

THE TRADITION OF COMPASSION CONTINUES

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TODAY, one road in Catholic healthcare comes to an end—and another begins.

TODAY, Holy Cross Health System transfers Holy Cross Medical Center of Mission Hills to the Sisters of Providence Health System to operate in conjunction with Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center of Burbank.

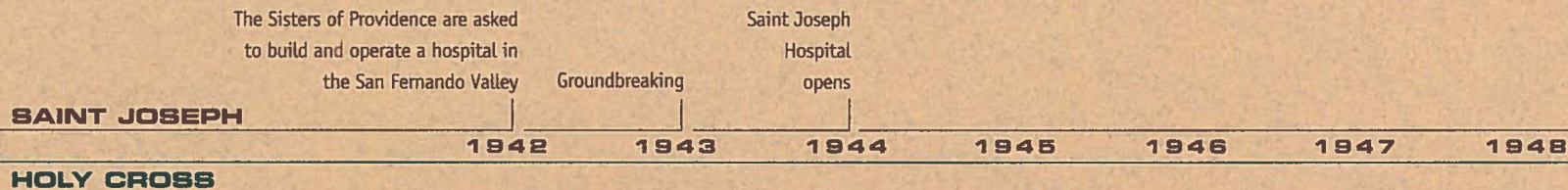
TODAY, the people of the San Fernando Valley have access to a more integrated, more efficient Catholic health system which continues our tradition of compassionate care.



*Sister Flora
Mary
MacDonal,
SE, founded
and was first
administrator
of Saint Joseph
Hospital, 1944.*

The dedication of the Sisters of Providence to putting patients first actually preceded the opening of the Saint Joseph Hospital in Burbank.

The date was February 1, 1944, and the new hospital—built on what was once a tumbleweed-covered field surrounded by farm and ranch land—was all set to open its doors for the first time. But, two-and-a-half hours before the scheduled opening, a couple showed up with a baby on the way—and in a hurry to get here. The soon-to-be mother was admitted and the baby was born, the first of 902 during the hospital's first year. >



When the doors opened at Holy Cross Hospital in the San Fernando Valley in 1961, thus began another chapter of compassionate care in the tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Cross—a tradition dating to the Civil War when the Sisters started their health ministry.

The hospital in Mission Hills opened as a response to the area's healthcare needs: the San Fernando Valley was growing rapidly and lacked sufficient hospital services. To best meet the community's needs, a site was carefully selected near >



*Sister Olivia
Marie, CSC,
was Holy Cross
Hospital's first
administrator,
1961.*



Church and community dignitaries break ground for one of many expansion projects at Saint Joseph Hospital, 1952.

Almost before the paint was dry at the new hospital, the Sisters started planning to expand in order to meet the needs of the growing community. Walt Disney broke ground on the first of many additions in 1952. A new wing was added in 1963, and in 1973 yet another wing was opened—the last adding nearly twice the space of the two previous additions combined.

As the seventies drew to a close, more than 160,000 babies took >



The Sisters of the Holy Cross agree to sponsor and minister at the new hospital, Holy Cross Guild initiated

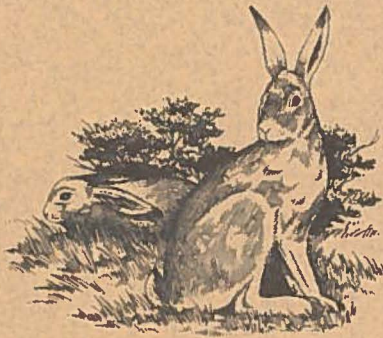
major freeway systems for quick and easy access. Built to a design that was ahead of its time, Holy Cross Hospital featured automated systems that allowed those involved in patient care to spend more time with patients and less time with routine tasks.

A compelling example of the hospital's commitment to the community occurred in 1971 after the disastrous Sylmar earthquake. Within two hours of the quake, the hospital cared for nearly 300 people who required emergency >

Danny Thomas does the honors at Holy Cross Hospital's groundbreaking, 1958.

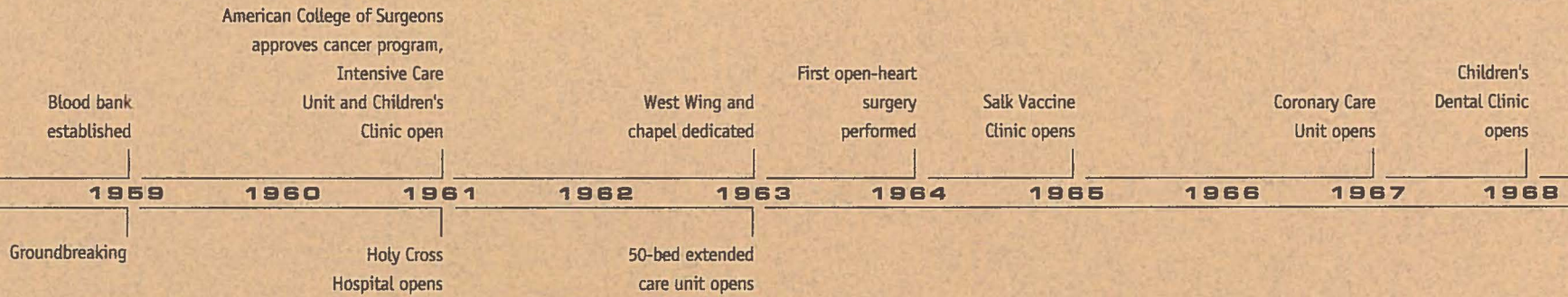


In the early days, air conditioning at Saint Joseph was accomplished by propping open doors on the ground floor. In addition to fresh air, this open-door policy occasionally admitted jackrabbits.



their first look at the world with the help of the Sisters of Providence at Saint Joseph Medical Center. Many other firsts over the years at Saint Joseph included: California's first electron microscope, the area's first paramedic service and base station, the first coronary care unit, and the first hospital-based continuing education program.

Into the eighties, continued growth in the community demanded yet more growth in facilities and services. The new professional education building opened with the new decade, followed by a new emergency care department and cardiac care building. Increasing technology and sophisticated procedures continued to be added >



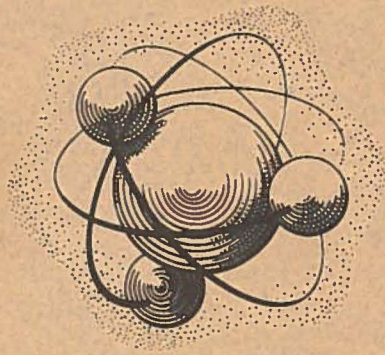
treatment. In addition, intensive care patients from a nearby quake-demolished hospital were airlifted to Holy Cross. Although already overtaxed and still sorting through the quake's impact on its own facility, Holy Cross accepted and cared for these additional patients in an undamaged section of the hospital.

The earthquake damage to the hospital was later determined to be beyond repair. The rebuilt hospital opened in 1977, replacing the original structure. Stained glass windows in the new facility's chapel were created with glass recovered >

The original Holy Cross Hospital building was ahead of its time when it opened, 1961.

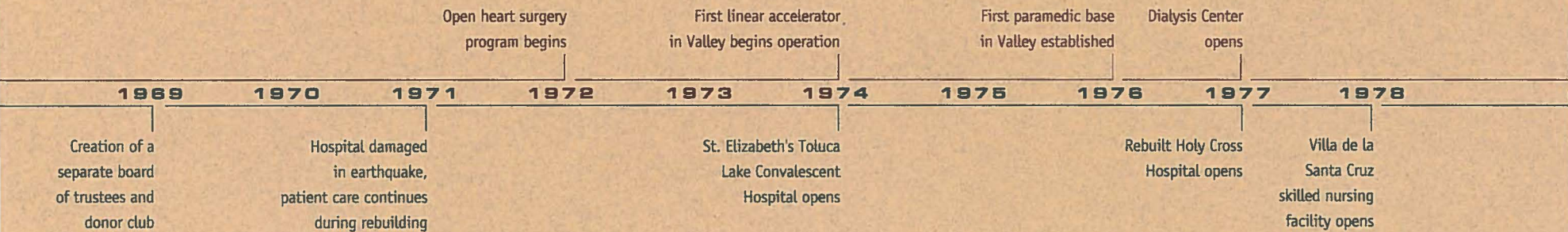


The atomic age arrived at Saint Joseph during the fifties, with a cobalt unit for cancer therapy, nuclear medicine, and California's first electron microscope.



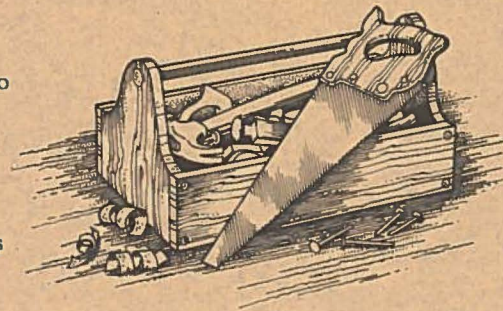
at Saint Joseph Medical Center, always in keeping with the dedication of the Sisters of Providence Health System to provide the very best in care. This care is considered so excellent that the medical center is the hospital of choice for U.S. Presidents should they need medical care when they visit the San Fernando Valley.

How long will the hospital and its services continue to expand? As long as the community requires it. The present decade has seen the opening of the Robertson Tower, home to a new intensive/coronary care unit, radiation oncology and outpatient services. Recently, Saint Joseph Medical Center added >



from the original building—a reminder of the hospital's continuing mission to serve the community.

From the late 1970s through the present day, Holy Cross has continued to respond to the signs of the times by establishing outpatient services, a skilled nursing facility, a heart center, cancer center, rehabilitation center, and expanding home health services. The trauma center, which quickly became one of California's most highly regarded, also opened at Holy Cross. >



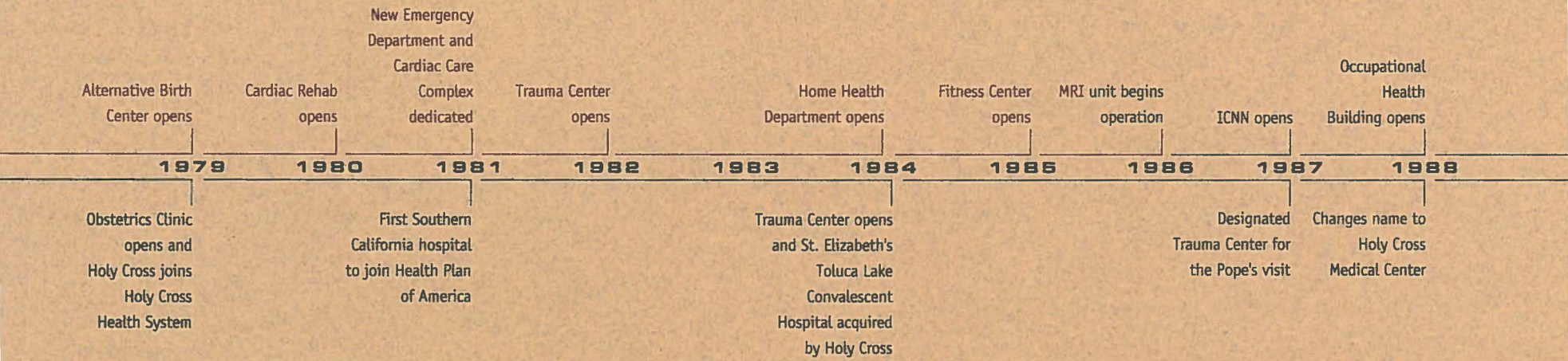
Although damaged by earthquakes in 1971 and 1994, the caring hands at Holy Cross never lost their healing touch—patients were cared for throughout rebuilding and repair.



Yet another expansion of Saint Joseph Hospital nears completion, 1962.

“Providence” before its name to recognize the strong ties to its sponsor, the Sisters of Providence Health System.

Growth now comes from yet another direction as the Sisters of Providence Health System assume the operation of Holy Cross Medical Center from Holy Cross Health System. This will establish a larger, stronger Catholic health system for the San Fernando Valley: the Providence Health System, Los Angeles Region. ➤



In addition, the hospital—renamed Holy Cross Medical Center in 1988 in light of its expanded services—launched a social accountability program to assess the needs of the poor and underserved in the community. The medical center added innovative outreach programs including a model parish nurse program, a nationally recognized violence prevention program, and a community day care center. ➤

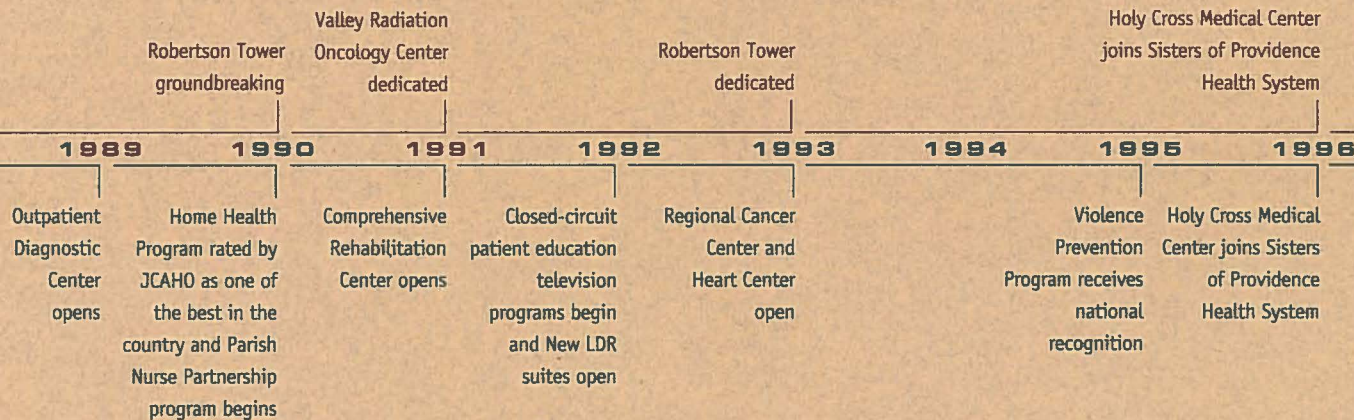
The Trauma Center at Holy Cross Hospital quickly became one of California's most highly regarded.



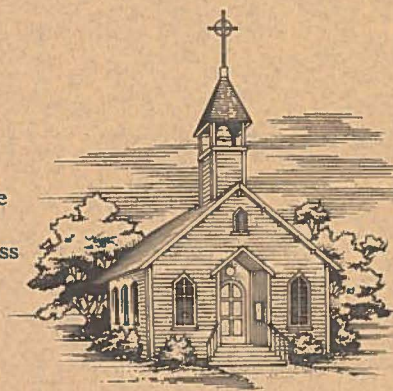
Paramedic services in the Valley got their start when firefighters were trained in CPR at Saint Joseph. The hospital later became the first paramedic base station in the area.



With the rapid advances in healthcare witnessed over the decades, we cannot imagine what is to come in the century just ahead. But one thing will not change. No matter how sophisticated the technology and equipment, no matter how large the buildings, the Sisters of Providence Health System will always put care first. A gentle touch, an encouraging word, a sense of peace —these will never cease to be a part of the care provided by Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center and Holy Cross Medical Center.



Commitment. Quality. Compassion. These are the hallmarks of Holy Cross Medical Center's mission to serve the community through the dedication of its employees, volunteers, physicians, and trustees. It is with this spirit, and to answer the San Fernando Valley's need for an integrated system of health services, that Holy Cross Health System transfers Holy Cross Medical Center to the Sisters of Providence Health System to create a stronger, more viable, Valley-wide health delivery network.



Holy Cross reaches thousands of people each year through local churches, promoting health and wellness. In the Parish Nurse Partnership program, Parish Nurses and Latino health promoters organize a variety of health screenings and other services for parishioners.

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TODAY, we begin our journey down this new road, together.

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TODAY, the Sisters of the Holy Cross and Holy Cross Health System express

thanksgiving for the opportunity to serve the people of the San Fernando Valley.

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TODAY, the Sisters of Providence and Sisters of Providence Health System reaffirm a

commitment to continue serving those same people in the Catholic tradition.

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TODAY, everything changes.

TODAY, everything remains the same.

THE TRADITION OF COMPASSION CONTINUES