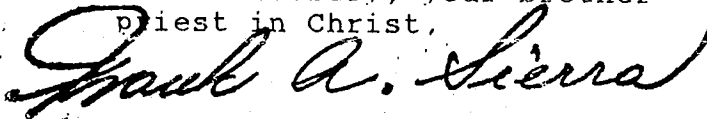
CAPT Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN  
Force Chaplain  
COMNAVAIRPAC (Code 013)  
NAS North Island  
San Diego, CA 92135-5100

Captain Kelley,

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I am sending a similar letter to Bishop Robert Brom of San Diego requesting his endorsement of my assignment. I look forward to receiving your approval.

Most Sincerely, your brother  
priest in Christ,



Father Frank Sierra

*Copy*

SIERRA-RCBSD 0035

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH  
124 E. 5TH STREET  
CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA 92231  
(619) 357-1822

May 8 - 1990

Archbishop Joseph T. Ryan, D.D.  
Archdiocese for the Military Services  
U.S.A. - 962 Wayne Avenue  
Silver Springs, Md. 20910

Re: Chaplaincy at El Centro NAF

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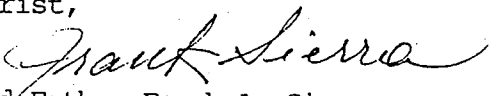
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the Base and Chapel, during the services during the last two years.

I have informed my Bishop, Robert Brom, and also  
Capt. Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN - Force Chaplain, NAS North Island,  
San Diego, Ca. 92135 -5100.

With every best wish for you in your Holy work,  
I remain yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,

  
Reverend Father Frank A. Sierra

*Copy*

SIERRA-RCBSD 0036



COMMAND CHAPLAIN  
NAVAL AIR FACILITY (002)  
EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA 92243-5001



1730T  
002/90-64:sjh  
07 May 1990

The Most Reverend Joseph T. RYAN  
Archdiocese for the Military Services, U. S. A.  
962 Wayne Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN ENDORSEMENT

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Very respectfull, in Christ The King,

Father JOHN FITZGERALD  
CDR CHC USNR

Copy to: Father Frank SIERRA  
Bishop Robert H. BROM, D. D.  
Commanding Officer, NAF El Centro

SIERRA-RCBSD 0037

PRODUCED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE - REPRODUCTION OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IS NOT AUTHORIZED



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH

124 E. 5TH STREET  
CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA 92231  
(619) 357-1822

April 28 th. 1990

Most Reverend Robert H. Brom

Bishop of the Diocese of

San Diego, California

Here is the letter that I mentioned to you the night of confirmations at Our Lady of Guadalupe, El Centro, California, and also the visit to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Calexico, that is concerning a position as Chaplain at the NAF , the base that is located in Seeley, California.

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write a letter to that effect to the

Capt Edward J. Kelley, CHC, USN  
Forxe Chaplain  
Comnavairpac (code 013)  
NAS N. Island

SAN DIEGO, CA. 92135-5100

Sincerely , in Jesus name.



Rev. Fr. Frank A. Sierra

September 25, 1989

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church  
124 E. Fifth Street  
Calexico, CA 92231-2632

Dear Frank:

This is to inform you that I have now appointed Father Manuel Mesa, OMI, as the new Director of the Spanish-speaking Cursillos in Imperial Valley.

Father Manuel Mesa will be living at Niland and will have sufficient time to carry out his work as spiritual director.

I wish to thank you for your cooperation and help, and if Father Manuel Mesa is in need of your assistance I am sure that he will contact you.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea  
cc: Rev. Fr. Manuel Mesa, OMI

SIERRA-RCBSD 0039

**REDACTED**

January 21, 1988

Dear :

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 1988, concerning the retirement of Father Frank Sierra. I am pleased to inform you that Father Sierra will be in the Valley and will be in residence at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Calexico, where he will also be assisting at the military base.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea

SIERRA-RCBSD 0040

Monday, Jan. 4, 1988

MOST Rev. Bishop Leo J. Maher  
P.O. Box 30428  
San Diego, CA 92138



Dear Bishop Maher:

I'm writing concerning our friend, Father Francisco Sierra of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Brawley, Calif.

In his favor, I just want to mention a few of many good deeds and hard work I myself have seen him do, along with many other people as well.

Back in 1980 to 1982, though I was never a parishioner of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, I was very involved in the work of the Charismatic Renewal in that church as well as the church of St. Margaret Mary of Brawley. I therefore was blessed to work closely with Father Sierra in his endeavors of helping the youth come to Christ, adults as well; Also Father was a blessing as he tried helping families in crisis, conducting Holy Spirit Masses and prayer meetings, among the community.

When a friend of mine whose brother was killed, I remember Father was there praying and comforting the grieving family.

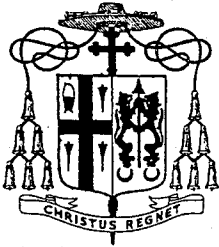
When my uncle was dying and badly needed last rites and prayers, I called Father and by the time I knew it, there he was with us to do his work. Father has helped many people irregardless of whom and families facing today's typical alcohol, drug, divorce, violence related problems. Not to have to mention the many troubled youth he's dearly helped in every way possible to not return to the streets or gangs.

Whatever the complaints of a few parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church cannot be drastic as to remove Father Sierra from there for he is simply doing the work of Christ; but if moved, please consider transferring him to some Parish within the Imperial Valley; many people longed to have someone like him.

Sincerely,

SIERRA-RCBSD 0041

REDACTED



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcala Park

December 22, 1987

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P.O. Box 1283  
Brawley, CA 92227

Dear Father Sierra:

I am happy to assign you in residence  
at:

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church  
124 E. Fifth Street  
Calexico, CA 92231

upon your retirement as Pastor of Our Lady of  
Perpetual help, Brawley, effective February 1, 1988.

I am also assigning you to be Assistant  
Director of the Cursillo Movement in the Imperial  
Valley. You will work under the direction of Father  
Jose Chavarin. I know you will be happy to assist  
the priests in various parishes whenever a need  
arises.

With my best wishes in this appointment  
and every blessing during this Holy Season, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

cc: Rev. Barry E. Vinyard  
Rev. Jose Chavarin

E. Aguilar  
Notary

SIERRA-RCBSD 0042

December 9, 1987

LCDR. J. C. Rich, CHC, USN  
Office of the Command Chaplain  
Naval Air Facility  
El Centro, CA 92243

Dear Father Rich:

In your letter of December 2, 1987, you inquire concerning the possibility of a diocesan priest offering Mass at the Naval Air Facility in El Centro at least once a week.

I believe I can make arrangements after January 1st, since I will have a retired priest in the area. I will be in the Valley for a few days on the 11th and 12th; I will discuss this with the pastor there.

With all good wishes, I am

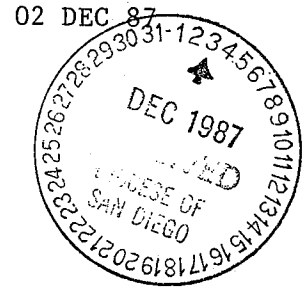
Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea

SIERRA-RCBSD 0043

Office of the Command Chaplain  
Naval Air Facility  
El Centro, California 92243



Most Reverend Leo T. Maher  
Diocesan Office - P.O. Box 80428  
San Diego, California 92138

Dear Bishop Maher,

Father Mel Collier of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in El Centro and I have spoken from time to time about the possibility of a civilian priest providing Catholic coverage in the base chapel at NAF El Centro. I believe he has been in touch with you recently to pass along this concern.

There is a shortage of Catholic priests on active duty in the Navy, and a very real possibility that a Catholic Chaplain will be unavailable when I transfer in the May-June 1988 time frame. Many of the Catholics attending Sunday Mass here are English speaking civilians living in Seeley who have no other convenient place to go for religious services and ministry.

The Chaplain Detailer will begin working on this slate of transfers in January 1988. We would appreciate any assistance which the Diocese may be able to render the Catholic military and civilian members in this area. Looking forward to seeing you on 12 December for the blessing of the Mission in Seeley.

In Christ,

*Joseph A. Rich*  
Rev. J.C. RICH  
LCDR, CHC, USN

SIERRA-RCBSD 0044

December 2, 1987

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P. O. Box 1283  
Brawley, CA 92227

Dear Father Sierra:

As you retire February 1, 1988, due to your illness of diabetes, and take up residence at Our Lady of Guadalupe Rectory in Calexico, it is my hope that you will continue to serve the Church in many ways, especially being associate director of the Cursillo movement. Father Jose Chavarin is the diocesan director.

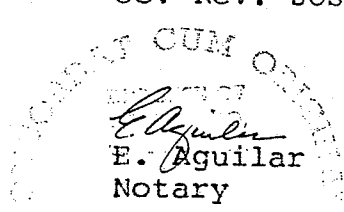
You have made a wonderful contribution and as you make this change in your ministry I wish to express to you my sincere thanks and appreciation for your zealous devotion to your priestly duties. Your achievements have been manifold and have brought many blessings on our people, allowing them to grow spiritually.

With renewed thanks and appreciation, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea  
cc: Rev. Jose Chavarin

A circular notary seal for E. Aguilar, Notary. The seal contains the text "NOTARY PUBLIC" around the top edge and "E. Aguilar" in the center. A signature is written over the seal.  
E. Aguilar  
Notary

SIERRA-RCBSD 0045



*Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

1250 "B" ST. P. O. BOX 1283  
344-2226 BRAWLEY, CALIF. ZIP 92227

November 23, 1987

To Your Excellency  
Bishop Leo T. Maher,

We, the Parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, present for your consideration, our desires and concerns. We have come here today, not to bargain with you, but to plead for our Church. Because we know you have a very busy schedule, we will try to be as brief and to the point as possible.

We want to have our priest present and accessible 6 days a week with one day off; that he be our Spiritual leader and guide to the following:

1. Daily Mass, daily communion and Saturday confession.
2. That he start Mass on time.
3. That he teach the Liturgy; that it be better planned and that he celebrate Mass as ordered by Church guidelines.
4. That he teach the Sacraments, especially those concerned with First Communion, Confirmation, etc; that these celebrations be done in accordance to the new Diocesan guidelines.
5. That he be available to our Youth for Spiritual direction, especially when it concerns Liturgy, sex, drugs, etc.
6. That he be available to the sick and homebound; that he should visit and offer the Sacraments at least once a month.

We want that the election of a Parish Council be by the Parishioners and not appointed by the priest, so that:

1. We can reactivate church groups, such as the Altar Society and the Guadalupanas.
2. We can reactivate activities such as jamaicas, bar-b-ques, etc. for the purpose of raising funds for our church.
3. The physical condition of church and grounds be done together in agreement with the Parish Council.
4. We can hire a parish secretary which is very essential.

We want a parish census (last one approximately 15 years ago) in order to update the registration list; we also desire a latest and informative bulletin.

We have these concerns for the following reasons:

1. The health of Fr. Frank Sierra is poor; he has diabetes, falls asleep frequently (in Mass also), and is showing signs of age.
2. The loss of our parishioners:
  - a. Those who are now going to other Roman Catholic churches.
  - b. Those who have joined other denominational religions.
  - c. Those, for the worst part, who are not going to church at all.

3. When Fr. Sierra went on vacation for one month recently and Msgr. Borrero was present:
  - a. The church filled to capacity.
  - b. He left the church in the following condition: no natural gas, no food and no telephone.
  - c. Response from the people was great, in spite of the condition he left behind.

It is very difficult for us to come and present these problems to Your Excellency. But we know that the Spiritual well-being of our families and our Community is our main concern. We are putting ourselves at risk for our children who will be the future leaders of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Again, we thank you for taking time out from your very busy schedule to listen to us and we pray that you will be favorable to our concerns. God bless you.

Yours in Christ,

Concerned Parishioners of O.L.P.H.

November 11, 1987

SIGNATURE LIST

1. Rosemarie Rodriguez
2. Conchita Duarte
3. Joe Padilla
4. Jose Armstrong
5. Manuel Sigala
6. Feliciano Duarte
7. Lydia A. Duarte
8. Me Alea
9. Socorro Navarro
10. Jose (Mario) Navarro
11. Paul A. Duarte
12. Ascension Reyes
13. L. Adela m. Sabala
14. Gervasia B. Sabala
15. Daniel Duarte
16. Sgt. A. Dolley
17. George Marquez
18. Peter C. Rodriguez
19. Duran Duran
20. Lola Gonzalez
21. - Lupe Gonzalez

22 de noviembre, 1987



Su Excelencia Senor Obispo,

Es con mucho respeto que le dirigimos esta suplica. Nosotros los parroqueanos de la Iglesia de Nuestra Senora del Perpetuo Socorro de Brawley, California, en particular la comunidad rural de la parroquia, queremos darle a saber que no estamos de acuerdo con que se presente queja en contra de nuestro parroco, el Rev. Francisco Sierra.

Sabemos que como hombre que es, el Padre Sierra tiene faltas. Tambien tiene problemas de salud. Pero tambien sabemos el valor que el tiene para nosotros. Es sacerdote, celebra la Santa Misa, bautisa a nuestros hijos, administra los demas sacramentos, y eso basta para nosotros.

Los que aqui firmamos, le pedimos que tome en cuenta el apoyo que aqui presentamos para el Padre Sierra cuando tome decision sobre el futuro de nuestra parroquia.

Muchas gracias por escucharnos.

Respetuosamente,

<u>Margareta Orain</u>	<u>Mr Mr Gustavo Renterias</u>
<u>Michael Ruiz</u>	<u>B. Alvarado</u>
<u>Marina Buzqueño</u>	<u>Paula Santillana</u>
<u>M<sup>a</sup> Cruz Castillo</u>	<u>María Dios</u>
<u>Blanca Sanchez</u>	<u>Graciela Rosas</u>
<u>Jos. Huilla</u>	<u>Benjamin Sanchez</u>
<u>Brigida Ruiz-Lara</u>	<u>Felipe Sanchez</u>

Salvador y Carmen Cuila  
M<sup>ra</sup> Guadalupe A. Garcia  
Adolfo L. Garcia

Al Williams. Yreos

Maria Boak

Alfred Baker

Boa Bayler

Smith

Fine DeLong

Forest Miller

Frank Walker

Frank Walker

Jacob Bernick

Abraham Bernick

Amelia Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

Boa Bernick

Frank Bernick

Frank Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

Eva Bernick

Dennis Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

Maria Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

John Bernick

November 10, 1987

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P. O. Box 1283  
Brawley, CA 92227

Dear Father Sierra:

You will find enclosed a form which you are asked to fill out and return to me at the Diocesan Office, regarding your funeral instructions and general information in the event of your death. The information may be placed in a sealed envelope, and will be opened only in the event of death. It is necessary that each of us responsibly aid those who must administer our affairs upon our demise.

Also, please be reminded that all Diocesan priests are required to have an original will and codicils thereto on file in the Diocesan Office. Should you have an out-dated will on file, upon your direction it will be returned to you. The enclosed information will be placed with your will.

Please be assured of my gratitude for your cooperation in this matter. Do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any assistance.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rev. Mark A. Campbell  
Vicar for Clergy Personnel  
Adjutant Judicial Vicar

MAC:em

enclosure

SIERRA-RCBSD 0052

## *The Beautiful Hands of a Priest*

*We need them in life's early morning,  
We need them again at its close,  
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,  
We seek them when tasting life's woes.*

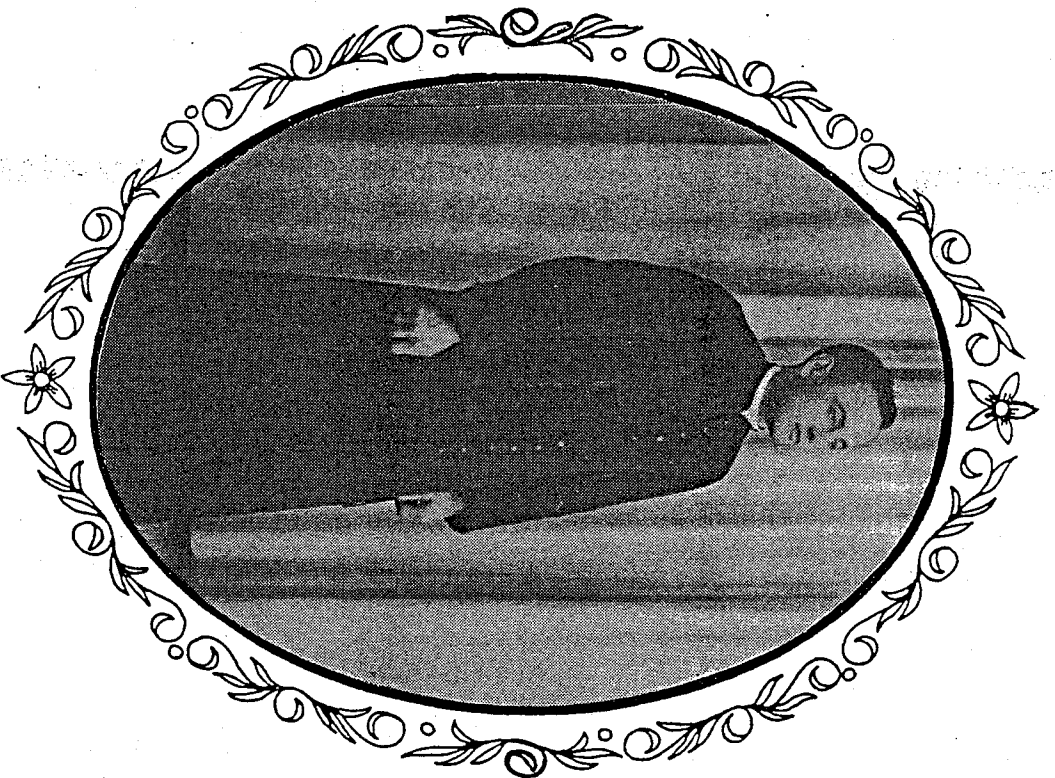
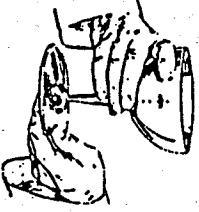
*When we come to this world we are sinful,  
The greatest as well as the least,  
And the hand that makes us pure as Angels,  
Is the beautiful hand of a priest!*

*And when we are tempted and wander,  
To pathways of shame and of sin,  
'Tis the hand of a priest will absolve us,  
Not once but again and again.*

*And when we are taking life's partner,  
Other hands may prepare us a feast,  
But the hand that will bless and unite us,  
Is the beautiful hand of a priest!*

*God bless them and keep them all holy,  
For the Host which their fingers caress,  
What can a poor sinner do better,  
Than ask Him, Who chose them, to bless.*

*When death's dew on our eyes is falling,  
May our courage and strength be increased,  
By seeing raised o'er us in blessing,  
The beautiful hands of a priest!*



*Frank Sierra*

*on March 16, 1946*

*was ordained into the priesthood*

*at St. John's Cathedral*

*Rome, Italy*

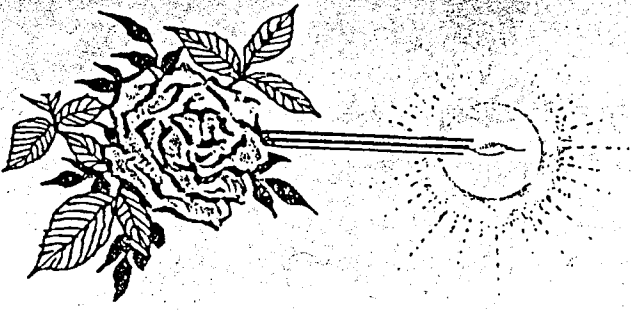




**HAPPY  
40th  
ANNIVERSARY??**

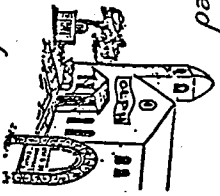
*Fr. Sierra*

People who know  
 how to brighten a day  
 with heartwarming smiles  
 and with kind words they say,  
 People who know  
 how to gently impart  
 the comfort it takes  
 to cheer somebody's heart,  
 People who know  
 how to always come through  
 when there's anything  
 they can possibly do,  
 People who know  
 how to willingly share,  
 who know how to give  
 and who know how to care,  
 who know how to let  
 all their warm feelings show...  
 Are people that others  
 feel lucky to know.

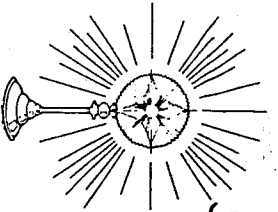


*This souvenir booklet is dedicated  
 with Jesus' love to*

*Father Frank Sierra  
 by the parishioners of  
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
 Brawley, California*



*Father Frank Sierra*



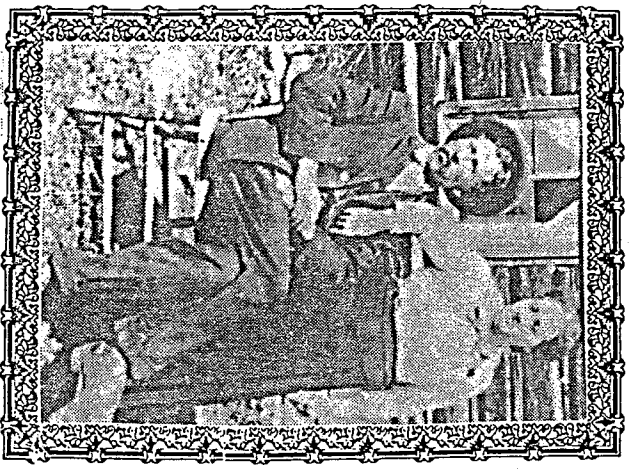
*Father Frank Sierra* was born on April 13, 1922, to Francisco Antonio Sierra and Josefa Lobato Valdez, near the beginnings of the Rio Grande, on a Spanish land grant that could be traced back to his ancestors to the 17th century. He was born on the same land that his father had been born on.

Even though Father Frank's father was a store manager most of his life, he also farmed this property off and on with the help of his family. His mother Josefa worked in the store right along with his father.

Father Sierra was the youngest of five children born into this family. A sister, Mary Francis, died as a teenager. Two brothers, Herman and Edward, died as victims of World War II. An older brother, John, is also a priest, who serves as associate pastor for Precious Blood Church in Banning. These two brothers, Father John and Father Frank, are the only surviving children born to Francisco and Josefa Sierra.

When Father Frank expressed his desire to become a priest, his mother was not too excited about having him go into the seminary. She had rather wanted him to stay home with

them. One day, little Frank was set to go fishing. Josefa told him this was the day he had to apply for his passport to go to Europe to enter the seminary. But he wanted to go fishing. She reminded him today was the deadline; otherwise, he could not go to Spain. It was his choice. He dropped his fishing gear and went to file



*His Grandparents:  
Jose Gabriel Sierra  
Maria Trinidad  
Valdez Sierra*



*His Father*  
FRANCISCO A. SIERRA



*His Mother*  
JOSEFA LOBATO VALDEZ

for his passport. He wanted to become priest more than anything.

So in July 1935, at the age of thirteen, Frank Sierra left his family in Del Norte, Colorado, traveled in the company of a priest to New York City and from there, to Barcelona, Spain, to begin his studies on the way to priesthood.

His brother John had preceded him on this same journey five years earlier. Both went to Spain at the suggestion of their parish priest in Colorado who had received his education and training in Spain.

Father Frank entered there at what would be our equivalent of the eighth grade. He studied and learned the Catalan language. He enjoyed the people, their songs, and their folklore. However, his studies there were cut short by the Spanish Civil War. The Communists and Franco were struggling for control. Father Sierra left to avoid the civil war and the threats that war brought to him because of his ties to the Church.

He arrived in Rome by way of France in 1936. Here in Rome, he studied at the Gregorian University and at the St. John Lathern University, the spot where in the year 300 A.D., The Emperor Constantine and Helena resided and built the first Church of Rome.

His classes were conducted half in Latin and half in Italian. He studied and speaks fluently nine languages: Spanish, Italian, Latin, French, Catalan, Greek, German, Hebrew, and English.

It was during this period in Rome that World War II broke out. Father harbored a Nazi soldier, Franz Grodecke, for about two months. Reluctantly, Father had to turn Franz over to the English. After the war, Franz was returned to Frankfurt, his home. Father Sierra was reunited with him in Germany in 1970.

During his ten-year stay in Rome as a student, several people befriended him. He remembers Pane Bianco, a baker, who was very friendly to him; Mrs. Gatti who gave him books and was like a mother to him; and Monsignor Cappaferrri who was the master of ceremonies for the Pope and who liked to collect stamps.

At the age of 23, on March 16, 1946, Frank A. Sierra was ordained a priest, at St. John's Cathedral, in Rome, Italy. At that same time, the Church was under the leadership of Pope Pius XII. Our present Pope John Paul II was ordained a priest that very same year in November. Also, that is the year that the U.S. Navy's famous Blue Angels squadron was formed.



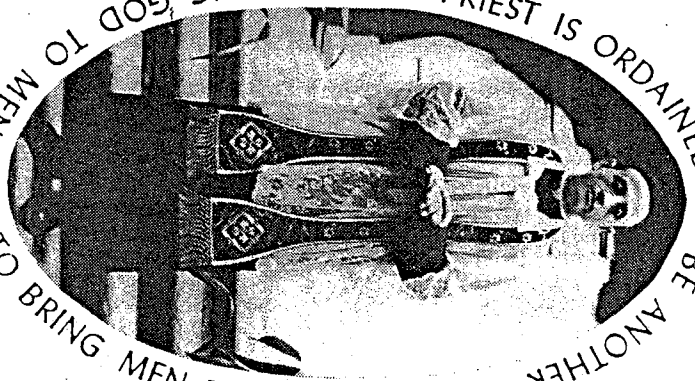
John A. Sierra

Frank A. Sierra

1938 - *Vie dello Statuto* 58, Roma, Italia



A PRIEST IS ORDAINED TO BE ANOTHER CHRIST • TO BRING GOD TO MEN AND TO BRING MEN TO GOD



After Father was ordained a priest, he returned to Barcelona to teach and minister for one year at a Catholic school and worked in the school's office. He taught geography, history and languages. At the end of that school year, he returned to Del Norte, Colorado, his hometown.

He spent his birthday, April 13, 1947, with his mother, father and family. He had a one-month reunion with them. Father Frank sensed that his parents had suffered a great deal of loneliness and longed for his return. He felt they were asking him, "Why did you go away from us for so long?"

While visiting his family in Del Norte, Father received word asking him to return once again to Spain. He answered this request to return and teach at this same school in Barcelona for one more year. It was at the end of this school year that Father answered a call to teach in Argentina.

Bahia Blanca in the Pampas, three hours from

Buenos Aires, was where he spent the next five years, teaching at the elementary, high school and college levels. He was able to experience the life of the Country during the early years of Juan Peron.

Father enjoyed his five-year stay with the gauchos He described the people as very beautiful, well-educated, gracious and very hospitable. Many people in the Pampas sent their children to France or the



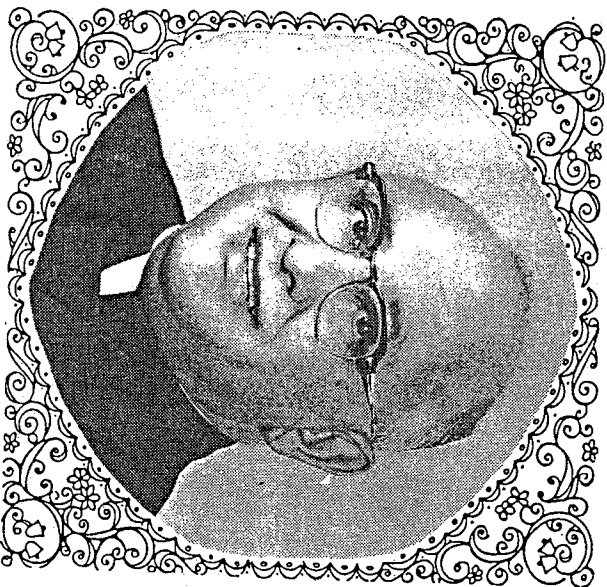
*Fr. Sierra*  
1948

United States to be educated. A car there was a luxury. He only used a car to get back and forth to the mission church he was in charge of. He fondly mentioned the Massigoge, Echarri, and Cork families he had met there.

It was during his stay in Argentina that his mother was killed in a car accident during the Christmas season in 1950. This was a sad time in Father's life. He could not get home for the funeral.

From Argentina Father Frank was called back once more to teach in Barcelona at the same Catholic high school he had been at before. Because these people had given him his education, he gladly returned there when they called. He spent one more year teaching there and then returned to the United States.

In 1952, Father Frank A. Sierra was assigned as associate pastor of a large church, Holy Cross in

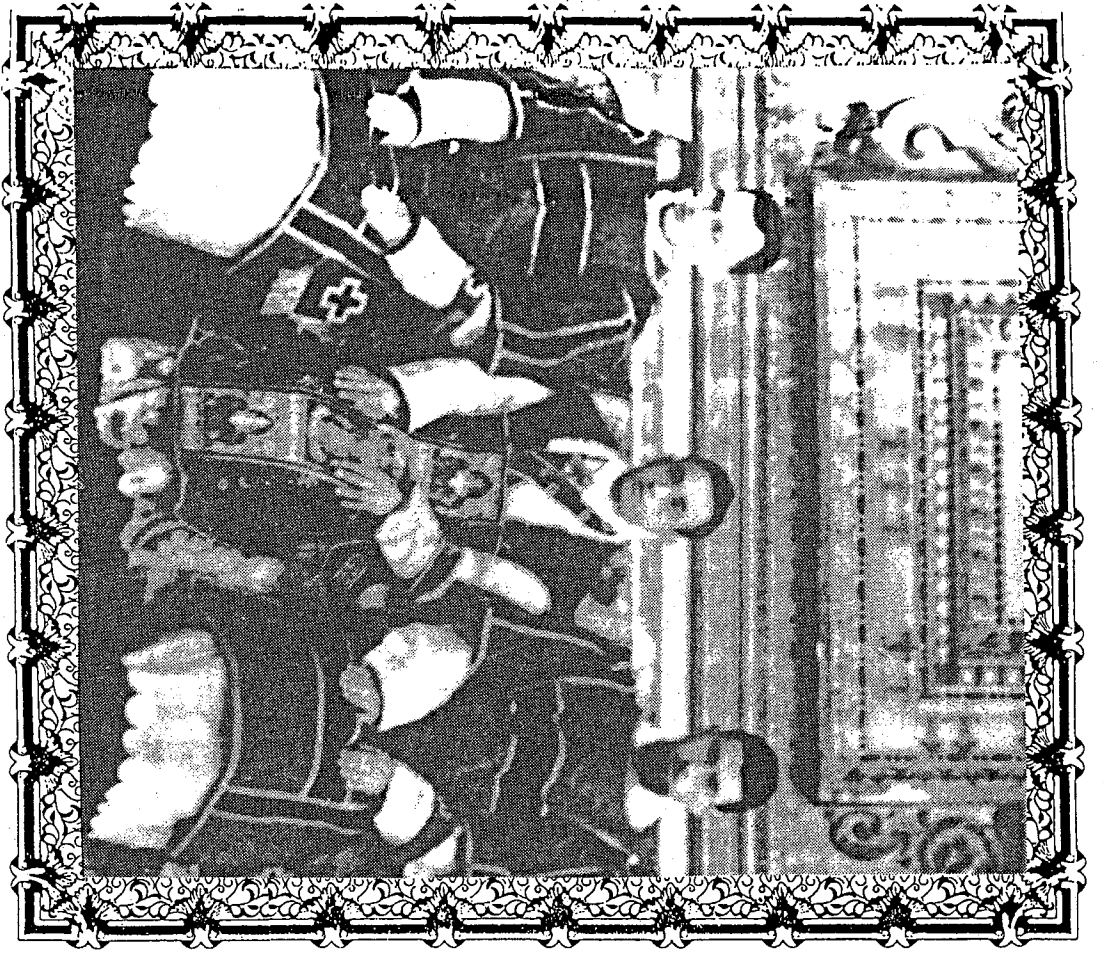


*Fr. Sierra*  
1965

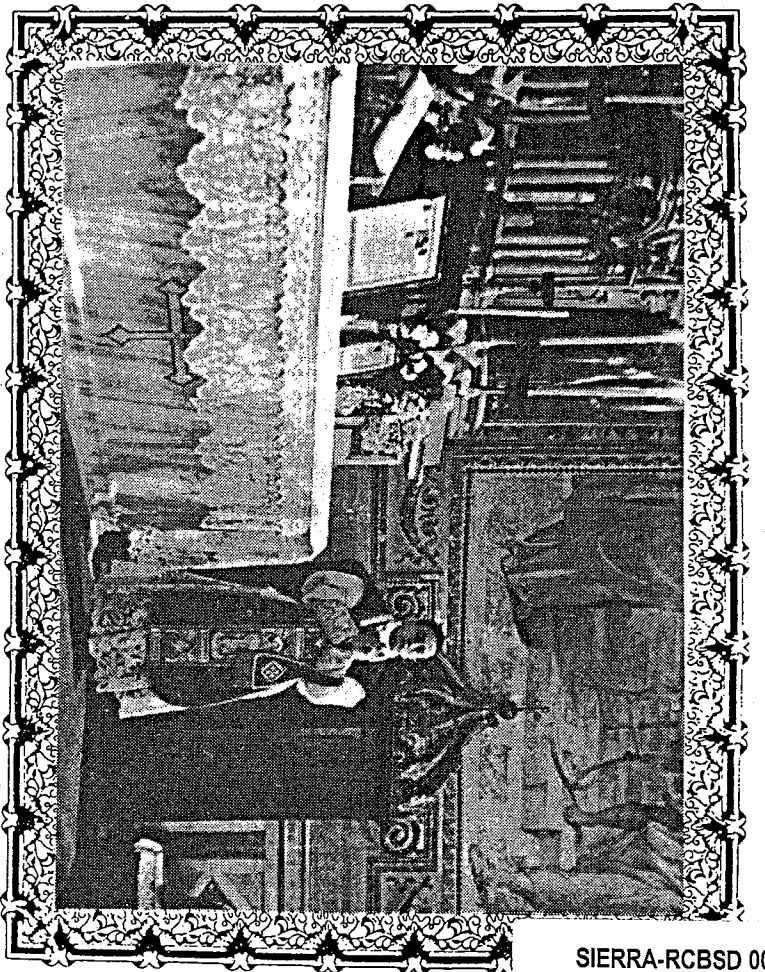
Santa Cruz, New Mexico. Here he became close friends of Mr. & Mrs. Larned Asprey who are atomic scientists. Mr. Asprey and Father spent many an hour fishing the trout streams. Atencio and Gonzalez were first-settler names and their ancestors were members of this parish.

In 1954, Saint Francis Jerome in Center, Colorado, was Father's second assignment. It was here that he followed his brother John as pastor for five years. Agnes Scovill was Father's neighbor there. She still





Father Sierra's  
First Holy Mass  
St. John's Cathedral, Rome



Unless thou, O Lord, direct and  
truest who could believe it to be  
And unless thou didst command  
it, who would venture to  
prayer?

In grateful remembrance

of my  
Ordination to the Priesthood

and of my  
First Holy Mass

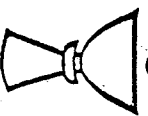
Rome, Feast of St. Joseph 1946

Frank A. Sierra, S. J.

+

O Jesus, bless my Parents, re-  
latives and friends and all who  
have done good to me for thy sake.

THOU  
ART  
A  
PRIEST  
FOREVER





1975 - Father Sierra wheelin' in his Yamaha.  
 Who's the girl, Father?  
 (Yamaha is farewell gift from Upland parishioners.)

writes to him from Denver where she lives with a daughter. Leo and Loretta Manzanares were close friends with whom he spent many a pleasant Sunday afternoon. During Father's stay here, in 1958, his father, Francisco Antonio Sierra passed away.

From Saint Francis Jerome, Father returned to Holy Cross in 1960. He then reported to Our Lady of Peace at Greeley in Northern Colorado, in 1961. He fondly remembers the Ault family who were of German descent.

In 1962, Father was then sent to Our Lady of Fatima in Bayard, which is located near Silver City. Bayard is in a very rich mining area of New Mexico. Joe Sifuentes was a close friend. He and his son Larry and family had come here to this parish to have their grandchildren baptized.

Our Lady of Light in El Paso, a large church right on the border, was Father Sierra's next parish in 1969. Ramon Santiesteban is a friend he still communicates with. Father married Ramon's daughter Norma to a German boy from New York, Frank Kestler. Frank and Norma now live on the east coast.

Father arrived in California in 1970 and was assigned to St. Joseph's parish in Upland, for five years. He remembers the Chief of Police there, Chief Estes, Lt. Stelescki also on the police force, Doctor Cavanaugh, and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Grabowski who were his adopted California parents. They still remain close to him.

The next stop on Father's list of parishes is Our Lady of Soledad in Coachella, 1975. During his stay there, Father was on the radio every morning from 5 to 7. Chema Ramos was his partner on the air at KVVU-FM radio Station. The farmworkers, on the bus on their way to the fields, carried a radio on their



1985 - Father Sierra with Fr. Jose Teres,  
 107 years old, from Colorado.  
 When little Frank was 10 years old,  
 he served Mass for Father Teres.

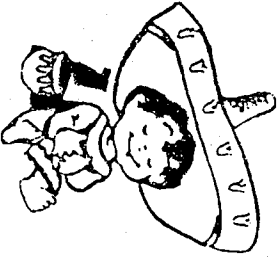


*Father with RED SKELTON - "A Day with Red" Benefit Fiesta sponsored by Our Lady of Soledad, Indio - 1975*

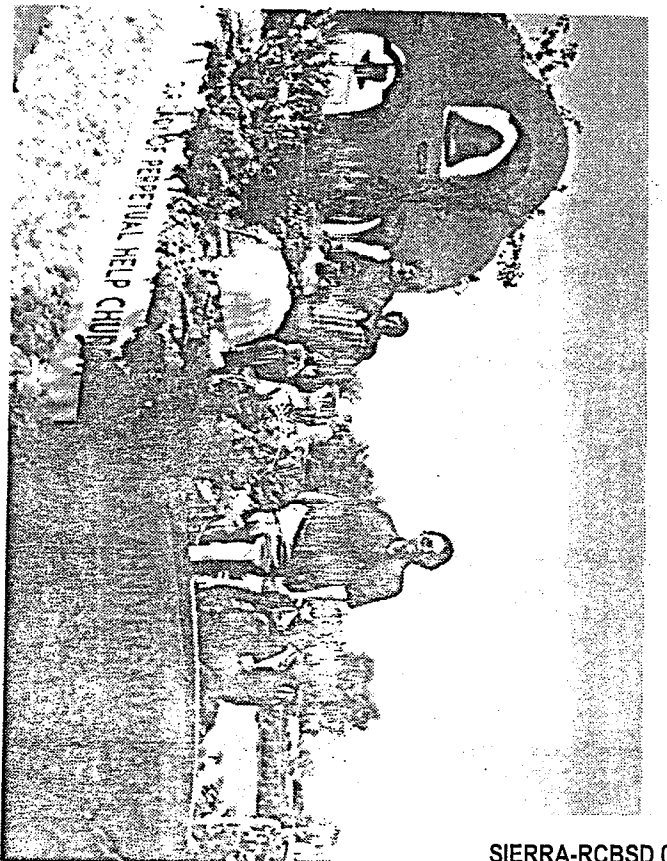


belt in order to listen to Father's Bible readings each morning.

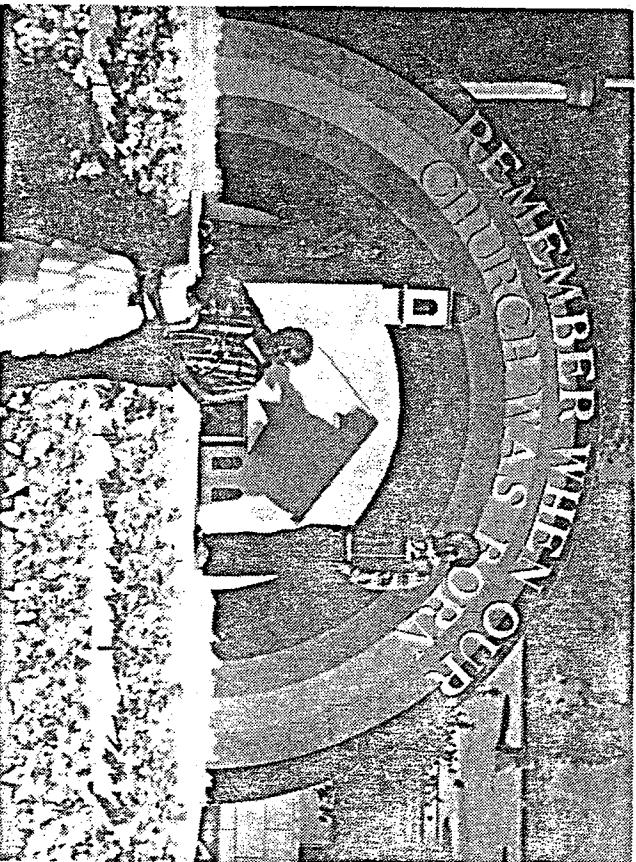
From Coachella, Father's next parish was St. John's in Encinitas, in 1976. He describes this place as being close to paradise. He loved the beach and the ocean and all the mysteries of life that come with it. He called this a special parish because the beach brings special kinds of people. Encinitas is only fifteen minutes north of San Diego.



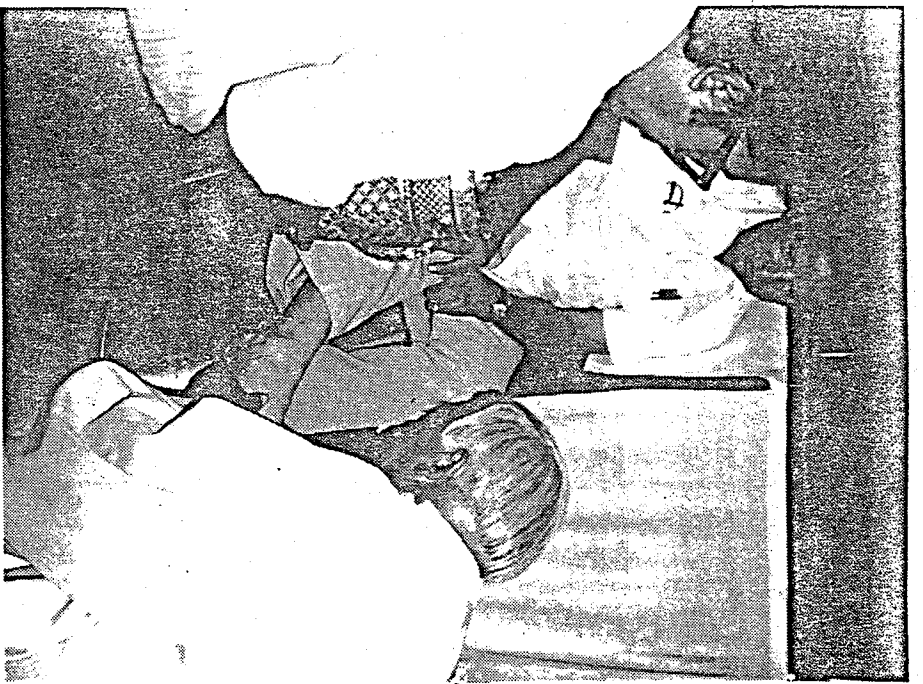
*Fr. Sierra with Mario Moreno "Cantinflas" 1975*



*Church floats, with Fr. Frank, Fr. Mario & children. Top float was Sweepstakes Winner in Brawley Cattle Call Parade, November 1981.*







Fr. Sierra  
washing  
feet of  
Brother Chuck  
with  
Bobby  
Gallejos  
assisting  
during  
Holy  
Week  
April 1985

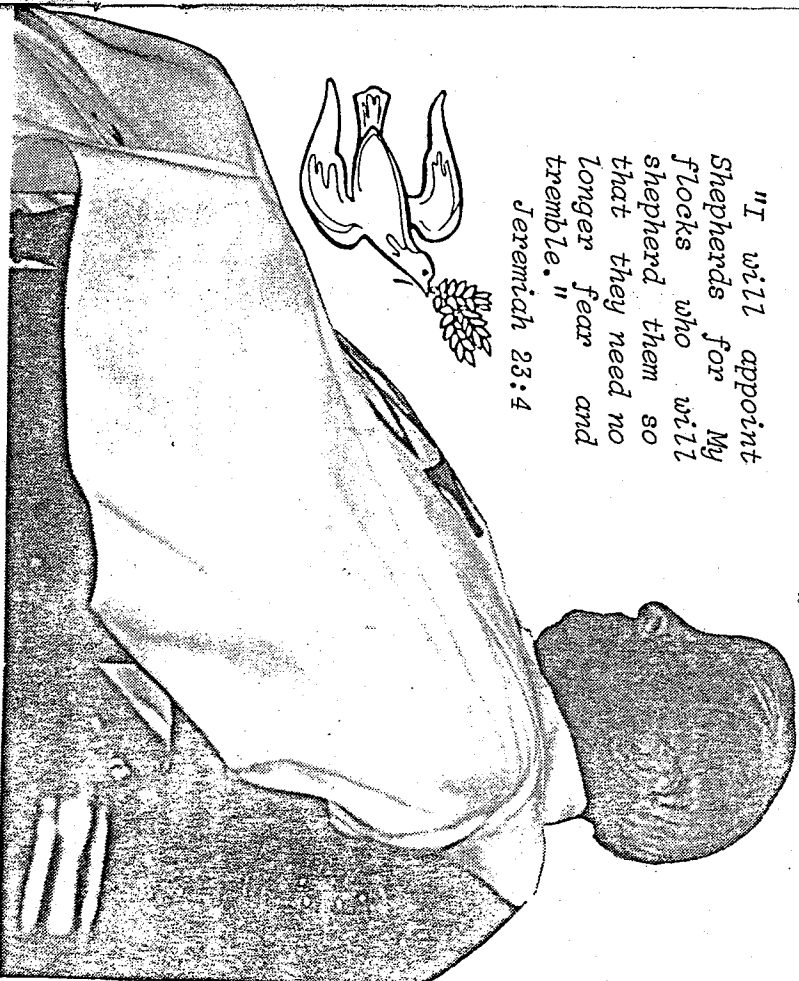
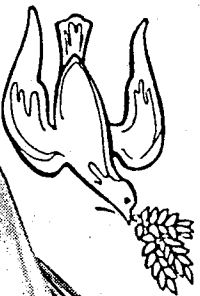


\*\*Brawley Catholic Rainbow Outreach Mission\*\*  
Brothers Mike, Carlos, Chuck, Craig, Joe, Dean  
with Father Sierra

Dick Corder is a deacon and a special friend from that parish who will be celebrating with Bishop Maher and priests on April 13, 1986. Jorge and Esperanza Clemente frequently send flowers down here to our parish to enjoy. Victor Cardona and his wife Lupe helped him work and live while he was at St. John's. If Father went jogging, Victor went with him. If Father went to church, they went with him. He also mentioned the Donnelly's and the Ogle's who are good friends. Most of the Spanish-speaking people at that parish are involved in gardening and are doing very well. Father was one of the founding members to start the Annual Flower Festival in Encinitas.

Father arrived here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Brawley, on July 4, 1979. He faced a tremendous challenge here with drugs and gang killings, but he came because he was needed. He feels it was a nice credit to him to have been called to our parish. He started the Brawley Catholic Rainbow Outreach program six years ago by taking gang members and other

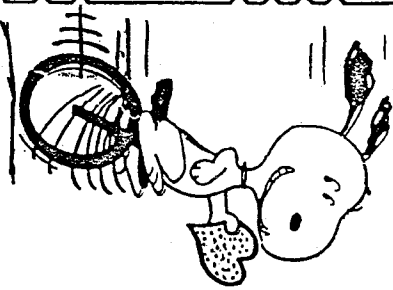
"I will appoint  
Shepherds for My  
flocks who will  
shepherd them so  
that they need no  
longer fear and  
tremble."  
Jeremiah 23:4







"WE'VE GOT TO  
HURRY AND  
SPREAD  
JESUS' LOVE  
AROUND!"

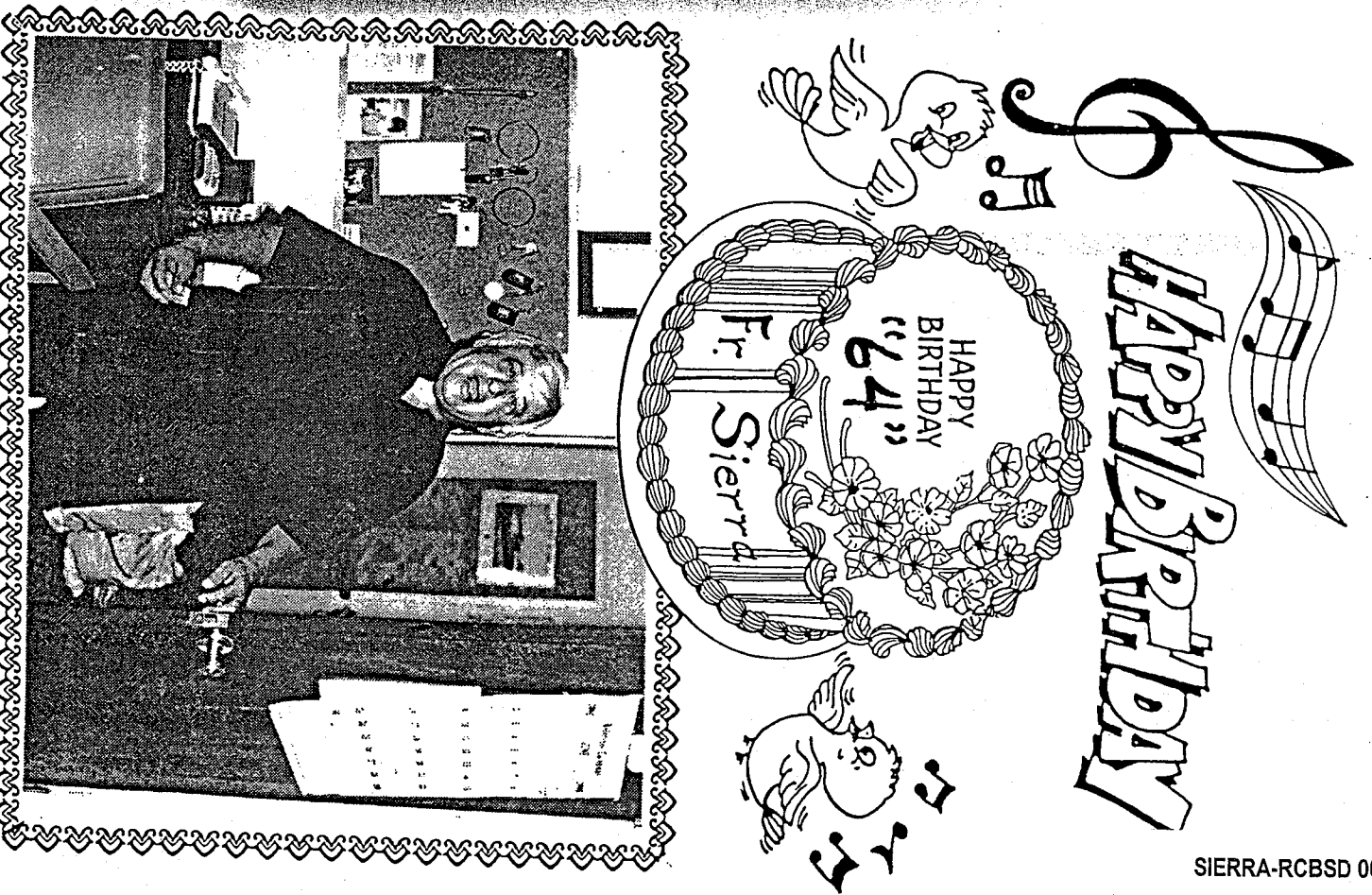


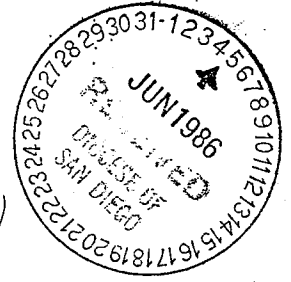
youth out into the desert at night to sing and read the Bible. The group makes regular trips to Mexicali to visit and to bring food and clothing to orphanages and jails. It has developed into a well-regulated program. The group is a non-profit organization who raises money mainly through yard sales.

He enjoys seeing the men he works with develop responsibility and self-confidence as they load, drive and unload the trucks with materials for those less fortunate than themselves.

Father meets a lot of people who are conscientious and care about other people. Beautiful people reaching out to people all over. He is enthusiastic because of the rewards he receives. He feels it is worth the struggle to see the results of one normal life.

We could continue to write more of Father's life history but time prevents us. To sum up Father Frank A. Sierra's life in his own words, "I have no regrets about the life I have had so far. I have been fortunate to have lived the life I have.\*\*\*





# Thank You!

Greetings,

"Thank you" is such a common way of expressing gratitude. I would like to know a much greater way of telling you how much you mean to me.

When speaking of God, we say, "He means all to me." It is in this way that I would like to express my feelings to you: my feelings of gratitude, my feelings of admiration, and my feelings of friendship. It is people like you who have kept me in the priesthood, in the sense of encouragement, friendship, compassion, and love. You have lightened my burdens.

When the plans were made to celebrate the 40th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood, little did I know that so many years would be represented by people. I feel blessed with people like you who brought gifts, and letters, and pictures of the past.

You make me happy. You fill my heart with the joy of the Lord. You make me feel like I belong to a family that extends to the ends of the earth.

I thank my God whenever I think of you; and every time I pray for all of you. I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. - Phil. 1:3-5

*Paul A. Sierra*

REMINDER!! We are still in the process of putting together a memory album to present to Father. If you have a special memory, photo, story, anything to contribute, please send in right away. God bless!

# Preachers Increase Effectiveness by Sensitivity to Cultural Differences

In this multicultural, multiracial and polyglot United States, practically every Catholic parish has minority groups represented in the congregation. Preaching to that minority, or to a mixed audience, is an art within the art of preaching.

But some things hold true for preaching to any minority group: The first word for the preacher, according to the three priests and a bishop interviewed for this issue of *Good News*, is "sensitivity." The preacher, especially when dealing with Hispanics, "needs to sympathize with the fact that many Hispanics are strangers in their own land. They may have been born here, but it takes three or four generations before they surmount just the tricks of surviving," explained **Father Frank Sierra** Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish, Brawley, California, whose life is spent ministering to Hispanics.

Said Korean **Father John Lee**, of Blessed Andrew Kim Church in College Park, Maryland, the preacher needs to be sensitive to the minority Americans uncertainty about the language. The language problems are with the first generation, usually the children are bilingual. There also are enormous cultural differences, he added.

In general, suggested Washington, D.C. Auxiliary Bishop **Eugene A. Marino, SSJ.**, the preacher "needs to have a sensitivity to the cultural background of his audience and, I think, needs in some way to reveal that sensitivity to those to whom he's preaching. You don't need to be of the same race or ethnic origin of the people you work with in order to work effectively with that group."

Turning to another minority, Capuchin **Father Gilbert Hemauer** director of the Tekakwitha Conference, contends that the native peoples' basic need "is that justice with love be implemented, assuring them that the citizens of this country stand by their word in honoring the treaties governing water, hunting and fishing, and that the native peoples are respected as a distinct people with their own culture, traditions and customs."

As each of these preachers reveals something about his work, the sensitivity displayed makes the point to all preachers quite clearly.

## Father Frank Sierra

For more than a year, when he first returned from Latin America, Father Sierra would be in a local radio station at 5 a.m. each morning to begin two hours of preaching and talking to the people of Palm Springs, California. He was

broadcasting not to the occupants of the wealthy homes and 19th holes, but the Hispanics making their way to the fields, gardens and golf courses where they worked, listening to Sierra on little transistor radios fastened to their belts.

"At five in the morning, they appreciated that," Sierra said.



Father Frank Sierra

From the desert, the priest moved to the coastline. "I ran into the underground railroad, got a feeling for all the traffic coming across the border." He began ministering within a 100 mile radius to the "wandering people" in the fields and the restaurant kitchens. "They're not able to see much of the outside world, so they were happy to see me," and, as a rule, Father Sierra found the restaurant owners cooperated.

Now he is back in the desert again, two hours east of San Diego, helping two kinds of people, the newly arrived who need "clothing, food, some kind of comfort, or to be rescued from the concentration places in neighboring towns," and those "who have been here for years but still have no status."

This second group lacks any degree of stability, even though they have held jobs for years, they will have no insurance, no guarantees, no claim on citizenship. "One hospital bill and they're out," said Father Sierra, "they usually have to return to Mexico if they get pneumonia or something. We are able to help them across the border into their own land," he said.

On the spiritual side, Father Sierra ministers personally but also helps organize religious congresses, some that may last for three days and be attended by perhaps a thousand people. Usually he will have Latin American priests come to help "with round-the-clock activities: speaking, praying, healing and celebrating, sharing the meals and the lives the people have, and the stories they have."

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has "never seized anyone at these gatherings," he said.

Father Sierra said that the preacher ministering to minorities such as the ones he deals with must realize that "religion-wise they've picked up very little from their ancestors because they come from such poor classes, out in the little towns and ranches of Mexico. They did not get to high school or religious education class, they've followed farm labor up and down the hills, many never did learn English."

"The preacher and priests must realize these people are suffering through all these circumstances, they need a lot of love and sympathy," he said. "They should be admired for their faith and endurance."

Father Sierra recommends looking at 1 Corinthians 13 for guidance. From the institutional Church he would like to see a greater willingness for the dioceses to make their structures available, "buildings that once were full of people could be full again," he said, referring to empty parochial schools. But it is the personal contact he most recommends to the preacher: "Love is being sensitive to their needs. Come down a little bit. Take their children on picnic as a priest. Eat with them, mingle with them, show them 'I have time to be with you, I have a special love for you. You, too, are God's special people.'"

## Father John Lee

Father John Lee from Taejon, Korea, pastor of a church that serves Northern Virginia, District of Columbia and Maryland Korean Catholics, has about 600 families in his parish. He mentions the language problem, and excuses his own English when trying to explain his work. Essentially, said Father Lee, who served in Canada before coming to the U.S., St. Andrew Kim Church (Kim was Korea's first Catholic priest-martyr) serves as a national parish in which people find their familiar social and religious customs. Non-Korean priests also help out in the parish, he said, especially for the children's mass where their English is better.

## Bishop Eugene Marino

One of America's 10 black bishops, Bishop Eugene Marino explained further his remark that one does not need to be of the same race in order to serve people. "I am member a of the Josephite Society, a predominantly white religious

*Continued on page 2*

March 17, 1986

Rev. Frank Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P. O. Box 1283  
Brawley, CA 92227

Dear Frank:

I was delighted to receive your invitation to your Fortieth Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood, which will take place April 13, 1986 at one o'clock.

It will be pleasure for me to be the main celebrant at this Mass. I will say a few words at the end of the Mass and hope you can get a preacher to say a few words in English and Spanish on the occasion.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

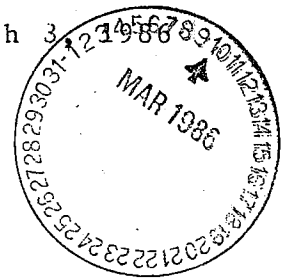
+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

1250 "B" ST. P. O. BOX 1283  
344-2226 BRAWLEY, CALIF. ZIP 92227

March 31, 1986



Most Reverend Bishop  
Leo T. Maher  
P.O. Box 80428  
San Diego, CA 92138

Most Reverend Bishop Maher:

I am celebrating forty years of my ordination to the  
priesthood. April 13, 1986

It would be a great honor to have your presence high-  
light the event in our Diocese of San Diego. If this is  
in any way possible.

I remain your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Sierra".

Fr. Frank Sierra

PLACE: 1250 B St. Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Brawley, CA

DATE: April 13, 1986

MASS: 1 o' Clock.

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

1250 "B" ST. P. O. BOX 1283  
344-2226 BRAWLEY, CALIF. ZIP 92227

March 17, 1986

We are planning a big celebration on April 13, 1986 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Brawley, California, where Father Frank Sierra has been the pastor since 1979.

If you need more information, please contact any one of the following:

Jerry & Emma Gauna	(619) 344-1307	After 6 PM	<u>PLEASE</u>
Jesse & Gloria Silva	344-3240	" "	" "
Bobby Gallegos	344-1284	8 AM to 8 PM	

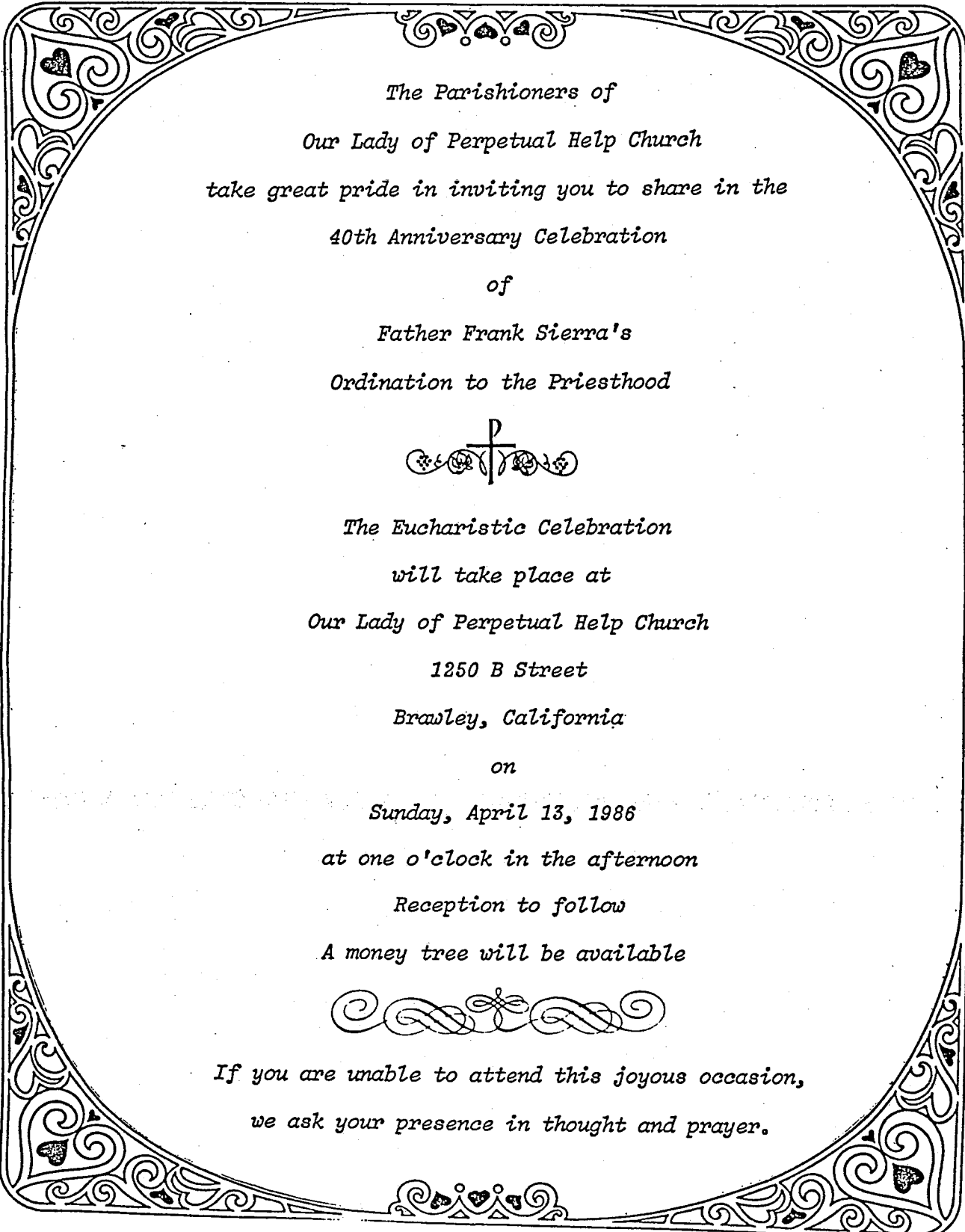
We want very much to present Father Sierra a memory album (at a later date). If you have a special memory, photograph, story, etc. to contribute, please send to address below.

For those who wish to attend, please send your reservation (by 3-29-86) and/or album contribution to:

Fr. Sierra's Anniversary  
c/o Conchita Duarte  
202 Norman Road  
Brawley, CA 92227

(Phone 619-344-4713)

P.S. Dinner and refreshments will be served.



*The Parishioners of  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
take great pride in inviting you to share in the  
40th Anniversary Celebration*

*of  
Father Frank Sierra's  
Ordination to the Priesthood*



*The Eucharistic Celebration  
will take place at  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
1250 B Street  
Brawley, California*

*on  
Sunday, April 13, 1986  
at one o'clock in the afternoon  
Reception to follow  
A money tree will be available*



*If you are unable to attend this joyous occasion,  
we ask your presence in thought and prayer.*

PLEASE RESPOND BY March 29, 1986

R.S.V.P.: Yes, we are planning to attend Fr. Sierra's  
40th Anniversary Celebration!

NUMBER OF PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE ZIP

PHONE NO. ( ) -  
Area Code \_\_\_\_\_





Diocese of San Diego  
Office For Apostolic Ministry

February 8, 1985

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P.O.Box 1283  
Brawley, CA 92227

Dear Fr. Sierra:

Our records indicate that you have an outstanding balance of \$1,475.00 due and payable to the Clergy Health Plan of the Diocese of San Diego. The Health Plan operates similar to a mutual fund and delinquent payments effect the ability of the plan to make medical payments as they are billed. Failure to pay past due premiums may also result in cancellation of coverage.

Please let us know if the amount due is correct, and whe we can expect payment.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor/Moderator Curiae

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church  
124 E. 5th Street  
Calexico, California 92231

December 21, 1983

Rev. Msgr. I. B. Eagen  
Office of San Diego Diocese  
P. O. Box 80428  
San Diego, California 92138

Dear Msgr. I. B. Eagen,

Regarding your letter of November 30, 1983 from Father Sierra.

I spent several hours with Father Sierra and I pointed out other possibilities to save money. He agreed and asked that we wait awhile or as much before continuing further.

Best of Holidays,

Fraternally yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. Rudolph Galindo

March 9, 1982

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P. O. Box 1283  
Brawley, CA 92227

Dear Father Sierra:

After our conversation about the lack of communications I request that you have a full time secretary or housekeeper so that people can receive some answers at the rectory. An answering service cannot satisfy the need and, of course, you cannot be present at all times.

When the housekeeper or secretary is not present, you should have an answering service, and besides this you could purchase a "beeper" so you can be in contact with the parish at all times. This will eliminate many of the present complaints and problems that exist.

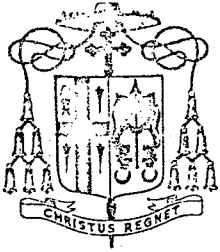
I am appointing Father James Kernan, OMI as the director in Imperial Valley of the Cursillo Movement and of the Charismatics (both Anglo and Hispanic). This will give you more time to relate to your own people within the parish boundaries.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcala Park

LEO T. MAHER  
Dei et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia  
Episcopus Sancti Didaci

DELECTO NOBIS IN CHRISTO

Dmo Francis Sierra, Salutem in Domino.

Votis tuis libenter annuentes, Sacra Congregatione de Religiosi per rescriptum saecularizationis sub Prot. N. 21260/70, hactenus Ordinario tuo, sicut per scripta nobis constat, assentiente, te in nostram Sancti Didaci Diocesim in California suscipimus ac te susceptum et participem omnium iurium et privilegiorum necnon et officiorum, quae ad dilectum nostrum clerum pertinent, per praesentes has litteras declaramus, faustissima quaeque tibi insuper precantes.

Datum Civitate Sancti Didaci ex aedibus Nostris,  
die 6 mensis Aprilis A.D., 1981.

Episcopus  
Sancti Didaci

De Mandato Rev<sup>mi</sup> ac III<sup>mi</sup> D.D. Episcopi,

Secretarius

SIERRA-RCBSD 0073



SACRA CONGREGATIO  
PRO RELIGIOSIS  
ET INSTITUTIS SAECULARIBUS

PROT. N. 21260/70

BEATISSIME PATER,

Sacerdos Francis SIFERRA, e Congregatione Filiorum  
Sacrae Familiae,

a Sanctitate Tua humiliter implorat indultum saecularizationis, praevio experimento  
ad normam Can. 641, § 2, ob causas allatas.

Et Deus, etc.

Sacra Congregatio pro Religiosis et Institutis saecularibus, consideratis  
rationibus per Procuratorem generalem submissis,  
et attentis litteris testimonialibus Ordinarii S. Didaci

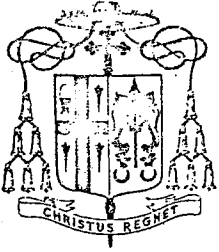
Eidem Ordinario benigne committit ut, pro suo arbitrio et conscientia, Oratori  
concedat indultum exclaustationis, durante experimenti tempore, deposita exteriori  
forma habitus religiosi et servatis ceteris servandis ad normam Can. 639 Codicis  
Iuris Canonici. Si forte, perdurante experimento, ab Ordinario, praemonitis Super-  
rioribus Congregationis, dimittatur, statim ad claustra redire teneatur.  
Transacto vero praefato experimenti tempore, vel etiam prius, si definitive recipiatur,  
Orator novo titulo canonico vel, ipsius Ordinarii iudicio, alio modo, congrua su-  
stentatione provisos, maneat saecularizatus ideoque solutus a votis in Religione  
emissis, firmis oneribus Ordini maiori adnexis, ac ipso facto incardinatus dioec.  
S. Didaci ad normam Canonum 640, § 1, nn. 1, 2 et 641,  
§ 2 et 642 Codicis Iuris Canonici. Decretum autem executoriale huius Rescripti  
communicetur cum hac Sacra Congregatione et cum Superiore Generali dictae  
Congregationis.

Contrariis quibuslibet non obstantibus.

Datum Romae, die 16 februarii 1981.

G. Bolduc, C.S.C.  
off.

Basil. Heiser, ofmc.  
Subscr.



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcala Park

LEO T. MAHER  
Dei et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia  
Episcopus Sancti Didaci

DELECTO NOBIS IN CHRISTO

Dmo Francis Sierra, Salutem in Domino.

Votis tuis libenter annuentes, Sacra Congregatione de Religiosi per rescriptum saecularizationis sub Prot. N. 21260/70, hactenus Ordinario tuo, sicut per scripta nobis constat, assentiente, te in nostram Sancti Didaci Diocesim in California suscipimus ac te susceptum et participem omnium iurium et privilegiorum necnon et officiorum, quae ad dilectum nostrum clerum pertinent, per praesentes has litteras declaramus, faustissima quaeque tibi insuper precantes.

Datum Civitate Sancti Didaci ex aedibus Nostris,  
die 6 mensis Aprilis A.D., 1981.

Episcopus  
Sancti Didaci

De Mandato Rev<sup>mi</sup> ac III<sup>mi</sup> D.D. Episcopi,

Secretarius

10 de abril, 1981

Muy Rvdo. P. José Ma. Blanquet, S.F.  
Superior General  
Congregación de Hijos de la Sda. Familia  
Entenza, 301  
Barcelona (15)  
ESPAÑA

Muy Reverendo y apreciable Padre General:

En vista de que el Rvdo P. Francis Sierra ha servido ya varios años en esta diócesis, habiendo sido nombrado al puesto de pastor, desde ahora queda ipso facto incardinado en la Diócesis de San Diego.

Le estoy enviando adjunto copia del documento de incardinación, así como el Rescripto ejecutoriado, para completar su expediente personal.

Agradecemos mucho su colaboración en este asunto.

Afmo. y s.s. en Cristo,

+Leo T. Maher  
Obispo de San Diego

LTM:ea  
cc: Rvdo. P. Francis Sierra



**CONGREGACION  
DE HIJOS DE LA SDA.FAMILIA**

Entenza, 301-Tel. 239-43-05

**BARCELONA (15)**

**CTRIA GENERALICIA**

Laudetur Sacra Familia

3 de marzo de 1981



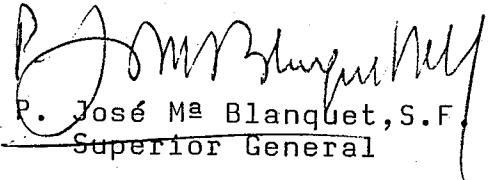
Excmo. y Rdmo.  
Dr.D. LEO T. Maher, Obispo de  
SAN DIEGO.-

Reverendísimo Señor:

En contestación a su atta. carta del pasado día 15 de enero, escrita a mi predecesor, me es grato adjuntarle el Rescripto en favor del P.FRANCIS SIERRA. Quiera el Señor que sea ya la última prueba.

Tal como indica el mismo Rescripto, espero me remitirá copia de la ejecución del mismo, para completar su expediente personal.

Con mis mejores deseos,  
quedo afmo. y s.s. en J.M.J.,

  
P. José Ma<sup>a</sup> Blanquet, S.F.  
Superior General



15 enero 1981

Rvdo. P. José Ma. Blanquet, S.F.  
Secretario General  
Congregación de Hijos de la Sda. Familia  
Entenza, 301  
Barcelona (15)  
ESPAÑA

Reverendo y muy apreciado Señor Secretario:

De nuevo me dirijo a usted con la solicitud de exclaustación a favor del Rvdo. P. Francis Sierra. La petición del P. Sierra para incardinarse en esta Diócesis de San Diego se encuentra adjunta.

Así mismo, le envío adjunta una carta de nuestro Obispo, el Excmo. Sr. Leo T. Maher solicitando la exclaustación del P. Sierra.

Agradecemos sinceramente su amable asistencia para llevar a término estos trámites.

Con mis mejores deseos para este nuevo año que empieza, soy de usted

Afmo. y s.s. en Cristo,

Rvdo. Mons. I. Brent Eagen  
Canciller

15 enero 1981

Muy Rvdo. P. Magin Morera, S.F.  
Superior General  
Congregación de Hijos de la Sda. Familia  
Entenza, 301  
Barcelona (15)  
ESPAÑA

Muy Reverendo Padre Morera:

El Rvdo. P. Francis Sierra, quien hace varios años se encuentra ejerciendo sus labores pastorales en esta Diócesis, nos ha expresado su deseo de solicitar su dispensa de votos e incardinarse en la Diócesis de San Diego.

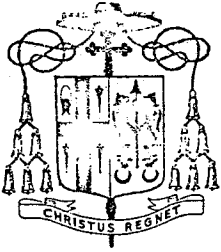
Por medio de la presente manifiesto mi disposición de aceptar al Padre Sierra para la incardinación "pro experimento ad triennium." Actualmente él se encuentra encargado de la Parroquia de Ntra. Sra. del Perpetuo Socorro en Brawley, California, donde goza de la estimación y el aprecio de sus hermanos sacerdotes y la comunidad laica.

Esperamos la decisión de la Sagrada Congregación con respecto al indulto de exclaustación.

Con mis mejores deseos, quedo de Ud. afmo. y ss. en Cristo.

- +Leo T. Maher  
- Obispo de San Diego

LTM:ea



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcalá Park

15 enero 1981

Muy Rvdo. P. Magin Morera, S.F.  
Superior General  
Congregación de Hijos de la Sda. Familia  
Entenza, 301  
Barcelona (15)  
ESPAÑA

Muy Reverendo Padre Morera:

El Rvdo. P. Francis Sierra, quien hace varios años se encuentra ejerciendo sus labores pastorales en esta Diócesis, nos ha expresado su deseo de solicitar su dispensa de votos e incardinarse en la Diócesis de San Diego.

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Esperamos la decisión de la Sagrada Congregación con respecto al indulto de exclaustación.

Con mis mejores deseos, quedo de Ud. afmo. y ss. en Cristo.

+Leo T. Maher  
Obispo de San Diego

LTM:ea

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

1250 "B" ST.

P. O. BOX 1283

344-2226 BRAWLEY, CALIF. ZIP 92227

December 20, 1980

Bishop Leo T. Maher

Diocese of San Diego

Re: Incardination

Dear Bishop:

I, the undersigned, a Roman Catholic Priest, ordained in Rome in 1946, do hereby request the incardination to the Diocese of San Diego.

I have been assigned to the following places in the last ten years in this Diocese:

Saint Joseph's, Upland, California  
with the Rev. Mons. Thomas Briody.  
with the Rev. Fr. John Slattery

Our Lady of Soledad, Coachella, California  
with the Rev. Fr. Richard Humphreys

Saint John's, Encinitas, California  
with the Rev. Mons. Michael O'Connor

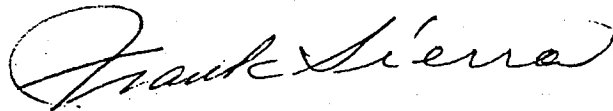
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Brawley, California

since July, 1979, I have been Pastor of the Parish at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Brawley, California.

With all my appreciation for the consideration given to the request at hand I beg to remain

Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Father Frank A. Sierra



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

BRAWLEY, CALIFORNIA

SIERRA-RCBSD 0081



CONGREGACION  
DE HIJOS DE LA SDA.FAMILIA

Entenza, 301-Tel. 239-43-05

BARCELONA (15)

CURIA GENERALICIA

Prot.N. 532/79

Laudetur Sacra Familia

2 diciembre 1979

Rev.Msgr.I.BRENT EAGEN  
Chancellor

SAN DIEGO.-

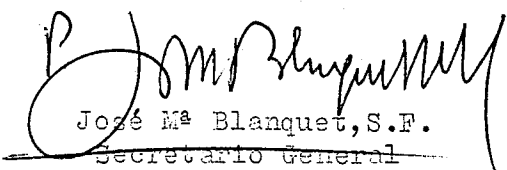
Reverendo y muy apreciado en J.M.J.:

Con fecha 8 de noviembre me dirigí a Vd. contestando a su att. carta dirigida al Padre General con fecha 18/VII sobre la secularización del P.Sierra. Como habrá observado, en ella me refería al P.Juan Sierra, hermano del P.Francis, que también se halla en una situación similar. Lamento este error que, sin duda, habrá confundido a Vd.

Por lo que respecta al P.FRANCIS SIERRA, éste obtuvo en 1970 un rescripto de exclaustación - cf.Fotocopia adjunta - en favor de la Diócesis de El Paso. Por su carta nos enteramos ahora de que se encuentra trabajando en su diócesis. Si el Sr.Obispo no puede ejecutar el adjunto rescripto - como es probable -, para iniciar nuevamente el expediente, necesitamos petición escrita del interesado y unas Letras Testimoniales del Prelado, con lo cual pediremos a Roma, nuevamente, la relativa exclaustación.

Confiado haber contestado debidamente a su referida carta, me reitero afmo. y s.s. en J.M.J.,

P.S.-Si el referido Padre hubiese estado en la diócesis de El Paso hasta 1976, a tenor del C.I.C., sería ya sacerdote de aquella diócesis.

  
José M<sup>a</sup> Blanquet, S.F.

~~Secretario General~~



294 EP.

SACRA CONGREGATIO  
PRO RELIGIOSIS  
ET INSTITUTIS SAECULARIBUS

PROT. N. 21260/70

BEATISSIME PATER,

P. Franciscus SIERRA, e Congregatione Filiorum  
Sacrae Familiae, -----

a Sanctitate Tua humiliter implorat indultum saecularizationis, praevio experimento  
ad normam Can. 641, § 2, ob causas allatas.

Et Deus, etc.

Vigore facultatum a Summo Pontifice tributarum, Sacra Congregatio pro Reli-  
giosis et Institutis saecularibus, audito voto .....Procuratoris Generalis

-----  
et attentis litteris testimonialibus Ordinarii .....Elpasen.-----  
-----

Eidem Ordinario benigne committit ut, pro suo arbitrio et conscientia, Oratori  
concedat indultum exlaustrationis, durante experimenti tempore, deposita exteriori  
forma habitus religiosi et servatis ceteris servandis ad normam Can. 639 Codicis  
Iuris Canonici. Si forte, perdurante experimento, ab Ordinario, praemonitis Super-  
rioribus Congregationis, dimittatur, statim ad claustra redire teneatur.  
Transacto vero praefato experimenti tempore, vel etiam prius, si definitive recipiatur,  
Orator novo titulo canonico vel, ipsius Ordinarii iudicio, alio modo, congrua su-  
stentatione provisos, maneat saecularizatus ideoque solutus a votis in Religione  
emissis, firmis oneribus Ordini maiori adnexis, ac ipso facto incardinatus dioece-  
si Elpasen. ----- ad normam Canonum 640, § 1, nn. 1, 2 et 641,  
§ 2 et 642 Codicis Iuris Canonici. Decretum autem executoriale huius Rescripti  
communicetur cum hac Sacra Congregatione et cum Superiore Generali Congre-  
gationis.

Contrariis quibuslibet non obstantibus.

Datum Romae, die 10 septembris 1970.

*E. Heston, S.C.*  
*Sec.*

*J. Abbink P.A.*

File  
Congregation of the  
Sons of the Holy Family  
Entenza, 301  
Barcelona

Laudetur Sacra Familia  
December 2, 1979

General Curia  
Prot. N. 532/79

Rev. Msgr. I. BRENT EAGEN  
Chancellor

SAN DIEGO.--

Dear Monsignor:

On November 8th I answered your letter of July 18th addressed to our Father General in regard to the secularization of Father Sierra. As you may have observed, in my letter I refer to Father Juan Sierra, brother of Father Francis, who also finds himself in a similar situation. I am sorry for this error, which no doubt confused you.

Concerning Father FRANCIS SIERRA, he obtained in 1970 a rescript of exclaustation (copy enclosed) in favor of the Diocese of El Paso. By your letter we learn that he is now in your diocese. If the Bishop cannot execute the attached rescript (as is probable) in order to re-initiate the file, we must have a written petition from the priest and testimonial letters from the bishop with which to petition Rome again for his exclaustation.

Hoping to have answered satisfactorily your letter, I remain your faithful servant in J.M.J..

s/  
José Ma. Blanquet, S.F.  
General Secretary

P.S. If the said priest had been in the Diocese of El Paso until 1976, according to the C.I.C., he would belong to that diocese.

September 29, 1980

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
P. O. Box 1283  
Brawley, Ca. 92227

Dear Father Sierra:

In order to facilitate your incardination into the Diocese of San Diego, it is necessary for you to send a written petition for exclaustation from your religious community.

Your original letter of exclaustation was granted for the Diocese of El Paso and we must have one completed for the Diocese of San Diego. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Please be assured of my best wishes for you and your parishioners.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

IBE:mdw



*Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

1250 "B" ST. P. O. BOX 1283  
344-2226 BRAWLEY, CALIF. ZIP 92227



January 30, 1980

Dear Bishop Leo T. Maher,

We hope this letter finds you in excellent health, as we are fine, thank the Lord. We would like to express our unending appreciation for sending our Community a Spanish Bilingual Priest.

Father Francisco Sierra has given our Community a better way for Spanish speaking people to communicate with him. He is very active, not only in the Parish, but also, in the Community. He has met with the city council to discuss the Youth problems of Brawley giving a Religious answer to the Family situation. Also, he has started a Youth Violence Prevention Committee. Those are just a couple of the many things he is doing here to help others.

Our Community is very happy and pleased to have Father Sierra as our Pastor. Again, we thank you very much because our Community was in real need of a Spanish Bilingual Priest. We will support Father Sierra in any way we can because we know he really cares.

Respectfully yours,

The Parishioners of

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

P.S.

Attached are a few signatures of people in our Community as well as the rest of the Valley who share our same sentiment. God Bless you for giving us Father Sierra.





Comunidad que a  
los esfuerzos del  
de Sierra por ayudar a  
los a comprar mejor a Dios.  
de Logio Montezinos y En.  
(Brawley)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
1250 "B" ST. P. O. BOX 1283  
344-2226 BRAWLEY, CALIF. ZIP 92227

Carmelo Ruiz  
(Brawley)

Ofelia Ruiz, Brawley  
Carmen Rodriguez

Salvador Sordano

Patricia Michel

Peter C. Rodriguez, Bely

Margaret Dominguez

Rosario Mendez

Arles Dorame

David Dorame

Manuel Dorame

Ernesto Gomez

Francisco

Lolie Escobedo

María Salazar

Manuel

Alberto

David

Mrs Mrs Robert Castellano

Elisa Hurtado

Mrs Jose Larrea

Maria Carrillo

Elisa Castellano

María Padilla

Sofia Jimenez

Angel Marti

Jose O'Connell Bz

Gracia Gila Vargas - 126 años et calpico  
Paula Artallo 1840 Rockwood apt. 38 Calpico  
Tana Aminda 47 Las Flores Calpico  
Lydia Martínez 100 Barrocas  
Concepción Morales 119 Barrocas  
Melo Martínez 100 Barrocas

Manuel R Peña 257 Hernandez St  
M<sup>o</sup> Lucía Corrales 106 Arroyo et Calpico  
Luisa Bello

Olga Magueta 1840 Rockwood apt 24  
Virginia Estrada 135 años et  
Leonida C Rodríguez Daniels 269  
María G Flores 224 Esquivosa Calpico  
María Aguilar  
Lupita Estrada 130 años et Calpico  
Carmen Estrada 132 años et Calpico

SAN DIEGO DIOCESAN OFFICE FOR APOSTOLIC MINISTRY

Alcala Park  
San Diego, California

(Mailing address: P.O. Box 80428, San Diego 92138)

Translation of attached --

Dear Monsignor:

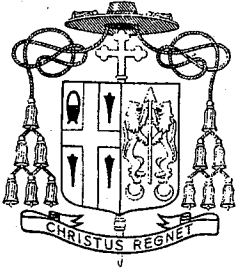
Father Louis Hoffman, our Vice-Provincial Superior in the U.S.A. has sent a copy of the letter which you wrote to him on October 25, in the interest of obtaining secularization for Father Juan Sierra, a religious of our Institute.

Father General was not able to respond in time to the letter of July 18th because he was and still is on a canonical visitation of the various communities of the Institute. The undersigned was with him until a few days ago, reason for which I had not answered either.

On this date I am writing to Father Sierra asking him to submit the formal petition for secularization in order to initiate his case in the Sacred Congregation for Religious. It is true that this priest has manifested this wish on several occasions, but it was so long ago that it is better that the petition have a more recent date, in accord with the date of the Bishop's letter.

Begging your forgiveness for so many delays, I remain

Father Jose Ma. Blanquet, S.F.  
General Secretary



LEO T. MAHER  
Dei et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia  
Episcopus Sancti Didaci

DILECTO NOBIS IN CHRISTO

Dmo.

Salutem in Domino.

Votis tuis libenter annuentes, Reverendissimo ac Illustrissimo  
D. D. Episcopo \_\_\_\_\_, hactenus Ordinario tuo,  
sicut per scripta nobis constat, assentiente, te in nostram Sancti  
Didaci Diocesim in California suscipimus ac te susceptum et partici-  
pem omnium jurium et privilegiorum necnon et officiorum, quae ad  
dilectum nostrum clerum pertinent, per praesentes has litteras  
declaramus, faustissima quaeque tibi insuper precantes.

Datum Civitate Sancti Didaci ex aedibus Nostris, die  
mensis \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. \_\_\_\_\_

---

Episcopus  
Sancti Didaci.

De Mandato Rev<sup>mi</sup> ac Ill<sup>mi</sup> D. D. Episcopi,

---

Secretarius.

## SONS OF THE HOLY FAMILY

NORTH AMERICAN VICE PROVINCE  
P.O. BOX 4138 401 RANDOLPH ROAD  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904

November 2, 1979

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor  
P.O. Box 80428  
San Diego, California 92138

Dear Monsignor Eagen:

I forwarded your letter to our SubDirector General in Barcelona. Fr. Morera has been traveling quite a bit as he is passing the Canonical Visit to the different communities.

I presumed Father Sierra knew this, as he spoke with Fr. Morera during his visit here during the month of August & September.

Hopefully then, they will process his petition.

Sincerely in the Holy Family,



Fr. Louis J. Hoffman, S.F.  
Vice Provincial Superior



October 25, 1979

Very Rev. Louis J. Hoffman  
U. S. Foundation  
401 Randolph Road  
P. O. Box 4138  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

Dear Father Hoffman:

We are enclosing copy of our letter to Very Reverend Magin Morera, S.F. of Barcelona, Spain regarding the incardination of Reverend Francis A. Sierra.

We have not received a reply to our letter and are wondering if you could assist us in this matter. It would be greatly appreciated as we are anxious to begin the process of incardination.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

enclosure

IBE:mdw

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July 18, 1979

Very Reverend Magin Morera, S.F.  
Superior General  
Sons of the Holy Family  
Entenza 301  
Barcelona 15, Spain

Dear Father Morera:

Reverend Francis A. Sierra of your congregation has applied for incardination in the Diocese of San Diego. Bishop Leo T. Maher is willing to incardinate him since he has worked for nine years in the diocese.

Before beginning the process of incardination, it will be necessary to obtain a rescript of secularization from the Sacred Congregation for Religious. Could you assist us in doing so or if one has already been obtained, please send a copy at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

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MEMO-LETTER IV®

AIR MAIL  REGULAR  INTER-OFFICE

## DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

CHANCERY

ALCALA PARK • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92110 • PHONE 298-7711

MAIL ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 80428 • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92138

### MEMO-LETTER®

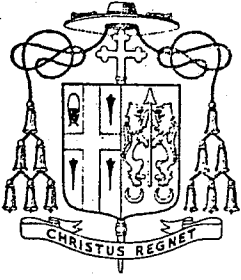
TO MSGR. EAGEN  
FROM FR. DUNCANSON

DATE 13 JULY 1979  
SUBJECT INCARDINATION OF  
FR. FRANK SIERRA

BEFORE FR. SIERRA CAN BE INCARDINATED WE WILL REQUIRE A  
RESCRIPT OF SECULARIZATION FROM THE SACRED CONGREGATION  
FOR RELIGIOUS.

NOTE THAT FR. SIERRA INDICATES THAT HIS PROPER SUPERIOR IS  
THE U.S.A. PROVINCIAL OF THE "SONS OF THE HOLY FAMILY." (HE  
IS NOT A PRIEST OF THE DIOCESE OF EL PASO.)

THERE IS NOTHING IN THE FILE TO SHOW THAT FR. SIERRA'S SUPERIOR  
HAS EVER BEEN NOTIFIED OF HIS HAVING BEEN ACCEPTED HERE "AD  
EXPERIMENTUM."



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry/Alcala Park

June 13, 1979

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
St. John Church  
P. O. Box 457  
Encinitas, Calif. 92024

Dear Father Sierra:

I am pleased to appoint you Pastor

of:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
1250 B Street  
Brawley, California 92227

effective July 2, 1979.

With best wishes in this appointment,

I am

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

cc: Rev. Msgr. Michael J. O'Connor

SIERRA-RCBSD 0099

April 6, 1979

Rev. Francis A. Sierra  
St. John Church  
P. O. Box 457  
Encinitas, Calif. 92020

Dear Father Sierra:

It is a pleasure to inform you that your petition for incardination into the Diocese of San Diego has been approved by the Most Reverend Ordinary and the Council of Priests contingent upon a physical examination and a physician's statement regarding the present status of your health.

We shall be awaiting this letter from your doctor in order to finalize your incardination.

Congratulations and welcome to the Diocese of San Diego!

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

*Rec'd*

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Y

**St. John's Church**

300 MELROSE AVENUE

P. O. BOX 457

ENCINITAS, CALIFORNIA 92024

July 27, 1978

Rev. Msgr. I.B. Eagen  
Chancellor  
Diocese of San Diego  
P O Box: 80428  
San Diego CA 92138

Dear Monsignor:

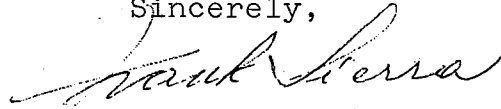
According to our telephone conversation of July 26th,  
this letter is a request for incardination in the Diocese  
of San Diego.

My first assignment in the San Diego Diocese was September  
15, 1970 to St. Joseph's Church, Upland with Father Tom  
Briody.

My age is 56 years.

This is what San Diego Diocese means to me: home in the  
Apostolic Ministry.

Sincerely,



Rev. Frank Sierra

*P.S. My official membership is under the  
religious Order of "Sons of the Holy Family"  
with a Provincial in the U.S.A.*

C O P Y



May 23, 1975

Rev. Francis Sierra  
Our Lady of Soledad Church  
52-525 Oasis Palm  
Coachella, Calif. 92236

Dear Father Sierra:

I am pleased to appoint you Associate  
Pastor to:

Rev. Msgr. Michael J. O'Connor  
St. John Church  
300 Melrose Avenue  
Encinitas, California 92024

effective July 1, 1975.

The duration of this appointment is  
subject to the present study of tenure.

With best wishes in your new appointment,  
I am

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

cc: Rev. Msgr. Michael J. O'Connor  
Rev. Richard Humphrys

January 28, 1974

Rev. Francis Sierra  
St. Joseph Church  
877 N. Campus Avenue  
Upland, Calif. 91786

Dear Father Sierra:

I am pleased to appoint you Associate

Pastor to:

Rev. Richard Humphrys  
Our Lady of Soledad Church  
52-525 Oasis Palm Street  
Coachella, Calif. 92236

effective February 4, 1974.

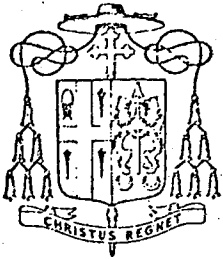
Your cooperation and participation in  
the apostolic ministry are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

cc: Rev. Richard Humphrys  
Rev. John T. Slattery





Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry/Alcala Park

L E O T. M A H E R

BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO

DECLARES THAT

REV. FRANK A. SIERRA

MAY EXERCISE THE FACULTIES OF THE  
DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

Most Reverend Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

Given at the Diocesan Office for Apostolic Ministry  
San Diego, California for the year 1976.

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

C O P Y

June 2, 1975

Rev. J. F. Pawlicki, C.S.C.  
St. Theresa Parish  
2800 East Ramon Road  
Palm Springs, California 92262

Dear Father Pawlicki:

Thank you for your letter of May 25. I am grateful for your remarks concerning Father Sierra. I realize that he is a very zealous priest and has accomplished great work in Coachella and we have taken this matter into consideration. in his present appointment. I am sure he will be very pleased with his new assignment.

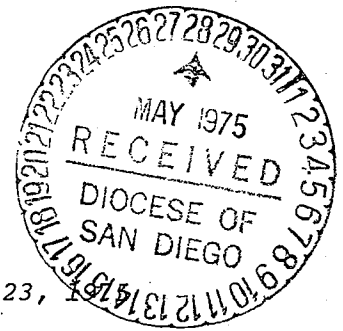
With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

SIERRA-RCBSD 0105

*St. Theresa Church  
2800 East Ramon Road  
Palm Springs, California 92262*



May 23, 1975

Bishop Leo T. Maher D.D.  
Bishop of San Diego  
Diocesan Office for Apostolic Ministry,  
San Diego, Ca.

Dear Bishop Maher:

I am deeply grateful for your felicitations on my having arrived to celebrate a Silver Anniversary. I sincerely hope that I can produce better fruit of love for the Lord in the next 25 years. We should both be quite venerable Patriarchs if we make it to that age.

Bishop, Frank Sierra has appealed to me to give you my opinion of him as I honestly know of him. He was shaken by the charges of the lay person. As you know he feels quite sure that this is a parting shot from Father Humphreys, a vindictive and vengeful act.

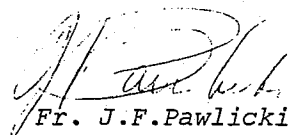
It is not my position to interfere in the workings of the Diocese in these matters. It is beyond my competence. But in Christian charity, I cannot refuse to give my honest opinion of Frank if it will aid him, an opinion as I see him through the many Mexican American people I know in the Valley.

He has shown himself to be very zealous and extremely self-sacrificing to arise at 4:30 each morning for his two hour radio broadcast. He also likes people, and mixes with them in their lives, which of course includes their Fiestas. Occasionally he may have been the victim of over-familiarity, a fault of some lay people who take advantage of the good graces of a priest, any priest. But he does move decently among the people. No one has ever dared say that he drinks too much at such fiestas. I have never heard of any such charge, and I am sure that I would get such a word if it were true.

When I last spoke to Frank, I told him quite openly that the big Promotor Priest is out of style. His two main assets are his "simpatia", and his beautiful Spanish. With these he would be invaluable to the Diocese. He agreed. I am sure he is a good man, and only a good man would worry about calumny to his good name.

As for Fr. Humphreys. Who knows? My own problems of work do not prevent me from sympathizing with you for so many such Episcopal problems. I really do pray for you to carry well such burdens of office.

En Cristo Jesus

  
Fr. J.F. Pawlicki, c.s.c.



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry/Alcala Park

February 18, 1975

Rev. Francis Sierra  
Our Lady of Soledad Church  
52-525 Oasis Palm  
Coachella, Calif. 92236

Dear Father Sierra:

This is an annual reminder of your status in the Diocese. According to the official records, you are not incardinated in the Diocese of San Diego.

The historical method of incardination in the Diocese of San Diego is through application to the Consultors with letters of recommendation from two pastors of the Diocese and a physician's statement. Incardination becomes effective only on the consent of the Most Reverend Ordinary. While we are not asking that you request incardination, we wish to keep you informed and our records accurate.

A copy of this letter is being sent to your proper Ordinary or Major Superior.

The faculties of the Diocese of San Diego are hereby renewed for the year of 1975.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

cc: Most Rev. S. M. Metzger  
Bishop of El Paso  
1012 North Mesa Street  
El Paso, Texas 79902

SIERRA-RCBSD 0107



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry/Alcala Park

January 9, 1974

REV. FRANK A. SIERRA

This is to remind you of your status in the Diocese of San Diego. According to the official records of the Diocese and the diocesan policy of incardination, you are not incardinated in the Diocese of San Diego.

The historical method of incardination in the Diocese of San Diego is through application to the Consultors with letters of recommendation from two pastors of the diocese and a physician's statement. Incardination becomes effective on the approval of the Most Reverend Ordinary.

The faculties of the Diocese of San Diego are hereby renewed for the year of 1974.


May this be a fruitful year in the exercise of your priestly ministry.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eager  
Chancellor

The San Diego Diocesan Office for Apostolic Ministry

January 9, 1973



Rev. Frank A. Sierra  
St. Joseph Church  
P. O. Box 481  
Upland, Calif. 91786

Dear Father Sierra:

This is to remind you of your status in the Diocese of San Diego. According to the official records of the Diocese and the diocesan policy of incardination, you are not incardinated in the Diocese of San Diego.

The historical method of incardination in the Diocese of San Diego is through application to the Consultors with letters of recommendation from two pastors of the diocese and a physician's statement. Incardination becomes effective on the approval of the Most Reverend Ordinary.

The faculties of the Diocese of San Diego are hereby renewed for the year of 1973.

May this be a fruitful year in the exercise of your priestly ministry.

Fraternally yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Egen  
Chancellor

SIERRA-RCBSD 0109

The San Diego Diocesan Office for Apostolic Ministry

January 25, 1972

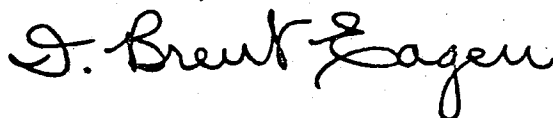
Dear Father Sierra:

This is to clarify your status in the Diocese of San Diego. According to the official records of the diocese and the diocesan policy of incardination, you are not incardinated in the Diocese of San Diego.

The historical method of incardination in the Diocese of San Diego is through application to the Consultors with letters of recommendation from two priests of the diocese and a physician's statement. Incardination becomes effective only on the approval of the Most Reverend Ordinary.

If you have any further questions, please refer them to my office.

Fraternally yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

SIERRA-RCBSD 0110

October 28, 1970

Rev. Frank A. Sierra  
St. Joseph Church  
P. O. Box 481  
Upland, California 91786

Dear Father Sierra:

I am pleased to appoint you Associate  
Pastor to:

Rev. Thomas Briody  
St. Joseph Church  
877 North Campus Avenue  
Upland, California 91786

effective immediately.

Your cooperation and participation in  
the apostolic ministry are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

cc: Rev. Thomas Briody



October 28, 1970

Rev. Frank A. Sierra  
St. Joseph Church  
P. O. Box 481  
Upland, California 91786

Dear Father Sierra:

Will you please complete the enclosed insurance applications and return them to this office?

We would also appreciate receiving your Social Security number for our records. Thank you.

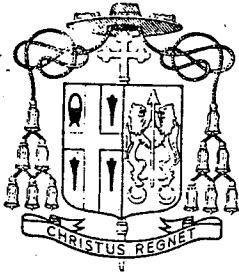
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagen  
Chancellor

enclosures

*Reid*

585-20-2610



L E O T. M A H E R

BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO

DECLARES THAT

REV. FRANK A. SIERRA

St. Joseph Church, Upland, Calif. 91786

WHO SHARES HIS PASTORAL MINISTRY

TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD

MAY EXERCISE THE FOLLOWING FACULTIES

WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

THESE FACULTIES ARE VALID FOR THE DURATION  
OF YOUR ASSIGNMENT IN THIS DIOCESE

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

Given at the Diocesan Office for Apostolic Ministry  
San Diego, California

This 17 day of September, 1970

J. Brent Egan  
Chancellor



1012 NORTH MESA STREET  
EL PASO, TEXAS  
79902

August 27, 1970

Most Reverend Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego  
2031 Sunset Blvd.  
San Diego, California 92103

Dear Bishop Maher:

Father Frank Sierra intends to leave his religious community and has been in the diocese of El Paso. However he wants to work in another diocese before making his final decision.

He wouldn't mind helping as an assistant in a parish because his only interest is to do priestly work. He speaks English and Spanish perfectly, and fits in well with Spanish speaking people. Father Sierra has all necessary permissions from the religious Superiors and the eventual secularization has been entrusted to me and I assume full responsibility.

He will be on his way to California next week to attend to personal affairs and intends to come to your Chancery Office. Perhaps you wish to speak to him personally and make your own appraisal whether you can use him. I am confident that he will not cause any scandal or problems.

With warmest regards, I am,

Faternally yours in Christ,

*+ S. M. Metzger*  
Bishop of El Paso

SMM:agv

cc: Rev. Frank Sierra

SIERRA-RCBSD 0114

August 27, 1980

His Excellency  
Most Reverend S. M. Metzger  
Bishop of El Paso  
1012 North Mesa Street  
El Paso, Texas 79902

Dear Bishop Metzger:

Thank you for your very gracious letter of August 27 concerning Father Frank Sierra. We will be happy to welcome him on your recommendation. Since he speaks Spanish fluently he will be of great assistance here in the Diocese of San Diego.

We hope that you will have the opportunity to visit us on the occasion of the Investiture of the Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre. It should be a grand occasion.

With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego